
Djandak

Aboriginal Community Engagement Project

Victorian Environmental Assessment Council; Central
West Investigation

May 2018, Final Version



Disclaimer

This report (Report) has been produced independently by Djandak on the request of the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC). The information, statements, statistics and commentary (together the 'Information') contained in this Report have been prepared by Djandak from publicly available material and from discussions held with Victorian Traditional Owners. Djandak does not express an opinion as to the accuracy or completeness of the information provided, the assumptions made by the parties that provided the information or any conclusions reached by those parties. Djandak have based this Report on information received or obtained, on the basis that such information is accurate and, where it is represented to Djandak as such, complete. The Information contained in this Report has not been subject to an audit.

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The pdf versions of, Merri Creek Aboriginal Cultural Values Report for Melbourne Water December 2012 and Growing What is Good Country Plan Voices of the Wotjobaluk Nations 2017 are not to be distributed without the permission of the Traditional Owner Groups and can be used for the purpose of this Project and referenced.

Image Front Page

Djandak is the Dja Dja Wurrung word for Country this image is a visual representation. Djandak is also the trading brand of Dja Dja Wurrung Enterprises Pty Ltd its communicative message is: 'A traditional way of business'.

Amendment to text

The text within this report as it pertains to Wadawurrung Country has been deleted/amended at the request of the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, dated December 2020.

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Introduction

This Report as a Final Version is to be read as a summary of discussions by Victorian Traditional Owners affected by the VEAC Central West Investigation and as such it is led by the Dja Dja Wurrung informed by their experiences in working with the State to date within their Recognition and Settlement Agreement 2013 with the aim of providing a simplistic approach to first peoples voices and opinions. It is understood that the VEAC applies a much more broader approach in its analysis to the landscape needs to form its own opinion under its own regime to determine its recommendations. The VEAC as a decision maker needs principally in any recommendations it makes, to ensure that Victoria's Traditional Owners Rights are not eroded or impinged upon, and this position was present in the minds and understood at meetings by the Traditional Owners.

This report is an update upon version 1 and 2 and is informed by a presentation to the VEAC on the 6th March at the Department and Environment, Land, Water and Planning Office, 8 Nicholson Street Melbourne and from meetings with VEAC staff 28th March and 4th April 2018. Additionally subsequent discussions held with Traditional Owners which was of particular importance to allow comment upon this Investigation has been incorporated.

Background

The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) commenced its Central West Investigation in March 2017 upon receiving Terms of Reference from the Minister for Environment, Energy and Climate Change that directed VEAC to (amongst other things):

- identify and evaluate the condition of natural and cultural values; and
- make recommendations for the balanced use and management to conserve and enhance natural and cultural values of public land in the investigation area (see attached map at page 33).

This Aboriginal Community Engagement Project is focused on actively approaching Traditional Owners and Aboriginal people with an interest in public land in this investigation area to seek their views on all relevant issues, especially appropriate management and ways to conserve and enhance values. It is a partnership project which will include a learning and capacity-building component that supports Aboriginal people's rights and aspirations to improve their economic, cultural and social standing.

The Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (DDWCAC) through the Djandak engaged directly with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities to seek their views and any relevant information they wished to share, and to convey these views and information to VEAC. VEAC can consider all input from Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities in formulating its draft and final recommendations for public land use and management in the investigation area.

Stage 1 began in Spring 2017 and contributes to VEAC's Draft Proposals Paper which includes draft recommendations.

A second project (Stage 2) could be commissioned following the release of VEAC's Draft Proposals Paper in mid-2018. The purpose of Stage 2 and not within the scope of this project will be to seek and provide Aboriginal community feedback on the draft recommendations, for consideration by VEAC in preparation of its final recommendations due in March 2019. The scope, tasks and timetable for Stage 2 will be informed by the outcomes of Stage 1 and the content of VEAC's draft recommendations.

Engagement

Method

The engagement process was carried out in the following stages:

1. Initial contact with representatives of the RAPs to outline the project and discuss the methodology, prior to the finalisation of the brief to engage the Traditional Owners (TO)/Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP), further telephone discussions and emails with document attachments was undertaken to brief them with the objectives of the VEAC investigation, provide a briefing paper upon the methodology used previously by the Dja Dja Wurrung during their negotiations with the State to determine landscape significance and provide a background to the Country Plan as a thematically designed strategic document to assist discussions upon cultural values.
2. 1/2 –day (4 hour) workshops were arranged with each TO/RAP to allow the Traditional Owners representatives to provide their information. Each workshop to be conducted as a Focus Group and when needed

organisational staff were present to provide support. Materials used were location/area maps provided by the VEAC, who also has a staff member in attendance.

3. At each workshop explanation was provided for:
 - a. the purpose of this VEAC Investigation.
 - b. Create a cultural values list.
 - c. Make recommendations.
 - i. What does VEAC want?
 - ii. How to communicate TO/RAP values to align with investigation
4. Any information gathered will be circulated to the TO/RAPs for comment prior to the completion of a final report.
5. That any queries that required immediate attention would be followed up.

Where it has not be possible to facilitate workshops, verbal discussion has been conducted with representatives from organizations, and the Project Team has reiterated the option to directly engage with the VEAC Central West Project Team (VCWPT).

