

DISCUSSION PAPER | FACT SHEET

December 2020



Australian Government
Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation



The ILSC GROUP

PEOPLE. COUNTRY. OPPORTUNITY.

The National Indigenous Land and Sea Strategy

Under its key legislation, the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act 2005* (the ATSI Act) the ILSC must develop and regularly review and update National and Regional Indigenous Land and Sea Strategies (NILSS and RILSS).

The NILSS is the key policy document for the ILSC, setting out our three-to-five year strategic direction. The NILSS guides the performance and functions of the ILSC through identifying the relationships, strategies, opportunities and program mechanisms that the ILSC will use to meet its obligations under the ATSI Act. The RILSS, in turn, provide further detail on these strategic directions for each of the RILSS regions (Northern, Desert, South west and South east Australia).

The current NILSS and RILSS for 2019-2022 are the first to include the ILSC's new functions in relation to water-based interests and can be found here: <http://www.ilsc.gov.au/home/about/publications/>

Consultation

The NILSS and RILSS are developed in consultation with Indigenous Australians and organisations, with your input, the ILSC can tailor its strategy to meet the needs and aspirations of the Indigenous Estate.

While **water-based interests** are new to the ILSC, we have been making inroads by partnering with Indigenous corporations in sea-based projects. To date we have invested over \$10 million, with more in the pipeline. Inland (fresh) waters present unique challenges for Indigenous Australians and for the ILSC in terms of how it can assist. These include (but aren't limited to) water scarcity, regulatory systems, costs, access and the lack of understanding of Indigenous water needs and uses. The ILSC wants to hear from you about your knowledge and experience of these challenges and how they have been, can be, and should be overcome.

We also want to hear from you on what should be our focus when it comes to **land and sea management** and the **carbon economy**. Recent bushfire and other environmental emergencies have highlighted both the need to mitigate human-induced climate change and the potential benefits of more widespread use of traditional management of country. At the same time, we want to hear from you about **the way we operate, and how we should operate**. The ILSC currently has a core-subsidiary model - is this the best way forward, or are there other strategic directions that would see us deliver on our purpose?

Get involved

Consultation on the NILSS is open for a six week period. You can:

- Email your comments or questions to NILSSConsultation@ilsc.gov.au
- Call Rebecca Hayden or Tom Stead (ILSC Policy) **(08) 8100 7100** or **1800 818 490** to relay your comments
- Contact us by email or phone (above) to request or participate in an online briefing and discussion session

CONSULTATION CLOSES ON 29TH JANUARY 2021.

Where to get more information

Throughout the consultation [Discussion Paper](#) we directly link to various resources. Additional detail on the ILSC - including the NILSS and RILSS - and our functions and activities can be found at www.ilsc.gov.au.

Updates on the consultation process, including key dates, will also be published on ILSC social media accounts.

What we will do with your feedback

The shared thoughts, experiences and knowledge received during consultation will be used to help develop a refreshed NILSS and RILSS which will in turn guide the ILSC operations. Once completed, these documents will be published online at the ILSC website: www.ilsc.gov.au.

