



NGALIYA JARA GARI

Our Country Gives

A Quandamooka Strategy focused
on Primary Industries and Agriculture
within Quandamooka Country





Acknowledgements

The Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC) Registered Native Title Body Corporate (RNTBC) acknowledges that we operate and function on the lands and seas of the Quandamooka People.

We pay our respects to the land and sea that provide for us.

We acknowledge and pay respects to the Ancestors that sustainably managed Quandamooka resources for over 40,000 years.

We acknowledge our Elders who are our knowledge holders, teachers and leaders. We acknowledge our youth who are our hope for a brighter future and who will be our future leaders and guide our children's children.

We acknowledge and pay respects to those who have gone before us and recognise their contribution to our people and community.

We acknowledge and thank all those involved in the development of this strategy including the Land and Sea Committee, Quandamooka Land and Sea Management Agency (QALSMA) and the Board of Directors who have shared their knowledge and guided this strategy.

We acknowledge the support Healthy Land and Water, Beck Grace, the Queensland Government, and the wide range of collaborating stakeholders that have provided assistance to realise the Quandamooka People's vision for this Strategy.

Jandai language expertise within this Strategy including the title has been provided by Aunty Sandra Delaney with the support of the Australian Government's Indigenous Languages and Arts Program. Language has been transcribed as part of our Indigenous Languages Preservation and Revival Project.



Artwork Story

Connections to land and sea

The songlines of the Nunagal, Goenbal, Ngugi clans of the Quandamooka People are shown in our circle gatherings which highlights the connectedness to our land and sea country. These connections have created pathways that encourage and grow new opportunities that stem from our obligations to care for and protect country.

The design also expresses our Quandamooka knowledge systems which are linked to our long-term interactions with stories of particular places within our country. The use of vibrant colour speaks of the Quandamooka philosophy of life and cultural teachings that are important for all to consider within their interactions within the environment.

The patterns and strokes within the painting engage both the traditional and modern world of Country. In my family teachings and belief system, there is a time and a place for everything and there is also a right way of doing things. This is how I feel with Quandamooka Country, rich in culture and resources that should be promoted and celebrated.

Artist story

Shara Delaney is an Aboriginal contemporary artist from Quandamooka Country, inspired by stories of her Elders, the generations from One Mile. Shara is a Quandamooka woman and a descendant of Granny Mibu, Neli Nidgeri, born at Pulan (Amity Point) a strong Nunagal/Goenbal woman. Shara's artwork is influenced by the colours and textures of Quandamooka Country.



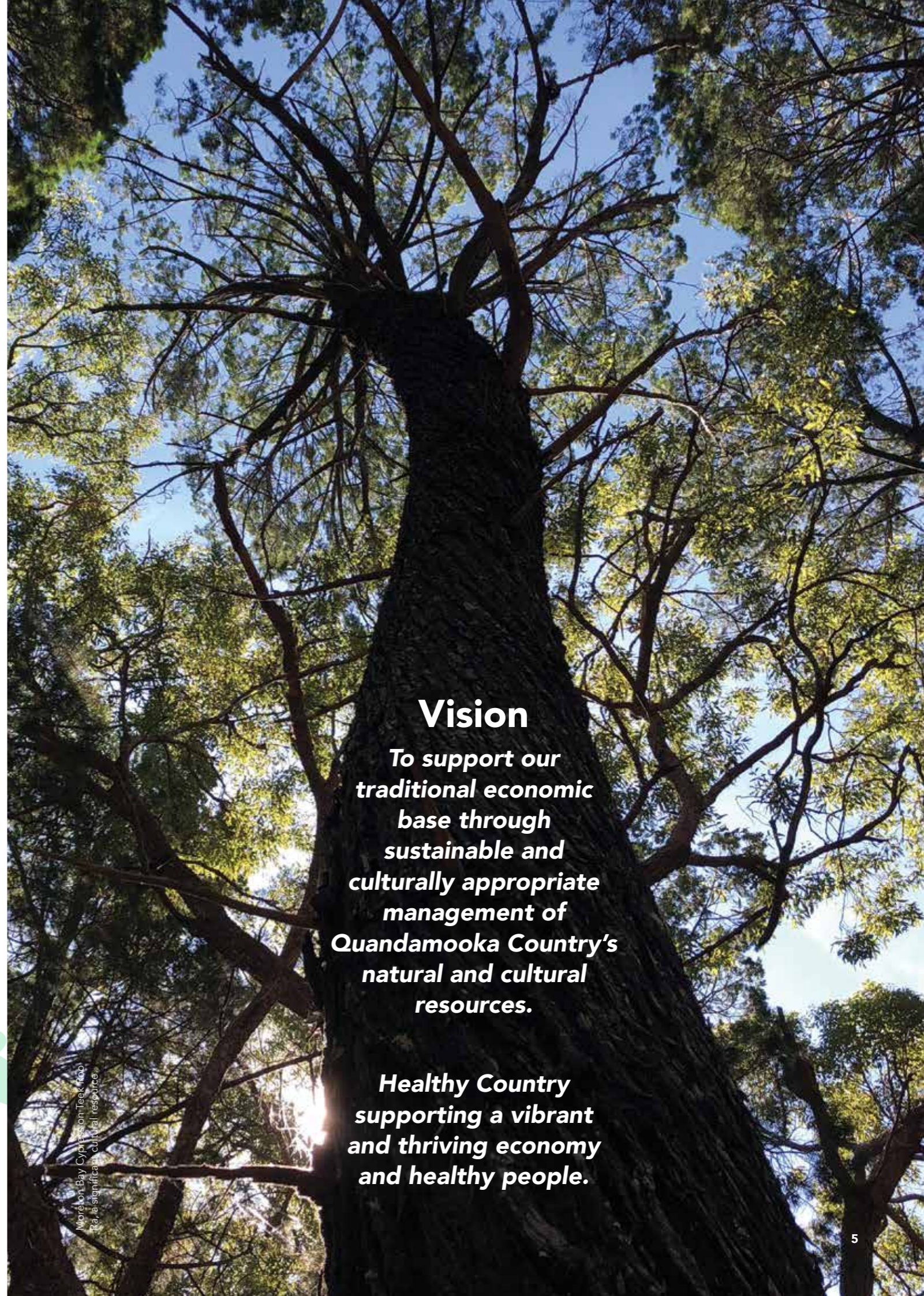
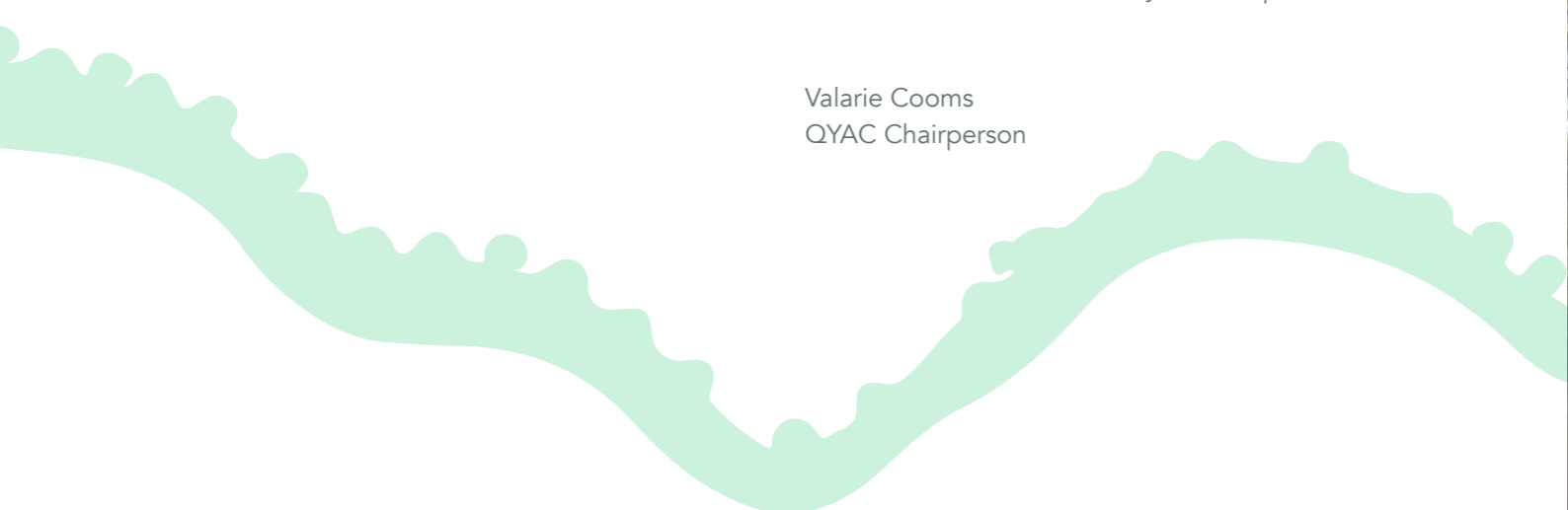
Foreword

