



ABORIGINAL
LAND SERVICES



ABORIGINAL BUSINESS
DIRECTORY WA



NOONGAR
Chamber of Commerce and Industry



CAPABILITY STATEMENT

Aboriginal Land Services Pty Ltd
ABN: 33 635 205 980

*If you look after Country,
Country will look after you.*



0897 523 875



www.aboriginallandservices.com.au



Unit 2/17 Albert Street, Busselton WA



About Us.

INTRODUCTION

Aboriginal Land Services Pty Ltd (ALS) is a majority Aboriginal-owned and led consultancy that specialises in environmental management, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage protection and management, community engagement and capacity building services.

Our purpose is to help meet the environmental and cultural heritage needs of today, without compromising those of tomorrow.

We achieve our purpose by working with our customers and communities on the workability, certainty, risk, cost, protection and management of the environment and cultural heritage.

Our profits are reinvested into training, professional development and capacity building for Aboriginal people in heritage and environmental management.

We operate under a framework and base principals grounded in Aboriginal ways of knowing, being and doing.



OUR MISSION

Meeting the environmental and cultural heritage needs of today without compromising those of tomorrow.

We do this by combining Aboriginal cultural knowledge with environmental science, ensuring every project is grounded in respect for Country, community, and culture.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

To lead the way in creating a future where Aboriginal people are empowered to manage their cultural and natural heritage.

We envision a landscape where Aboriginal voices shape decision-making, where industry and community work together in partnership, and where caring for Country is embedded in everything we do.

Our Team

Principal Director and majority owner Bill Bennell is a Ballardong-Whadjuk Nyungar man, born and raised in Bunbury with strong ancestral ties to the Bunbury-Collie area. He has worked all over Australia in land management, cultural heritage protection and Aboriginal community capacity development for almost 35 years.

Our longest-serving Director Scott Chisholm has more than 19 years experience in enterprise development, heritage consulting and project management across Australia, with a strong understanding of state and national heritage legislation and best-practice methodologies.

General Manager Nerilee Boshammer-Bennell has a Bachelor of Science (Environmental Management), is a Certified Environmental Practitioner with EIANZ, and has been working in environmental management and community engagement in the South West of WA for 18 years.

Between our Directors alone, ALS has over 60 years' combined experience in heritage protection and management, Aboriginal community and enterprise capacity building, community engagement, environmental management and education. Plus, our dedicated team of more than 25 consultants and support staff are a best in-field (and out) team of project specialists with anthropology, archaeology, environmental and community engagement experts.

DIRECTORS



BILL BENNELL
Principal Director



SCOTT CHISHOLM
Director

LEADERSHIP



NERILEE BOSHAMMER-BENNELL
General Manager



CHRIS NUTT
Operations Manager
Environment & Community



DANIEL MONKS
Operations Manager
Heritage



CARLY MONKS
Reporting & Deliverables
Specialist

STAFF



KAREN HANSEN
Heritage Consultant



EMMA DENNIS
Heritage Consultant



ERIN AILES
Heritage Consultant



SHANNON GEE
Heritage Consultant



JAYD KENNEDY
Heritage Project Coordinator



JULIA WELLER
Operational Support
Consultant



SUMMER BRINKWORTH
Communications & Finance
Manager

51% ABORIGINAL OWNERSHIP

30% ABORIGINAL STAFF

Our Services.



ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

- Advice and Approvals
- Surveys, Excavations and Cultural Value Assessments
- Cultural Landscape Mapping and GIS
- Desktop Assessments and Cultural Heritage Management Plans



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CAPACITY BUILDING

This suite of services is all about bringing people together to talk, learn and share. ALS works closely with Aboriginal corporations transitioning to independent management of their cultural, natural and heritage assets, partnering with them to build long term capacity, social enterprises and cultural programs.



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Our experienced staff can develop and assist with the implementation of Environmental Management Plans and operational procedures that meet the unique needs of your project. ALS have conducted biological and ecological surveys and programs across most geographical regions of Western Australia. We can work with you to identify compliance issues and ensure the effectiveness of your practices and procedures in meeting regulatory requirements.



TRAINING

Aboriginal Land Services supports pathways into heritage and environmental careers by providing opportunities for skills development and training. We connect individuals and communities with programs that blend cultural knowledge and practical skills, often incorporating on-Country learning guided by Elders and experienced practitioners.

We know that heritage protection and management isn't just about facilitating approvals. As such, we advocate for a focus on the significance of the broader cultural landscape as essential to truly understanding, protecting and celebrating Aboriginal heritage values.

