

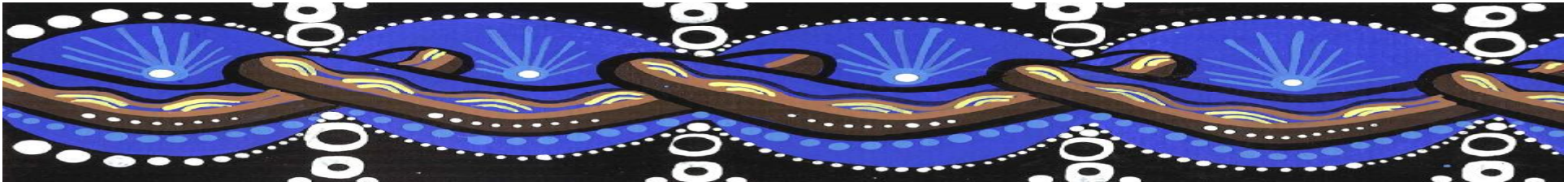
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Murdi Paaki Environment, Culture & Heritage Sub-Group

Presentation By

To the MPRA on 19th August 2008



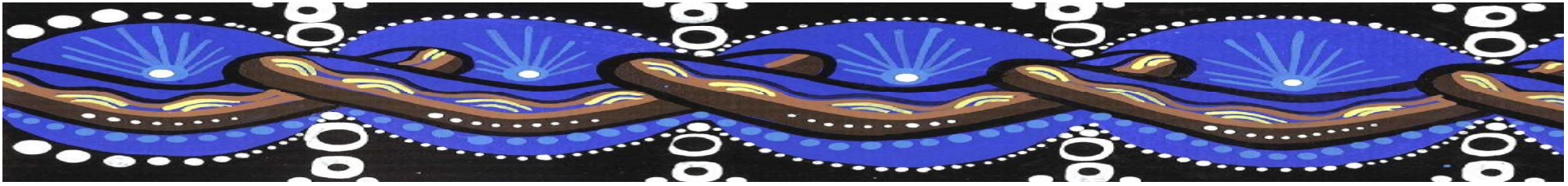


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OBJECTIVES OF PRESENTATION

- To inform the Regional Assembly on the progress of the ECH Sub-Group
- Update on the 8 Regional ECH priority actions
- Increase CWP involvement/participation in the ECH Sub-Group



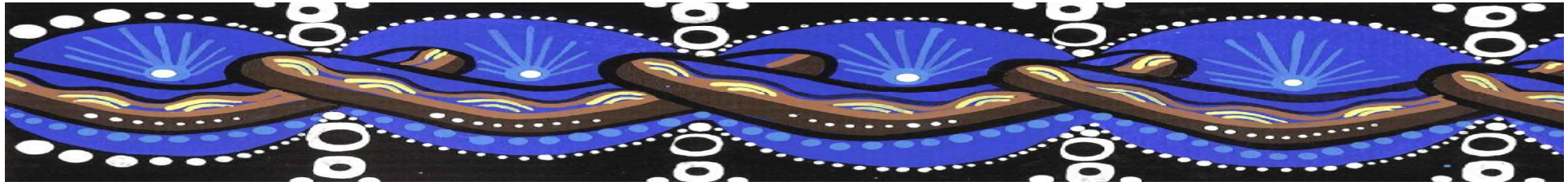


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SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

- **A total of 5 meetings have been held for the ECH Sub-Group (Oct 06-May08)**
- **Meetings have been held in Cobar, Bourke and Dubbo**
- **A field trip has been carried out to inspect the Collarenebri carved trees and discuss options with CWP**
- **Past meeting costs have been meet by DECC, DEHWR, DAA, ICC**



