



Indigenous Epistemologies for Land Tellings, Restoration, and Change.

Glen Canyon Monitoring and Research Center and Reclamation Annual Meeting
January 12, 2022

Dr. Doreen E. Martinez, Associate Professor
Colorado State University



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New research reveals spatial alignment between grizzly bear genetic groups and Indigenous language families in coastal British Columbia

Released on August 3, 2021



Photo by Michelle Valberg.

ancient Indigenous consciousness



* discusses a process of knowing that honors and integrates the past; embeds reciprocity of the present and encapsulates a responsibility to the future.




Land Tellings for Restoration and Change

- Indigenous Epistemologies
 - Seeing
 - Being-with (relatives and responsibilities; dirty theory)
- Natural Reason and Natural Law
 - Land as Pedagogy: learn *from* and learn *with*
- Deep logic and deep co-existence
 - Snow

Indigenous Consciousness: Ancient Being-With

- However, I argue that Indigenous consciousness expands and adds to these oppositional ideologies because it recognizes and acknowledges a consciousness that existed prior to “dominant ideologies.”





Indigenous Beliefs

* Because everything in the [I]ndigenous world is interrelated ... All forces, both animate and inanimate, must be taken into account in order... to remain in good health -physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually (Lobo and Talbot 1998:366).

Indigenous Ways of Knowing

- * exploring how knowledge and knowledge expectations (also known as science) are practiced.
 - * in content; listening to the wind
 - * in process (move the plant)
 - * promote system changes and ultimately overall systems health for people, places and animals

'We come from the stars': How Indigenous peoples are taking back astronomy



Astronomers turn to teaching Indigenous star stories from around the world



[Nicole Mortillaro](#) · CBC News · Posted: Mar 30, 2019 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: March 30, 2019



The northern lights shine over Wood Buffalo National Park during the Thebacha and Wood Buffalo Astronomical Society's Dark-Sky Festival. (Nicole Mortillaro/CBC)

Deep
coexistence
Seeks
knowings for
stewardship

Principles and Practices of Indigeneity aka Being Radical



This land is your land

**A pod of orcas is starving
to death. A tribe has a
radical plan to feed them**

An orca surfaces off
San Juan Island,
Washington.
Photograph: Matthew
Ryan Williams/The
New York Times via
eyevine

Radical Indigeneity: Multiplying Knowledges, Serving the Collective

- Tellings
 - Who are your knowers?
 - Where is knowing offered?
 - Land tellings (land is more than land)
- Change as adaptation as natural, necessary
- Exponential realities

"You're not the boss of me" ~ Tatanka



SCIENCE

Why Scientists Are Starting to Care About Cultures That Talk to Whales

Arctic people have been communicating with cetaceans for centuries. The rest of the world is finally listening in

Krista Langlois, Hakai Magazine

April 6, 2018



"Tattooed Whale, 2016" by Tim Pitsiulak. Screen-print on Arches Cover Black. Reproduced with the permission of Dorset Fine Arts

From the Himalayas to the Arctic, traditional herders are sharing knowledge to cope with a changing climate

Yak, reindeer and entire ways of life in the “Third Pole” and Scandinavia face new threats in a warming world. Gloria Dickie reports.





Native Knowledge: What Ecologists Are Learning from Indigenous People

From Alaska to Australia, scientists are turning to the knowledge of traditional people for a deeper understanding of the natural world. What they are learning is helping them discover more about everything from melting Arctic ice, to protecting fish stocks, to controlling wildfires.

BY JIM ROBBINS • APRIL 26, 2018

How do we
know what
we know?

🕒 FEBRUARY 27, 2019

Indigenous knowledge key to a successful ecosystem restoration

by Autonomous University of Barcelona



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

Ecological restoration projects actively involving indigenous peoples and local communities are more successful. This is the