What Sets Us Apart

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE APPROACH

We apply a cultural landscape perspective and approach to our work, to assist clients to truly understand, protect and celebrate our unique Aboriginal cultural heritage and environmental values, and to build an appreciation of the intrinsic links and interaction between Country, culture and people.

MAJORITY ABORIGINAL OWNED AND LED

We are majority Aboriginal owned and led, making us one of the largest Aboriginal-owned heritage consultancies in Australia. We are registered with Supply Nation and the Aboriginal Business Directory WA.

STATE GOVERNMENT PREFERRED SUPPLIERS

We sit on a number of WA State Government preferred supplier panels, including the Water Corporation, Main Roads WA and WALGA.

INFRASTRUCTURE SPECIALISTS

We specialise in environmental and Aboriginal cultural heritage management and cultural place-making for large, complex infrastructure projects and we are familiar with the scoping, budgets, timelines and critical pathways required.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY

We operate nationally and have expertise in the legislative requirements across different State and Federal jurisdictions. We have a large multidisciplinary team of environmental consultants, archaeologists, anthropologists, GIS experts and Aboriginal Heritage Officers.

COMMITTED TO QUALITY DELIVERY

We have an ISO-aligned Quality Management System that guides our procedure and processes in Environmental Management, Quality and Occupational Health & Safety.

REMOTE EXPERTISE

We have conducted environmental and cultural heritage assessments and programs in some of the most remote locations in Australia. Our team is well versed in the safety, logistics, navigation and planning requirements for remote area work, including drone operation for areas where site access can otherwise be an issue.



Giving Back

At Aboriginal Land Services, we reinvest our profits into giving back to community — supporting cultural heritage, caring for Country, and creating pathways in heritage and environmental careers.



ABORIGINAL SUPPLIERS

We prioritise procuring goods and services from Aboriginal businesses wherever possible. We work with a large number of Aboriginal subcontractors in all facets of our business from the provision of workwear and stationery through to GIS mapping and field-based consultants.



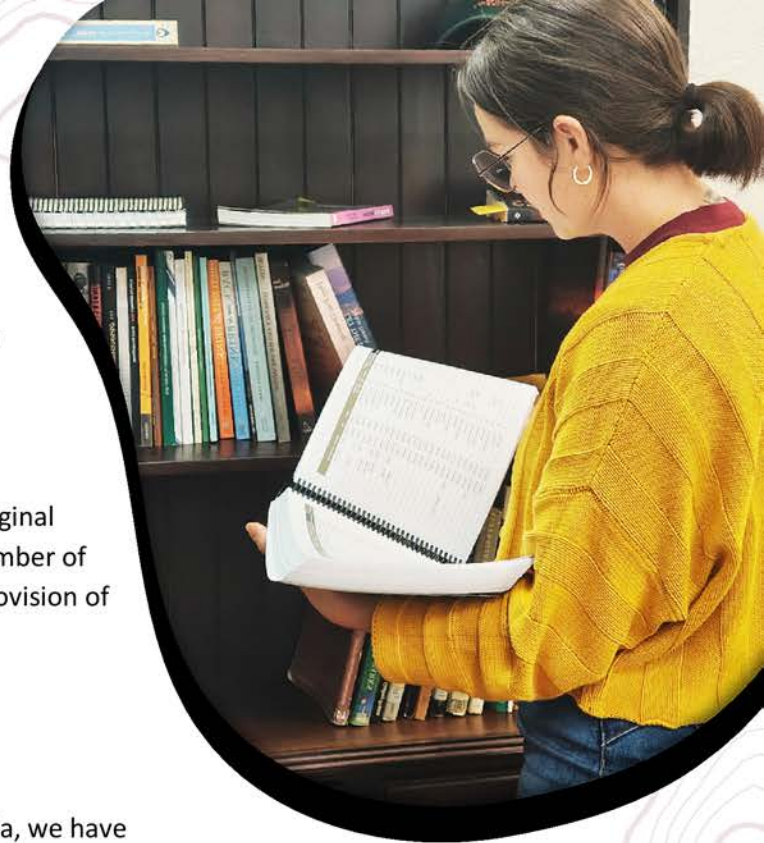
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

In partnership with the University of Western Australia, we have created a University scholarship worth \$5,000 per year to an Aboriginal student who is interested in a future career in cultural heritage or Land Management. This scholarship also has an option of paid work experience with ALS and our key partner organisations, Kooyar Wongi and Terra Rosa Consulting.



