**FLINDERS RANGES**

**Pursuing the World Heritage potential**

**WHAT IS WORLD HERITAGE?**

World Heritage is cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of Outstanding Universal Value to all of humanity, both present and future generations. World Heritage Listing is the highest global recognition of the importance of a site.

There are three foundations to Outstanding Universal Value:

1. **Outstanding Universal Value**
2. **Integrity**
3. **Protection and Management**

A partnership approach is critical for a successful World Heritage nomination. The South Australian Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) is the lead organisation of the nomination process, in partnership with a range of agencies, experts and representatives that include:

- **Geological Survey of South Australia**
- **South Australian Museum**
- **ICZN technical advisers**
- **Geology and palaeontology experts**
- **Australian Federal Government**
- **Stakeholders and community including:**
  - Local Government
  - Traditional Owners
  - Tourist operators
  - Research and education representatives
  - Landowner representatives

**Achieving World Heritage Listing is a complex process that will take a number of years.**

World Heritage nomination needs to be prepared consistent with UNESCO World Heritage Operational Guidelines. Would only submit a nomination if absolutely confident it will succeed.

Would only submit a nomination if consistent with UNESCO World Heritage nomination needs to meet one or more of the three foundations.

- **Geological and palaeontological values of global significance.**
- A compelling story about the evolution of complex animal life on Earth, over a span of 500 million years, from the Precambrian to the Cambrian (~540-500 million years ago).
- There is no other place on Earth where the geological record, and especially the emergence of complex animal life, is so well preserved and accessible in a single depositional system (the ‘Adelaide Rift Complex’).

**WHY ARE WE TALKING ABOUT WORLD HERITAGE IN THE FLINDERS RANGES?**

- These outstanding values will be pursued against World Heritage criteria (i.e. be outstanding examples representing major stages of Earth’s history, including the record of life, significant ongoing geological processes, the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features).
- Pursuing World Heritage Listing for geological and palaeontological values provides a platform to celebrate and share, on a global scale, the rich cultural, environmental and social values and connections that contribute to the Flinders Ranges identity and story.

**“The oldest reef-forming animals on Earth”**

**“The world’s greatest known record of the Ediacaran explosion of life”**

**“A comprehensive record of the Cambrian explosion of life”**

**“Evidence of changing climates and atmospheric support of life”**

**WHAT IS INVOLVED IN A WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION?**

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**Technical Process**

- **Achieving World Heritage inscription**
  - Evidence based
  - Technically rigorous
  - Groundwork to test the proposition - is it worth pursuing?

- **Refining the World Heritage narrative**
  - Tentative Listing
  - Defining the property - a serial property with a number of component parts
  - Preparing the nomination document
  - Independent evaluation

- **Community and Stakeholder Engagement**
  - Exploring the benefits and opportunities of World Heritage status for the Flinders Ranges community and broader region
  - Develop a shared understanding of the property and shared responsibility for its future
  - A community centric process to shape and make opportunities that may come from World Heritage Listing
  - Ongoing conversations
  - What kind of future does the community share the rich values and identity of the Flinders Ranges with the world?

- **Integrating community**
  - Shared benefit
  - Resilient region
  - Diversified and resilient economy

- **Infrastructure**
  - Partnerships
  - Local Government
  - Traditional Owners
  - Research and education representatives
  - Landowner representatives

- **Invasive species**
  - Impacted natural and cultural values
  - Present and potential

- **Valued Beneﬁts**
  - Improved biodiversity and protection
  - Improved landscapes and access
  - Improved social and economic development

- **Resilient region as a platform**
  - High-value destination
  - Promoting Australia as a destination

**Outstanding Universal Value**

- Ten very specific criteria
  - Six cultural
  - Four natural

- Does the property include all the elements necessary to convey the property’s significance?
- What is the condition of the property?
- Are adequate measures in place to ensure the values are safeguarded over time and presented to future generations?

All three foundations must be in place for a property to be judged as of Outstanding Universal Value.