



Kathryn Ridge

- Solicitor Director, Law & Policy, Ridge & Associates Pty Ltd, Australia

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

- 2006 - Present Solicitor Director, Ridge & Associates Pty Ltd
- 2004 - 2006 Associate, Shaw Reynolds Pty Ltd
- 2003 - 2004 Solicitor, Phillips Fox Pty Ltd
- 2002 - 2003 Associate, Chief Judge, Land & Environment Court

BIOGRAPHY

An energetic and effective lawyer with a strong policy background and track record on delivering public interest outcomes across sectors. Kathryn has strong strategic skills and advocacy skills with a proven capacity to deliver complex law and policy reforms. She regularly defends South Coast Aboriginal People from fishery criminal charges. To date all defences have succeeded, and a recent legislative amendment occurred to ensure that fishery officers exclude the possibility of cultural and native title fishing before approaching Aboriginal people regarding suspected fishery offences.

She has worked with consortiums of universities, environment groups, and aboriginal organisations to deliver landscape scale rehabilitation opportunities, such as Gayini, and worked to design the first social impact investment in the environment, the Murray Darling Basin Balanced Fund. This builds on an initiative of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, the Environmental Water Trust.

Kathryn is currently a Stage 3 doctoral candidate at University of Technology, Sydney, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Her doctoral research examines how successive colonial governments have given effect to the rights of Aboriginal Peoples' with respect to natural resources (cultural heritage, fisheries and water) in three different Aboriginal Nation contexts, Quandamooka People, South Coast People and Nari Nari Peoples.