



JERRINJA

Local Aboriginal Land Council

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MEDIA RELEASE: CULLUNGHUTTI LAND TENURES

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Over 2 years ago, Jerrinja LALC purchased 132 acres of land on Cullunghutti which was for sale on the open market. This was a historic and significant achievement, made possible with assistance from the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation, with further assistance from NSWALC.

Cullunghutti is one of the most culturally significant sites on the south coast, and it is an act of land justice that this part of the mountain was taken out of the private market and returned to Aboriginal ownership.

Our cultural obligation as custodians means this return of Country will allow us to protect this sacred site. We look forward to fulfilling our cultural obligations as custodians and have already commenced land management of our portion of the site. We have also secured funding from local and state governments for a holistic plan of management to cover both our and Shoalhaven City Council's landholdings on Cullunghutti, which we will progress this year. We look forward to working with NPWS, who have custodianship of the Aboriginal Area also on the mountain.

It is unclear why this freehold purchase 2 years ago has recently been promoted as news on social media. We understand there is public confusion regarding the multiple land tenures on the mountain, however our freehold acquisition is a separate matter, on a separate parcel of land, to the Aboriginal Area which was gazetted over a decade ago in recognition of the site's cultural significance. Regardless of legal ownership, Cullunghutti is a deeply sacred site and we would ask the public to respect that.