

# Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board

## Media release

Tuesday 8 October 2013

## New partnerships off to strong start at Barmah

A new joint land management board for Barmah National Park has embraced its role to enable the knowledge and culture of traditional owners to be incorporated into the management of the national park.

Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board chairperson, Ms Robynne Nelson said the group's first gathering was at the national park.

"We had a two-day workshop to see and hear first-hand some of the priority management challenges at the national park and meet with other people involved in the park," Ms Nelson said.

"The board comprises Yorta Yorta traditional owners and general members coming together to work jointly to manage and care for Barmah National Park in a culturally appropriate way.

"The key priority for the board is to develop a joint management plan in which Yorta Yorta traditional and cultural values and knowledge are incorporated into the management of Barmah National Park. The community will be consulted about the joint management plan," she said.

Representatives from Parks Victoria, the Department of Environment and Primary Industries and Goulburn-Broken Catchment Management Authority came together with the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation to visit a range of sites, discuss the main priorities for the group and start planning how best to work together.

Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation CEO Damian Morgan-Bulled said he was looking forward to working closely with the new board and other parties, to build a strong partnership between traditional owners and government agencies.

"Joint management is a recognition of our culture and of our connection to the national park and will help us to make sure Yorta Yorta history and future aspirations are reflected," Mr Morgan-Bulled said.

### Yorta Yorta Traditional Land Owner Management Board members

#### Yorta Yorta (traditional owner) members

Robynne Nelson (Chairperson)  
Sonia Cooper  
Peter Ferguson  
Jade Miller  
Des Morgan  
Rob Walker

#### General (non-traditional owner) members

Geoff Dobson  
Chris Halpin (Deputy Chairperson)  
David McKenzie  
Kevin Ritchie (DEPI Nominee)  
Lizzy Skinner

Media contact: Robynne Nelson 0448 888 827