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Connection to Country – Pedler Creek Bridge

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The Main South Road duplication project – Seaford to Aldinga showcases a rich history of place and shares the enduring connection to Country of its traditional owners—the Kaurna people.

The project's urban design elements, including bridges and underpasses, have provided a canvas for Kaurna art and storytelling.

The Aboriginal urban art project brings these stories to life for locals and visitors to the region, fostering continued learning and sharing of First Nations culture and history.

Aboriginal co-design

There was strong input from the Kaurna people to make sure that the cultural and spiritual values of Traditional Owners were embedded into the new build environment on their Country.

Kaurna elders and members of their community were involved in all aspects of the design, artwork creation, and ensuring that the final pieces and their placement were culturally appropriate.



Artwork fixed to the Pedler Creek bridge, along the SUP

The Pedler Creek bridge canvas

Pedler Creek bridge is a new four-lane bridge over Pedler Creek in Seaford, south of Adelaide. It was determined that the balustrade on the bridge would showcase Kaurna culture, using perforation and patterns.



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The aim of this artwork is to celebrate the Kaurna connection to Country and local rivers. It is part of a cohesive design that flows from nearby structures, with a theme of traditional fishing.

The artwork runs alongside a Shared Use Path (SUP) over the Pedler Creek bridge, allowing the many walkers and cyclists to enjoy these aspects of Kaurna culture.

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The story of traditional fishing

The steel panels on the western side of the bridge feature images of Kaurna men engaging in traditional fishing practices.

These men are situated in chest high water and are using the netting as a tool to provide fresh food for their families. The steel 'netting' also features images of the local fish that were caught.

The imagery is a subtle yet powerful reminder for those travelling over the new bridge that the Kaurna people have been working the land in this region and caring for Country for thousands of years. As the sun sinks to the west, the images of the men and their catch are shown in shadow form for those using the bridge.



The artwork in shadow on the SUP

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- Email <u>info@fcalliance.com.au</u>
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