WORKSHOPS

We partner with a range of organisations to deliver skills-based workshops in cultural heritage, environmental management, community engagement and capacity building. These workshops allow Aboriginal job seekers to gain critical skills and potentially consider a career in land management or cultural heritage.



SCHOOL-BASED TRAINEESHIPS

We offer school-based traineeships to Aboriginal people at high school combining work experience with training in a Certificate II in Business and a Certificate II in Community Services.



TRAINING

Aboriginal Land Services supports pathways into heritage and environmental careers by providing opportunities for skills development and training. We connect individuals and communities with programs that blend cultural knowledge and practical skills, often incorporating on-Country learning guided by Elders and experienced practitioners.



Case Study

DEPARTMENT OF BIODIVERSITY, CONSERVATION AND ATTRACTIONS (DBCA) | PROPOSED MARINE PARK EXPANSION

ABOUT THE PROJECT

In 2022, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) proposed an expansion of marine parks across Whadjuk, Minang, Goreng and Mirning coastal waters — areas of immense cultural and ecological value. Aboriginal Land Services (ALS) was engaged to lead Aboriginal consultation and ensure Traditional Owner knowledge shaped the design and management of the proposed Marmion and South Coast Marine Parks. This included cultural mapping, heritage planning, and collaborative workshops across multiple communities. The project demonstrates how Indigenous knowledge and values can be meaningfully embedded into environmental planning — ensuring conservation efforts also protect culture, identity, and connection to Country.

ALS' ROLE

- **Facilitated cultural mapping and values sessions** with Traditional Owners across Whadjuk, Minang, Goreng, and Mirning regions
- **Provided cultural and environmental advice** to ensure marine planning reflected Aboriginal knowledge systems
- **Led workshops and one-on-one consultations** to identify cultural values, aspirations, and concerns
- **Supported the co-development** of heritage and joint management plans with DBCA
- **Advocated for the inclusion** of underrepresented groups, including direct support for Mirning Traditional Lands Aboriginal Corporation
- **Reviewed draft management plans** and provided recommendations to strengthen cultural integration

IMPACT

This project set a new benchmark for integrating Aboriginal cultural values into environmental planning. Through ALS's facilitation, Traditional Owners were not only consulted but actively involved in shaping the future of marine conservation along the South Coast. The cultural mapping process led to the direct inclusion of Aboriginal knowledge in zoning recommendations and long-term joint management planning — embedding cultural values into the core of decision-making.

The success of the process has led to further collaboration with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and opened the door for more Aboriginal corporations to influence future land and sea management frameworks. By creating a space for genuine dialogue and cultural leadership, ALS helped shape a more inclusive and culturally resilient future for Western Australia's marine parks.

ONGOING OUTCOMES

ALS continues to support the review and implementation of management plans, helping Aboriginal communities remain central to marine conservation. The project has become a model for respectful engagement and joint management in WA.



CLIENT: DBCA
LOCATION: MARMION & BREMER BAY
DATE: 2022

Case Study

CAUSEWAY PEDESTRIAN & CYCLIST BRIDGE | AWARD-WINNING PLANNING PROJECT



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Causeway Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridges Project is a significant infrastructure upgrade, linking East Perth and Victoria Park across the Derbal Yerrigan (Swan River) via Matagarup (Heirisson Island)—a place of deep cultural significance for Whadjuk Noongar people. Given the potential impact on Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, ALS was engaged to lead Noongar community engagement and heritage assessments, ensuring the project respects and celebrates the area's cultural values.

ALS' ROLE

- **Noongar community engagement & consultation**, including the establishment and facilitation of the Matagarup Elders Group (MEG).
- **Heritage assessments**, including archaeological and ethnographic site identification surveys.
- **Development of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP)** to guide ongoing cultural heritage protection.
- **Monitoring of ground disturbance works** by Traditional Owners to safeguard cultural sites.
- **Cultural interpretation and placemaking**, integrating Noongar knowledge into the project's design.

IMPACT

This award-winning project has redefined what it means to 'plan with Country'. Key Noongar cultural elements are now woven through the bridges' design — including the striking Wana (digging stick) and Kylie (boomerang) pylons, a dedicated corroboree space, and interpretive signage that educates the public and honours Aboriginal connection to place.

In 2024, the project was recognised with the Planning Institute of Australia WA Award for Planning with Country. ALS is proud to have helped shape this national example of best practice in Aboriginal heritage integration.