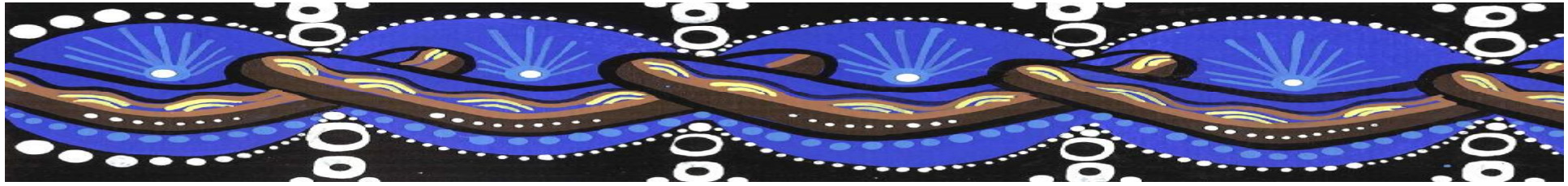


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Key Agency Participation

- **NSW Dept of Environment & Climate Change (Co-Chair)**
- **Commonwealth Dept of Environment, Heritage, Water & the Arts (Co-Chair)**
- **NSW Heritage Office (Dept of Planning)**
- **Western CMA**
- **Dept of Aboriginal Affairs**
- **ICC Bourke**



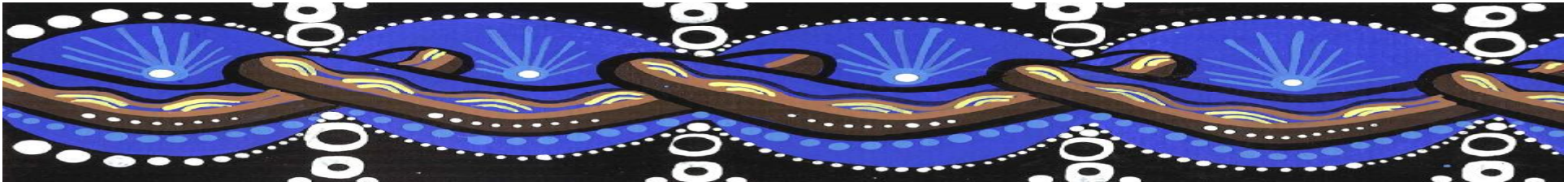


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Key CWP Participation

- **Brewarrina CWP**
- **Bourke CWP**
- **Cobar CWP**
- **Collarenebri CWP**
- **Gulargambone CWP**
- **Walgett CWP**
- **Enngonia CWP**
- **Coonamble CWP**



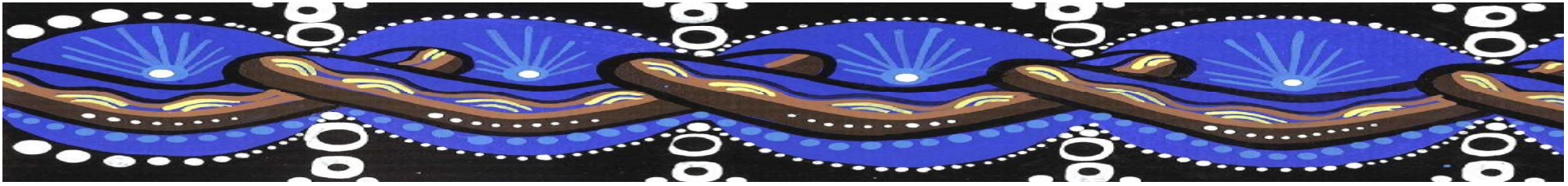


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8 Regional Priorities

- **Nghunnu Fishtraps (Brewarrina)**
- **River Health (Darling catchment)**
- **Carved Trees (Collarenebri)**
- **Recording Significant Sites/Places**
- **Oral Histories**
- **Aboriginal Language**
- **Cultural Boundaries**
- **Cemeteries (Record & Protect)**