Knowing
through
Seeing
through
Being-With

19 OCT 2018 - 4:24PM

The resonances between Indigenous art and images captured by microscopes



IMAGE

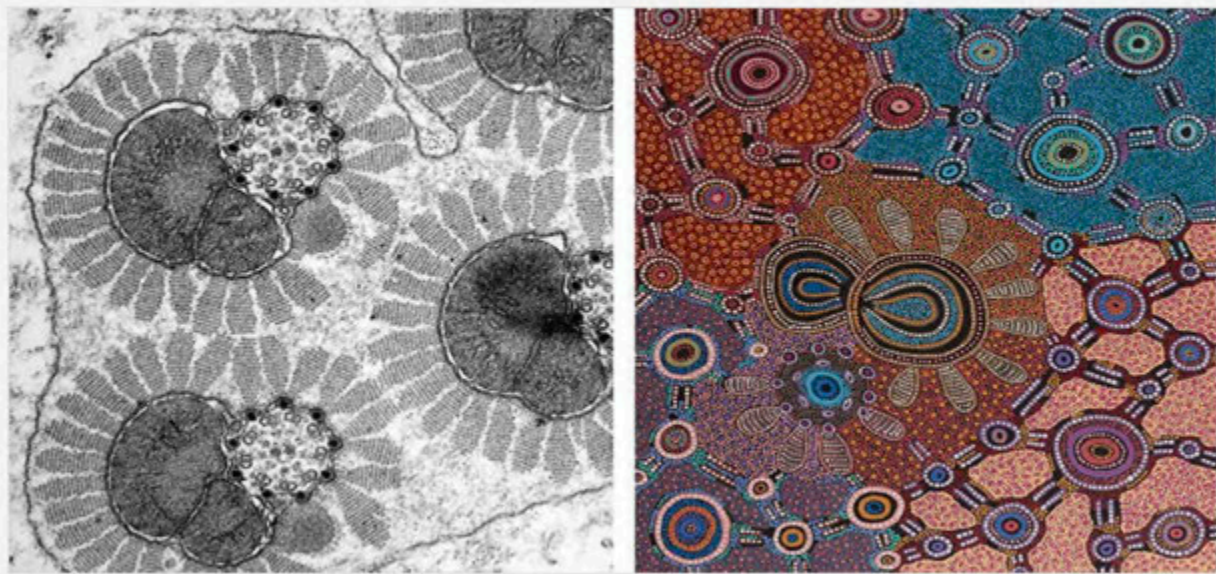
VIDEO

AUDIO

A new exhibition pairs paintings by Indigenous Australian artists with microscopic images captured by scientists. The parallels are intriguing.

Bimoo country (artist Gordon Barney) and white ochre

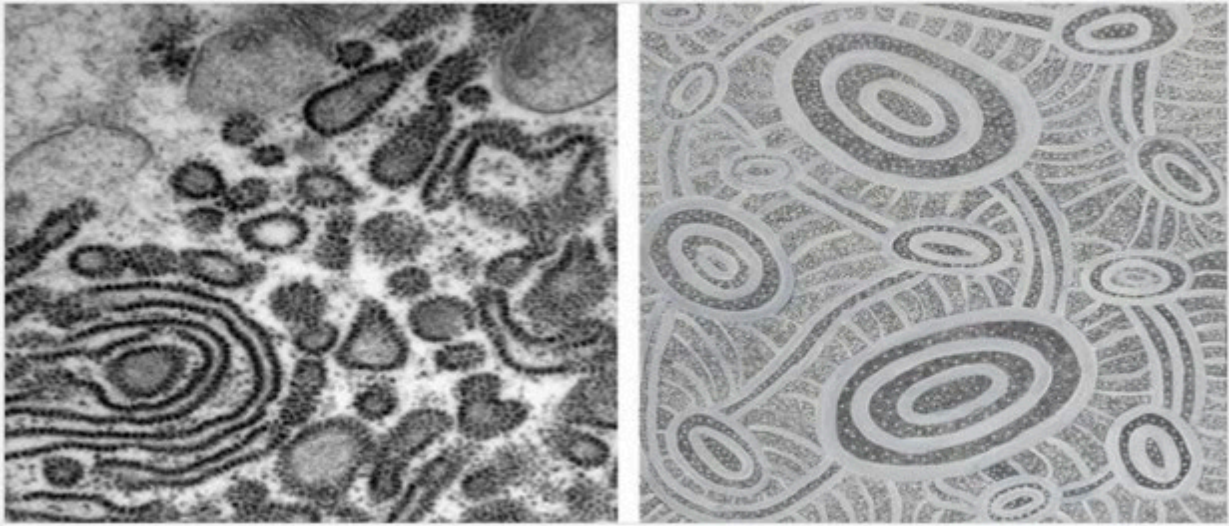
The overlapping plates of the ochre mineral are reminiscent of the rows of hills in Gordon's country.



Moth Sperm and Witchetty Grub Dreaming.

