



Australian Heritage Strategy Submissions
Heritage Branch
Department of the Environment
GPO Box 787
Canberra ACT 2601

Date: 9 June 2014

Re: Australia's Heritage Strategy Submission

To whom it may concern:

The Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation (WMAC) supports the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape to be a site for current assessment for the potential World Heritage Listing. WMAC has been a significant partner in the development of Budj Bim Cultural Landscape that has significant heritage values to Australia and the world.

The Budj Bim National Heritage Landscape is located in South West Victoria, this site with its distinct heritage values and appropriated community management structure, demonstrates appropriate engagement by all partners associated to the landscape.

WMAC supports the potential listing of the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape based on the twelve year process that has seen the landscape be recognised on a local, regional, state, national and international level. WMAC recognises that structure that has management the landscape over the mentioned period is the strength to creating a place worthy of being a World Heritage listing.

The Budj Bim Sustainable Development Program (Formerly – The Lake Condah Sustainable Development Program) was the body that allowed agencies such as WMAC to participate in a local heritage management program. Over the twelve years of the program there has been strong example of leadership, partnership and community engagement to create the Budj Bim National Heritage Landscape.

At the ten anniversary of the Sustainable Development Program, it was noted that over eight million dollars was invested into the program. This investment seen a numbers of initiatives achieved and allowed for a future ten year strategy to be developed that will ensure the program becomes more sustainable.

In finishing the WMAC endorses the Budj Bim Sustainable Development Program model and support the nomination of the Budj Bim National Heritage Landscape on to the assessment list for World Heritage Listing. This significant landscape has been supported by Federal, State and Local Government, corporate sector, education section and at the community

level over the past twelve years. For this continuation of development and the commitment for future implementation of the program demonstrates the commitment from the partners for the program.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Bell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Bell".

Michael Bell

CEO

Winda-Mara Aboriginal Corporation