Rights and Responsibilities

A RAP has a clearly defined statutory function through Victorian legislation and Regulations, the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006. Planning type activities can trigger regulatory actions, and principally requiring legislative measures to be addressed. A function of the RAP is to be seen 'as the expert upon their Cultural Heritage'. The function as an expert allows them to describe then Cultural Heritage in its broadest manner for landscape, sites, materials, tangible and recently intangible heritage. For landscape broadly, it is consistently understood that first people's ancestors had and played an active role through lifeways of utilization, modification, art and stories. Their comments upon landscape are because of this legislative recognition as 'experts' will be the highest principal in their comments, even when comments not of their design conflicts with their recognition.

As stated above RAP's have legislative recognition and are formed by Traditional Owners and operationally administered by an entity. As Traditional Owners the

commonwealth and the State of Victoria also through legislation recognize the ‘inherent rights’ of Traditional Owners as First Peoples, for the State it is the Victorian Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 (TOS Act). As First People these rights are also seen of the highest order and are free from the Statutory Function of a RAP but are also compatible with it. Traditional Owner Rights can be captured then partially through a ‘Recognition and Settlement Agreement’¹. Preceding a completed RSA the State affords a higher degree of respect towards TO groups when they express an interest in the TOS Act and begin to undertake a suitability test referred to as the Threshold Process.

This Project's design and being Traditional Owner led affords the recognition and respect of those people's rights. It is believed that this Project Design is compatible with VEAC's legislative responsibility.

Cultural Values

How do we create a list of Cultural Values? And in creating any type of list that it is not exclusive of how our values may change into the future, and so any list chosen should be respectfully seen as fit for purpose at that time.

A list that the Dja Dja Wurrung started with, when talking about landscape matters of Country in 2013 was used as a foundation for the discussion of answering what are Cultural Values for each group. For this project each Traditional Owner/RAP group would look at their Country/Landscape in a similar manner. At points of interface commonly referred to as boundaries, there was similar interests.

The example as shown below and for this project was provided so each Group could discuss and define what are their Values. Some values to groups are found in their responses

Criterion: Values.

Cultural: Creation (Feature, ceremonial), Burials, Stone (quarry, scatter, groove), Timber (scar, ring), Mound (earthen, shell), Route (trade, song line), Historical

¹ An RSA is a contract between the State and Traditional Owners and is legally binding.

Flora: Timber, Fibre, Food, Aquatic, Medicine
Fauna: Mammal, Reptile, Bird, Fish, Amphibian.

Recommendations for VEAC

What does the VEAC want?

- Identify and evaluate the condition, natural and biodiversity values and cultural, social and economic values and the current uses of public land in the specifies areas; and
- Make recommendations for the balanced use and appropriate management arrangements to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural values.

How to communicate TO/RAP perspectives to align and constructively contribute to the 'Investigation'?

The groups decided through the workshops a range of matters to capture:

- Cultural Values List.
- Form an opinion of country condition.
- Communicate aspirations: And refer to documents, Country Plans and/or Project Reports.
- Communicate the States Vision of Partnerships with Traditional Owners: Recognition and Settlement Agreements with the State and that they are of a higher order than many other activities being planned and implemented by agents of the State and to confirm the status of RAP's
- Ask other questions and seek clarification.

A form of answers to VEAC's questions are described at each Groups Section under the headings of Cultural Values List, Opinion of Country, Aspirations, and at Recommendations at the end of each Groups section. At the Conclusion section of this report common themes across the Groups is described.

Groups

The specific areas for this investigation overlap six RAP areas and Traditional Owner interests. The relationship between the individual groups are shown in the table below and in the Central West Investigation Map on page 32 of this document.

Table: TO/RAPs relevant to the VEAC Investigation

Mount Cole – Pyrenees	Barengi Gadjin ² Martang Dja Dja Wurrung Wadawurrung Eastern Maar ³
Mount Macedon – Wombat	Dja Dja Wurrung Taungurung Wadawurrung Wurundjeri
Wellsford	Dja Dja Wurrung

In discussion with the Martang Pty Ltd as a RAP, they stated their was benefit in them deferring the overarching discussion to the broader group which they identified as the Eastern Maar. They described their cultural and operational affiliations as being a Clan type group that supports Eastern Maar, even when they have a current representation as a RAP.

² The investigation area borders the south-eastern part of Barengi Gadjin country but incorporates unallocated country in which Barengi Gadjin has a perceived interest.

³ The investigation area borders the north-eastern part of the Eastern Maar lodgment of a Threshold Statement seeking settlement under the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010.

Dja Dja Wurrung

Workshop conducted 12th January 2018 at Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation Office (2), 14 Forest Street, Bendigo.

References: Meetings Notes (R .Carter, D. Berick, R Pfitzner), Dja Dja Wurrung Country Plan Dhelkunya Dja 2014-2024, Recognition and Settlement Agreement 2013 (incorporating Natural Resource Participation Strategies, Authorisation Orders, Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement {Joint Management})

Wellsford – State Forest

Because of its current classification there is concern to ongoing timber harvesting. Noting that the group participates in Forest Coupe Management commercially, as part of the RSA. The group(s) undertake thinning for coupe management but also apply a Country Plan objective of gardening the Environment and undertake thinning applied to the areas in a mosaic manner in the selection of Trees suitable for achieving old growth and the creation of Open Woodlands. The Dja Dja Wurrung also understand that this area is close to the boundary with their neighbour, the Taungurung, and that the Dja Dja Wurrung would manage others interests in this area as the land management group.