Quandamooka land and water has always provided for the Nunagal, Goenbal and Ngugi People, and continues to do so. It has also supplied the foundations of cultural practices, knowledge systems, spiritual grounding and way of life. Quandamooka Country's natural and cultural resources allow us to participate in industries and grow modern economic development. Expanding the capacity of the Quandamooka People requires participation in economic opportunities as well as sustainable and appropriate use of Quandamooka natural resources. The prosperity of future generations is dependent upon the ability to give back to Country and respect the values that have supported our People for so long.

This strategy reinforces the need for Quandamooka People to drive the custodianship and appropriate use of Quandamooka resources so that we can ensure a 'glad tomorrow for our children's children'. With reflection on the past and forward thinking focused on the generations to come, our ideas and actions will strengthen our community. Ensuring the development of fisheries policies, integrating traditional laws and customs, and improving commercial permitting processes will enhance recognition of Quandamooka interests and involvement in future agricultural and marine industries.

Ngaliya Jara Gari is the Quandamooka people's strategy supported by both government and industry. It reflects the ambitions we have for our community and how we intend to lead the development of opportunities that ensure our economic prosperity while protecting the essentials that have always sustained our culture, Country and People.

Valarie Cooms
QYAC Chairperson



Vision

To support our traditional economic base through sustainable and culturally appropriate management of Quandamooka Country's natural and cultural resources.

Healthy Country supporting a vibrant and thriving economy and healthy people.

Moreton Bay Cypress on Teek, Koo
Ra, a significant cultural resource



Land and Sea management planning,
Home Beach, Minjerritbah

The Quandamooka Perspective

For over 40,000 years, we have gathered, fished, hunted, built, and traded with the resources Quandamooka Country provides to us. We have continuously practiced and maintained these customs and cultural practices. Managing the resources of Country is core to Quandamooka People and the assertion of our identity, connecting us to the land and sea.

To support the future of the community, our relationship to the land and sea needs to be driven through the active participation of Quandamooka People in industries and resource management practices.

Quandamooka resource management is underpinned by a sustainable approach fostered through our belief systems, that respect and appreciate nature while discouraging the overuse of resources.

This strategy identifies opportunities that encourage a thriving and diverse economy while preserving the natural beauty and open spaces of the Quandamooka landscape.

Objectives

This strategy sets out the Quandamooka community's aspirations for primary industries on Quandamooka Country including for food, forestry, and fisheries. This includes the identification of new opportunities, as well as improving management of existing enterprises through the following objectives.



Protect

Protect Quandamooka Country to ensure it continues to be the Quandamooka People's sanctuary as it has been for thousands of generations.



Encourage

Encourage new opportunities, businesses and partnerships that contribute to a restorative economy for Quandamooka Country.



