



FITZROY BASIN ASSOCIATION

Our country, Our future.

INDIGENOUS CULTURE

Capturing traditional knowledge

Social media has helped to harness the ancient oral history of indigenous people for contemporary audiences with the development of a series of short videos on country and ecology in central Queensland.

Making knowledge accessible

Fitzroy Basin Association developed a series of nine videos through the Traditional Ecological Knowledge project funded by Caring for our Country.

The short clips feature traditional owners talking about the cultural significance of different landscapes, and how different plants were used for practical purposes, food, and medicine.

FBA has been able to share their stories with the wider community through social media, education packs mailed to schools, and within FBA's public interpretive space, FLOW Visitor Centre.

Bill Mann shares his culture

Two videos feature Bill Mann, a Darumbal man who was recognised as the 2013 Central Queensland NAIDOC Elder of the Year.

The clips feature him talking about the cultural and ecological values of the Fitzroy River and Mt Archer in the Rockhampton region.

Mr Mann was recognised for being a significant elder in part due to his strong commitment to education and sharing indigenous culture with younger generations.

He says much of his knowledge was passed down to him from his father.

"I didn't realise he was teaching me all this traditional stuff, it was just sort of as we were walking around the bush or going around on horseback."

"And I studied the bush myself and learnt a lot of stuff just on my own," Mr Mann said.

"That's the sort of stuff I want to pass down to the younger generation because once we go, it's gone."



Safe-keeping heritage

As part of the project FBA also captured lengthier additional video recordings for safe storage in the Keeping Places cultural heritage database.

Keeping Places is a secure online database for sensitive information only accessible by indigenous people, designed to preserve traditional knowledge, both ecological and cultural, for future generations.



WATCH THE VIDEOS ONLINE AT:

www.fba.org.au

www.youtube.com/fitzroybasin

