ABORIGINAL PEOPLE SHOULD BE LEADING THE WAY IN TRADITIONAL BURNING.

Unfortunately, Western education has taught our government agencies some wrong things. They don't understand how to read country. They don't have the connection that we have to country that makes us accountable for how things are done. And there's a lot they don't understand spiritually with our fire stories and our dreamtime stories.

There's no better feeling than being out on country with your mobs and your kids and looking after the land. Spiritually and for our cultural lives, it's important the land knows that we are still here.

FOR ONCE IN THIS NATION'S HISTORY, WE NEED TO HAVE THE NUMBER ONE SAY IN HOW COUNTRY IS LOOKED AFTER. I AM CERTAINLY NO EXPERT BUT I KNOW ENOUGH TO DO THINGS CORRECTLY AND SPIRITUALLY THE RIGHT WAY. PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IS, AND MUST BE, THE WAY TO GO.

ABORIGINAL LAND

IT'S VITAL THAT WE NOT ONLY TEACH ADULTS AND PRIVATE LANDHOLDERS, BUT ALSO GET IT INTO OUR SCHOOL SYSTEM AND START TEACHING SOME OF THOSE YOUNG UNS HOW TO CARE FOR THE LAND.

JASON ANDREW SMITH
PALAWA MAN
CULTURAL BURNING EDUCATOR AND FIRE PRACTITIONER

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES HAVE STILL GOT A LOT TO LEARN, BUT I THINK IN THIS CONVERSATION THEY ARE STARTING TO LISTEN, AND THEY WILL TRY TO START SUPPORTING US IN DIFFERENT WAYS.