Promote

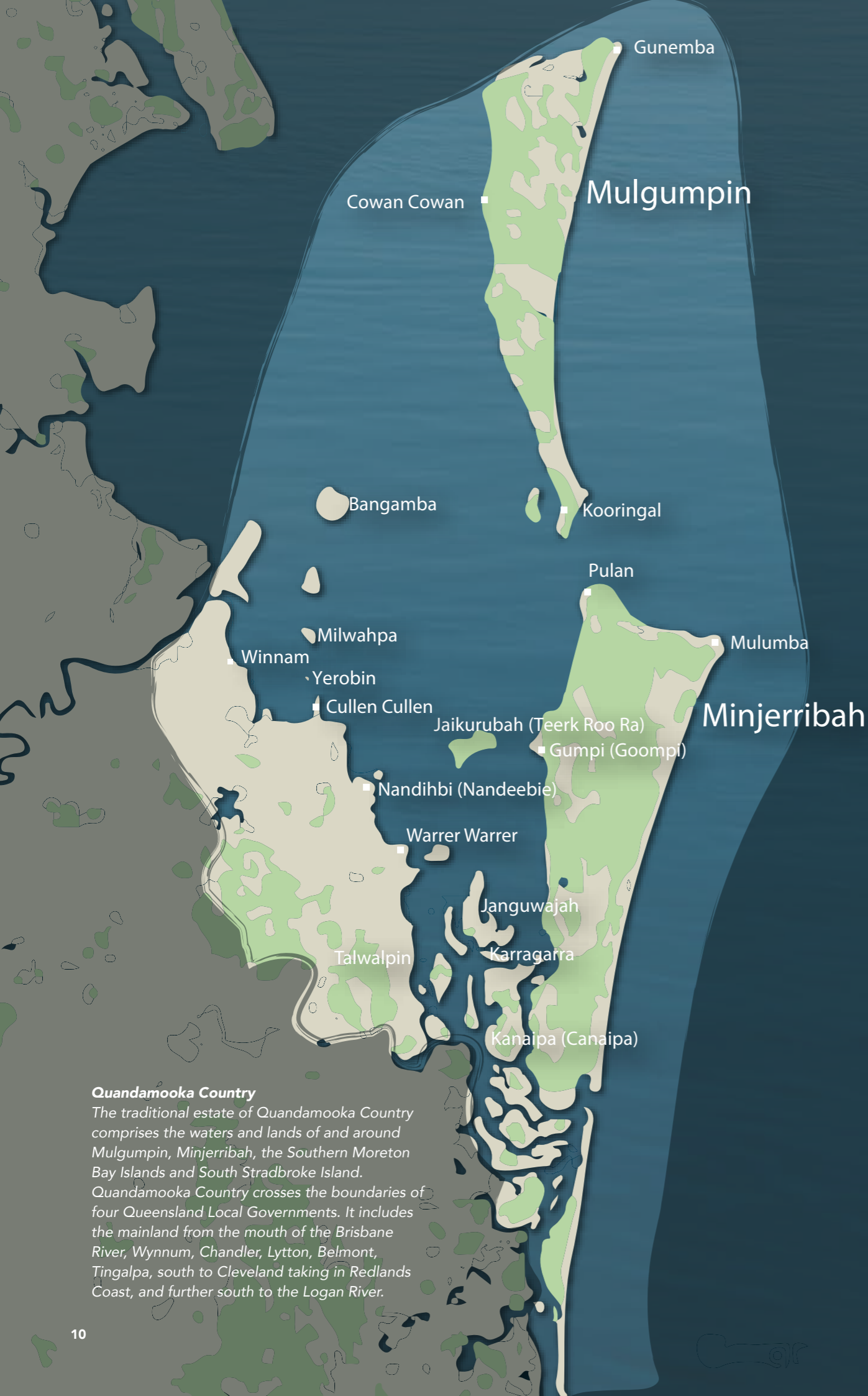
Promote the Quandamooka brand and celebrate what Quandamooka Country has to offer.



Grow

Grow the economy, opportunities, and the future to ensure a glad tomorrow for the generations of Quandamooka People to come.





Quandamooka Country

The traditional estate of Quandamooka Country comprises the waters and lands of and around Mulgumpin, Minjerribah, the Southern Moreton Bay Islands and South Stradbroke Island. Quandamooka Country crosses the boundaries of four Queensland Local Governments. It includes the mainland from the mouth of the Brisbane River, Wynnum, Chandler, Lytton, Belmont, Tingalpa, south to Cleveland taking in Redlands Coast, and further south to the Logan River.

Quandamooka People

Quandamooka People have cared for these lands and seas for many thousands of years. Expressed through art, stories, dance, language, and songs, Quandamooka culture remains strong today. Quandamooka People’s cultural protocols, traditions, and responsibilities to always protect and care for their ancestral lands, wildlife, and waters has never been ceded. Quandamooka People are the people of the sand and sea.

The Quandamooka People are a First Nation of Traditional Owners from Moreton Bay and the southern mainland areas in South East Queensland. The groups that make up the Quandamooka People include Nunagal, Ngugi, and Goenbal.

The Quandamooka People are the biological descendants of the 12 family groups who identify as, and are accepted, as Quandamooka People by other Quandamooka People according to Quandamooka traditional law and custom.

On 4 July 2011, the Quandamooka People were recognised within the Australian legal system under its Native Title Laws. This landmark determination recognised the Quandamooka People’s enduring connection to the Native Title claim area comprising of waters, islands, and land on and around Minjerribah.

Today the Quandamooka People have extended recognition of their Native Title over Country including Mulgumpin and continue to operate under their own distinct system of laws and customs.





Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (QYAC)

QYAC was established in 2011 under the *Native Title Act 1993* as the Prescribed Body Corporate to manage the rights on behalf of all Native Title holders. QYAC acts as the agent for the Quandamooka People's Native Title rights and interests in land and sea Country. QYAC is also the registered Cultural Heritage Body under the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (QLD)*.

QYAC is working with Quandamooka People with a focus on their priorities to build on the Native Title outcomes that support a strong future for Quandamooka People. The role of QYAC in leading *Ngaliya Jara Gari* will help to ensure that the future of Quandamooka Country is managed in a culturally, environmentally, and economically sustainable way.

With QYAC now the largest employer on Minjerribah, and one of the largest economic contributors to Quandamooka Country, the Quandamooka People are well positioned to play a significant role in safeguarding the future and prosperity of the region.

QYAC's place in the World

Quandamooka Country is rich in natural resources that have and continue to sustain the Quandamooka People and broader society. Through the pursuit of appropriate productivity opportunities, the Quandamooka People can strengthen the Quandamooka economy and provide a prosperous future for Quandamooka Country and their children's children.

As a representative body for the Quandamooka People, QYAC has a unique capacity to achieve engagement at multiple levels, from a Traditional Owner driven community approach to local, state, and federal government engagement. This broad engagement when delivered alongside genuine consultation allows for a holistic approach that supports the Quandamooka People's rights and interests over the entirety of Quandamooka Country.

Internationally

- Applies best practice research and knowledge to all of its work and builds on the work of other First Nations internationally.
- A partner with other First Nations entities, increasing connections and capacity.

Nationally

- A leader in cultural protection and caring for Country through effective land and sea management.
- Achieving positive outcomes through Native Title while realising economic opportunities for Quandamooka People.

Queensland

- A conduit for effective and empowered two-way communication with the Queensland Government.
- Unique positioning through partnerships with government and industry including a Marine Park Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that drives action with relevant government departments and Seqwater.
- Trusted advisor on Native Title and the protection of cultural values.
- QALSMA is a leading agency in the region for land and sea management and the co-ordination of economic opportunities relating to the Quandamooka People's natural resources.
- Facilitator of a thriving yet culturally appropriate ecotourism industry.

Quandamooka Country

- QYAC is the registered Prescribed Body Corporate to manage Native Title and is a passionate advocate for Quandamooka People and residents.
- An employer of choice and partner in local business and economic development across Country.
- Drives and facilitates reconciliation through passionate advocacy and management of Country.