- Mostly a young forest that's been cleared before and reset. It needs assistance to regenerate to original state to support flora and fauna.
- More suitable habitats required for the protected species of the area.
- Balance between protecting and allowing public access.
- Smoking ceremony plants.
- Thinning applied as a cultural tool.
- Do not want mineral exploration.
- Need an understanding of what the implication to other species or the species of the area is, with any land status re-classification.
- Where do we see the alignment with the friends of Wellsford? We believe their position should support DDWs position.

Cultural Values List

This list is heading based, any further details upon cultural heritage require details maps to visually represent sensitive areas as described in the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 Regulations, and that specific desktop analysis requires engagement with the areas RAP or in its absence the Secretary Department Premier and Cabinet (Delegate Aboriginal Victoria).

Any greater description of these headings species identification and relevance requires further study.

Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural features (Geology, Hydrology) • Ceremonial • Connection, interconnectedness, intangible cultural values • The area is connected with the Campaspe river. Need to look after the waterways. • Smoking ceremony and medicinal plants. • Aware of surrounding areas having quarries and artefact scatters (Possibly a trade route)
Burials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-contact • Repatriation
Stone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarry • Scatter • Groove
Mound/Occupation site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthen • Shell
Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade • Song Line
Historical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massacres • Post Contact references

Flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timber• Fibre• Food• Aquatic• Medicine• Smoking ceremony
Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mammal• Reptile• Bird• Fish• Amphibian

Opinion of Country Condition

Average condition, understanding since contact that a great degree of landscape modification has taken place, most notably gold mining. Area requires the groups involvement in all landscape management aspects.

Aspiration

Support for RSA and the Country Plan, “Dhelkunya Dja”. Greater resourcing for the group to undertake independently or as a lead for any projects if resourced. Potential with re-classification to be included into the groups Joint Management Plan (Greater Bendigo National Park) Alignment with areas Regional Park or as a Nature Conservation Reserve are also seen as suitable options.

Mount Cole – Pyrenees

Seen as a complicated area because of multiple classifications. Significant area for the watersheds and connection to neighbouring cultural groups.

- Dja Dja Wurrung, Martang, Eastern Maar, Wadawurrung and Barengi Gadjin all have interest.
- Stone area (tools, etc.).
- Neighbours sought refuge in area.

- Many various classifications within the area.
- Something needs to be done about eradicating cactus in the area.
- Do not want mineral exploration, mining or logging.

Cultural Values List

This list is heading based, any further details upon cultural heritage require details maps to visually represent sensitive areas as described in the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 Regulations, and that specific desktop analysis requires engagement with the areas RAP or in its absence the Secretary Department Premier and Cabinet (Delegate Aboriginal Victoria).

Any greater description of these headings species identification and relevance requires further study.

Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural features (Geology, Hydrology). Catchments begin here. The area is the headwaters for many groups. • Ceremonial • Connection, interconnectedness, intangible cultural values • Smoking ceremony and medicinal plants. • Aware of surrounding areas having quarries and artefact scatters • Boundary – ceremonies would’ve taken place here • Grafting trees
Burials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-contact • Repatriation
Stone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarry • Scatter • Groove
Mound/Occupation site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthen • Shell

Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade • Traded with neighbours in this area • Song Line
Historical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massacres • Post Contact references • Many accounts from new-comer intrusion on Country (Gold, grazing, stock driving)
Flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber • Fibre • Food • Aquatic • Medicine • Smoking ceremony • Grafting trees • Ring tree • Prickly Pear and wheel cactus problem
Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mammal • Reptile • Bird • Fish • Amphibian • Cockatoo – important bird for the area (Sulphur crested white cockatoo marriage totem for Dja Dja Wurrung and Japwurrung) • Yellow tailed black cockatoo

Opinion of Country Condition

Extremely poor condition of the head waters. The upper catchment area is poorly managed.

Aspiration

Support for RSA and the Country Plan. Greater resourcing for the group(s) to undertake independently or as a lead for any projects if resourced. Joint Management Planning for this area could be extremely complex but could provide benefits strategically for landscape improvements with many Traditional Owners involved.

Mount Macedon - Wombat

Seen as a complicated area because of multiple classifications. Significant area for the watersheds and connection to neighbouring cultural groups.

- Dja Dja Wurrung, Wadawurrung, Wurundjeri and Taungurung interest.
- Area is so diverse that historically it sustained people to stay there for long periods of time.
- Mineral water.
- High tourist area (High cost end).
- High trade area.
- Highly valued area to the Dja Dja Wurrung people.
- Strengthening the protection of the area as it is very significant.

Cultural Values List

This list is heading based, any further details upon cultural heritage require details maps to visually represent sensitive areas as described in the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 Regulations, and that specific desktop analysis requires engagement with the areas RAP or in its absence the Secretary Department Premier and Cabinet (Delegate Aboriginal Victoria).