Witchetty grub dreaming (artist Jennifer Napaljarri Lewis) and moth sperm

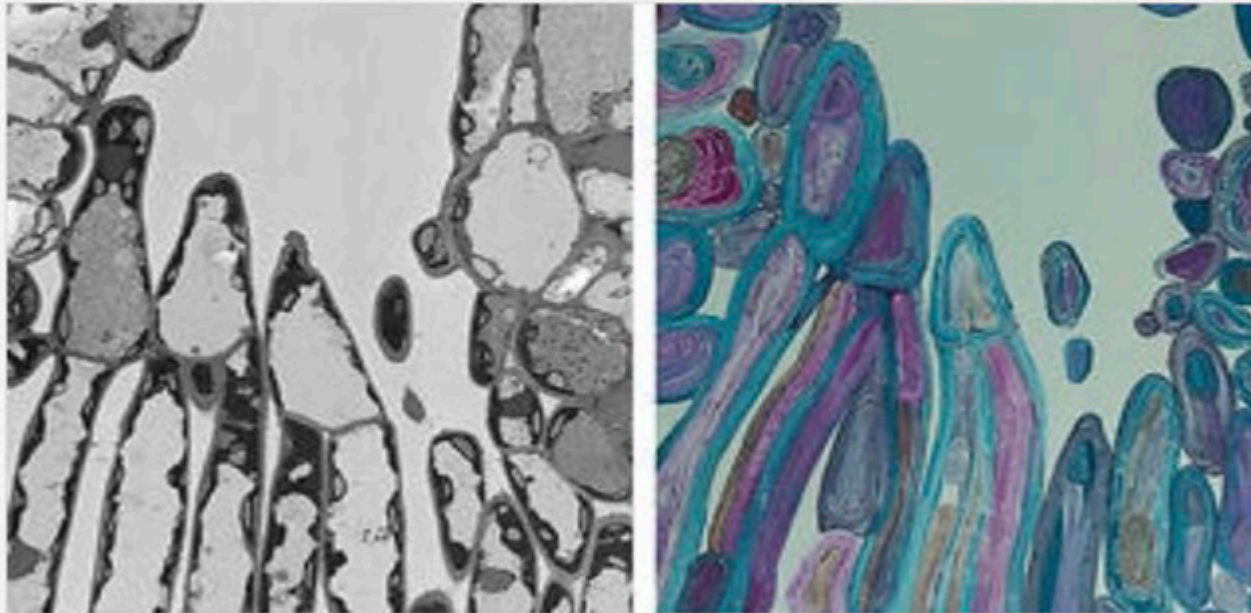
Jennifer's painting shows women collecting witchetty grubs. These can be eaten at all stages of their life cycles. Without the structures shown in the micrograph, sperm wouldn't function and moths' life cycle would be broken.



Ribosomes and Janganpa Jukurrpa.
Source: University of Sydney/Warlukurlangu Artists of Yuendumu

Sandhills dreaming (artist Vanessa Nampijinpa Brown) and atoms in quartz

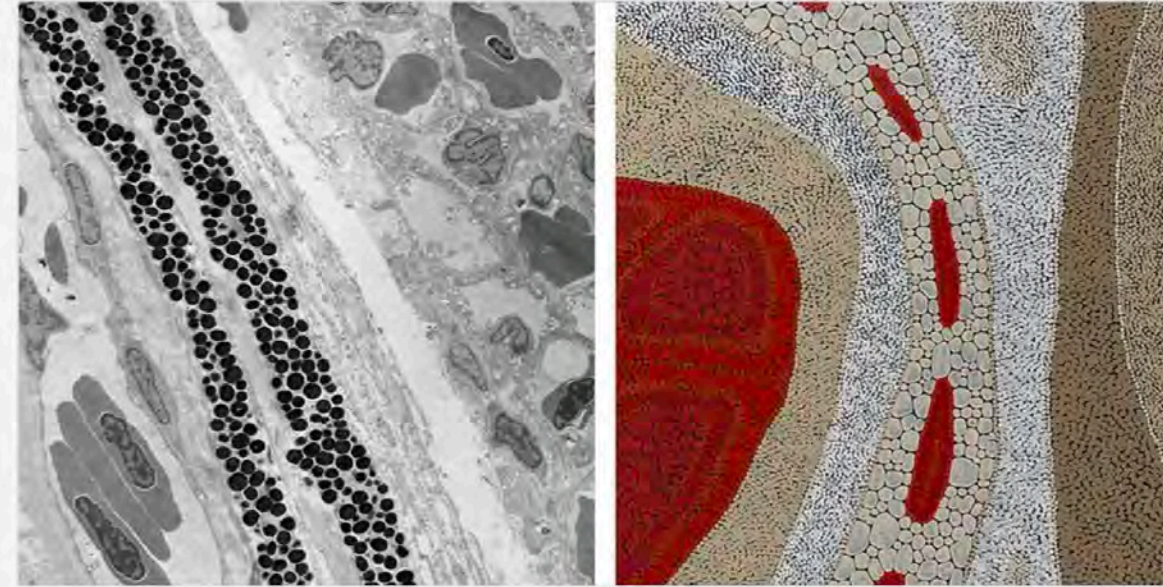
The crystal structure revealed in the micrograph is fundamental to the sand making up the sandhills that Vanessa paints in her story.