Mulumba is an important landscape for the promotion of Quandamooka culture and values.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY



2 ZERO HUNGER



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



Foundations

Existing plans and strategies

This strategy acknowledges that the traditional economic base for the Quandamooka People has existed for over 40,000 years. This is currently practiced and reflected through day-to-day management supported by a significant body of existing planning and strategic documentation, developed by and or in association with the Quandamooka People. *Ngaliya Jara Gari* has been formulated in consideration of previous documents and has utilised the following foundational plans as the building blocks for this strategy:

- Aboriginal Community profile and Action Plan 2007.
- North Stradbroke Island Indigenous Business Development Plan 2011.
- Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation Strategic plan 2014-2016.
- Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation Strategic Plan 2017-2020.
- North Stradbroke Island Economic Transition Strategy 2016.
- Shaping SEQ, South East Queensland Regional Plan 2017.
- Advancing Tourism 2016-2020.
- Queensland Ecotourism Plan 2013-2020.
- Queensland Government Sustainable Fisheries Strategy 2017-2027.
- *Jara marumba yaga*: Sustainability Strategy for Quandamooka Country.
- Quandamooka Action Plan 2013.
- Quandamooka Education, Research, Training, Employment and Small Business Innovation Strategy 2020-2023.
- *Mara Millen Yagabili*: Many Hands Create Quandamooka Arts and Culture Strategy.
- *Gudjundabu Marumba Gubiyiyanya* Tourism for a glad tomorrow: A five-year strategy for sustainable tourism on Quandamooka Country.
- Through Native Title to a glad tomorrow.
- Redland Rural Futures Strategy.
- Universal Declaration of Human rights.

This strategy has been developed with the acknowledgement of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and specifically contributes to the following goals:

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
- Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
- Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
- Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Consultation

Concerns impacting Quandamooka People and Country in addition to the subsequent relevant actions have been identified through consultation with the Quandamooka Community and are reflected throughout this strategy.

Ngaliya Jara Gari acknowledges that there will be future Quandamooka action planning processes which may compliment and supersede elements of this strategy.

As planning progresses and projects develop over the five years of this strategy, engagement and consultation with Traditional Owners and other stakeholders will continue through QYAC.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Caring for Country is at the heart of the identity of the Quandamooka People. To ensure future primary industry opportunities and changes align with the aspirations of the Quandamooka People and a healthy Country, a guiding set of principles for stewardship based on the knowledge, experiences, and aspirations of the Quandamooka People has been developed. The objectives and actions of this strategy are underpinned by these principles:

- 1** *Promote understanding, recognition, and respect for Quandamooka Culture and values.*
- 2** *Maximise ecological and cultural sustainability before production and economic benefit.*
- 3** *Foster strong local, national, and international partnerships and collaborations.*
- 4** *Support the Quandamooka People to play the lead role in management, planning, and governance.*
- 5** *Abide by and uphold protocol and law including that knowledge is owned by Quandamooka families in perpetuity and that they have the right to protect their intellectual and cultural property.*
- 6** *Provide sufficient space and time so that Quandamooka People always have access to enjoy Country and cultural resources and to undertake cultural activities.*
- 7** *Maximise the material, cultural, and environmental benefits for Quandamooka People.*
- 8** *Businesses operating on Quandamooka Country practice ethical and environmentally sustainable behaviour, support reconciliation, are culturally respectful, and protect the intellectual property and traditional knowledge of the Quandamooka People.*
- 9** *Promote innovative approaches to raising awareness of Quandamooka Country and its cultural and wildlife significance.*
- 10** *Maximise employment, procurement, capacity building, and participation for Quandamooka People.*

Implementation of the collective actions in this strategy will support primary production and economic activities as a part of a society that is living harmoniously within natural and cultural landscapes.



What is in the strategy?

Ngaliya Jara Gari focuses on fostering natural and cultural resource collection, productivity, and management by the Quandamooka People. Action planning will drive a primary industry economy that is focused on a range of commercial sectors including food and fibre. Through facilitating an economy based on fair and equitable exchange, this strategy aims to distribute benefits to the entirety of the Quandamooka Community, promoting social and economic equity. The consultation process for this strategy identified two aspects of high importance to Quandamooka People around primary industries:

1. That new opportunities are provided for Quandamooka People to adequately participate in and be represented within the Primary Industry sector.
2. That management of existing industries is improved to align with Quandamooka values, while new and existing enterprises are supported into the future and protected from current and emerging threats.

Quandamooka People share a deep connection with landscapes, so much so that Country forms an integral part of identity. This relationship extends to custodianship of natural resources that is guided by signals that come from land and sea as part of an extended seasonal timetable that informs the utilisation of resources. A viable economy is essential in supporting the Quandamooka People to care for Country and to deliver a sustainable future through industry activities that are meaningful and enhance the health of people and culture.

Telling the story of Quandamooka resource significance, utilisation, and management will contribute to strengthening the sense of place, ownership, and identity of Quandamooka Country, for its people, the community, and broader society.

Biosecurity

Minjerribah, Mulgumpin, and many islands and reserves across Quandamooka Country are sanctuaries for Quandamooka flora, fauna, and people. Weeds, pest animals, and disease are ever present dangers to the unique web of life that holds the environment and people together and sustains the economy.

Protocols and practices to address disease and threats alongside management actions that prevent the transmission of disease and invasive species is integral to protecting Quandamooka Country and the economic outcomes that are tied to its resources. Managing biosecurity is important to Quandamooka People and is fundamental to a thriving primary production industry.

Invasive flora is a constant threat to Quandamooka Country and the industries and activities conducted within. Garden escapees and other introduced weed species require control through effective management regimes to ensure the values of Country are not impacted or lost. The Quandamooka People envisage Mulgumpin, Minjerribah, and Teerk Roo Ra (Peel Island) as wildlife and cultural sanctuaries that are free of many of the weeds and pests that degrade mainland landscapes.

Disease has the potential to threaten important commercial species such as prawns, bees, and shellfish, among others. The potential impact of diseases and pests on Quandamooka industries and cultural resources must be acknowledged in government responses for all diseases. A disease threat protocol and improved biosecurity management is required to ensure the protection of Quandamooka Country and its associated values.

Mulgumpin is currently free of cane toads, a rarity in modern Queensland.



Minjerribah's koala population is an example of the need for biosecurity protocol and procedures on Quandamooka Country. Koalas are a highly regarded species to not just Quandamooka People but to people all around the world. Minjerribah is widely recognised as being home to the only naturally occurring island-based population of Koalas. Due to their isolation from the mainland, they are an important sub-population that require actions to ensure their unique genetics are preserved. Anecdotal evidence and population assessments suggest that the Minjerribah koala population shows low levels of

clinical signs associated with chlamydia or other significant disease. Due to a lack of treatment facilities on the island, Minjerribah koalas are faced with leaving the island if they are suspected of having breaks or internal injuries. Currently, the disease risk of koalas returning to Minjerribah while low is considered to be potentially catastrophic and the protection of the island's remaining population takes precedence. Management actions required include reducing incidence of koala injury, increased ability to investigate injuries on island, and improved quarantine and disease protocols where koalas require mainland treatment.



Food

Quandamooka Country's richness in resources has allowed the Quandamooka People to thrive in an autonomous self-sufficient society. Today and throughout time, bangwal fern, midyim berries, pandanus, honey, fish, shellfish, game, birds, tubers, dugong, turtle, and crustaceans all form a major portion of the Quandamooka diet.