Any greater description of these headings species identification and relevance requires further study.

Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural features (Geology, Hydrology). Catchments begin here. The area is the headwaters for many groups. The Campaspe and Coliban.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ceremonial Mineral water – utilisation and feeding of medicinal plants • Connection, interconnectedness, intangible cultural values • Smoking ceremony and medicinal plants. • Boundary – Hanging Rock extremely significant Language name “Anneylong” • Grafting trees
Burials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-contact • Repatriation
Stone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarry. Significant rare quarry at Lauriston (outside investigation) • Scatter • Groove
Mound/Occupation site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthen • Shell
Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade • Traded with neighbours in this area • Song Line
Historical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massacres • Post Contact references
Flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber • Fibre • Food • Aquatic • Medicine • Smoking ceremony • Grafting trees • Ring tree
Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mammal

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reptile• Bird• Fish• Amphibian• Wombat
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Opinion of Country Condition

Overall Country in average condition, but isolated areas of values, though broadly food and fibre not abundant.

Aspiration

Support for RSA and the Country Plan. Greater resourcing for the group to undertake independently or as a lead for any projects if resourced. Joint Management Planning for this area could be extremely complex but could provide benefits strategically for landscape improvements with many Traditional Owners involved. Hepburn Park under Joint Management, with Dja Dja Wurrung, provides opportunity for adjacent State Forest to be included. It is understood that Hepburn Regional Park classification can not be considered in this study, until there is a legislative means to do so, mainly through the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2006.

Recommendations

- Generally, a preference for more protective classifications to limit major impacts such as logging and mining.
- Promotion of and Consideration of their Country Plan.
- If classifications move towards Parks seen as opportunity for alignment with Joint Management Plans.
- Cultural Heritage to be represented in maps only as a 200m buffer upon all hydrology, ridge lines and rocky outcrops.

Wurundjeri

Workshop conducted 12th February 2018, Wurundjeri offices – 1 St Heliers St, Abbotsford.

References: Meetings Notes (R. Carter, D. Berick, R Pfitzner), Merri Creek Aboriginal Cultural Values Report for Melbourne Water December 2012. The Merri Creek Report provides examples of species and the Engagement Methodology undertaken in this report was seen as the preferred model for Cultural Values assessment of Landscape.

Mount Macedon - Wombat

- Wadawurrung, Wurundjeri and Taungurung all interested in area as well as DDW
- Regional and National Park
- Comfortable with National Parks
- There is an example of Wurundjeri's previous requests to change land classification outside of this investigation.
- We do not want to inhibit what we do now or in the future with a reclassification of an existing park.
- Can speak to Flora and Fauna but cannot really contribute knowledge of the geology of the area.
- The Merri Creek study involved Wurundjeri people going out on country to relevant sites to do with Merri Creek and articulating Wurundjeri cultural values as part of the study.
- Water is a significant element in the Indigenous customary economy, as it is the source of creation stories, resources traditionally used by Aboriginal people, and carries with it long traditions of cultural practices and history
- Re-classification of parks to protect areas – consideration of this without potentially inhibiting future recommendations for the Wurundjeri Community.
- Need resources for land management.
- Expectation to be realistic about the process for their engagement.
- Write a table identifying cultural activities (in relation to already existing Table 5.1 Summary of permitted activities in current major land use categories)
- Resourcing and future engagement policy.

Cultural Values List

This list is heading based, any further details upon cultural heritage require details maps to visually represent sensitive areas as described in the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 Regulations, and that specific desktop analysis requires engagement with the areas RAP or in its absence the Secretary Department Premier and Cabinet (Delegate Aboriginal Victoria).

Any greater description of these headings species identification and relevance requires further study.

<p>Creation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fire – cultural burning ● Natural Features ● Ceremonial ● Language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are many well-known place names in and around Melbourne that hold Wurundjeri names. ○ Several grassland reserves around Merri creek have been given Woiwurrung names: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Bababi marning</i> – ‘mother’s hand’ ○ <i>Galgai ngarrk</i> – ‘backbone’ ○ <i>Bababi djinanang</i> – ‘mother’s foot’ ○ <i>Nayarre-jar-rang</i> – ‘thigh’ ○ <i>Marran baba</i> – ‘body of mother’
<p>Burials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-contact

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repatriation
Stone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarry) • Scatter • Groove
Mound/Occupation site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthen • Shell
Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade • Traded with neighbours in this area • Song Line
Historical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massacres • Post Contact references
Flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber • Fibre • Food • Aquatic • Medicine • Smoking ceremony • Grafting trees • Ring tree • Plains Yam Daisy • Bulbine Lily • Cherry Ballart • Common sneezeweed Old Man Weed • Murr-nong • Quandong
Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mammal • Reptile • Bird • Fish • Amphibian • Wombat • Bunjil – Wedge-tailed Eagle

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short-finned Eel• Emu• Eastern Grey Kangaroo• Possum• Golden Sun-moth
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Opinion of Country Condition

Overall Country in average condition, but isolated areas of values, though broadly food and fibre not abundant.

