



On Country
Heritage & Consulting

CAPABILITY STATEMENT

On Country Heritage and Consulting is an exciting new joint venture between the Federation of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations (FVTOC), and Terra Rosa Consulting (TRC).

The FVTOC is an alliance of Victorian Traditional Owner Corporations designed to further the economic, social and cultural development of members and the broader Victorian Aboriginal community.

Terra Rosa Consulting is a respected cultural heritage, environmental, and community engagement and development consultancy that is at the forefront of new approaches to heritage and land management.

OUR SERVICES



Cultural Heritage Management Plans

We draw on the experience of the Federation of Traditional Owner Corporations, Victorian Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs), and our team of highly qualified heritage specialists, to provide professional heritage management recommendations to ensure that your project is compliant with legislative requirements.



Cultural Interpretation Projects

Our heritage professionals can assist with signage using traditional names/language, visual aids for cultural education in public areas, interpretive planning for public spaces and incorporating cultural values into developments. We can assist clients to incorporate Aboriginal cultural values into any project and build awareness and respect for Aboriginal culture and history through increased public engagement and education.



Cultural Values Assessments

Desktop and field assessments of existing cultural heritage helps to guide projects before and during the compliance stage. This enables clients to begin considering Aboriginal heritage in the design and planning phase of a project. Costs are reduced and compliance issues surrounding Aboriginal Heritage management are mitigated.



Approved Archaeological Excavations

Our archaeologists can assist with approved excavations, test pits, and shovel tests, auger testing, sieving, and other methods for the excavation of sub-surface archaeological material. We can ensure compliance with relevant legislation and that management, documentation, and repatriation of Aboriginal cultural artefacts is aligned with legislative requirements, and the wishes of Aboriginal stakeholders.



Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Our GIS and mapping team has expertise across a broad range of GIS functions including geographic data processing, spatial analysis, spatial database development and administration, visual design and cartography. We have industry leading desktop and web-based geospatial software suites and can link into your existing GIS capability, or develop individual solutions tailored to your specific requirements.



Due Diligence Assessments

Due Diligence Assessments or 'desktop assessments' may be required when the threshold triggers that would necessitate a CHMP are unclear or ambiguous. Our knowledgeable heritage professionals can assist you to determine if a CHMP is required for your project, and advise you on preliminary heritage concerns prior to the development of a CHMP.

ABOUT US



Federation of
Victorian Traditional
Owner Corporations



TERRA ROSA
CONSULTING

On Country Heritage and Consulting combines professional experience with cultural expertise; working in partnership with community and industry to promote Aboriginal culture and community through the sustainable management of cultural heritage and natural resources.

Importantly, On Country Heritage and Consulting is an independent, professional Cultural Heritage Advisor that is majority Indigenous owned, endorsed by the members of the FVTOC, and focused on building the individual and organisational capacity of Traditional Owners and Groups.

We offer our clients a range of professional services relating to cultural heritage management, natural resource management, Aboriginal and community engagement, capacity development, training, and mediation. The partnership combines the strengths of both partner organisations and introduces innovative approaches to the management of cultural heritage and land built on a foundation of partnership, collaboration, and a commitment to seeking better outcomes for Indigenous stakeholders.

Our unique partnership is structured to ensure that Aboriginal people benefit directly from cultural heritage work by providing opportunities for training, employment, skill development, and enterprise development. Importantly, our clients also benefit from our deeper understanding of the important relationship between culture, country, and community for Aboriginal parties.



Cultural Mapping

We can produce cultural maps for a variety of purposes. We create 2D and 3D representations of culturally significant places or objects and embed them in web-based or standalone software systems. We insert video, audio, photos, panoramic images, and text to produce an immersive user experience and a visceral sense of place.