The Quandamooka People's connection with the land and sea has always had a spiritual basis and all the resources of the Quandamooka Estate have a strong link with tradition and custom. The traditional custom of sharing and trading resources is still maintained and practiced, enhancing the connection to culture and Country for the Quandamooka People. Connections to regional, national, and international markets and supply chains have the potential to maintain a trading network that has flourished over millennia and can be enhanced through a modern economic framework.

An audit of beneficiary take has recorded and mapped Quandamooka knowledge and includes information on the sustainable management of cultural resource assets. Through this assessment wetland and water-

related beneficiary cultural resources are highlighted and include campsites, fish, shellfish, flowers, herbs, trees, shrubs, reeds, roots, reptiles, mammals, birds, clay, and freshwater. For each of the animals, plants, and materials utilised there are careful cultural considerations relating to which site, season, harvest techniques, and distribution ranges is appropriate. Economic development activities need to ensure they do not negatively impact on the cultural practices which have underpinned Quandamooka society and landscapes for millennia.

Management of food resources should not be primarily driven by financial competition but rather through the consideration of what is best for Country and People. The Quandamooka approach to the production of resources and economic opportunities needs to ensure it continues to be ingrained in culture, particularly in respect to setting a precedence to not overexploit resources and always respect Country. The story of local traditional food production and supply is a key point of difference for Quandamooka products and a unique value proposition in a crowded commercial marketplace.

Fisheries

The economy and culture of the Quandamooka People has a focus on marine resources, particularly as they are the Yoolooburabee (people of the sand and sea).

Marine resources have been actively farmed and utilised for thousands of years on Quandamooka Country as evidenced by the building and operation of fish traps and nets for example. Stone fish traps are some of the oldest human-made structures in the world and the fish trap in Gumpi is still managed and preserved today.

Post-colonisation fisheries permitting processes were often established without due consideration of the rights and interests of Traditional Owners. Contemporarily, this means that Traditional Owner fisheries matters are regularly secondary to the interests of the commercial sector. Traditional Owner fisheries aspirations and community requirements need to be recognised as of fundamental importance and not unduly impacted by commercial interests. High establishment costs, licensing costs, and the seasonal and often small scale of operation of Quandamooka fishers are additional factors that potentially threaten the viability of this culturally and economically important sector.

Moreton Bay is the most important estuarine fishery for sea mullet in Queensland. The Quandamooka People regard ngandaykal (sea mullet) as a source of food as well as a source of cultural, economic, and spiritual sustenance. In the 'traditional' sense, sea mullet was caught for nutritional, medicinal, and trade purposes, and applying sea mullet management practices sustained the cultural well-being of the community. The mullet fishery is an important economic contributor to the Quandamooka Community, sustaining families and livelihoods.

The Quandamooka Community continues to use its knowledge of the sea mullet social structure, as well as environmental indicators and the interrelationship between sea mullet and predators (dolphins) to guide harvesting practices.

Incorporating Indigenous knowledge into fisheries management is becoming increasingly important in the implementation of fisheries management solutions.

¹ www.reportcard.hlw.org.au/ viewed 27th August 2020. | ² Ibid Beumer et al (2012)

Increased community recognition of the ongoing right of First Nation communities to continue to care for natural and cultural resources can also be supported whilst receiving economic benefits from contemporary fishery markets.

Water quality varies significantly across the Bay and history has shown that the situation can change quickly in response to land-based events such as floods, which deliver excessive amounts of sediment, pollution, and nutrients.¹ Fisheries management outcomes need to be considered within land-based management approaches, in particular the prevention of soil erosion from urban and rural landscapes. Localised changes to water quality and fisheries productivity have the potential to affect recreational and Indigenous fishers more severely than commercial fishers given the differences in accessibility to fishing grounds and the connection to place of First Nations.

Mitigation can be achieved through the provision of retreat areas for marine plant habitats and the use of strategic planning instruments at local and state government levels. Continuous adaptation of catch and marketing strategies within the fisheries sector will likely be required to overcome changes in catch composition.² Harvest strategies alongside monitoring and mitigating impacts on marine species, and implementing independent data collection programs is essential to ensure that fisheries meets national and international accreditation obligations.

A wide variety of shellfish are continuously harvested today by the Quandamooka People. Some of the most culturally important of these include the Quampi (Mud Oyster), Kinyingarra (Rock Oyster), Cockle, Periwinkle, Mangrove Snail, and Mussels. The remains of large middens are evidence of the sustainable and continued connection to these valuable resources. The oyster industry within Moreton Bay contains an economic opportunity that is of high market value. In addition, the value of oyster reefs as habitat structures for biodiversity, water filtration, shoreline and seagrass protection, nitrogen fixation, and related environmental benefits is increasingly recognised. Habitat restoration projects provide considerable social and economic benefits to local communities, including increased employment opportunities and access to emerging markets in the blue economy.



Agriculture

Agriculture in the context of this strategy includes the husbandry of bush foods, production of honey, growing food and fibre, localising supply and opportunities including facilitating Quandamooka involvement in existing and future industries. Quandamooka Country encapsulates a range of resources, from the fertile soils of Redlands that support a range of agricultural industries - including grazing and horticulture - to the sandy soils of the islands that support unique ecosystems rich in bush food, medicines, and fibers.

The intertidal stone fish trap at Polka Point at Gumpi is a large crescent-shaped stone construction and is classed as a highly significant rare site in accordance with the Burra Charter.

Land use has changed dramatically since colonisation. To support the development of Quandamooka-driven opportunities, an opportunities analysis is required to identify the most suitable locations and conditions for appropriate agriculture. Mapping what is existing and what could exist - based on biophysical factors such as soil types and rainfall - can guide the matching of uses to appropriate landscapes alongside cultural considerations. This analysis is an important first step in the protection of Country, the growing of healthy produce, and the promotion of the sustainable Quandamooka brand.

The establishment of agricultural enterprises that embrace climate adaptation and mitigation will support new system-based approaches to climate change. Carbon farming also provides economic opportunities to capture, hold, and store carbon in trees and soils and avoid the release of greenhouse gas emissions. This is in line with the *Jara marumba yaga* (Quandamooka Sustainability Strategy) which will assist Queensland to meet its commitments on climate change, including achieving a zero net emission future.



Forestry

Forestry has always been a part of Quandamooka Culture and supported transport, fishing, trade, and housing. The first Europeans to visit Quandamooka Country noted the presence of very large well-built timber huts alongside semi-permanent dwellings and canoes constructed from carefully selected trees. The islands were part of regional trade networks in which fibre and timber goods like tools, weapons, and nets were widely dispersed. The modern forestry industry is still in its infancy in recognising and including Traditional Owner driven forestry practices within commercial enterprises.