Aspiration

Want to be respected and resourced to undertake Land Management activities. Have begun negotiations with the State under the Traditional Owner Settlement Agreement Act 2010.

Recommendations

- Support for Park type classifications, that will not impede the groups cultural rights.
- Need for Land Managers to involve the group in activities by supporting them with resources.
- Consideration of engagement methodology as described in the Merri Creek Aboriginal Cultural Values Report for Melbourne Water December 2012.
- Supported ongoing timber production/utilisation, but not upon native forests.
- Cultural Heritage to be represented in maps only as a 200m buffer upon all hydrology, ridge lines and rocky outcrops.

Barengi Gadjin

Workshop conducted 19th February 2018. BGLC offices / WAIL Nursery – Wail nursery Rd, Wail.

References: Meetings Notes (R.Carter, D. Berick, R Pfitzner), Growing What is Good Country Plan Voices of the Wotjobaluk Nations 2017.

Mount Cole - Pyrenees

There are elements of the country plan. “Growing what is good”, that can be incorporated into this report and create a consistent message. An example of this for Barengi Gadjin is that the Mallee Fowl is important but as a food, and for others it is important as it is threatened, so it is not a priority to participate in voluntary activities with no resourcing. Why aren’t we resourced to be the land manager of these areas where some of the activities that take place are damaging because of the land classification.

A lot of non-native pines were planted in Wail state forest areas, but people didn’t want to burn pine. There are stringy barks here that are habitats for Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo.

EVC and biodiversity maps are significant to Traditional Owner groups for investigation areas. Possibility to be explored as a second round of consultations once information provided to Traditional Owners by VEAC.

- Hugely modified landscape
- Food resources for other people’s commercial gain (pet food)
- BGLC trying to get a seed bank up to start putting back into public land
- Lots of sand mining (open cut)
- Head waters of the Wimmera is pretty important – heavily degraded area, Deer is a big part of this areas degradation. There is a special classification for the area.
- Head waters in Mt Cole.
- Fiery Creek is significant part of boundary between Djab Wurrung (Martang) and Wadawurrung – this is the beginning of a whole wetland area that is very significant.
- Want to eradicate Deer and Goats. Reduce Kangaroo numbers to lessen grazing pressure.
- Mt Cole will form part of a list for BGLC, RSA negotiations.

- Middens have been destroyed along the Wimmera River near Horsham. (Firewood, 4wd, etc. allowed here because of state forest classification)
- The whole of the Wimmera River is significant because of how it relates to of country.
- Trade routes are being destroyed.
- Re-connecting people back to landscape.
- Pre-colonial Eel traps through swamps and creeks made around Lake Toolondo.
- Make Cultural burning a common practice

Cultural Values List

This list is heading based, any further details upon cultural heritage require details maps to visually represent sensitive areas as described in the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 Regulations, and that specific desktop analysis requires engagement with the areas RAP or in its absence the Secretary Department Premier and Cabinet (Delegate Aboriginal Victoria).

Any greater description of these headings species identification and relevance requires further study.

<p>Creation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire – cultural burning • Natural Features • Ceremonial • Trade routes • Connecting people back to landscape • Barringgi Gadyin – links everything together • Rock art at Mt Cole • Fiery Creek is significant part of boundary between Japarong (Martang) and Wadawurrung – this is the beginning of a whole wetland area that is very significant. • Head waters at Mt Cole • Language captured in the country plan – key discussion
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	<p>around Aboriginal names for areas of country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When discussing Dingoes and Wild Dogs - One word for Dingo and another word for Dog. <p><i>Barringgi Gadyin</i> – Wimmera River <i>Wurrekand tyerrangaty Wergaia ba Jadawadjali</i> – We speak Wergaia and Jadawadjali together. <i>Dyurrite</i> – Mt Arapiles <i>Wyperfeld</i> – Big Desert <i>Gurru</i> – Lake Hindmarsh <i>Ngal Pakatia/Ngel[agutya</i> – Lake Albacutya <i>Gariwerd</i> – the Grampians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Burials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-contact • Repatriation
Stone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarry • Scatter • Groove
Mound/Occupation site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthen • Shell
Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade • Traded with neighbours in this area • Song Line
Historical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massacres • Post Contact references
Flora	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timber • Fibre • Food • Aquatic • Medicine • Smoking ceremony • Grafting trees

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ring tree • Plains Yam Daisy • Bulbine Lily • Cherry Ballart • Common sneezeweed • Old Man Weed • Murr-nong. Yam daisy – Murnong (sheep problem, research being done amongst the group about growing and consumption), Chocolate lilies, Wattles, Geraniums (tuba), Kangaroo grass, Old man’s beard (make rope and fibres root), Old man weed, Beal trees. • Quandong • Stringy bark (habitat of the Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo) • Bullock Bush
Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mammal • Reptile • Bird. Mallee fowl (important food source and directly related to a traditional story) • Fish and Eels (Glenelg river system feeding into the Wimmera, need to get through the system at the right time) Lake Toolondo. • Amphibian • Wombat • Bunjil – Wedge-tailed Eagle • Short-finned Eel • Emu

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eastern Grey Kangaroo• Red Kangaroo• Possum• Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo• Dingoes as a long-term aspiration. Wild Dog program – Wild Dogs and Dingoes are documented as being significant to the Wotjobaluk peoples. Hall at Halls Gap has documented Wild Dogs (described as Dingoes, not Wild Dogs)• Crayfish
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Opinion of Country Condition

Overall Country in average condition, but isolated areas of values, though broadly food and fibre not abundant. Extremely poor condition of the head waters and this as an area of upper catchment poorly managed.