Gum Leaf and Gathering Bush Tucker.

Gathering bush tucker (artist Kerry Madawyn McCarthy) and gum leaf cells

The cells in this gum leaf are reminiscent of the rocks and coastal landscape of Kerry's painting. Her people move through the landscape to collect food just as carbon dioxide moves through the leaf spaces to cells, where it is converted to food for the plant.



Fish Eye – Blood Flow and Dry River Bed.

Feed the Curious: the Great Mystery

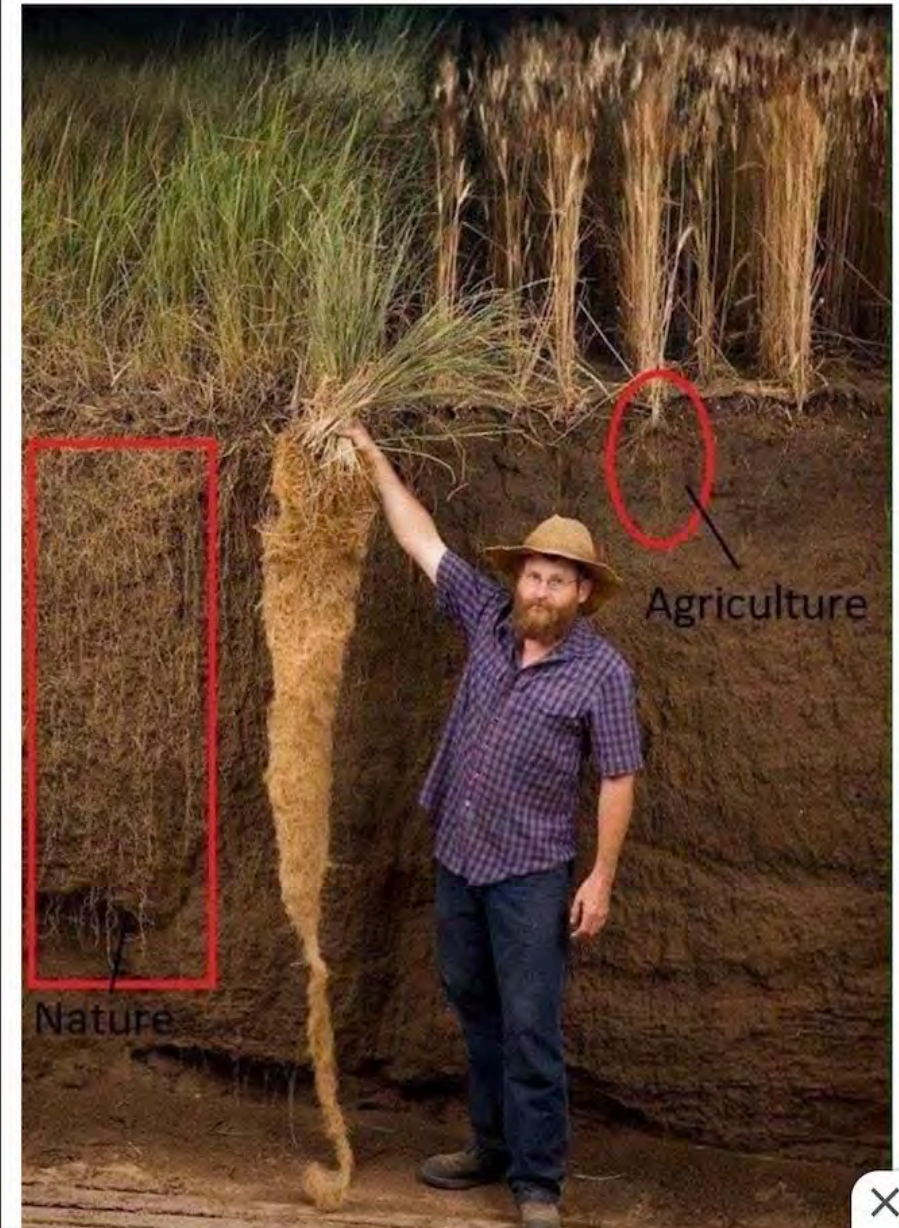


Southern theory – “Our interest as researchers is to maximize the wealth of materials that are drawn into the analysis and explanation. It is also our interest to multiply, rather than slim down, the theoretical ideas that we have to work with. ... that includes multiplying the local sources of our thinking.”
Connell

Land Knowings, Lessons and Truths: Generalizable, Specific, and Necessary