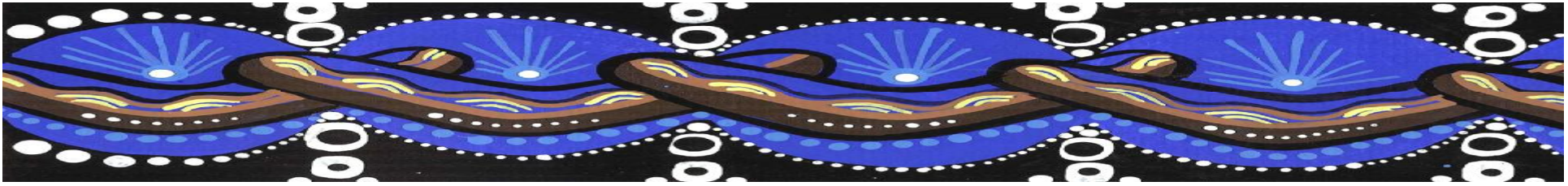
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Updates on each Regional Priority

Ngunnhu Fishtraps (Brewarrina):

- **DEHWR funded & endorsed CMP**
- **Creation of a partnership management group between Commonwealth, State & Local Govt; Brewarrina Business Centre & Aboriginal Community**
- **\$150,000 grant provided by DEHWR to implement CMP**
- **Employment of Site Manager**
- **Need to simplify land management arrangements**



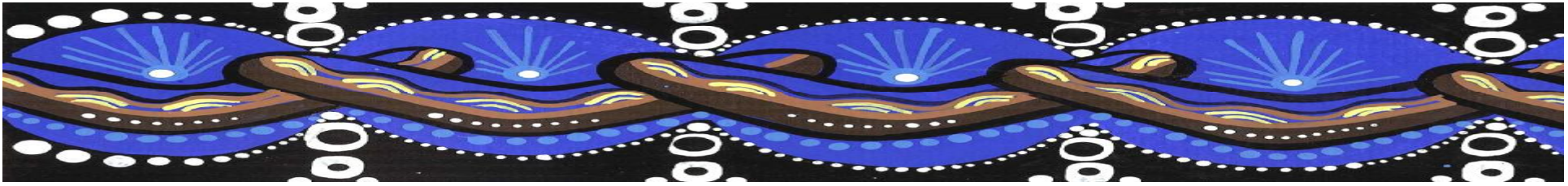


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River Health:

- **Western CMA – Riparian Management through its incentive programs (fencing, revegetation, Aboriginal sites conservation)**
- **DECC submission under Commonwealth ‘Caring for Our Country’ funding – Project ‘Renewing Aboriginal community access to rivers’**
- **MDBC Proposal to establish an indigenous advisory committee for the Darling River catchment similar to MLDRIN**
- **Western CMA to consider expansion of river monitoring program**



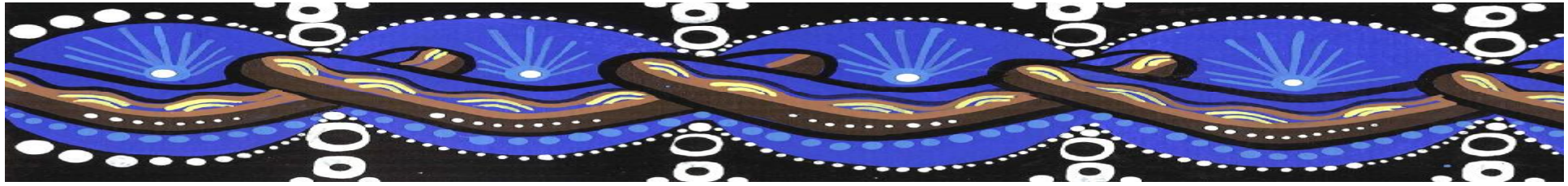


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River Health Con't:

- **NSW DWE proposing to develop a Darling River Management Plan. Need for strong Aboriginal community input into the Plan**
- **Western CMA conducted a canoe trip between Brewarrina & Bourke which promoted the different issues along the river**
- **Need for a strong partnership across boarder with Queensland**
- **Need for Aboriginal communities to get the real story (what has happened over the past 20 years) with the river**
- **Re-snagging of river for improved fish habitat**



