

## What is EMS anyway?

## Context

Environmental Management & Stewardship (EMS) has emerged as a way to engage Indigenous Peoples in managing and stewarding ecosystems. EMS can help resolve ecological degradation by creating balance between our economic, social and ecological systems. Instead of valuing ecosystems for economic values alone, we are now recognising the full range of services ecosystems provide, including clean air and clean water.

## **Key Elements**

- A. 'Environmental Management & Stewardship' (EMS) is an approach that recognizes ecosystems as complex systems that require active management and stewardship to reverse degradation.
- B. Ecosystems provides important services to all creatures on Earth, such as food, clean water, clean air and climate regulation. For a long time the value of these services were ignored and it led to overexploitation and chronic degradation.
- C. Now that we understand the true value of ecosystems, we are exploring opportunities to support Indigenous Peoples to engage in the management and stewardship of ecosystems to bring these back into health and balance.
- D. EMS offers a diversified and sustainable livelihood for Indigenous Peoples. These programs have also been shown to produce positive health and wellbeing outcomes for participants.



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