- Agriculture
 - Agriculture heritage
 - Land practices
- Acre
- Salmon

11. Comparison of the root system of prairie grass vs agricultural. The removal of these root systems is what lead to the dust bowl when drought arrived.





Knowings and Adaptation

- Personhood Status
 - values and beliefs
- Rights of Nature
- Firehawks
- Food Sovereignty
- Land mitigation and restoration

Innovative bill protects Whanganui River with legal personhood

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Originally published: 28 March 2017

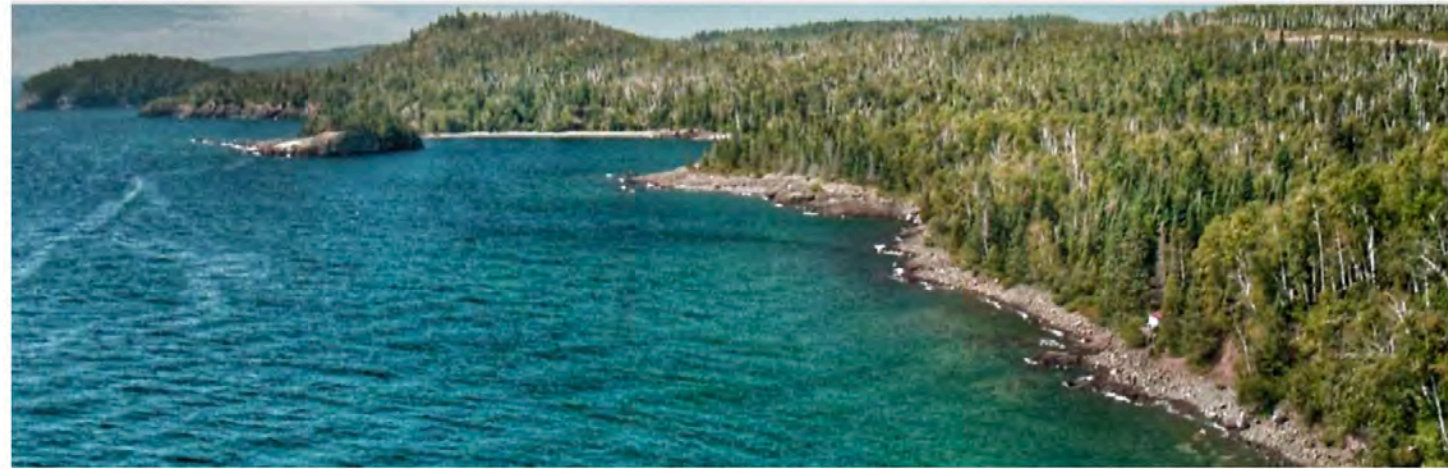
Last updated: 28 March 2017

Earlier this month, Parliament passed a historic bill to recognise the special relationship between the Whanganui River and Whanganui iwi. It will also provide for the river's long-term protection and restoration by making it a person in the eyes of the law.