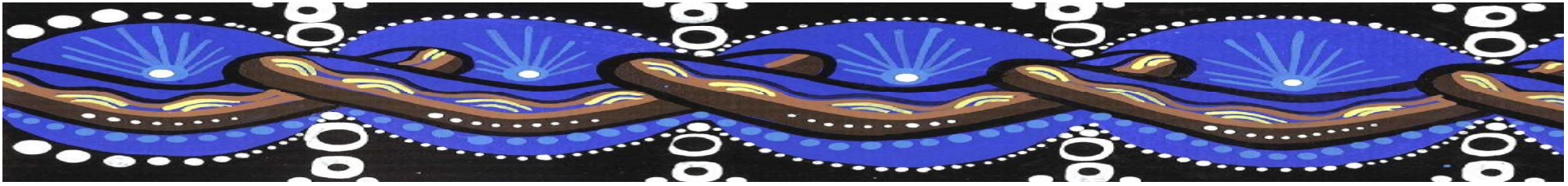


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Collarenebri Carved Trees:

- **Objective of Aboriginal community to have over 50 Carved trees taken in 1947 returned back to country and placed into a secured building**
- **Support provided to a delegation from community to the National Museum and National Library**
- **Meeting held with community to raise issues such as purchase of land, feasibility study to construct a keeping place, field visit to museums**
- **E-Sub application to undertake a field visit of Adelaide & Melbourne Museums where trees are currently held**



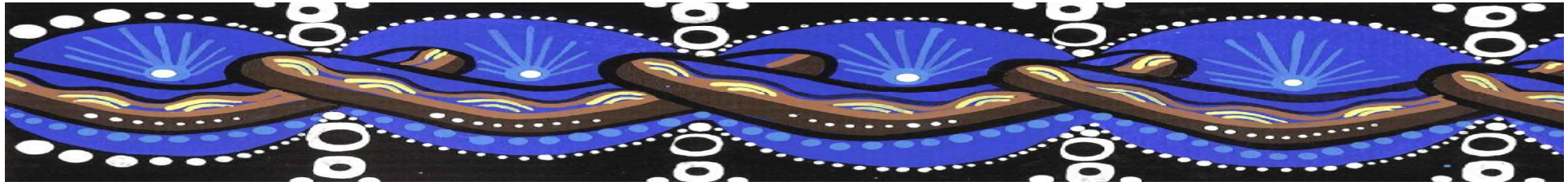


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Recording Significant Sites/Places:

- **Information provided on the Commonwealth & State heritage registers and how significant sites/places may be recorded and entered**
- **Information provided on current National Heritage Listings, State Heritage Register and DECC AHIMS Register**
- **Information recorded by DECC on Aboriginal Living Places (Mission, Reserves, Fringe Camps)**
- **Various funding available to manage listed sites/places**



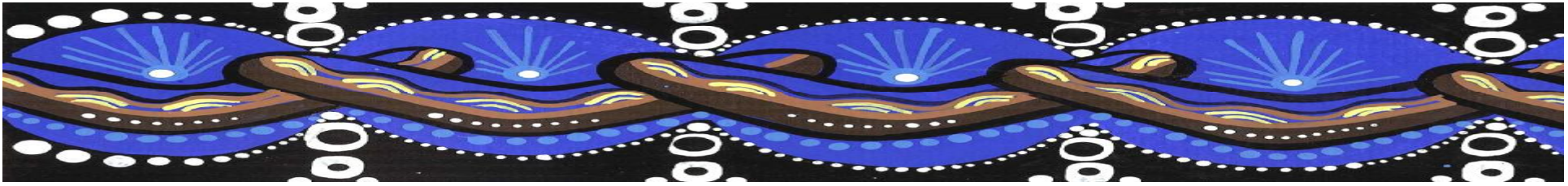


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Oral Histories:

- **Aboriginal elders oral histories are an important record to future generations**
- **It identifies people, places and events**
- **Examples of oral histories (archives in AIATSIS) and DECC booklets**
- **Utilise existing groups who have set up structures**
- **E-Sub application for a broader Oral Histories project across the region**
- **ICC through contingency funding to provide \$25,000 to support purchase of equipment and training of community members**



