

Wind Song Peace Forest - Place centred climate action

We are making a submission to the review of the draft climate change action plan to highlight the connections with the Wind Song Peace Forest project in particular priority areas of information and knowledge and secondly the priority of adaption and resilience.

The Wind Song Peace Forest project provides a place situated example of creating agency to address climate change and protect biodiversity informed by First Nation caring for country knowledge keepers.

The purpose of the Wind Song Peace Forest is to provide an example that empowers young Tasmanians into action to tackle the climate and biodiversity crisis at a personal and community/ place level.

The caring for country model evolving on Wind Song has been developed through ongoing conversation with Tasmanian Aboriginal mentors along with thought leaders in the eco-system restoration, regenerative tourism, education and climate adaption communities.

First Nation land management direction has been provided throughout by cultural educator and on country knowledge keeper Linton Burgess with overarching guidance and direction from Tasmanian Aboriginal elder and cultural lore man Jim Everett -puralia meenamatta. Conversations with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community are informed by an open invitation to participate with relationship building at the heart of the restoration process.

Healing country actions have so far included site visits and ecological surveys, spatial mapping, storytelling film making, regenerative cultural tourism experiences, native seed collection and plant propagation. The project sequence is now moving into cultural burning of the restoration site and planting of the trees that will take place on Wind Song over Autumn and Winter 2023.

The benefits related to the priority are of Information and Knowledge

- Wind Song provides a demonstration site where youth and visitors can witness and participate first hand in the restoration process
- The Peace Forest provides a restoration sequence model
- The project is aligned with leaders in the Tasmanian ecosystem regeneration relationship network via partnership links with the Nipaluna Nursery and Land Care Tasmania
- Modelled on an experiential learning process
- Collaboration with Tasmanian First Nations caring for country knowledge keepers

The benefits related to the priority are of Adaption and Resilience

- Biodiversity and habitat restoration
- Addressing threatened and endangered species loss
- Sharing of First Nations caring for country skills and understandings
- Creating youth and community agency through shared purpose of caring for country
- Relationship building with First Nations community
- Enterprise and employment opportunities

Network of thought leaders and partners

Jim Everett cultural advisor and project mentor

Linton Burgess Caring for country advisor and co-designer

Tasmanian Adventures Ben. Rea. (Founder)

Destination Southern Tasmania CEO Alex Heroys. (Sponsor)

Wind Song owners Tom and Jane Tenniswood. (Partner)

Nipaluna Nursery Nel Smit. (Partner)

Youth Climate Leaders Program Nel Smit. (Partner)

Landcare Tasmania. CEO Peter Stronach. (Partner)

Ben Rea