

## **Murujuga Rock Art Stakeholder Reference Group**

### **Meeting on 26 October 2020 (MAC Head Office and Online)**

The Chair, Dr Ron Edwards, and Mr Peter Jeffries (Chief Executive Officer, Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation) welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

#### **Update from Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation**

Mr Peter Jeffries provided members with an update on activities. Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC) has recently released its 2020-2023 Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Strategic Plan. There are more rangers dedicated to the Murujuga National Park and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions has been assisting in upskilling rangers. The Ngajarli Trail and boardwalk was opened in August and has been a success. MAC is working with the City of Karratha to build the access road for the Living Knowledge Centre.

#### **Communications and Engagement**

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation provided an update to members on communication activities and the updated website. The Stakeholder Reference Group discussed improvements for future communication and engagement activities for the Stakeholder Reference Group and opportunities to support MAC.

#### **Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program**

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation provided an update on the Murujuga Rock Art Monitoring Program. The focus in year one has been a review of existing data and determining the monitoring approach through the development of a Conceptual Model and Monitoring Studies Plan. Expert peer reviewers have been engaged to review the Conceptual Model and Monitoring Studies Plan. The Conceptual Model explains the relationships between the elements of the monitoring and will be refined as the evidence base is produced through monitoring studies. This helps to understand if there are any changes to the rock art over time, and what is causing any changes. The monitoring program will inform future management and supports the World Heritage nomination process.

#### **World Heritage update**

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions provided an update on the World Heritage nomination process.

#### **Member Updates**

Members also received updates on the:

- Dating Murujuga's Dreaming: Innovate new ways of rock art and climate change (University of Western Australia);
- The Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill (Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage); and
- Recent operations of Woodside, Rio Tinto and Yara Pilbara.

The Chair and members also completed their Cultural Awareness Inductions with MAC Rangers and went on country to learn about the rock art, plants and bush medicine.