



TRADITIONAL OWNER LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD

MEDIA RELEASE

30/9/2019

Barmah National Park planners issue reminder of the end of submission period

Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board are reminding the community that they have until Sunday the 6th of October 2019 to make a submission on the Draft Joint Management Plan for Barmah National Park.

Uncle Des, Chair of the Board, said “We are grateful for the effort the community has gone to in making submissions to date and we are looking forward to spending time considering the issues that have arisen out of them. We want to ensure that as many voices are heard as possible and hope the community takes this time to get a submission in by Sunday. This draft is a time for us to test our work with the community and to listen to concerns and ideas. We hope everyone who loves Barmah National Park will make a submission this week.”

This closing of the submission on the 6th of October comes off the back of a two-month exhibition period that the Yorta Yorta TOLMB hailed as a success. The Board recently welcomed over 100 people to Open House consultations in Barmah, Echuca and Shepparton.

Following the conclusion of the Open Houses Uncle Des said “We are certainly grateful for the level of commitment and passion the community has shown for the future of Barmah National Park and the opportunity we had to exchange ideas on Joint Management. It was great to listen to a wide range of views and to clarify some of the goals and strategies set out in the Joint Management Plan. People gave us clear views about what they support in the draft plan and things they want to see changed or added to the final plan. We expect this plan will foster the health of Country and contribute significantly to the welfare of our connected communities and we look forward to working with those into the future. Even if we don’t always agree, we do all love Barmah National Park and we want to see it thrive.”

Following the closure of the exhibition period the Board plans to work through the feedback it has received in developing the final Joint Management Plan for Barmah National Park. The

Joint Management Plan will then be delivered by the end of the year to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Lily D'Ambrosio for approval.

For the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board the health of Country has been the absolute priority in the development of this plan, Barmah National Park is one of the few remaining tracts of Yorta Yorta Country where the natural environment has not been modified by the development of private farmland and towns.

The Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board has been tasked with writing the first management plan for Barmah National Park. The Board was appointed under agreement between the Victorian Government and the Yorta Yorta Nation in 2014 to jointly manage the park. It comprises Yorta Yorta representatives as well as members of the broader community. Parks Victoria provides day-to-day operational management of the Barmah National Park.

The plan aims to pursue innovation and excellence, to promote and recognise the value of Yorta Yorta culture, to involve Yorta Yorta in management of the Park, and to ensure the well-being of Country and people. It must cover the recognition, practice and utilisation of traditional Yorta Yorta knowledge, the conservation of natural and cultural values, the management of threatened species, and the attraction and management of Park visitors. The Plan sets out management directions for the park for the next 10 years.

Further Comments:

Spokesperson:

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Further information:

Inquires:

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Frequently asked Questions:

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