



Fig 1: Jason Wilson (left), CEWO and Kevin Knight (right). Credit. Jason Wilson

Kevin Knight of the Gurnu-Baakandji Nation

Kevin Knight is our newly appointed Warrego-Darling Selected Area Cultural Advisor. This role is a pilot program to help to guide communication and engagement with Traditional Owners in the country of the Gurnu-Baakandji People. Kevin will help us to listen and learn from First Nation communities.

Kevin is a proud Gurnu-Baakandji man who grew up camping, swimming and playing on the banks of the Baaka (Darling River). Kevin describes the Baaka as the lifeblood that has resourced his people for thousands of years.

In recent years Kevin has become well acquainted with the Warrego-Darling Selected Area, now Toorale National Park, in identifying cultural assets across the site, which help tell the stories of the Baakandji people. Such stories link Kevin and his people to the site long before European arrival. Kevin's family laboured on the park, more recently during its era as an agricultural enterprise, Kevin's uncle was known to be a blacksmith on Toorale at this time.

Managing water for the environment is a collective and collaborative effort, working in partnership with communities, private landholders, scientists and government agencies - these contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we live, work and play. We also pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

To Kevin, the health of the river and its floodplains ties directly to health of his people.

"When the Brolga is dancing, the people of the river too, are dancing"



Fig 2. Brolgas, a Kurnu-Baakandji Totem, on the Western Floodplain. Credit. UNE

In this project we will work alongside Kevin, absorbing and capturing some of his knowledge, promoting and facilitating connection to country, while paying our respects to the Traditional Owners of the Gurnu-Baakandji Nation.

[Hear from Kevin here](#)

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