

Culpra Milli  
Aboriginal Corporation

Culpra Station Via Mildura 3500  
RSD 7177 NSW  
(03) 5029 1390



28<sup>th</sup> of August 2009

Natural Resources Commission  
GPO Box 4206  
Sydney NSW 2001

“G-Day, Mr. John Williams (Chairperson) NRC NSW

**Assessment of Riverina Red Gum Forests; August 2009:**

Our organization Culpra Milli Aboriginal Corporation, have a number of objectives relating to agricultural farming and cultural site land management. We have been involved in the past community consultation through the local CMA, learning about environmental matters and other issues.

As Malley Cliffs State Forest NSW, to which the ILC currently have a Occupation Permit over certain areas and ILC presently owns Culpra Station and according to their policies, as it intends to divest title in the near future to Culpra Milli Aboriginal Corporation.

Over the past three years we have been involved in specific mapping and recording of cultural sites on Malley Cliffs and Culpra land, this has been done with the support of our local CMA and that this would become part of our future endeavors, working with other groups and to manage the forestry in a sustainable manner including its biodiversities, animals and other plant species.

We have been involved in the allocations of environmental water for the survival of red-gums along the Tarpaulin Creek Culpra Station and Malley Cliffs State Forest, we have seen the results of what water means to the red-gums and other plant species particularly, in times of drought.

It is from the history of human occupation of this very ancient land and river country which extends beyond just six thousand years. The very concepts of social and cultural wellbeing are linked to the physical and spiritual landscape with its ever changing seasonal influence of the land its environment..

The lands natural resources, water cause's river systems, channels and billabongs forms links to our unique native flora and faun here on malley Cliffs and Culpra Station and has sustained a peoples way of life in the past before we came along

Our organizations vision for the land and river country which relates to community accessing the land for social reform and moves away from both welfare dependency and to break the cyclical of grog, harmful use of drugs, find appropriate solutions and to mend the causes of brake-down of families.

We seek to provide land access for community participation for social, Cultural, Economical and Environmentally enjoiment of country

We seek to be involved in developing programs and projects that lead to strengthen Indigenous Land Managers roles and cultural responsibility

1 We seek to develop and establish appropreiat productive community Social Indicators, Education, Capacity building, Governance, decision making

2 We seek to develop appropriate land management practices and or policies linked to existing and future State and Commonwealth legislation, RE-Cultural Heritage continuation of Custodial Responsibility, Caring for Country

3 We seek to asses, monitor, and evaluate the Natural Landscape, Biodiversity, RE-Cultural Plants Food and Medicines, recording and mapping of the Native vegetation, reproduction and regeneration within a given area of the landscape

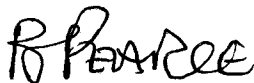
4 We seek to identify, past and present infrastructures, water supply ground tanks, pumps sites, roads or easements, fencing, stock yards, power supply and other structures, detrimental to cultural sites, artifacts, skeletal remains

5 We seek to preserve and protect the cultural Intellectual property, spiritual and religious beliefs

6 We seek to obtain a level of water rights that can be separate and identified as Aboriginal Cultural Waters and to retain such levels for future generations for Cultural purpose

In taking in to consideration the ESFMP-Riverina Region, as we further commend Forestry NSW for its future plans, we look forward to hearing other community groups, comments in the near future.

Kind regards



Barry Pearce  
Culpra Station