

WIRRAWANDI:

March
2026

NEWSLETTER



WIRRAWANDI
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

Operations Update



Over the past few months, Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation has been busy across a range of areas, from looking after our cultural heritage on Country to making sure the organisation is well placed for the year ahead. While much of this work happens behind the scenes, we wanted to share a snapshot of what's been happening.

CITIC Pacific Mining – Section 18 Site Visit

One of the key activities during this period was a Section 18 site visit at the CITIC Pacific Mining operation, attended by Wirrawandi representatives alongside members of the Joint Heritage Advisory Committee.

Spending time on Country remains critical. The visit provided an opportunity to walk through areas impacted by mining, talk directly about heritage values, and raise questions about how approved works are being managed. Having the Joint Heritage Advisory Committee present supported open discussion and shared understanding around heritage responsibilities and expectations.

WAC will continue to engage with CITIC and other relevant parties to ensure Wirrawandi perspectives are reflected in heritage discussions and decision-making as activities continue.

Looking After the Organisation

A lot of effort has also gone into making sure the Corporation itself is tracking well. A mid-year budget review was completed with the CFO to check spending, upcoming commitments, and our ability to support planned work through 2026. This process helped identify where things are on track and where closer monitoring will be needed as some longer-term projects progress.

Agreements and Relationships

Work is continuing on the Leichhardt Agreement, with a focus on strengthening outcomes for Wirrawandi members. Early planning has also begun for a community meeting later in the year, subject to Board decisions and scheduling.

The Corporation remains actively involved in CITIC-related discussions, working alongside legal advisers and other stakeholders. These matters are ongoing and sometimes complex, and updates continue to be provided to the Board as discussions progress.

Maintaining strong relationships with industry partners remains important. During this period, WAC took part in the Woodside Quarterly Heritage Meeting, supporting open discussion around consultation planning and responsibilities. Meetings were also held with Chevron in Perth to review recent survey outcomes and begin early planning for 2026 field activities.

Compliance and Governance

Required reporting to funding bodies and government agencies has been submitted within the relevant timeframes. This is ongoing work, and internal systems continue to be reviewed to identify any gaps, follow-up actions, or areas for improvement as they arise.

Heritage Surveys and Monitoring

Heritage monitoring and survey work continued through December across priority areas, including Mardie, migratory shorebird sites, and CPM ground-disturbance areas. While the Christmas period can be challenging, work continued where possible to meet heritage responsibilities.

Strong Traditional Owner pairings helped support clear communication and smooth operations on the ground. A full monitoring schedule for 2026 has now been put together, and upcoming opportunities will continue to be shared so members can get involved if they wish.

People and Capacity

Recruitment has remained a focus. Progress has been made toward finalising the Ranger

Coordinator role and a new candidate has now been identified and offered the position.

Further efforts are also being made to encourage interest in ranger and training opportunities through direct community engagement.

Other work during this period included advertising for Independent Director positions and reviewing the potential benefits and costs of recruiting a Chief Executive Officer. This work has been prepared for Board consideration to help guide future decisions.

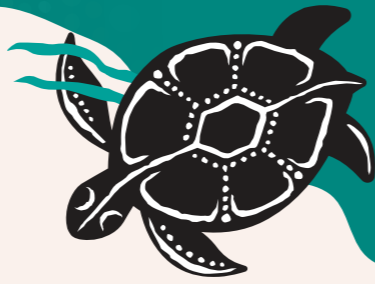
Economic Opportunities

Behind the scenes, work is continuing to explore potential economic and commercial opportunities that could benefit Wirrawandi into the future. This includes ongoing involvement in the Mardie Joint Venture and early consideration of other opportunities as they arise. All options are being carefully assessed to ensure they align with community priorities and long-term sustainability.

Steve Graham

Operations Manager
Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation





Members Update

Hello everyone,

2026 has kicked off with great energy, and what a start to the new year it has been. After a short break over Christmas, during which the office was closed for 10 days, our dedicated team continued monitoring and survey work throughout. A big thank you to our stakeholders at Citic Pacific Mining for keeping things moving, and an even bigger thank you to the Traditional Owners who remained out on site during the festive season. Your dedication, especially while working through those extreme 45–47 degree days, is truly appreciated — even the office air cons were struggling in that heat! I love getting messages and pics from TO's while on site, being included is very humbling! Thank you.

It has been wonderful to watch our little office continue to grow. We are fortunate to have the wonderful Maddie managing our ranger team,

along with our beautiful rangers — Roma, Veda, Melissa, and Nateisha. Hearing about their adventures gives me some serious “I want to be a ranger” vibes.

On the membership front, as you know, our memberships, systems, processes, and procedures are ever evolving. We are constantly working to perfect, improve, and enhance all aspects to provide the best possible experience for all our members. Our goal is to support the Corporation's Vision, Mission, Intent, Purpose, and Values!

Looking forward to what the rest of the year brings.

Vanessa Motlop

Administration & Membership Manager



Commercial Update

Following the appointment of a Commercial Manager in October, WAC has been progressing the planning and staging work required to support structured, sustainable commercial development.

