

Artwork by Thomas Day

# Gunditj Mirring Partnership Project

## Cultural Features of the Budj Bim Landscape Wedge-tailed Eagle

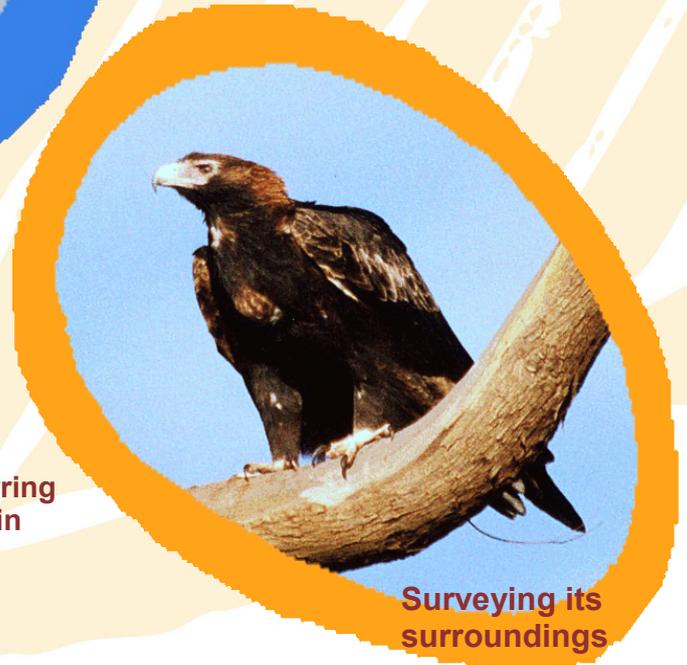
The Budj Bim Landscape extends from Mount Eccles National Park East of Heywood and along the associated lava flows to the coast. This is Gunditjmara country, the traditional lands of the Gunditjmara Nation. Cultural heritage and traditional ecological knowledge is very important throughout the region.



Soaring high

The Gunditjmara people have maintained their connection to country since European settlement. A native title claim was granted in 2007. Gunditjmara people manage ten properties in the Budj Bim area and have an integral role in managing the landscape.

The Gunditj Mirring Partnership Project has compiled examples of cultural heritage and indigenous ecological knowledge into fact sheets to share with the Gunditjmara community and the broader community. A Field Guide to Cultural Features of the Budj Bim Landscape is also available from Gunditj Mirring offices in Heywood and Glenelg Hopkins CMA offices in Hamilton.



Surveying its surroundings



and to

Wedge-tailed Eagle

The Wedge-tailed Eagle (*Aquila audax*) is the largest bird of prey in Australia.

With its unmistakable wedge-shaped tail and size it can be easily identified as a "Wedgie".

The Gunditjmara name is "Kneeanger".



Nestling

The Wedge-tailed Eagle is predominantly dark-coloured, brown or black. It has a wingspan of over 2m and a length up to 1.06m. Wedge-tails are found across Australia.

Their large strong beaks and sharp talons ensure that prey is caught, held and eaten. Since European settlement, hares and rabbits form a major part of their diet.

They are a highly aerial species. They will soar for hours with seemingly no effort and rise to heights of 2,000m. Their keen eyesight helps them spot prey allows them to see rising thermals, which they can use gain altitude while expending little energy.



A large wingspan

Photos: Bob Macpherson

Contact for more Information

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