



Flinders Ranges

Pursuing World Heritage

Key messages for Community Reference Group members

Developed following the Community Reference Group meeting held at Wilpena on 13 September 2021

1. The Flinders Ranges World Heritage Community Reference Group (CRG) met at Wilpena on 13 September 2021. The CRG participated in workshop to discuss World Heritage communications priorities and develop a communications strategy to ensure the community are prepared for World Heritage Listing. The group also toured Brachina Gorge in Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park and were provided with an overview of the plans for upgrading the sites proposed for World Heritage Listing.
 2. Cecilia Woolford has been confirmed as Chair of the Community Reference Group and will lead the group for the next two years, after the group undertook a membership review and nomination process.
 3. The development of a World Heritage nomination is a complex and involved process that can take many years before World Heritage Listing is achieved. The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) has extended the timeline by 12 months to allow for thorough consultation and engagement, and development of the supporting management plans, landholder agreements and the governance framework. DEW are now working towards submission of the nomination to UNESCO by their February deadline in 2024. This will be followed by an extensive evaluation and assessment process of at least 14 months.
 4. Planning is currently underway to determine how the World Heritage sites will be presented, and many sites, particularly those on private land, are not able to be accessed without explicit permission from the landowner. For those wanting to experience some of the World Heritage sites now, private guided tours are currently available at Nilpena (booked via the Prairie Hotel), geological tours at Arkaroola and Brachina Gorge is open to self-guided visitors.
 5. The Community Reference Group will next focus on building partnerships at the local level through townships and their relevant community groups to ensure the community consider what needs to be put in place to prepare for World Heritage Listing.
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