Ethnobotanical Mapping, Flora and Fauna Surveys

We conduct ethnobotanical, flora and fauna surveys, and suggest management strategies that recognize the intrinsic links between culture, heritage, and the natural environment. We can provide advice for your project at any stage from planning through to rehabilitation and we have experience working in a variety of environmental and biological regions and sub-regions.



Community Consultation and Engagement

We realise that community support contributes heavily to project success and our team of community engagement specialists can communicate your project plan to stakeholders, and obtain relevant and detailed feedback to inform the planning phase. We ensure that communication is respectful, professional, and considerate of cultural protocols.



Aboriginal Heritage Management

We have assisted some of Australia's largest companies and Traditional Owner groups to implement successful heritage management strategies that have contributed not only to the success of projects, but to outcomes for communities and Aboriginal stakeholders. We assist industry, government, and Traditional Owners to collaborate effectively to develop heritage management strategies that provide positive outcomes for all parties.



Mediation and Dispute Resolution Services

We employ accredited mediators (both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal) from a variety of backgrounds, including, law, social sciences and Aboriginal community services. Our mediators are accredited through the Australian Mediation Association (AMA) and have extensive experience in mediating community disputes by assisting parties to recognise each other's concerns and develop mutually acceptable outcomes.



Community Projects

We work with communities and individuals to facilitate and realise aspirations relating to the delivery of community projects in the areas of culture, land, education, health and arts. By harnessing available funding frameworks we have successfully co-ordinated a range of projects to the benefit of community members and organisations. We aim to achieve tangible outcomes that community members are proud of.

EXPERIENCE

Our partner organisations the FVTOC and Terra Rosa Consulting have worked with over sixty Traditional Owner groups across Australia and some of Australia's largest and most respected companies to effectively manage cultural heritage and natural resources. We are a trusted service provider to a number of commonwealth and local government departments including the Department of Agriculture (WA), Department of Parks and Wildlife (WA), Main Roads, Western Power, and numerous local councils and government authorities.

Gladstone Healthy Harbour Project (GHHP)

In 2015 and 2016, the Gladstone Healthy Harbour Project became the first project to introduce Cultural Heritage Health Indicators to a broad scale environmental management plan. Since then, Terra Rosa Consulting has worked with partner organisations including the CSIRO, Commonwealth Government of Australia, and Griffith University to conduct baseline studies to provide a framework that will enable local Indigenous groups to manage the cultural heritage and environment within the Gladstone Harbour Precinct, a major industrial hub supplying resources to the Asian market.

Rio Tinto

We have worked with Rio Tinto and regional Traditional Owner groups to manage cultural heritage at several sites across the Pilbara region of WA. As a national leader in the resource industry, Rio Tinto has strict requirements relating to safety, quality management, and compliance. Our ongoing relationship with Rio Tinto reflects our commitment to best-practice, workplace health and safety, environmental management, and quality assurance.

National Trust of Australia

Working collaboratively with five Traditional Owner groups to document cultural protocols for organisations working within the Woodstock Abydos Protected Reserve, one of WA's largest rock art conservation areas. See www.budadee.org.au

Telstra

In 2016 we conducted numerous large-scale cultural heritage assessments of linear infrastructure projects associated with the NBN rollout working with a number of Traditional Owner groups.

Mackay Whitsundays Healthy Rivers to Reef

Cultural Heritage Assessments and community consultation with the Traditional Owner Reference Group to provide recommendations to inform the management of cultural heritage within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park by Traditional Owner groups.

Fortescue Metals Group (FMG)

We have worked with FMG and several Traditional Owner groups and Aboriginal stakeholders to manage cultural heritage across numerous projects including the Solomon Hub, Christmas Creek, North Star, and Western Hub. This has resulted in ongoing positive relationships with several Pilbara-based Traditional Owner groups and we are responsible for the introduction of new approaches to heritage management that facilitate more efficient processes, and better outcomes for all stakeholders.



To find out how our unique approach to the management of cultural heritage and natural resources can benefit your project, please contact us to discuss your needs.

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