



Department of **Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions**

**Rivers and Estuaries Branch**

# Djarlgarro Restoration Plan

## Djarlgarro (Carpet Snake) Dreaming Story

### Artwork Scope

#### Background

The Djarlgarro (Canning Waterways) Restoration Plan is a multi-stakeholder document for the Canning, Southern and Wungong rivers. It is being developed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) in partnership with the Whadjuk Aboriginal Corporation, state and local government authorities and community landcare groups.

The artwork will focus on the creation of Djarlgarro, the Canning River, and the significance of water, and will be reproduced in the Restoration Plan. It will include important plants and animals and elements of the landscape, which have been chosen by a committee of Whadjuk Noongar knowledge holders.

The committee acknowledges the Beeloo Mulgang and Beeliar clan groups as the Ancestral Custodians of the Canning waterways.

We would like to support a new or emerging Whadjuk Noongar Artist.

This EOI process may also be used to select an artist to produce an artwork for DBCA's River Protection Strategy. This may be the same or a different artist to that selected for the Djarlgarro Restoration Plan.

#### Commission scope

- To create an artwork that captures the creation story of Djarlgarro and its associated bilya (waterways), and the spiritual significance of water in Noongar Boodja.
- The painting will be used for a variety of purposes, including graphic design elements such as borders, info graphics used across a range of publications relating to the Djarlgarro Restoration Plan.
- The artwork should be produced at a minimum of A2 size (420 x 594mm) in landscape format.

- It will be photographed/scanned in high resolution to be displayed in full at A3 scale and repeated in parts in the Djarlgarro Restoration Plan and associated documents.

### Selection criteria

1. The Artist must be of Whadjuk Noongar descent.
2. The Artwork is inspired by and reflects a deep connection to Noongar Boodja, specifically Djarlgarro (Canning River).
3. Style of work is compatible with the scope of artwork required.
4. Some previous work or artistic experience.
5. The artwork can be delivered according to the timeframe below.
6. The proposed price is reasonable and competitive.

### Key elements

The artwork should focus on the creation story of Djarlgarro and the significance of water in the landscape. Key features to be included are:

- The Carpet Snake Dreaming Story of Djarlgarro.
- Topographical features such as:
  - the bilya themselves (including rivers, river pools, wetlands, groundwater)
  - Moorda (Darling Scarp)
- Totemic representation of the three Noongar clan groups:
  - Beeliar – the turtle
  - Beeloo – the jarrah tree, and
  - Mulgang – the valleys of the Darling Range

Additional considerations that could be included are:

- The change from fresh to salt water (it is freshwater in the upper reaches, and saltwater below Kent Street Weir)
- Important food sources:
  - Long neck turtle
  - Yongka (kangaroo)
  - Waitj (emu)
  - Cobbler
  - Frogs
  - Birds (swans, ducks, magpies and ravens)
  - Freshwater crayfish
- Important plant species
  - Bullrush (significant as food for the Waugal)
- Customary practices, such as:
  - Spear fishing
  - Patch burning
- Extinct flora and fauna could be commemorated through shadows in the artwork.

## Mark making

Culturally appropriate mark making for Whadjuk Noongar Boodja is preferred, including a limited use of dots. Fluid lines, the use of light and mystical features is encouraged.

## Colour palette

The preferred colour palette includes the colours of Noongar Boodja including (but not limited to):

- Eucalyptus greens
- Water or Leschenaultia (local plant) blues
- Granite greys
- Limestone / sandstone whites

Red should only be used minimally, for example, to depict flowers in the landscape.

## Materials

- Size: minimum A2 (420 x 594mm) in landscape
- Unstretched canvas, flat (untextured) acid-free art paper (minimum 200gsm), textiles or others
- Paints or materials at artist's discretion **but excluding watercolour**

## Timeframe

EOI opens	Monday 24 June 2024
EOI closes	4pm Sunday 22 July 2024
Assessment of EOIs by DBCA	Until Friday 26 July 2024
Likely endorsement of recommended artist by Whadjuk committee	By Friday 16 August
Artists notified of outcome	By Monday 19 August 2024
Contract signed with selected artist	By Monday 26 August 2024
Artist to provide draft sketch for discussion with Whadjuk committee. Final design to be developed at this meeting	By Monday 9 September 2024
Artwork production	10 September – 21 October 2024
Completed artwork to be provided to DBCA	Monday 21 October 2024

## Payment Details

This EOI is a competitive process, where proposed size of artwork and costs will be considered by the assessment panel. For the Djarlgarro Restoration Plan, a maximum Artist Fee of \$7,000 (ex GST) is available, which includes Copyright.

The final agreed price will be paid in three instalments:

1. on signing the contract (20%),
2. on acceptance of final design (20%), and
3. on delivery of completed artwork (60%).

The Artist Fee is inclusive of all production costs including materials, tools and fabrication.

## Copyright

Copyright costs are included in the Artist Fee. DBCA will retain the copyright to use the artwork in the Restoration Plan and associated documents for a period of time to be negotiated with the Artist (minimum 5 years).

Use of the artwork in other publications will be negotiated with the Artist.

## Intellectual Property

This EOI process may also be used to select an artist to produce an artwork for DBCA's River Protection Strategy. This may be the same or a different artist to that selected for the Djarlgarro Restoration Plan.

DBCA will take all care in relation to the safekeeping of submissions. All submissions will be stored confidentially with only the assessment panel (made up of DBCA staff) to have access to submissions stored on DBCA's electronic server.

Payment will include the purchase and copyright of the artwork. It will be photographed/scanned in high resolution and used in full and in part in the Djarlgarro Restoration Plan and associated documents. The artwork will likely be hung in the DBCA office in Kensington.

The Artist will be provided copies of the photographs/scans of the artwork. Photographs may only be used for private use. Photos of the artwork may not be sold to another party for reproduction.

If DBCA would like to use the artwork in other publications not related to the Djarlgarro Restoration Plan, they will contact the Artist for approval prior to use.

## EOI process

To express your interest please complete the attached Expression of Interest form, along with examples of previous artworks.

**Expressions of interest must be received by  
4pm Sunday 22 July 2024**

## For further information and assistance contact:

Debbie Besch or Alison McGilvray  
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