



# Environmental Defenders Office

## WANT TO PROTECT YOUR COUNTRY AND CULTURE?

### CONTACT THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS OFFICE

Call us on **1800 626 239** and press **1** or visit our website at  
[www.edo.org.au](http://www.edo.org.au) to apply for free advice

The Environmental Defenders Office (EDO) provides free legal education and advice, runs legal cases and advocates for better laws to help build a world where nature thrives. We are not a government body or political organisation. We are an independent national Community Legal Centre.

**EDO acknowledges the unique rights of First Nations to maintain and protect their Country, natural resources and Cultural Heritage. We work on our clients' behalf to:**



Protect Country & Culture



Advocate for water justice



Promote healthy communities



Save wildlife and habitat



Fight climate change

#### **What legal problems can EDO help with?**

Depending on what your legal problem is, EDO might give you legal advice or information, or we might represent you and take legal action on your behalf. This can include going to court.

We **can** help you with lots of different areas of law, including:

- Cultural Heritage
- Major development and infrastructure
- Mining, fracking and energy (including off-shore oil and gas)
- Logging and other vegetation clearing
- Pollution and waste
- Access, use and protection of water including rivers and oceans
- Access to information about government decisions impacting your Country
- Corporate and government conduct

We **can't** help you with

- Native Title
- Commercial negotiations with developers
- Private disputes

1800 626 239

[first.nations.program@edo.org.au](mailto:first.nations.program@edo.org.au)

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## How do we work?

EDO is a national organisation, with offices across Australia. We also have a dedicated specialist First Nations and Country and Cultural Heritage team. This team provides advice to and represents First Nations clients, communities and organisations. If EDO can't help with the area of law you are asking about, we will try to find you another lawyer who can.

EDO recognises the unceded sovereignty of First Nations people and their inherent right to self-determination and control of their lands and waters. We also respect the collective nature of First Nations rights and interests in Country and Cultural Heritage and the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent. We provide culturally safe services and will securely protect any Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property (ICIP) that you chose to provide when dealing with us.

## Examples of how EDO can help First Nations clients, communities & organisations to protect Country and Cultural Heritage:

- provide advice about water frameworks, plans and allocations
- prepare applications to protect Cultural Heritage under the *Federal Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984*
- run court challenges about government decisions impacting on Country (including water) and/or Cultural Heritage
- draft submissions under Federal or State environmental approval processes
- draft submissions to government about proposed changes to laws and policies about Cultural Heritage and environmental laws

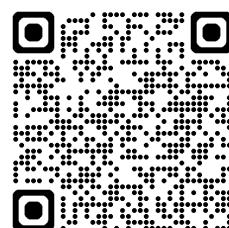
## How to contact us:

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✉️ Email us at [first.nations.program@edo.org.au](mailto:first.nations.program@edo.org.au)

If you prefer to speak a language other than English, we can use an interpreter or translator where available to understand your concern and provide legal advice.

We'd love to have a yarn with you and help wherever we can.

Visit our website at [www.edo.org.au](http://www.edo.org.au)  
OR scan the QR Code here to visit our First Nations Program.



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