

Indigenous Reference Group

Overview



Threatened
Species
Recovery
Hub

National Environmental Science Programme



IRG members, Larissa Hale and Cissy Gore-Birch with TSR Hub Indigenous Liaison Officer, Brad Moggridge on Bardi Jawi country.

The Threatened Species Recovery Hub recognises that Indigenous people have very significant interests in, knowledge of, and responsibilities for Australia's natural environment, including its threatened species.

TSR Hub Indigenous Reference Group

The Hub established an Indigenous Reference Group (IRG) in mid-2017 to assist the Hub executive and the project teams in improving the engagement and participation of Indigenous people in the Hub's activities and research projects.

The IRG is coordinated by the Hub's Indigenous Liaison Officer. Members were appointed by the Hub Director in their capacity to understand research, community, government and threatened species, along with the aim of having a gender balance and geographical balance.

The IRG will provide advice and guidance to the NESP TSR Hub by:

- Providing advice to ensure the NESP TSR Hub's research projects are better aligned with Indigenous Australians' strategic needs

- Identifying activities within the Hub which could advance Indigenous Australians' involvement in threatened species recovery and management
- Advising project teams on Indigenous matters, to add value to their projects to better address Indigenous needs
- Advising on culturally appropriate formats for research outputs for Indigenous end-users and stakeholders.





The National Environmental Science Programme

The National Environmental Science Programme is a long-term commitment to environment and climate research. It will support decision-makers and land managers to understand, manage and conserve Australia's environment with the best available information, based on world-class science. The Threatened Species Recovery (TSR) Hub is one of six hubs supported by funding through NESP.

The Threatened Species Recovery Hub

The Threatened Species Recovery Hub brings together leading environmental scientists, on-ground conservation partners, planners and policy makers, to carry out research that improves the management of Australia's threatened species.

The \$60 million dollar research initiative is supported by \$30 million of funding through the Australian Government's National Environmental Science Programme, which is matched by contributions from ten of the country's leading academic institutions and the Australian Wildlife Conservancy. Established in June 2015, the Threatened Species Recovery Hub will conclude in June 2021.

Further Information

For more information please contact the Hub's Indigenous Liaison Officer Bradley Moggridge, 0498 332 599 or bradley.moggridge@anu.edu.au

Indigenous Reference Group Members



Cissy Gore-Birch (Broome)

Cissy has Jaru heritage through her grandmother's country and is

connected to Nyikina and Balangarra country. She grew up on Balangarra country in the East Kimberley region where she was the Chairperson of Balangarra Aboriginal Corporation for nearly 5 years. Cissy sits on the Kimberley Land Council & NAILSMA Board, the Indigenous Advisory Committee to the Commonwealth Department of Environment and also on the TSR Indigenous Hub. She is passionate about country, people and sustainable livelihoods. We all have a role to play in managing country and taking care of our environment.



Oliver Costello (Lismore)

Oliver a Bundjalung man from Northern NSW leads the Firesticks Initiative

he co-founded in 2009. He works for the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service in Aboriginal Heritage and Joint Management. Oliver has a broad range of experience in Indigenous fire practices, Aboriginal Joint Management partnerships, Indigenous Natural Cultural Resource management and Indigenous governance. He is an advisor or director with several organisations and projects. Oliver is passionate about Indigenous leadership, empowerment, partnerships and recognition of cultural knowledge and practice through community led mentorship on country.



Larissa Hale (Cooktown)

Larissa is a Yuku Baja Muliku woman from Cape York QLD. She is Managing

Director for Yuku Baja Muliku Land Corporation and was instrumental in founding the Yuku Baja Muliku Indigenous Land & Sea Ranger Program, The Archer Point Turtle Hospital and the YBM Junior Ranger Program. Larissa is also a Councillor with Cook Shire Council and a member of a number of committees in the Cape York and Great Barrier Reef Region.



Gerry Turpin (Cairns)

Gerry is a Mbabaram man from north Qld and a renowned Ethnobotanist. Gerry has been employed

by the Queensland State Government for about 30 years and has previously been involved in the Queensland Herbarium's Vegetation Surveys and Regional Ecosystem Mapping Project in Queensland. He manages the Tropical Indigenous Ethnobotany Centre at the Australian Tropical Herbarium, in partnership with James Cook University, DISITI and CSIRO, and has worked with many Traditional Owner groups on Cape York and other parts of Queensland. Gerry is a member of the Ecological Society of Australia Board of Directors with the role of Indigenous Engagement. As an Indigenous ethnobotanist Gerry has a strong cultural commitment to facilitating effective partnerships that support Indigenous communities to protect, manage and maintain their cultural knowledge on the use of plants.