ONGOING OUTCOMES

ALS continues to support the Causeway Link Alliance by ensuring that Elders remain part of decision-making as the project progresses. The success of this work has also led to new opportunities — ALS has since been approached to undertake similar roles in other major infrastructure and precinct planning projects across the Perth metro region.



CLIENT: CAUSEWAY LINK ALLIANCE

LOCATION: PERTH, WA

DATE: 2021 – 2024

Case Study

SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE CULTURAL SPACES PROJECT | YARNING CIRCLE AND BUSHTUCKER GARDEN

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The project involved the co-design of a cultural space in collaboration with Noongar Elders and Traditional Owners, ensuring that local knowledge and cultural values were embedded from the outset. Central to the space is a permanent jarrah yarning circle, constructed with natural stone pavers to provide a grounding place for connection and learning. The garden features bush tucker plants and seasonal native species carefully selected to reflect the six Noongar seasons—Birak, Bunuru, Djeran, Makuru, Djilba and Kambarang—creating a living, waterwise landscape that is both educational and environmentally sustainable.

ALS' ROLE

- **Led the co-design process** in collaboration with Noongar Elders, Traditional Owners, and TAFE staff
- **Provided cultural advice** to ensure the space reflected local knowledge and Noongar values
- **Designed the garden layout** around the six Noongar seasons and native bush tucker species
- **Delivered cultural engagement sessions** with students to support ongoing use and understanding of the space
- **Advised on** sustainable planting, waterwise design, and long-term environmental impact
- **Coordinated cultural artwork** concepts for signage and interpretation within the space

IMPACT

The Cultural Spaces project has had a lasting impact on both the environment and the community. By embedding cultural knowledge into the design, the space not only supports biodiversity through native, waterwise planting, but also fosters cultural pride and learning. Students are now able to engage with Noongar seasons and traditional bush foods in a hands-on way, building awareness of sustainable practices and cultural responsibility.

The project has created a space for reflection, education, and connection to Country that will grow with the school community over time, supporting long-term environmental stewardship and cultural understanding.

ONGOING OUTCOMES

The space is regularly used for cultural events, educational workshops, and staff development sessions. ALS continues to support cultural integration across the TAFE's environmental programs, with plans to expand similar initiatives across regional campuses.



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CLIENT: SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE
LOCATION: BUNBURY, WA
DATE: 2024 - ONGOING

Testimonials

GNAALA KARLA BOOJA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



“Gnaala Karla Booja Aboriginal Corporation (GKB) is one of the six regional corporations established under the 2021 Southwest Native Title Settlement to represent the rights and interests of each of the six Agreement Groups across Noongar Country. The settlement is the biggest to date in Australian history, with the Gnaala Karla Booja region covering the Noongar language or dialectal groups of the Binjareb/Pinjarup, Wilman, Wadandi and Ganeang peoples.

Successfully establishing the GKB has been a mammoth task, including managing the significant legal requirements and expectations from all tiers of government, development proponents and GKB members. Aboriginal Land Services (ALS) approached GKB during the early part of this journey, offering their professional services and advice to help support GKB during this time. I'm pleased to say we took them up on that offer and since then ALS has been a great support to help us successfully navigate many of the challenges we have faced – be it advice on corporation capacity building, Aboriginal heritage and environmental considerations associated with development proposals, improving industry standards or working with GKB on membership involvement.

Through our work with ALS it is clear that they are a business which has a strong commitment to helping achieve the best outcomes for Country, culture and community.

We look forward to continuing our work together over the coming years.”

- **Bruce Jorgensen**
CEO

AURECON



“I have worked with Bill and Nerilee Bennell for over two years now. They have implemented a cultural immersion program for us on the Bunbury Outer Ring Road project.

Bill has also been an extremely valuable strategic advisor to me on all things Aboriginal Participation and he authored our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan and helped to co-design the approach we took to develop the plan in collaboration with our Heritage Advisory Group made up of Wilman and Wadandi Elders.”

- **Nicole Walton**
Principal, Engagement and Change Advisory

SOUTH REGIONAL TAFE



“Career Tasters Program South West engaged with Aboriginal Land Services to provide a Bush Tucker Tour for a group of priority cohort students completing a Taste of Hospitality and Tourism Taster.

Bill, Nerilee and Summer provided an extremely informative tour offering students to Taste a variety of available bush foods along the way, explaining their purpose and importance to Aboriginal culture.

Their personal character, charm and story sharing to include bush and scientific knowledge was embraced by all.”

- **Marchelle Antonovich**
Program Coordinator (Career Taster)

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CONTACT US

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