

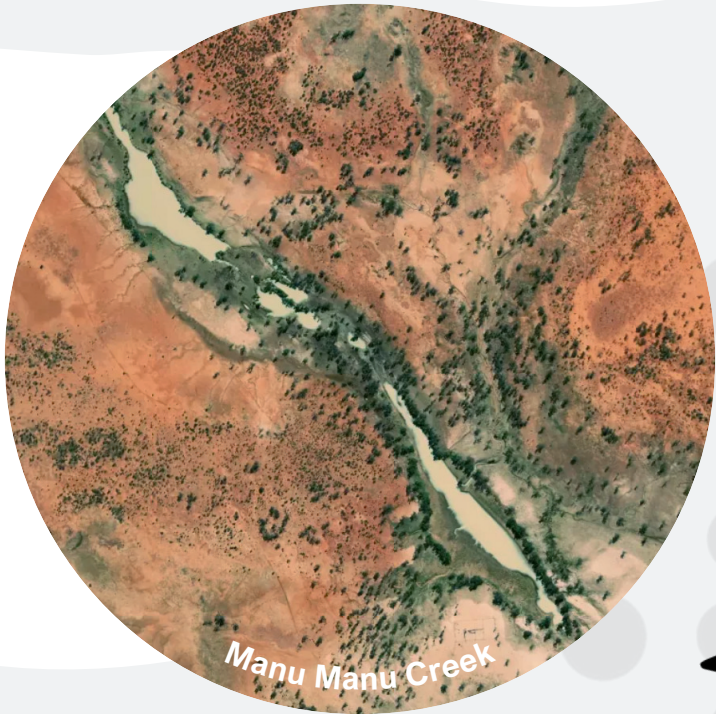
FINDING COMMON GROUND: PARTNERSHIPS TO CARE FOR ANCIENT FISH TRAPS AND COUNTRY



This unique partnership began in 2008 with a landmark Cultural Heritage agreement between the Margany People and the Tully family landholders, aimed at protecting and restoring Fish Traps over 5,000 years old. Situated south of Quilpie along Manu Manu Creek, the site was once a meeting place for many tribes, where Gulu (Yellowbelly fish) were caught and enjoyed as a primary food source.



Southern Queensland Landscapes, as part of the Natural Resources Recovery Program, is supporting this partnership by funding land management improvement works that will in part be completed by the Margany People. The works will include cool burning, water quality monitoring and pest management, which will improve landscape rehydration and soil health on surrounding grazing land, in turn protecting the river and fish trap site.



The partnership will integrate First Nation science, knowledge and culture with sustainable land management through intergenerational collaboration. Margany Elders will guide the involvement of the youth, improving their knowledge of seasonal water flows and key land management tools such as cool burning, drone mapping and land restoration strategies.



Key representative of the partnership and Margany Elder, Uncle Kevin Collins, stated “My people have a deep connection with the land and water, the animals and plants. Country is at the heart of our spiritual identity. We have a responsibility to protect not just the physical aspects of our heritage, but also our stories, language and lore. The partnership has made this possible.”



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