## As partners this is how we will work together:

- Our relationship is underpinned by a culture of trust, openness and mutual respect
- We acknowledge that we have a joint **leadership** role in the future sustainability of the region for improved NRM, social, cultural and economic outcomes
- We acknowledge one another's different contributions, expertise and role in the region and know that it is this **diversity** that is a key strength of the partnership
- We will actively communicate and facilitate the exchange of information between staff and partners to minimise challenges and resolve broader issues
- We actively work on shared interests and advocate for each other's interests
- We value and encourage the input and contributions of elders and young people to the partnership
- We recognise and respect both Indigenous Ecological Knowledge and mainstream natural resource management technical knowledge
- We seek opportunities to 'drive' innovative solutions
- We adapt and are **flexible** to changing circumstances, resources and timeframes
- This partnership statement will be reviewed every three years, or as otherwise agreed by Gunditj Mirring and **Glenelg Hopkins CMA**





# **Partnership Statement**

Between

### Gunditj Mirring RNTBC and Glenelg Hopkins CMA July 2015 to June 2021

Since 2002 the Gunditimara community and Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority have collaborated on over 15 different natural and cultural resource management projects.

This document outlines the commitment of both Gunditj Mirring and Glenelg Hopkins CMA to continue this partnership with the aim of a more sustainable and resilient future for the health of people and country.

#### **YARKEEN** vision

We have a productive and collaborative partnership that we will use to further restore, protect and enhance the natural and cultural landscapes of our region and the well-being of our community.

Dense Lovett

Chair of Glenelg Hopkins CMA Board

the Wal

Chair of Full Group

Danei Bell

**CEO of Glenelg Hopkins CMA** 

Glenelg Hopkins







Statement

**Partnership** 



**CEO of Gunditj Mirring** 

**GUNDITJ MIRRING** 

## Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation

Gunditj Mirring was established in 2005 by Gunditjmara Traditional Owners to progress Gunditjmara rights and interest in native title, cultural heritage and caring for country.

The corporation is a Registered Native Title Body Corporation under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) and a Registered Aboriginal Party under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 (Vic).

Through Gunditj Mirring, Gunditjmara people ensure that the responsibilities and duties which arise under Gunditjmara law, custom and beliefs are carried out in relation to caring for country and the protection and continuation of Gunditjmara law and culture.

On behalf of the Gunditjmara community, the corporation owns and manages a number of culturally significant properties along the Budj Bim National Heritage Landscape. All properties are declared Indigenous Protected Areas and are managed for their cultural heritage and biodiversity values.

Gunditj Mirring is governed by a Full Group Council which brings together Gunditjmara traditional owners for discussions and decision making. Gunditj Mirring engages with other Aboriginal community organisations and the broader community through partnerships, collaborations and a variety of projects.

## Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority

Glenelg Hopkins CMA supports communities across its region to create healthy catchments through strong partnerships which focus on maintaining and enhancing the integrity of soils, water and biodiversity in the face of a changing climate. The CMA's vision is for a healthy and sustainable relationship between the natural environment and the community's use of land and water resources.

The CMA, under the Water Act 1989 (Vic), also has a statutory responsibility for ensuring effective waterway and floodplain management in south-west Victoria.

The direction for the management of the region's natural resources is outlined in the CMA's Regional Catchment Strategy, which has been developed in partnership with many regional organisations, agencies, community groups and individuals under the CALP Act 1994.

The CMA is governed by a board of community Directors who are responsible and accountable for the good governance, strategic direction and efficient operation of the CMA. Directors are appointed by and report to the Victorian Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water.

# As partners these are our goals:

GOAL	MEASURE of SUCCESS
We have a <b>strong and productive</b> <b>relationship</b> that we continue to build and that endures beyond individual staff members.	We have governance and organisational structures that ensure the partnership relationship exists beyond individual staff.
We undertake collaborative, holistic and inclusive planning to attract investment, and develop and implement <b>joint projects</b> .	We have processes and strategies in place to enable joint participation in investment planning. Our partnership projects are efficiently and effectively managed and implemented. Gunditjmara community is actively engaged in all stages of joint project development and delivery.
We share and integrate our <b>different</b> <b>knowledge</b> and <b>experiences</b> across project planning, governance and strategies.	Local knowledge is valued and used as a form of expertise. Indigenous Ecological Knowledge is used and integrated in project design and delivery in accordance with Gunditjmara protocols and intellectual property rights.
Our projects support an increased awareness amongst land managers to integrate Indigenous Ecological Knowledge into land management practices.	There is an increase in the number of land managers with an awareness of IEK through involvement in extension programs. Projects support the intergenerational transfer of knowledge amongst Gunditjmara community.
We will continue to support, expand and broaden <b>relationships</b> outside the partnership to strengthen project design and delivery.	Other regional stakeholders partner with us on particular issues and projects.
Our partnership projects lead to improved natural and cultural resource <b>management</b> <b>outcomes</b> across different land tenures.	A diversity of land managers participate in cross-tenure projects. Project data is collected and collated to show improved outcomes for cultural resource management, biodiversity, and land and water health.
The <b>benefits</b> of our partnership are recognised in the regional <b>economy</b> , providing jobs, enterprise development and economic participation, particularly for young people of our region.	Gather evidence that our projects support youth participation, employment and enterprise development. Gunditjmara organisations and community-based enterprises will be encouraged to seek procurement and contracting opportunities. The partnership supports new business interests and opportunities in natural and cultural resource management in the region.
We build the <b>cultural competency</b> and <b>professional development</b> of staff and project delivery partners.	Cultural competency of CMA staff and board members is improved through training and capacity building activities delivered by Gunditj Mirring. Mentoring, secondment and traineeship opportunities have occurred between organisations. Professional development opportunities are provided to Gunditj Mirring and CMA staff and project partners.
The <b>success</b> of our partnership is recognised and promoted.	Collaboration of joint promotional campaigns, sharing and celebrating success.