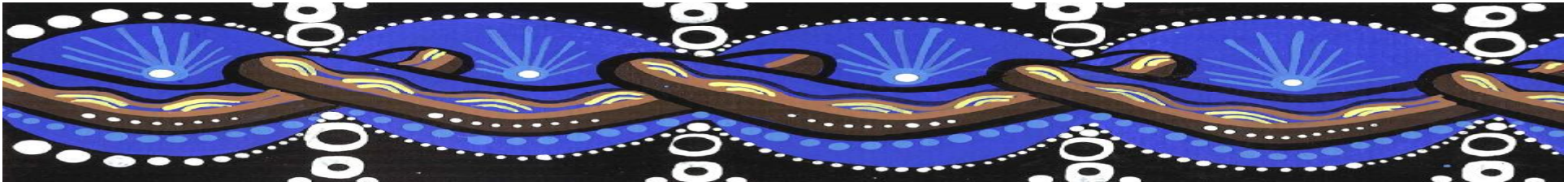


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Language:

- **Identified as a key element that relates back to identity**
- **All Aboriginal communities should have reasonable access to the local Aboriginal language and also provision of information in relation to their own cultural language (from where they have come from)**
- **DAA NSW Aboriginal Languages Policy (Support through the NSW Aboriginal Languages Research & Resource Centre)**
- **DECC Co-Naming Policy**



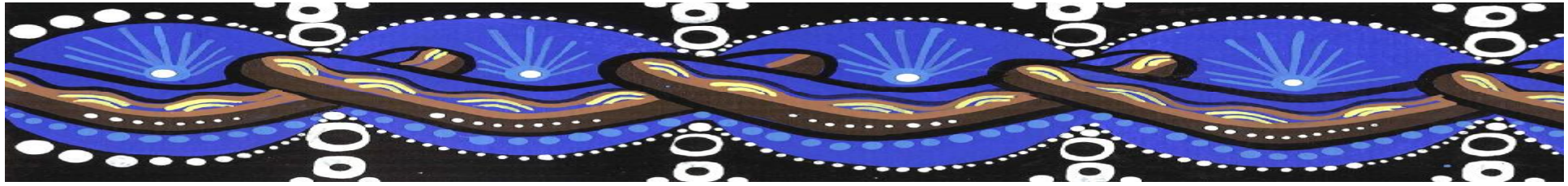


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Boundaries:

- **Various mapped boundaries have been provided to CWP members**
- **These have been derived from Tindale and other map forms**
- **Map by former DNR (copy to be distributed at Regional Assembly) – need for feedback to DECC**



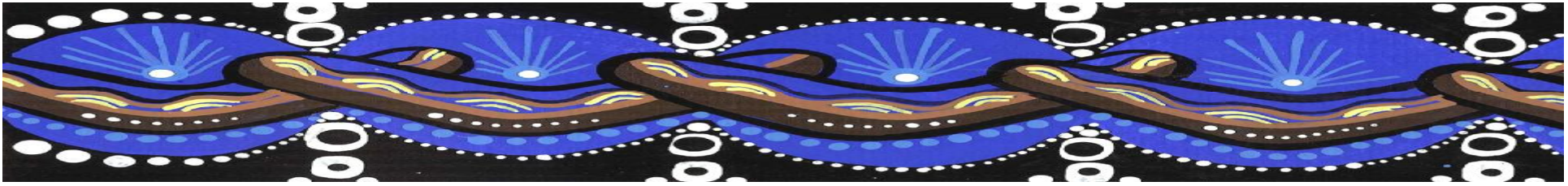


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Cemeteries:

- A number of CWP's have identified work to be carried out on Aboriginal cemeteries
- Provision of a spreadsheet of Aboriginal recorded graves / cemeteries in NSW
- Need to identify key cemeteries that require urgent action and align funding arrangements





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Need for increased CWP Involvement in ECH Sub-Group

- **Improvements in community wellbeing**
- **Knowing your culture & identity**
- **Becoming more aware and involved in the management of your land, your culture, your future**

