Witjira Waru Pulka (Fire) Management Strategy 2018-2028

Witjira National Park

The Witjira National Park

The Witjira National Park is one of Australia’s last remaining tracts of arid riverine floodplain. The 787,170 hectares of the park and its surrounds includes the Witjira National Park, the NPY Country and the Southern Arrernte Country. The Witjira National Park is on the eastern edge of the great Australian Desert, and is the second largest national park in South Australia. The park is located about 500 km south-east of Adelaide, and 120 km south of the border town of Pooncarie.

Cultural significance

The Witjira National Park is of significant cultural and biological importance. The Witjira National Park, including the Mound Springs complex, is of significance for its traditional and cultural aspects. The Mound Springs complex is an important site for cultural and ceremonial activities, particularly for the Southern Arrernte and the Wangkangurru people. The park also contains a large number of significant cultural sites, including rock art, rock shelters, and archaeological sites.

Biodiversity significance

Witjira National Park contains a number of significant biological systems. The park contains a diverse range of flora and fauna, including a number of endangered species. The park is home to a number of important ecosystems, including floodplain wetlands, coastal salinity systems, and arid scrubland.

Post-contact heritage and culture

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The importance of fire

Cultural burning and fire management tool

Cultural burning is a traditional and important way of managing Country. The Witjira National Park is the second largest national park in South Australia. The park is located about 500 km south-east of Adelaide, and 120 km south of the border town of Pooncarie.

The Witjira Waru Pulka (Fire) Management Strategy seeks to be a teaching tool; highly valuable in the maintenance and understanding of fire management. It highlights the cultural and ecological importance of fire in managing Country. The strategy describes the burning practices developed by Aboriginal nations,叠加ed to develop and maintain sincere relationships with the Southern Arrernte and Wangkangurru people to enable the fire in managing Country.