Since that time, the focus has been on establishing the foundations needed to move WAC from concept and opportunity identification into delivery.

This planning phase is now nearing completion, with formal consideration of WAC's commercial strategies and governance frameworks scheduled to occur towards the end of March.

This milestone will complete the planning phase and enable WAC to formally transition into implementation.

The implementation phase will focus on putting these plans into action and creating clear opportunities for members. This will include:

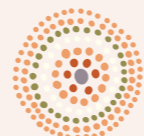
- Advertising Expressions of Interest (EOIs) for members who wish to participate in and contribute to WAC-led commercial projects; and
- Setting clear, transparent processes to support members who wish to establish and progress their own commercial ventures, alongside WAC's broader commercial activities.

Further updates will be provided as WAC moves into implementation and member EOIs are released.

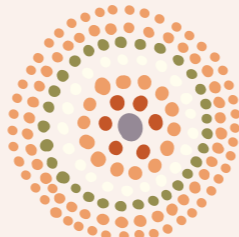
Nathan Christophers

Commercial Manager
Wirrawandi Aboriginal Corporation





Marduthuni Rangers Update



The Marduthuni Ranger team has had a busy and productive start to the year, with important work happening both on Country and at the ranger base.

In December, rangers spent time on Country collecting fauna cameras from Gnoorea Soak and preparing the ranger base for new furniture and equipment. When reviewing the camera footage, the team made an exciting discovery, a threatened Northern Quoll was captured on camera. This was unexpected, as quolls had not previously been recorded in this area. Cameras have since been reset to continue monitoring wildlife at Gnoorea Soak and Yanyare Waterhole following recent rainfall and cyclone activity.

The team has also begun preparing to monitor the health of important waterholes across Country. A new water quality meter is arriving soon, which will allow rangers to collect data and better understand how these water places are changing over time. This work is an important step in caring for Country and protecting these places for future generations.

Back at the ranger base, new furniture and equipment have been delivered, and rangers have worked hard to set up the space so it functions as a proper workplace for the team. Ranger vehicles have also been upgraded, ensuring the team is ready for the upcoming field season.



Rangers have also been undertaking beach clean-ups along the 40-mile area, helping to remove rubbish and care for coastal areas. This work will continue, particularly as visitor numbers increase during the cooler months.

The program is also looking for additional casual rangers from the community. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in working on Country, building skills, and contributing to caring for Marduthuni Country. Community members are encouraged to spread the word or contact our office to find out more.

Consultation with families has also continued as part of the Healthy Country Plan. Rangers and staff have been meeting with families to talk about priorities and future plans, with on-Country planning trips to follow once conditions cool down.

The team looks forward to continuing this important work and strengthening the ranger program throughout 2026.

Maddie George
Interim Ranger Manager



Yaburara Mardudhunera Healthy Country Planning Project March 2026 Update

Work has started on a Healthy Country Plan for Yaburara and Mardudhunera Country. This is an important project for our people and our future.

A Healthy Country Plan is about writing down what is important to Yaburara and Mardudhunera Traditional Owners. It will guide how we care for Country now and into the future. It will also support the work of the Marduthuni Rangers.

This plan is about making sure decisions about Country are led by our people.



Why do we need a Healthy Country Plan?

We want to make sure Country is looked after the right way.

By putting our knowledge and ideas into a written plan, we can:

- **Make sure Country is cared for properly**
- **Keep our knowledge safe for the next generation**
- **Help bring in funding and strong partnerships**
- **Teach young people about Country and culture**
- **Check over time if Country is getting healthier**

How will the plan be made?

The plan will be made using the Healthy Country Planning approach. This way of planning is used by communities and organisations around the world to help care for land and culture.

The project is being led by Our Common Place and the WAC Healthy Country Team.

There will be workshops and meetings where families and community members can talk and share ideas. Together we will write down:

- **Our vision for healthy Country in the future**
- **Important places, plants, animals and cultural values**
- **What is harming Country or people**
- **What work needs to be done to look after Country**
- **How we will check that things are improving**



What is happening next?

Work has started on a Healthy Country Plan for Yaburara and Mardudhunera Country. This is an important project for our people and our future.

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This plan is about making sure decisions about Country are led by our people.

- **More family group meetings**
- **Bigger workshops to bring everyone's ideas together**
- **On Country trips to talk, learn and plan**

Want to know more?

If you would like more information, please contact:

Damon Pyke
 Our Common Place
 Damon.pyke@ourcommonplace.org.au
 0409 249 294





Join the Marduthuni Ranger Team



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN CASUAL WORK, GETTING BACK OUT ON COUNTRY, CONNECTING WITH ELDERS AND LEARNING ABOUT COUNTRY? JOIN US NOW

YOUR ROLE AS A RANGER:

- Work outdoors with a team or dedicated rangers
- Look after special places
- Learn about important animals on Country
- Spend time with Elders and Knowledge Holders
- Get training to build your skills

REQUIREMENTS:

- Work is based out of Karratha
- Physical fitness for outdoor work
- Respect for Country and culture
- Drivers license is a plus!

HOW TO APPLY:

Ask in our office for an sign up form or give us a call on 08 9128 4788



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