



## **Dr Anne Poelina**

**Master Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Master Education, Master Arts (Indigenous Social Policy), Doctor of Philosophy.**

Dr Anne Poelina, Managing Director of Madjulla Incorporated, is a Nyikina Traditional Custodian from the Mardoowarra, Lower Fitzroy River in the West Kimberley region of Western Australia.

Through her wide experience from working in Indigenous health, education, language and community development for over 30 years she has developed a deep understanding of issues impacting on Indigenous Australians living in remote locations. Her childhood growing up in Broome, Derby and out on country has given her the love and respect for land, law and culture particularly in relation to creating industries that are culturally affirming and environmentally sustainable.

Dr Poelina has studied the historical colonial context of development in the West Kimberley and how it impacts on contemporary Indigenous participation in decision making, governance, land and water reform. Dr Poelina explores the characteristics of different models of development in relation to the impact and outcomes for Indigenous people in the West Kimberley, particularly in relation to developing green collar jobs in the culture and conservation economy.

Dr Poelina was a finalist in the WA Rural Woman of the Year 2010, a 2011 Peter Cullen Fellow for Water Leadership and is a signatory to the Redstone Statement that she helped draft at the 1<sup>st</sup> International Summit on Indigenous Environmental Philosophy in 2010. In 2011 she was the Inaugural Chair of the First Peoples Water Engagement Council and later the same year she was elected onto the Broome Shire Council and became Deputy Shire President in her first term of office.

In 2014 she was elected as Director to the newly formed Walalakoo Prescribed Body Corporate responsible for the integrated management of 27 000 sqkms of Nyikina and Mangala Native Title lands and waters. Dr Poelina was nominated as the Case Study Leader for Kimberley Case Study – Canning Super Basin, Fonds Pacifique Water Governance Project in collaboration with ANU.

Dr Poelina is an Adjunct Senior Research Fellow with Notre Dame University and a Research Fellow with Northern Australia Institute Charles Darwin University, and a Councillor with the Australian Conservation Foundation.