



I recently had the honour of attending the Jawun Secondment round three induction week on the rich and sacred ancestral homelands of the Miriwoong Gajerrong peoples (Kununurra, East Kimberley). During my weeklong venture, it was apparent the Jawun Secondment Program empowers secondees to have deep and insightful experiences, characterised by an innate trust to hear and hold the stories, history and hardships of regions throughout their secondment and well into their futures. These opportunities are constructed from the openness and trust which is the culmination of over 12 years of strong relationships with regions and partner organisations. A relationship that meaningfully delivers; a welcome departure from Australia's long history of broken promises.

This life changing experience was incredibly moving; inevitable when you encounter people and places that have a profound and lasting impact on you, and your heart. It is bittersweet, but a small price to pay for the richness of connecting and simply being in more place than one. I will be returning to a partner region in round four 2022 to tackle my unfinished business from Induction, and provide a genuine and meaningful contribution to community-led initiatives and outcomes through a full secondment experience.

- Hayley Vincent

