

FLINDERS RANGES

Pursuing the World Heritage potential



Key Messages for Community Reference Group members

3 February 2020

1. Cecilia Woolford has been appointed as the independent chair of the Community Reference Group. Cecilia was selected by the group for this role to actively support the community in the development of the World Heritage nomination.
2. Scientific experts have agreed on the narrative associated with the World Heritage nomination: *There is no other location on earth where you can see 350 million years of near-continuous geological sequence demonstrating the rise of a habitable planet and the dawn of animal life. There is nowhere else on Earth where this is so accessible and so clear.*
3. Eight to nine sites have been identified by experts that demonstrate the technical and scientific evidence required to support this narrative. Three of these sites are on national parks and the other sites are on pastoral land.
4. The South Australian Government has reviewed this narrative and has endorsed proceeding to the next stage of the nomination – to progress discussions with pastoralists about their involvement in the process.
5. The Department for Environment and Water has commenced these negotiations. Inclusion of privately held sites in the World Heritage nomination is completely voluntary and remains the decision of the landholder, and how World Heritage is managed on their property (e.g. any visitor access) would be developed on a case by case basis and only with their agreement.
6. Information about sites will be made publicly available as landholders are prepared to have that information shared.
7. The Australian Government supports the progression of the Flinders Ranges World Heritage nomination and has advised that this is the only South Australian bid that is formally underway.
8. The Chairperson of the Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association (ATLA) attended the 3 February 2020 Community Reference Group meeting. The Department for Environment and Water will be working with ATLA and the Adnyamathanha community to explore the World Heritage nomination of cultural values alongside the geological values to improve the protection of culture.