

Healing Country through Wiradjuri/Wolgalu Land Management

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When we look at and we talk about Country and it's obvious and it's clear that us as people are missing from the landscape. Everything else is there, except for us.

Bugang Bila is about putting Aboriginal people in control and back on Country. The bugang, gyak and our people, all have that one connection throughout this Country.

(Shane Herrington, Wiradjuri/Wolgalu)



Findings: Barriers

Indigenous people often have very different value systems to NRM agencies.

The working environment and procedure of NRM agencies often impact Indigenous people's cultural confidence.

Limited capacity to share knowledge and reconnect with neighboring Nations.

Insufficient opportunities and time to build trusting, respectful relationships with relevant NRM agency staff.

Restricted access to Country, due to government policies and insufficient resources.

Lack of understanding and consideration of community dynamics by NRM agencies.





The Wiradjuri/Wolgalu community, in all different ways, spoke about how non-Indigenous people and government and non-government agencies' good intentions, rarely consider Wiradjuri/Wolgalu's cultural values. Traditional Owners continue to go unseen and unheard.





To have cultural confidence means to be able to have the confidence within yourself and your culture to be proud of culture and be able to speak on and up for culture.

Cultural confidence is having, holding and passing cultural knowledge on; understanding why our own roles within County are so important. We need to know our culture, our history, our stories, our practices – this strengthens our self-esteem and our confidence and our identity.

(Megan Considine, Cultural NRM Officer for Brungle-Tumut)