River flowing through the Whanganui National Park

Adaptation and Change



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Posted on **September 19, 2018**

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Ho-Chunk Nation General Council Approves Rights of Nature Constitutional Amendment

*First Tribal Nation to Advance Rights-Based Constitutional Framework to Protect
Nature*

Australian 'firehawks' use fire to catch prey

By Julia John

Posted on February 9, 2018



A raptor flies approaches the burning savanna in Australia's Northern Territory. ©Bob Gosford



Firehawks: Nature's Arsonists

YouTube · SciShow

Oct 19, 2019

Cool Green Science *Smarter By Nature*

About Nature.o



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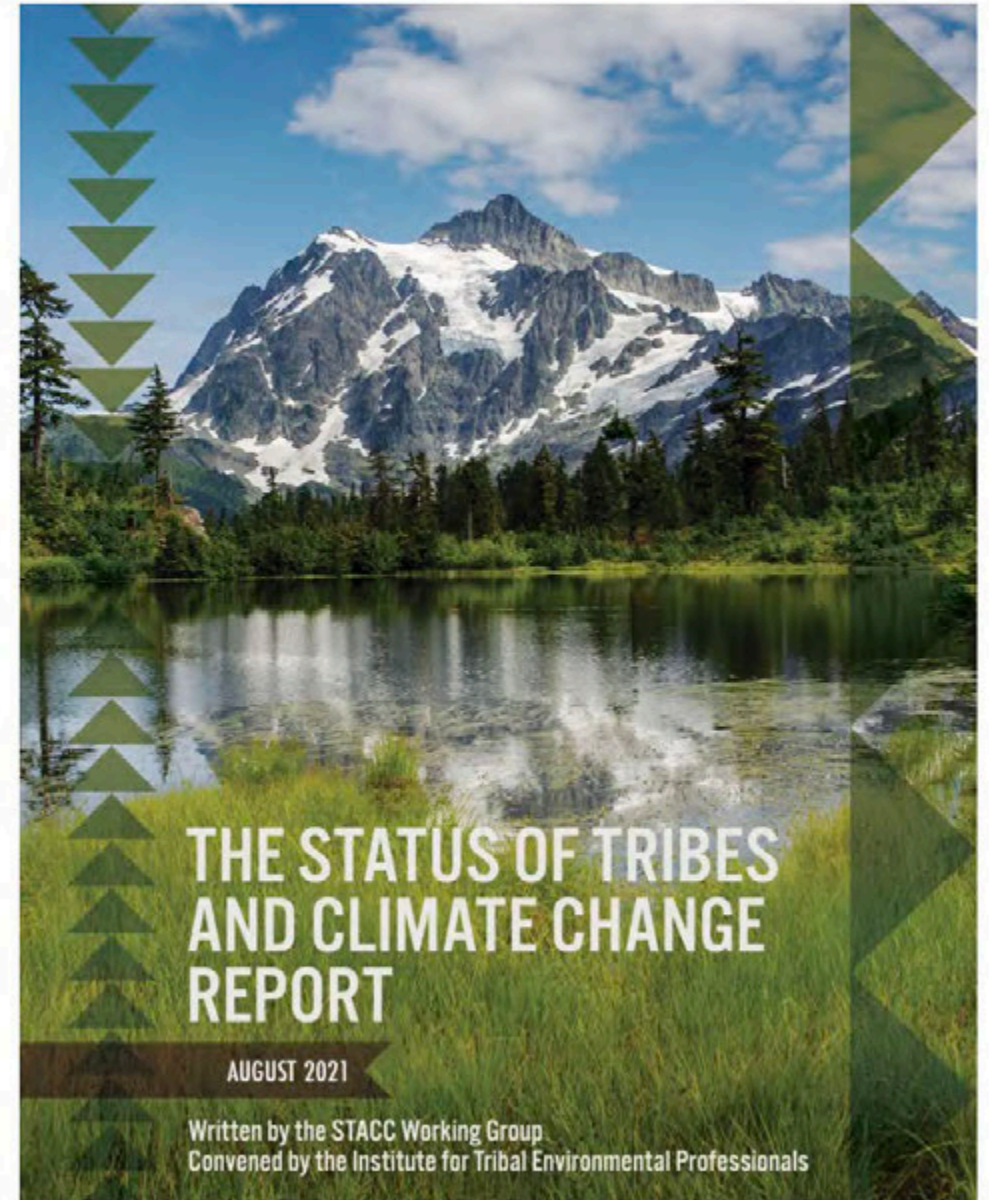
Australian "Firehawk" Raptors Intentionally Spread Wildfires

BY JUSTINE E. HAUSHEER

JANUARY 12, 2018 | [Follow Justine](#)