Aspiration

Want to be respected and resourced to undertake Land Management activities. Have begun re-negotiations with the State under the Traditional Owner Settlement Agreement Act 2010, as currently have a Native Title determination for part of their defined lands. There are important small reserves that are patches of remnant vegetation that provide a snapshot of how country looked prior to white settlement and clearing. They hold rare and threatened species, provide habitat to native animals and are a source of seed to be able to restore surrounding Country with appropriate plant genetics.

Priorities for these reserves need to be developed on a site by site basis. Partners in this are DEWLP, Parks Vic, surrounding landholders and Landcare groups.

Recommendations

- Cultural Heritage to be represented in maps only as a 200m buffer upon all hydrology, ridge lines and rocky outcrops.
- Promotion of and Consideration of their Country Plan.
- If classifications move towards Parks seen as opportunity for alignment with negotiations with the State upon TOSA matters.

Eastern Maar

Workshop not conducted. In discussion with Martang (Pty Ltd) as a Registered Aboriginal Party in developing this project they supported the engagement with the Eastern Maar as the representative entity for Traditional Owner landscape matters.

The Eastern Maar Country Plan 'Meerreengeeye ngakeepoorryeeyt' 2015 provides guidance how the people view landscape management. In particular at p. 34 Goal 4 Our Country is healthy, and our natural resources are managed and used sustainably.

Taungurung

Workshop not conducted.

The Taungurung Country Plan 'Taungurung Buk Dadbagi' 2016 provides guidance to how the people view landscape management. In particular at p.27 of the Plan, Caring for Country is described.

Wadawurrung

Workshop not conducted.

Conclusion

Generally, recommendations are covered under those headings. Following is some themes heard through the engagement:

- Health of head waters was viewed as poor and needed to be improved for country health and upper catchment productivity.
- Learning and building capacity of groups. Country plan or similar document provide relevant information for landscape/country management.
- Resource support by the State to manage Country was lacking.
- TO groups did not want mining to be altering and damaging country.
- Special plants, for food, fibre and ceremonies was present but not always abundant e.g. for smoking ceremonies.
- Grouping land classifications is useful and practical, statuses of Parks and Reserves provide Joint Management and Aboriginal Title opportunities.

Acknowledgment

The 'Djandak' would like to thank the Victorian Environment Assessment Council and their staff for their positive consideration of the Dja Dja Wurrung Recognition and Settlement Agreement (RSA). From the recognition of the RSA by the VEAC, this project has been able to be resourced to allow a Traditional Owner engagement by the Dja Dja Wurrung and where relevant with their neighbors upon Country. We extend our thanks to our neighbors who have been able to participate in the project and understand that where neighbors have not been able to be engaged it is largely because of their limited availability through lack of resources and time.

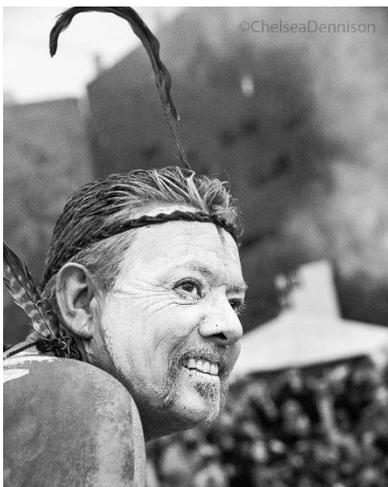
Project Team

Rodney Carter

Rodney is a descendant of the Dja Dja Wurrung people of Central Victoria and Yorta Yorta people of Northern Victoria and lives at Bendigo in regional Victoria. He has extensive experience in cultural heritage management and a particular interest in linking 'people to landscape' through the integration of biodiversity and cultural heritage projects. A defining moment for Rodney was negotiating for, and being a signatory to, the Dja Dja Wurrung people's native title settlement under the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010.

Rodney was a member of the Dja Dja Wurrung negotiation team that negotiated a settlement agreement with the State of Victoria over a period of three years. Rodney also led negotiations on behalf of Dja Dja Wurrung with neighboring group Wadawurrung which resulted in a boundary agreement in 2012. This agreement supported the appointment of both groups as Registered Aboriginal Parties for their agreed countries and the Dja Dja Wurrung's settlement agreement under the Traditional Owner Settlement Act. This resulted in his people signing a 'Recognition and Settlement Agreement' on the 24th October 2013 with the State of Victoria.

Rodney is the Chief Executive Officer of the Dja Dja Wurrung Group, which is a Corporate Entity to implement and manage the RSA for his people. Before this he was a Game Manager at the States Game Management Authority where his knowledge of hunting and animal species behavior and habitat blends with his cultural knowledge to assist him in



managing Victoria's premier game species of duck, quail and deer. He has also worked with the Victorian Public Land Fire Management as a Heritage Specialist and assisted the state's working group upon developing heritage roles in the Incident Management Structure. He was also a Project Manager for the Bunjilaka Aboriginal Centre as part of the Melbourne Museum project and became the Bunjilaka's Inaugural Centre Manager.

