

**FOUR NATIONS NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT  
GOVERNANCE GROUP**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE July 2007**



**Kurna**

*Red Kangaroo*

**Ngadjuri**

*Peppermint Gum*

**Ngarrindjeri**

*Pondi (Murray Cod)*

**Peramangk**

*Emu*

*Dolphin represents the salt-water association*



## Government of South Australia

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### Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board

This document was funded by a regional partnership agreement between the State and Commonwealth Governments and the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board.

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## **Vision**

*The Four Nations NRM Governance Group will work together to promote and preserve Aboriginal culture heritage, native title and spirituality in relation to soils, water resources, geological features and land and seascapes, Native vegetation, and animals, other Native organisms and ecosystems*

*Through this vision the Four Nations Governance Group will be upholding customary obligation and in doing so fulfil their cultural inheritance to country.*

## **Preamble**

The Four Nations NRM Governance Group (FNNGG) is a united **VOICE** for caring for country and is united against the destructions of Aboriginal sites, culture and country within the Adelaide and Mt Lofty NRM Region.

The FNNGG implement and develop strategies, policies and procedures that will assist each nation clan group to address issues of concern in regards to caring for sites, culture, country and economic stability, within the boundaries of the Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges NRM region.

That the NRM Board recognise FNNGG as the authorised peak Aboriginal Governance Group and acknowledge FNNGG expertise and skills for caring for country within the Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges NRM region.

FNNGG is the peak group for consultation, coordination and where appropriate integration of action by the whole of govt, state, local and federal on NRM issues

The FNNGG develop partnerships with the following groups

- Native Title bodies

- Heritage groups
- Aboriginal agencies
- Stakeholder groups / Non Government organisations
- Communities of interest
- Other neighbouring NRM regions
- International bodies and universities

FNNGG are committed to developing projects that are aligned to ***Caring for Country, waterways and marine environments*** and to ensure each of these projects have a positive assessed outcomes in achieving our goals.

### **Objectives to focus on**

FNNGG is committed to implementing capacity building and structures by:

- Supporting equity and sustainability in the wellbeing of the FNNGG
- Establishing FNNGG infrastructure & base (offices) & employment of Aboriginal staff
- Obtaining resources for administration and on ground projects
- Deliver cultural awareness courses within the AMLR NRM region

- Developing culturally appropriate structural process for integration of services
- Developing culturally appropriate enhancement skills training
- Develop internal and external procedures, and facilitate a framework for the involvement of Aboriginal projects in an investment strategy
- Quarterly newsletters to be produced for communication
- Promote public awareness of the importance of sustaining caring for country by undertaking educational initiatives for the FNNGG

### **Members Participation Responsibility**

- It is the responsibility of each Nation to attend meetings.
- Each representative and their proxy who are elected as a member to the FNNGG, has to be acknowledged in writing by their cultural clan groups, to serve as a member on the committee.
- Each representative will hold a membership to the FNNGG for a period of three years.
- The Quorum for meetings must consists of at least two members from each Nation and decisions made are through a consensus agreement
- All members at the meetings are to participate in a respectful manner, allowing each member to clearly

state their issues, and in the points of discussions members are to conduct their comments in a respectful way, enabling each member, to complete their statement.

- During the meeting processes, each member to be aware of the cultural sensitivity regarding matters of well-being, cultural protocols and confidentiality concerning the FNNGG discussions, and to allow for unresolved matters to be solved before close of meeting.
- In dealing with conflict each member is allocated time and space during the meeting to resolve or to develop strategies to deal with issues and all matters are to be kept in confidence within the FNNGG
- Honesty, our humour and Respect are important in all our meetings
- Each member needs to provide feedback and seek information from within their nations regarding NRM matters
- It is the responsibility of the participant to inform the NRM Project support officer of any dietary requirements

### **Chairperson Roles and Responsibilities**

*Chair is to be a shared rotational responsibility to be reviewed on a regular basis*

- The Chairperson has the responsibility for ensuring the meeting proceeds in an orderly fashion and for each member to direct all comments through the chairperson
- To make sure members stick to the agenda
- The chairperson to allocate timeframe for members to speak
- The chairperson to make a summary at the beginning of each session of the meeting
- Ensure each member clearly states points of concerns/discussions and ensure members stick to their issues
- The Chairperson resolves over issues and conflicts

### **Meeting procedures**

- Chairperson to chair two meetings consecutively
- The next meetings agenda and location set and agreed on prior to the end of current meeting.
- All correspondence to be addressed to the chairperson of the FNGG via NRM project support officer.
- Review minutes and action plan at meetings
- Ongoing agenda items added to next agenda
- Breaks
  - 9:00 for a 9:30 start
  - 10: 45 to 11:00 - smoke

- 12:30 -1:00 - Lunch
- 2:00 – 2:15 – smoke
- 3:30 – 4:00 finish

### **External dealing Procedures**

- FNGG briefing note addressed to chairperson
- FNGG briefing note filled out and tabled
- FNGG to discuss briefing request
- If Agreed by FNGG invite to discuss further
- Respond back to request

### **NRM Executive support Responsibilities**

- Attend all meetings
- NRM Project support officer to format and forward on requests via the chair to the meeting
- Send out Minutes and Agendas
- Provide Catering to value \$100
- Report on the project quarterly via NRM Tracker
- Provide support and direction to the Four Nations NRM Governance Committee
- Supply data projector and laptop for meetings

**Structures**

