

Murujuga Rock Art Stakeholder Reference Group - Terms of Reference

Context

The McGowan Government recognises the benefit of engaging in informed discussion with a diverse group of stakeholders to assist with the development and implementation of the Murujuga Rock Art Strategy (the Strategy).

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) has the primary responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of the Strategy. This includes working in partnership with the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation to oversee the development, implementation and analysis of a scientific monitoring and analysis program that will determine whether the rock art on Murujuga is being subject to accelerated change.

This scientific monitoring and analysis program will be designed by DWER in close consultation with a team of national and international experts in relevant disciplines. It is expected that the monitoring will be undertaken by suitably qualified individuals or organisations selected through a government procurement process, and that the results of this monitoring will be subject to independent peer review. The program may also include other studies commissioned by DWER to complement the monitoring program and strengthen the scientific knowledge informing decisions made in order to manage and protect the rock art.

The Murujuga Rock Art Stakeholder Reference Group (MRASRG) will facilitate engagement between the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation and key government, industry and community representatives on the development and implementation of the Murujuga Rock Art Strategy. The MRASRG will be invited to provide advice to DWER and the Minister for Environment on the scientific monitoring and analysis program. The MRASRG will also be the primary forum for stakeholders to inform the Government's broader consideration of strategic issues relating to the monitoring and protection of the rock art.

The MRASRG will have an independent Chair appointed by the Minister for the Environment, and will report to the Minister for the Environment.

Terms of Reference for the Murujuga Rock Art Stakeholder Reference Group

The role of the Murujuga Rock Art Stakeholder Reference Group (MRASRG) is to:

1. contribute constructively to the monitoring and protection of rock art, being considerate of the views of all stakeholders. This includes the provision of advice to DWER and the Minister for Environment on the design, implementation and analysis of the scientific monitoring and analysis program;
2. consult, inform and educate other stakeholders on other matters referred by DWER for input or comment, including further development of the Strategy, implementation of the Strategy and 5 yearly reviews; and

3. inform the Government's broader consideration of other strategic issues relating to the protection of the rock art on Murujuga.

Proposed Membership

- Independent Chair
- Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation
- Woodside Energy Ltd
- Yara Pilbara
- Rio Tinto
- Dr John Black
- Western Australian Museum
- UWA Centre for Rock Art Research and Management
- Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
- Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage
- Pilbara Development Commission (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development)
- Pilbara Ports Authority
- City of Karratha
- Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

Secretariat support will be provided by DWER.

Tenure and meeting arrangements

The Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation will be a permanent member of the MRASRG. The initial term of appointment of the Chair and all other members of the committee is three years, after which the membership will be reviewed by the Minister for Environment. The committee will meet at least annually, or as determined by the Chair.