Rodney was a previous Chairperson of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council for 2 years and has been a member of Council since its inception in 2006. He is a member of the state's Regional Partnerships

Committee for Loddon Campaspe and the states 'Water for Country' Project Control Group.

Drew Berick

Drew is a Dja Dja Wurrung Traditional Owner with a strong background in Aboriginal Affairs gained from working in Aboriginal organisations for over ten years.



He has considerable expertise in liaising between Aboriginal communities and stakeholders of all levels, including State and Federal Governments. He worked as a Senior Community Liaison officer before being promoted as an Executive Officer at Native Title Services Victoria, now known as First Nations Legal and Research Services.

Drew began work as the Executive Officer at the Federation of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations in January 2018 where he continues to support Victorian Traditional Owners to achieve recognition and land justice. Further to his work Drew is expanding upon his existing executive capabilities by studying Business Management at La Trobe. Besides advancing his own professional development he hopes that these skills will help to support and develop Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations capacity and capabilities in economic development.

Drew is also an artist in a variety of mediums. Most notably Drew has his artwork displayed in the 'Encounters' exhibition at the National Museum of Australia and in the 2016 Oxfam Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander calendar.

Maps and Tables

Video Tour Google Earth

If the computer you are using to view this document has the 'Google Earth' program installed, this link can be double clicked to activate a video tour along the Great Dividing Range Ridgeline between the Wombat Macedon area in the East across to Mount Cole Pyrenees in the West. This Tour was created to allow those not able to attend to field visits an opportunity to see landscape using multi media.



Video_Tour_GDridgelineNorthSouth_VEAC_CWInvestigation.kmz

Movie Tours Google Earth

These short movies provide a type of birds eye view of the Investigation areas, and include main location names.



MtColePyrenees_movie.m4v



Wellsford_movie.m4v



WombatMtMacedon_movie.m4v

Dja Dja Wurrung Word List

Vegetation	DjaDja Wurrung		Meanings/uses
Blue gum	bapp		Wood implements, fire wood, habitat
Bracken fern	Moo-lar,moola, moolort		Medicinal
cherry ballart, wild cherry	pollite , pulloitch		Berries eaten and wood for digging sticks (karnnee)
Chinese scrub			
cumbungi (bulrush)	boo-reetch		Food, weaving, spear making
Daisy (new Holland?)			
Egg and bacon bush			
geranium, native, root of	turrac		Food, medicinal
grass, tree	buckkup, buckup, *baggup		Food, firestick, spear, medicinal
grey box (also eight/elbow)	boolerdj, panyer-an-geetch, bolloitch		Bark implements (shields, firewood, habitat)

ironbark, red	yeeripp , yehrip		Wood implements, fire wood, sap, habitat
Kangaroo Apple			Food, medicinal
manna gum	*yulong		Wood implements, fire wood, habitat
messmate	boorr-knul-ook		Wood implements, fire wood, habitat
Mistletoe			Food, boondi
murray pine	murr-nroong , *marong		Ceremonial, medicinal, resin
mushroom			
red box	teering		Wood implements, fire wood, habitat
Red gum	beal, bual , ball, bial, moolerr		Wood implements, fire wood, habitat
reed, common	djaark , charr-ak, *geerar		Reed necklaces, food, spear, string
Spiny headed mat rush			Weaving, food
Sticky everlasting			

stringybark	wonghurra, warngah		Wood implements, fire wood, fire kindling, string making, habitat
tea tree scrub	*bunnah		medicinal
Tree fern			Food,
tussock grass	*bowat		Fire kindling
wattle, golden	wyalk, *tunline		Food
wattle, lightwood wattle, blackwood	mootchong, *mootchung		Wood implements, fire wood, habitat, food
wattle, silver	wharrarrark		Food, adhesive sap, wood implements, fire wood, habitat
Yam daisy/murnong	moonar		Food, no longer actually found in region –health indicator
yellow box	Tarrk (?)		
yellow gum	bannapp, barp		Wood implements, fire

			wood, habitat, food
Animals	DjaDja Wurrung		Meanings/symbol
ant	*booran		
Australian coot	*tety		Food, totem
beetle	*maimborogul		
Black duck	ngarre , gnarree, knarree, ngare		Food, totem
Black swan	koonooworra , koonawarrh, gonowarah, koonoowar		Food, totem
blowfly	beereek		
Bull ant	*liyek-wil		
Butterfly (common brown & painted lady)			Key indicator species, totem
caterpillar	*path'eron		Food, totem
cattle	koo-roo-m'n yan-yerng		

centipede	jhe-reen-nu-rark		
Chestnut teal Duck			Food, totem
chough, white winged	mooyun-unkil		Food (?) totem
Cockatoos	djinup , jhin-up, ghynup, chinyap		Totem, food
Corella	(long billed) karrarkur , kurraca		Food, totem
Crimson rosellas	pooroo-kil		totem
Crow/raven	marrang-un , marung-un, warr, war, wiaa, worn, waa		Skin totems, lord of the plains
eastern swamp hen	*ping-ping		Food, totem
Echidna	yool-a-nil		Food, totem
Emu	barramul , barramel, berrimal, birrimal, yowir		Feathers, food, totem, sinew, bone