Sustainable forestry, when implemented appropriately, can enhance the ecological outcomes of Country while protecting cultural assets. Potential economic opportunities of this industry include onsite processing of timber, nursery production, timber for construction, landscaping, and mining rehabilitation.

Forestry practices to be implemented on Quandamooka Country also include the management of abandoned exotic pine forests that have degraded the natural landscape and ecosystems of several areas on Country.

The active and appropriate implementation of forestry activities can provide many benefits for the community, the environment, and the economy. Stewardship that integrates forestry practices alongside cultural burning can provide biodiversity outcomes along with economic returns. Fire management is an important tool in forestry management with the protection of culturally significant trees and harvestable species a major consideration in cultural burning programs and practices.

Currently Quandamooka Country contains 30,720ha of National Park and other conservation areas.

The collection of flowers and foliage such as boronia and heather, fairy dreams, and swamp orchid by Quandamooka Women is a practice with a deep social and cultural significance. A culturally appropriate Quandamooka-led cut flower industry presents a great economic opportunity for the Quandamooka People while reinstating important land management practices.

Land use practices that embed resilience in the landscape and the community are important under a changing climate. The Quandamooka People are working towards a sustainably managed landscape based on the *Jara marumba yaga* strategy which will provide the framework for the implementation of the *Ngaliya Jara Gari* action plan.

Extractive Activities

Throughout time, Quandamooka People have extracted stone and other raw materials. In some cases, stone was utilised for the manufacture of artefacts and as an important component of trade between First Nations. There were limited stone resources within Quandamooka Country and archaeological records provide evidence of stone from Cape Moreton being transported throughout the region. The Cape Moreton stone quarry archaeological site has special cultural significance to Quandamooka People with numerous stone artefact scatters recorded in cultural heritage surveys.

Sand has been extracted from Quandamooka Country for many decades. The cessation of large-scale extraction of sand from Minjerribah occurred in 2019 following a concerted campaign led by the Quandamooka People. The rehabilitation of mining landscapes is an ongoing endeavor for generations to come. While large-scale sand mining has concluded, the Quandamooka People recognise stone and gravel will continue to be extracted in limited amounts for local projects where required and where there is no alternative local material available. The utilisation of local materials in activities such as beach re-nourishment is preferred over the import of material. The undertaking of these extractive activities must be done in a way that ensures no residual impacts to Quandamooka Country as far as practicable.

Quandamooka People have a strong connection to water throughout Country including freshwater,

marine, and groundwater systems. For Quandamooka People water is life. Water is part of one connected system that includes the land, people, and all living things, and has spiritual, cultural, social, economic, and environmental value. Minjerribah and Mulgumpin's groundwater, perched lakes, and wetlands support important ecological and cultural values. Minjerribah has over 70 wetlands and the highest concentration of ancient wetlands in Australia that have been in existence since the last ice age.⁴ A more holistic approach to water management that informs extraction is promoted in the *Jara marumba yaga* to ensure the preservation of these unique and productive water assets. Small-scale water extraction enterprise can protect the natural and cultural values by promoting Quandamooka connections to water and core principles of the protection of Country alongside economic opportunities and supporting living on Country by Quandamooka People.

Indigenous representation in the bush food supply chain from growers to farm managers and exporters is less than 1%, even though this industry is chiefly reliant on Traditional Owner knowledge sources.⁵

Intellectual Property (IP) Protection

Quandamooka science and knowledge is the result of continuity of practice and the passing of traditional knowledge through generations and belongs to the Quandamooka People. Since colonisation, traditional knowledge and intellectual property has been exploited for commercial gain primarily without any consideration of the Quandamooka People who developed and held the knowledge for generations. Significant economic prosperity came to those that occupied Moreton Bay during the 19th and 20th centuries as a result of industries such as the dugong oil trade and oyster harvesting and dredging which were critically reliant on Quandamooka People's intellectual property and labor force. This exploitation of First Nation Intellectual Property is at risk of repeating itself during the 21st century within emerging industries such as the development of pharmaceutical and nutraceutical products based on the natural resources found from within Quandamooka Country.



The science that informs the actions in this strategy has been passed down over countless generations and is constantly being enhanced through adaptive learning and collaborative relationships. This includes Quandamooka People increasingly working with education institutions, governments, and industry bodies. The Quandamooka People's traditional knowledge provides an economic advantage that must not be exploited or appropriated by others at the expense of the Quandamooka People (or the appropriate respect for past knowledge holders). To recognise and better manage this, QYAC will develop an IP policy that provides protection for the languages of Quandamooka Country, the Quandamooka brand, arts, and culture, including traditional knowledge and science, in line with the Queensland Biodiscovery Act 2004.⁶

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (DRIP) states:

Indigenous Peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as the manifestations of their sciences, technologies and cultures, including human and genetic resources, seeds, medicines, knowledge of the properties of fauna and flora, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports and traditional games and visual and performing arts.

They also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions.⁷

⁵ Mitchell, R. (2019) 'Bush food industry booms, but only 1 per cent is produced by Indigenous people', ABC News, 19 January. Available at: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2019-01-19/low-indigenous-representation-in-bush-food-industry/10701986> | ⁶ Biodiscovery Act 2004 (Qld) | ⁷ UN General Assembly, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples : resolution / adopted by the General Assembly, 2 October 2007, A/RES/61/295, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/471355a82.html>



Strengths, Opportunities, Pressures, and Challenges

This strategy recognises the opportunities that can be harnessed across Quandamooka Country, through a shared vision that encourages social, cultural, and economic growth without compromising culture, the environment, or the future of Quandamooka Country.

This strategy also recognises the current and future pressures that impact Quandamooka Country and the challenges that must be overcome to realise the aspirations of the Quandamooka People. This must include the reinstatement of Quandamooka People's rights and interests as being a primary component of decision-making processes by other key stakeholders.

Identifying and acknowledging the strengths, opportunities, pressures, and challenges facing Quandamooka Country will enable the formation of partnerships to investigate and examine each of these in more detail and identify actions to work collaboratively across all levels of government and the community.

Strengths

- An Emerging youthful workforce with 31% of Aboriginal People living on Minjerribah under 15 years old.
- Over 40,000 years of traditional knowledge and science from the continuous occupation of land and sea by Quandamooka People.
- Unique positioning with Marine Park MoU and National Parks jointly managed and cared for by Land and Sea Rangers.
- One of the most biologically diverse and productive marine landscapes in Australia.
- The availability of current research through research institutions and their focus on Quandamooka Country landscapes.
- Island landscapes provide a marketing advantage through biosecurity resilience and the ability to isolate products from mainland issues.

