

# Undanbi Natural Resources



Mount Coolum is certainly of significance to indigenous people.

Doreen Monklands, a full blood Aboriginal once living in Coolum, emphasized its significance to her by saying that going on to Mount Coolum was like walking on someone's grave. Although she had climbed the mountain, she stated that it was a place to be quiet and no fires should be lit on the top.

Windolf, F & J (2004)

## 7.6 Recommendation

Key metaphor for Conceptual Art Framework is the parallel with traditional and current place based ceremonies and festivals and the importance of connective paths that nourish our senses and enjoy a meaningful purpose linking important places. Legend of Mt Coolum and the natural landform and axis at JMP to inform an art project.

Art and design connected with the Heart of Coolum at Jack Morgan Park see pg. 13)

Legends explained their creation by the dreaming heroes.

Many years ago, a beautiful Aboriginal girl named Maroochy was in love with a member of her tribal group named Coolum. Their union had the sanction of the tribal elders.

One day a mighty aboriginal warrior named Ninderry, who belonged to a fierce and warlike tribal group, which lived some miles away, stole Maroochy while Coolum was off hunting.

Infuriated, Coolum and his men set off in pursuit. They caught up with Ninderry and his follower before sundown, but fearing to remonstrate with such fierce warriors, Coolum decided not to demand the return of his love as custom decreed. Instead, that night Coolum crept into camp where Ninderry was sleeping and, freeing Maroochy from her bonds, fled with her towards his home territory.

On the following day, greatly angered by Coolum's cowardly trick, Ninderry and his followers chased after the fleeing lovers. The giant Aboriginal warrior, Ninderry, threw a huge club at Coolum, knocking off his head into the sea. (Mudjimba Island)

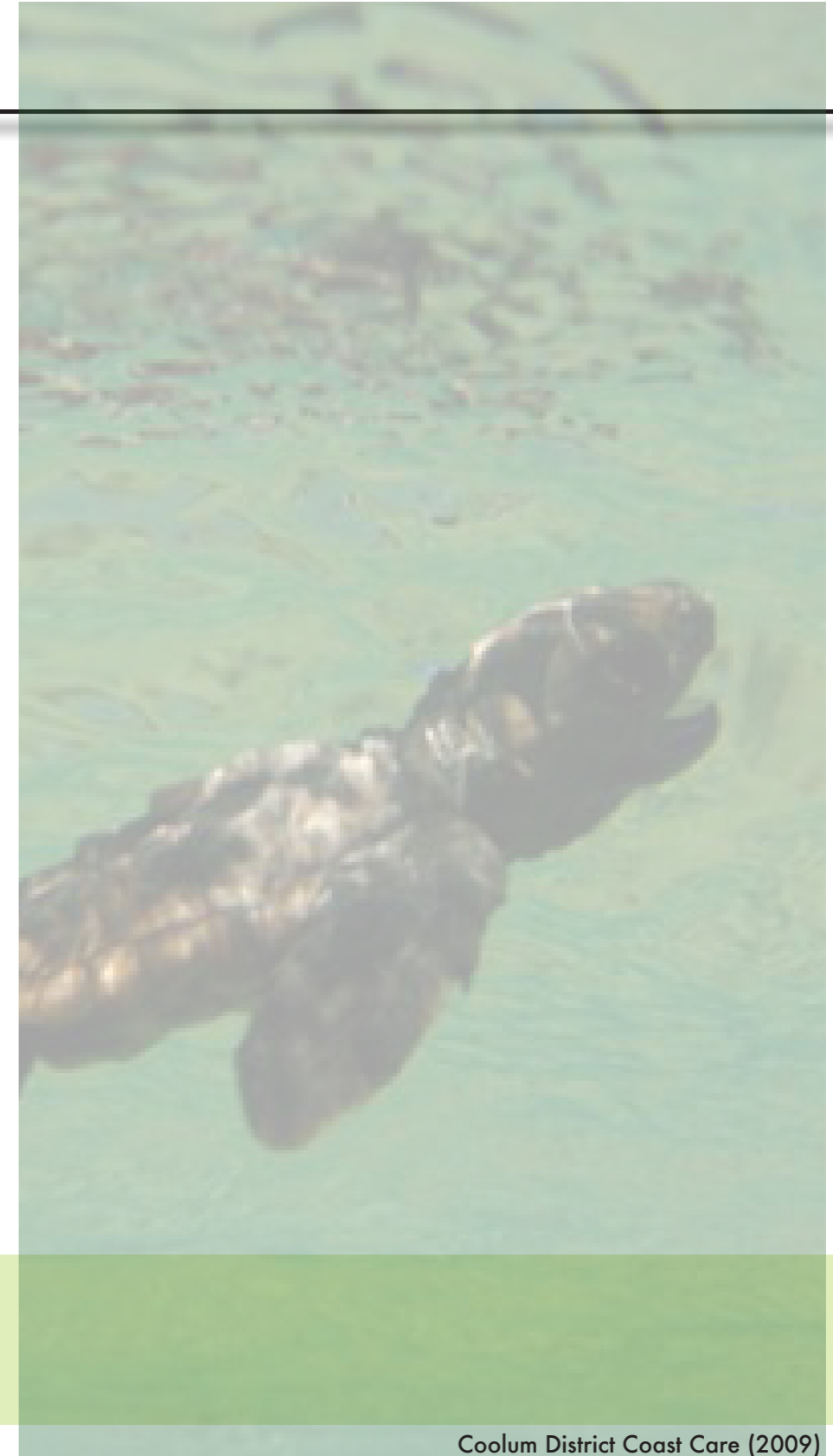
Incensed by Ninderry's foul and treacherous deed, the Spirit God struck down at Ninderry from the sky, and turn him into stone.

Filled with sorrow at the loss of both her suitors, Maroochy fled to the Blackall Range, where she wept so copiously that her tears flow down the mountain to form the Maroochy river.

Symons, K and S (1989)

## Coolum Sea Turtles

"In the Coolum Area, sea turtles were also hunted.... on a calm day by 3 or 4 Aboriginals in a canoe, moving quietly and watching their prey. One man would dive in after a turtle, and try to catch it and turn it on to its back so that another swimmer could tie a rope to its flipper. When brought to the surface, it would be despatched by a blow to the head with a club."



Coolum District Coast Care (2009)