



## Queensland Fire and Biodiversity Consortium

### Cultural Burning Collaborative Highlights

September 2020

The Queensland Fire and Biodiversity Consortium (QFBC) is fortunate to have collaborated and gained insights from many First Nations fire managers. The QFBC partners with Indigenous and First Nations-led organisations to showcase cultural burning projects and support cultural burning aspirations. There are many active First Nations-led cultural burning programs and Indigenous networks in place and the QFBC welcomes the opportunity to continue supporting these important partnerships and to develop new partnerships focused on cultural burning projects across Queensland.

QFBC cultural burning collaborative highlights include:

- Coordination of a Fire Science Forum entitled '*Linking Traditional Owner and Western Fire Management*', held on the Sunshine Coast, in partnership with Sunshine Coast Council (May 2013). Featuring Gubbi Gubbi Elder, Nurdon Serico; Darren Burns, Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation; Oliver Costello, Firesticks Alliance and Maurice Mickelo, Bunya Mountains Murri Ranger Program.
- Coordinating a feature symposium '*Cultural Burning and Traditional Custodian Fire Projects*', as host and organisers of the national bushfire conference, '*Bushfire 2016*' (Sept 2016). The symposium was chaired by Oliver Costello (Firesticks Alliance) and featured 12 First Nations or indigenous-led cultural burning projects. This symposium was one of the most popular in the post-conference evaluation.
- Featuring First Nations cultural burning projects at the QFBC annual Fire Science Forum, including (but not limited to) the work of Bunya Bunya Country Aboriginal Corporation (Nov 2018) and Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation (May 2013, March 2015, June 2019).
- Partnering with Bunya Bunya Country Aboriginal Corporation at a *Prescribed Burning Clinic* (coordinated by the QFBC) on the Sunshine Coast, hosted by the Prescribed Burning Centre of Excellence and the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (Aug 2018).
- Provision of support for multiple workshops to help facilitate the development of a '*Seasonal Fire Calendar*' led by Bunya Bunya Country Aboriginal Corporation and Healthy Land and Water, in partnership with PhD student Michelle McKemey (University of New England).
- Regular promotion of First Nations cultural burning events and activities (including the National Indigenous Fire Workshop, led by Firesticks) via our eNews service (with >1300 subscribers), website and social media platforms.
- Currently, the QFBC has one funded project and three projects being assessed, inclusive of First Nations cultural burning engagement.