Opportunities

- Partnerships formed through current MoU arrangements with State Government, Research Institutions, and Industry.
- Research opportunities through current and future partnerships and the creation of a dedicated Research Hub within Minjerribah Ganaba.
- Increasing the capacity and knowledge of the Quandamooka People.
- Advances in technology are continually being discovered and developed.
- The ability to showcase use of traditional culture and methodology in product development and production.
- Enhance economic development and provide post mining employment opportunities.
- Increasing demand for native food products and other local products.
- International market access through the close proximity of Quandamooka Country to international airports and ports.
- A significant proportion of Quandamooka natural resources are still under researched regarding pharmaceutical and nutritional benefits and opportunities.

Pressures and Challenges

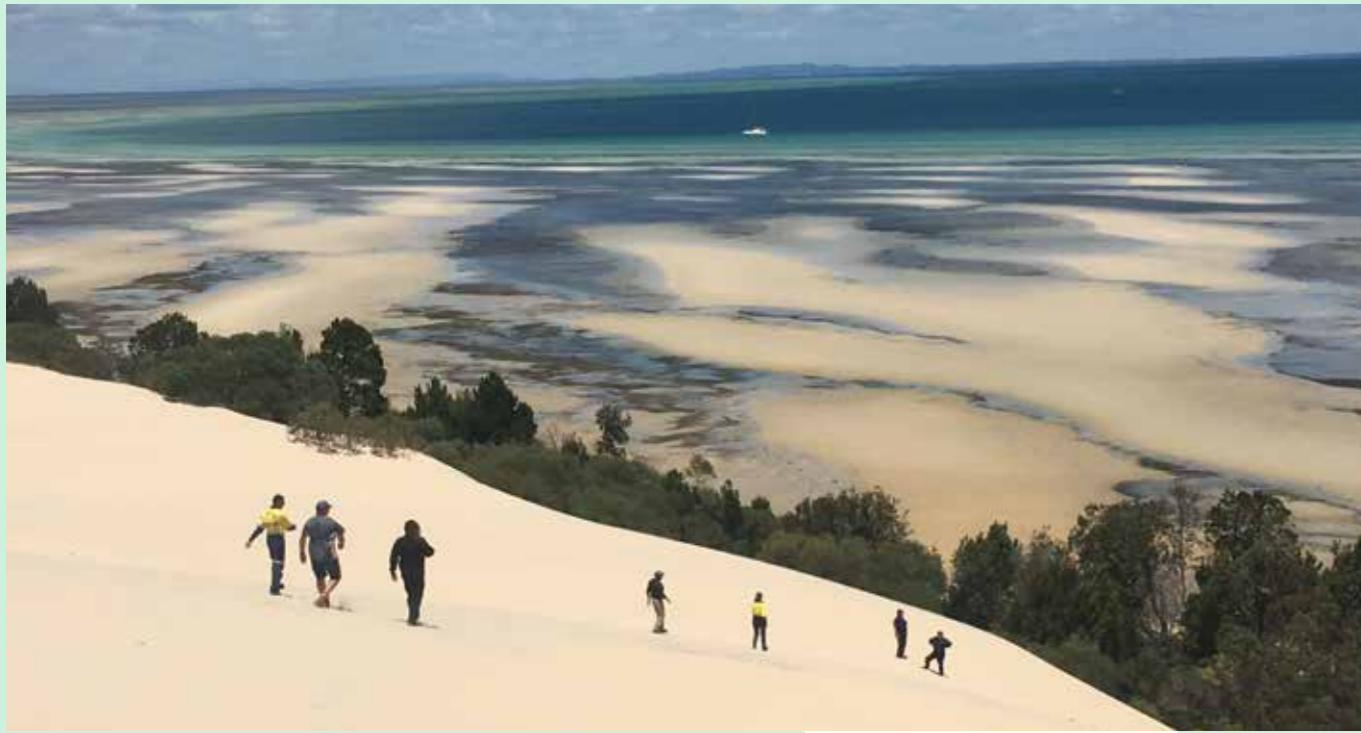
- Increasing population and tourism industry growth will see increased land and natural resources demand.
- Climate change and its associated impacts are becoming an ever-increasing threat to coastal communities, threatening Quandamooka Country's landscapes, flora, and fauna.
- Existing policies and institution systems that hinder Quandamooka aspirations.
- Biosecurity threats from multiple ports and interfaces that could threaten existing and new industries Quandamooka Country if not managed appropriately.
- Lack of appropriate levels of respect and understanding of Traditional Owner rights and interests by commercial enterprise and business.
- Increasing ecosystem pressures decreasing availability of resources and impacting catchment health.
- Making space and providing equitable opportunities to negate the displacement of Traditional Owners within commercial markets since colonisation.
- Multiple tenures exist across Quandamooka Country which limit the types of activities which can be conducted on different landscapes.



Action Plan

QYAC and partners will continue to develop strong partnerships with the wider community, including all levels of government, environmental and community organisations, and industry. QYAC has completed a range of projects that contribute to goals of this strategy and more are underway.

Over the next five years, key actions will be identified and led by QYAC and will form part of a detailed action plan that will underpin *Ngaliya Jara Gari*. As planning progresses, new actions will be identified and prioritised as required to achieve the strategies objectives.



Protect

Protect Quandamooka Country to ensure it continues to be the Quandamooka People's sanctuary as it has been for thousands of generations through the following actions:



- Invasive flora effectively managed across Quandamooka Country to reduce impacts on native flora and fauna.
- Disease threat protocol and management to ensure the protection of Quandamooka Country, including the implementation of biosecurity measures to prevent the transport of disease and invasive species threats to Quandamooka island landscapes.
- Recognition of Minjerribah and Mulgumpin's significance as a sanctuary for Quandamooka flora, fauna, and people through the following actions:
 - o Introducing dog and cat control methods.
 - o Fox and feral cat eradication.
 - o Eradication of pigs on Mulgumpin within five years.
 - o Retaining Mulgumpin fox and cane toad-free through surveillance methods.
 - o Fire ant surveillance.
 - o Prevent and reduce pest fish in wetlands systems.
- Undertake a review of ship-based sewage output, in line with the proposed World Heritage area.
- Protect traditional hunting resources through vessel strike reduction initiatives including improved uptake of propeller guards, monitoring of marine megafauna movements, and refinement and expansion of go-slow zones and shipping channels.
- Ensure marine infrastructure is designed in a way that respects Country and that Quandamooka People are consulted before it is created.
- Introduce monitoring regimes on Quandamooka Country to ensure that agricultural systems and production do not impact on native flora, fauna, and ecosystem health.
- Improve commercial permitting processes to recognise Quandamooka interests and not undermine Native Title rights by undertaking assessments of the cumulative impact of licenses and permits in addition to requiring permits to provide appropriate management plans.
- Creation of IP policy guidelines to protect the languages of Quandamooka Country, traditional resources, Quandamooka brand, arts, culture, and traditional knowledge and science.
- Ensure Moreton Bay water quality is supported through a comprehensive catchment health monitoring program.



