

Working Together

Knowledge flows both ways — where meaningful change begins.



The Coorong Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) Research Centre acknowledges the Ngarrindjeri and other First Nations Peoples as Australia's first scientists. Through careful observation, innovation and experimentation, they have developed sustainable ways of living and caring for this unique Country over countless generations. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and honour the enduring value of their knowledge.

The CLLMM Research Centre has built a strong relationship with Ngarrindjeri Nation and First Nations of the Southeast, who have long nurtured and protected these lands, waters and communities. We recognise and respect their continuing connection to Country and are grateful for the knowledge and wisdom they share in caring for these places.

This cultural knowledge, passed down through generations, offers thoughtful guidance for sustainable practice and holistic care for Country. By valuing and learning from this wisdom, the CLLMM Research Centre seeks to stand alongside First Nations Peoples in protecting and sustaining these lands and waters for future generations.

The Research Centre has been working alongside Ngarrindjeri Indigenous Ranger programs and their Elders, and community on Country in many of our projects. Here we highlight 3 projects that were identified as culturally important.

Project Snapshot

The **Waterbird Conservation** project helps Ngarrindjeri care for waterbirds, an important part of culture and belief that land, water, people, animals, and plants are all connected. Protecting waterbirds keeps culture strong and helps in looking after the health of the environment.



CLLMM Researchers from the **Freshwater Soaks** project are working alongside First Nations communities to better understand and protect these important cultural assets. Where are they? How do they work? Why are they there? All important questions being tackled by researchers and Ngarrindjeri community.

The **Lokeri** project supports the protection and cultural importance of Lokeri (floodplain mussels). By checking and monitoring Lokeri in the Lower Lakes, community have increased their knowledge and cultural connection. Lokeri has always been an important food source, for tools, for decoration, and keeping the water clean. Ngarrindjeri community continues to speak up about water quality.