Falcon	yan-yerng? (peregrine)		totem
fly	korrogerak, biityik, birmabuck, toor- toytch, pitye, *pittik		
fly, march	moo-roon		
Grasshoppers	*murrack		
Grey teal Duck			Food, totem
grub, ground	*mek		Food, bait
Hard head Duck	*tyarra-tyarraty		Food, totem
Hawk	*tyerrkuk (brown)		Sign, totem
Ibis	pyte-pyte-charook		Totem, food
Kangaroo	kuri, korrer, kora, kooreh, cooree, coura, coorie, goora, goura, goora, gurru, purra		Food, pelt, bone, teeth jewellery, sinews

Kookaburras	koonork, koark		totem
Lizard			Food, totem
maggot	*moona long, *korumburra		
Magpie lark/mudlark	jheerm-jheerm		totem
magpies	kooroork		totem
mosquito	lee-ree, lirre		
Red rumped parrots	darrenal, *djuir		totem
skink	*tarramandarr		food
spider	(hunter) munnar-karreek		
Spur winged plovers	baaritch-baaritch		totem
Superb Blue Wren	*yirrilil		Good sign

Wallaby	jhin-bong-goore		Food, totem, skin
Wedge-tailed Eagles	knearaytch , bungil		Creator being, lore, wisdom, lord of the mountains
Wood duck	knunnuck, piap-piap		Food, totem
Yellow tailed black cockatoos	wareaine , weerran , gamadj		Skin totems,
Minerals/Landscape features	DjaDja Wurrung		Meanings/uses
Basalt	Wallenduc		Stone tools,
Cave	*nira		Shelter
Clouds	Danbil, marng (dark)		Key indicator of weather
Country/earth	Tarbilk, barburic		Dreaming, Lore, resources, Spirits, kinship, home.
Creeks/distributaries and tributaries/ stream	Yalook, yallock		Food, drink, wash, Travel routes
Granite	Yow yowack		Grinding stones, rock wells

Hill	Panial, panyule, Banyule,bungle, panole, yon-arng		Lookouts
Historical makers	----- ----		Scar tree, marker tree, cans, artefact scatter,
Lakes			Food, drink, wash, ceremonial
Moon	Yearn, yerrn,yean, yel, waingwill, mityan		Hunting regime, ceremonial
Mountains	Gower		Meeting place, lookout point, smoke signal point
Ochre			Ceremonial, art
Quarry			Knapping tools
Quartz	Karrap, bayt		Stone tools, ceremonial
Rivers	Burr, berr, ba, woollar, yarra, gneurae-bur		Food, drink, wash, ceremonial, Travel routes
Sun	Nowey, Narwee, gnowee,		Seasonal movements, ceremonial
Swamp land			Food bowl
Traditional camp	Larr, lar		Camp, fire

Valley	tarrarak		Water source and riparian plants
Water	Katjin		Drink, wash, flow, fish trap, ceremonial, medicinal
Place names	DjaDja Wurrung		Meanings/uses
Amphitheatre	Bangyenobanip		(DDW) bark of the Yellow gums * ?waterholes in the Avoca River
Avoca River	Yapal – head of Avoca River (10kms south of Amphitheatre.		Nankeen heron (?) Kestral (DDW)
Ballarat			Resting Place (reclining on elbow, balla – elbow) (WW)
Bullarook Hill	Bullarook		?
Burnbank Creek	Carakeek, woocamp (near lexton)		Possibly long billed corella (DDW)
Burrumbeet			Muddy water (WW)
Coghills hill/creek	Caratcoork (hill)		DDW (coork) Female
Corrine (near coghills hill)			Possibly brolga (DDW)

Creswick	calembeen		?
Fiery Creek			Flood to carry away trees(WW)
Hollow-back Hill	Langergupin, langiguhinggoork		DDW (possibly home of the brolga)
Karrap (Parish west of lexton)	Karrap		Quartz
Korerpunderlite (near Lexton and Mount Mitchell)	?		?
Korweinguboora	Korweinguboora		Footsteps on a ridge at the head of a gully (DDW/WW)
Lake Learmonth	Tombine		?
Langikalkal			Resting place of the cicada (WW)
Lexton	Marmah, lelup		?
Miners rest			?
Mount Blowhard	Mortello		Wild (WW)
Mount Bolton	Gar pepengoe		?
Mount Lonarch	Berumgower		Big hill (DDW)
Mount Misery	Langayan, Langiyan		Resting place, rising of moon from favourite camping ground (WW)

Mount Mitchell	Ornopbonark		?
Mount Pisgah	Morambuelbullet		Bullet = 2
Raglan			Rough place (WW)
Tuerite (a hill near Learmonth)			?
Waubra (head of Burnbank Creek)	Waubra		Lose the way on the account of the watercourse being crooked (DDW/WW)

Amendment to this table

The text within this table as it pertains to Wadawurrung Country has been deleted/amended at the request of the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, dated December 2020.

