



Media Release

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NEW DOCUMENTARY TO ENGAGE YOUNG ABORIGINAL TASMANIANS

A new documentary promoting Aboriginal land management in northern Tasmania aims to encourage young Aboriginal people to participate in natural resource management.

The documentary was officially launched today by the Community Development Minister, Nick McKim.

It was developed in partnership with natural resource management organisation NRM North and the Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania (ALCT).

The documentary was filmed and edited by local cameraman Ashley Dunn who was recently nominated for an Emmy Award.

Graeme Gardner from the ALCT said the documentary aimed to encourage young Aboriginal people to consider a career in the natural resource management field, especially in the Furneaux Group of islands.

"In recent years, there has been a minimal number of young Tasmanian Aborigines involved in natural resource management activities, especially in the remote Furneaux Group of islands.

"We wanted to find a way to engage with young Aboriginal people, to show them how they can reconnect with the land, take on a responsibility to look after it and learn more about its natural landscape and their culture." Mr Gardner said.

NRM North Chief Executive Officer, James McKee, said NRM North had not traditionally been involved in the production of documentaries, but believed this project was an effective way to engage with the Aboriginal community and to highlight the place of natural resources, such as land and water, in all our lives.

"The Aboriginal community has knowledge and skills in natural resource management we can all benefit from and it is crucial that this be maintained for the benefit of Tasmania and future generations.

"It is important for NRM North to draw on these values and incorporate this into its practices. It is also important for young Aboriginal people to maintain their connection to the land and engage in cultural practices." Mr McKee said.

This project has strengthened the partnership between NRM North and the ALCT, paving the way for future projects.

The two organisations also worked together on a photographic exhibition of Aboriginal Land Management for NAIDOC week.

The documentary is being distributed to the Aboriginal community, general community, schools and various land management groups.

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***** PLEASE NOTE:** NRM North should not be referred to as 'Natural Resource Management North.' While NRM does stand for Natural Resource Management, 'NRM North' is the official name of the organisation.