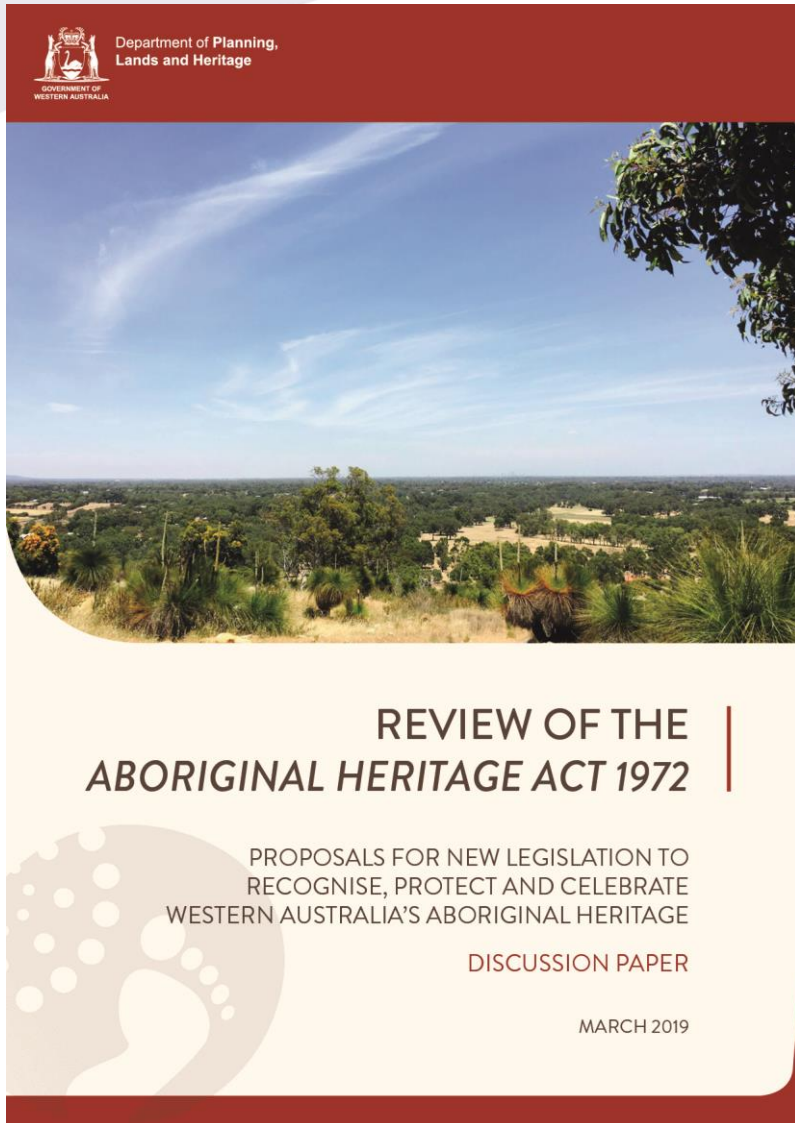




Department of Planning,
Lands and Heritage



AHA REVIEW PHASE 2 WORKSHOPS
LEONORA – 9 MAY 2019
Facilitator Report

PHASE 2 CONSULTATION WORKSHOP - LEONORA

DATE: 9 May 2019

VENUE: Leonora Rec Centre

ATTENDANCE: 12

MEETING PROCESS:

- Introduction by Facilitator
- Presentation by DPLAH
- Facilitated Discussion (throughout presentation)

FACILITATOR AND STAFF:

- Facilitator – Graham Castledine
- DPLAH – Vaughan Davies, Ceonie Clinch and Tracey Ninnette

FEEDBACK ON KEY THEMES:

1. What will be protected
 - What can be done as an interim measure to better protect Aboriginal heritage while reform is considered?;
 - Heritage (notice and warning) signs need to be maintained and kept up to date/clear;
 - Must include ceremonial sites;
 - Waterways/creeks very important.
2. Management of Information
 - Information on database should record what tribal group is involved and who should be consulted;
3. Local Aboriginal Heritage Service
 - CATSI Act provides more support for organisations (governance etc) than state based regimes;
 - But, some expressed concerns at risk of corporations being closed down under CATSI Act;
 - Shouldn't be afraid of accountability – we walk in 'two worlds';
 - CATSI Act corporations can disadvantage minorities where there is a power imbalance – why should we have to have a corporation?;

- Either way the LAHS must be made to work for the right people/tribal group;
- LAHS should be formed around tribal boundaries;
- Not everyone (in a native title group) is a ‘traditional owner’;
- There should be ‘one book’ with different chapters for each tribal group that everyone can consult;
- LAHS should be called ‘Tribal Boundary Group’.

4. Aboriginal Heritage Council

- Good to have an odd number on the committee;
- Members should be Aboriginal – fund/resource people to get the skills needed;
- Alternative view – anthropologist need not be Aboriginal;
- Knowledge of country sits with the LAHS – AHC needs to be accountable to them; Membership should not be a matter for the Minister;
- Elders should have input into who the members are;
- Should include a senior law person;
- Can’t be too big or will be unmanageable;
- One option could be 9 Aboriginal people with decision making power with power to co-opt others with special skills as needed.

5. Land Use Proposals

- Need to direct proponents to the right people – including prospectors/ holders of Mining Rights etc;
- Aboriginal perspective needs to be embedded in statutory processes;
- Appeal must go to independent body (like SAT);
- May need funding support for appeals.

6. Enforcement

- Standard of restoration to be set by LAHS;
- LAHS community should get money from any fine imposed;
- Power to suspend operations is important – ‘must’ not ‘may’;
- Limitation period should be 7 years;
- Need to address problems of pastoralists damaging sites and locking people out.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS:

Considerable support was expressed for the intent behind the proposals. However, differences of opinion were expressed in relation to issues such as: the requirement for incorporation of the LAHS; and the make up and role of the AHC.