Encourage

Encourage new opportunities, businesses, and partnerships that contribute to a restorative economy for Quandamooka Country through the following actions:



- Seek opportunities for Quandamooka-led habitat restoration including shellfish, reef, seagrass, and saltmarsh habitats.
- Foster Quandamooka-owned and run commercial fishing business opportunities such as:
 - o Fisheries including mullet, tailor, and bait (worms etc).
 - o Fish farming.
 - o Shellfish production including oyster leases.
 - o Tiger and King Prawns.
 - o Seafood outlets and food vans including fresh and cooked.
 - o Sea Cucumber harvesting.
 - o Fishing charters that educate in Aboriginal fishing methods.
- Enhance Quandamooka involvement in existing and future agricultural and marine industries through facilitating employment and investigating other opportunities for participation, including commercial partnerships.
- Increase opportunities in new sustainability industries such as carbon capture, nutrient storage, and blue carbon.
- Seek opportunities for Quandamooka People to collaborate in fisheries compliance activities on Quandamooka Country to ensure the cultural resource is protected from overuse and pollution.
- Ensure the development of fisheries policies include:
 - o The effective integration of traditional law and custom into fisheries management regimes and harvest strategies for Quandamooka Country.
 - o Recognition of the impact of disease and overfishing on traditional fisheries industry and cultural resources and ensuring it is acknowledged in government responses.

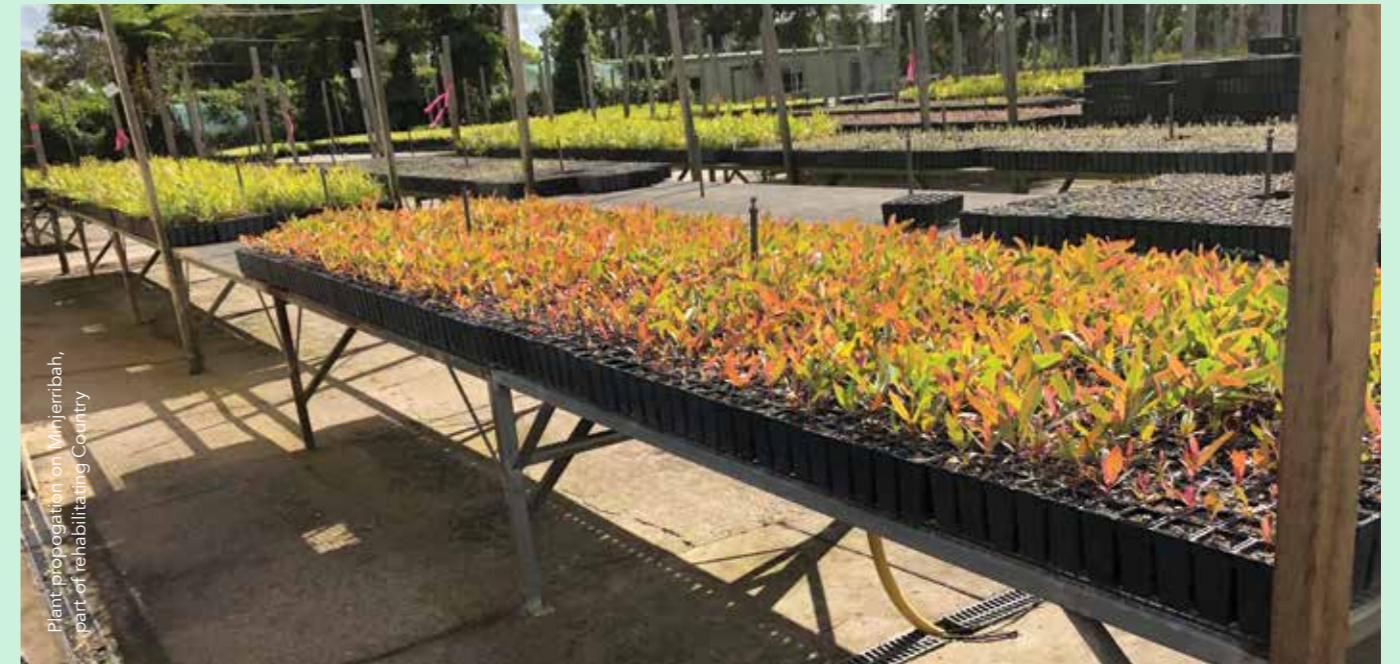


Promote

Promote the Quandamooka brand and celebrate what Quandamooka Country has to offer through the following actions:



- Increase economic outcomes by localising the supply system on Quandamooka Country with consent and support of the Quandamooka People through:
 - The use of local timber and quarry materials in landscaping and living.
 - Primary production utilising local materials (such as timber for hive production).
 - Retaining Quarry materials to be used within Quandamooka Country.
- Strengthen the sense of place, ownership, and identity through establishing partnerships between producers, manufacturers, local businesses, and restaurants to create a strong brand associated with Quandamooka Country.
- Educate Quandamooka People of their resource collecting rights under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth), as well as the wider community.



Grow

Grow the economy, opportunities, and the future to ensure a glad tomorrow for the generations of Quandamooka People to come through the following actions:



- Quandamooka People to acquire and manage commercial fishing licenses and moorings, in addition to ensuring Indigenous Fishing Permits are accessible within sustainable limits and allow Quandamooka People to supply products to their own communities and surplus into the mainstream market.
- Investigate the feasibility of an Aquaculture facility on Minjerribah that:
 - Builds capacity of Quandamooka People by providing training in marine industries and seafood processing.
 - Services wholesale/retail food-based businesses on and off the island.
- Progress honey production on Quandamooka Country through Native and European honeybees.
- Progress cultural forestry practices in priority locations on Quandamooka Country.
- Pursue opportunities in the horticultural space through undertaking a feasibility assessment to assess the market viability of:
 - Marine horticulture such as seaweed and algae industries.
 - Horticulture developments, including a focus on local food supply.
 - Farming, processing, packaging, and supply of Quandamooka Native foods.
- Investigate the commercial potential of medicinal/pharmaceutical/nutraceutical uses of plant and animal species on Quandamooka Country and the potential for farming, processing, packaging, and supply.
- Undertake an opportunities analysis to identify suitable locations for agriculture by mapping what is existing, what could exist, and soil types and rainfall to support the appropriate use of landscapes.
- Investigate the commercial viability of freshwater resources for sustainable small-scale enterprises.
- Explore opportunities and viability of forestry production on Quandamooka Country including:
 - Wildflower production, harvesting, and sales through a culturally appropriate cut flowers industry on Quandamooka Landscape.
 - The milling and curing of timber for commercial sale.
 - Forestry that incorporates commercial plant tree growing into farming systems.
 - Nursery production for commercial sale and supply to supplement revegetation of mine sites if needed.





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