Knowings and Adaptation: Humility, Generosity and Respect



Knowings and Adaptation: Humility, Generosity and Respect

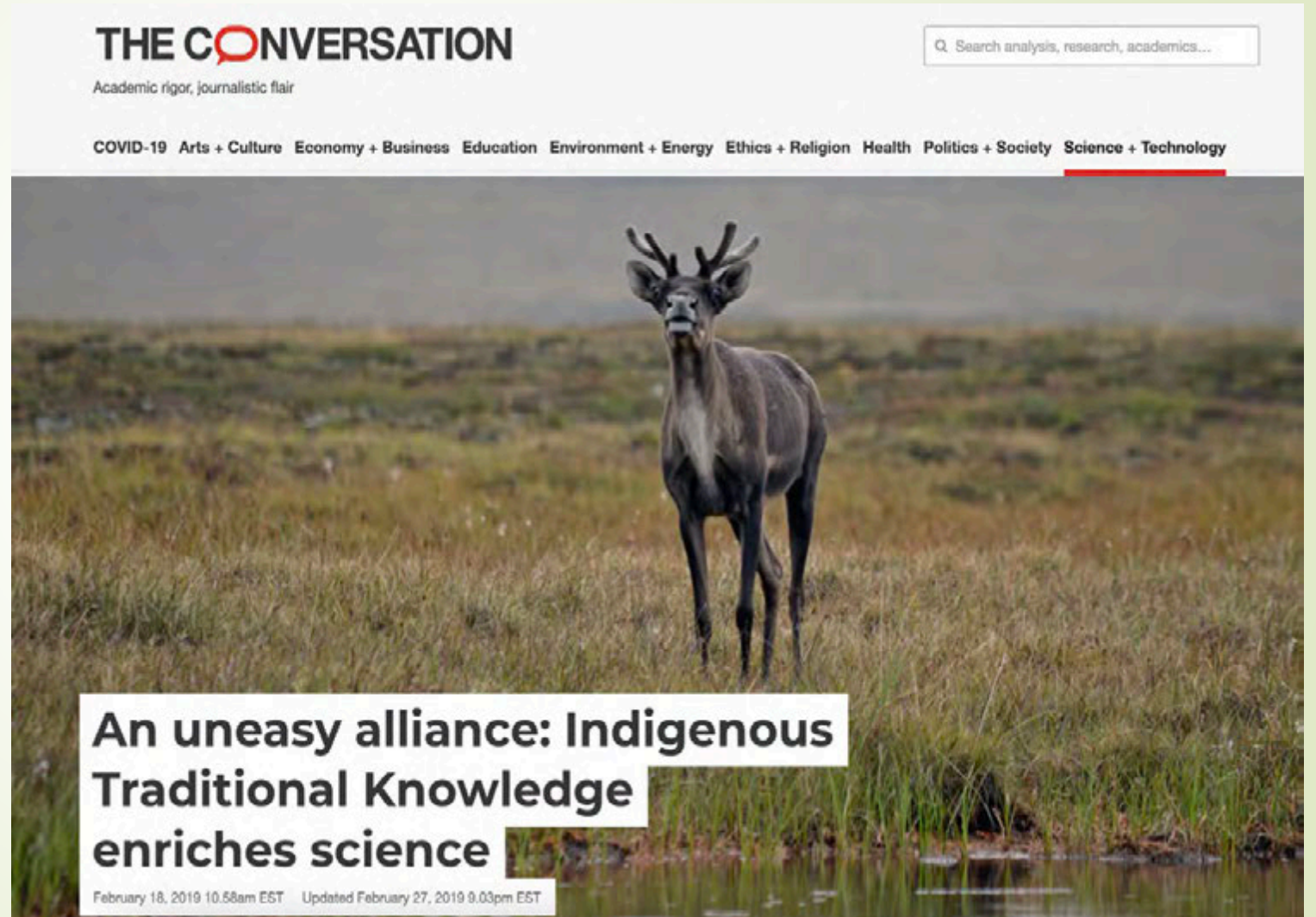
Indigenous Peoples launch self-determined agenda at IUCN World Conservation Congress

Marseille, France, 03 September 2021 (IUCN) – IUCN's Indigenous Peoples Member Organisations today called for the recognition of Indigenous peoples' rights and governance over their lands and resources. The call is part of a global agenda of Indigenous priorities for conservation action that was presented during the IUCN World Summit of Indigenous Peoples and Nature, held at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Marseille.

PRESS RELEASES



Avoid knowledge extraction



Questions?



RAYMOND HENNESSY / BIRD PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR