

NATIVE TITLE IN THE NEWS

June/ July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
28/07/2015	WA	Fortescue helped fund Wirlu-Murra Yindjibarndi Aboriginal elders' campaign against mine land owners	Andrew Forrest's Fortescue Metals Group (FMG) provided logistical support and funding to help organise a meeting of Aboriginal leaders aimed at freeing up access to land its mines sit on. The breakaway group of Aboriginal elders have been seeking to gain control of the authorised native title body away from the existing leadership.	ABC News , Australia, 28 July 2015
27/07/2015	WA	Rinehart buys historic Fossil Downs: end of an era, says local shire president	Gina Rinehart has purchased Fossil Downs, a 400,000 hectare cattle station, which has been in the one family since 1882. The Gooniyandi people were granted native title over a large section of the station in 2013 after a 15-year campaign. Muludja, a remote Aboriginal community of about 100 people, is located on the station about 2km from the homestead.	The Guardian , Australia, 27 July 2015
24/07/2015	Australia	Tougher laws needed to protect property rights	Human Rights Commissioner Tim Wilson has said that Australian governments must give farmers more rights when mining companies are negotiating access to potential gas or coal reserves on their property. The problems with the legal system was not just restricted to farmers, but also indigenous Australians who under existing laws did not have the full property rights that traditionally governed native title.	Financial Review , Australia, 24 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
23/07/2015	WA	Kimberley Aboriginal traditional owner and anti-fracking campaigner ordered to move on	Micklo Corpus, a Yawuru traditional owner and anti-fracking campaigner who has spent ten months camping at Yulleroo, 70 kilometres east of Broome, where Buru Energy hopes to frack shale gas wells on his traditional country has been told by the government to move-on from his bush protest site.	ABC News , Australia, 23 July 2015
23/07/2015	QLD	Queensland Land Court challenges to mining projects to get time limit	The Palaszczuk Government is considering taking a proposal to Attorney-General Yvette D'Ath to put time limits on cases in the Land Court. The Government can use a precedent as the Native Title Tribunal has a time limit of six months on cases before it.	The Courier Mail , Australia, 23 July 2015
23/07/2015	TAS	Tasmanian council not giving up on move to reverse Aboriginal land hand-backs	A Tasmanian Circular Head Council is pressing ahead with a move to have Aboriginal land reclaimed by the state as they believe some land is not being properly managed and wants the State Government to proclaim the areas state reserves instead. The State secretary of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre Trudy Maluga has accused the Circular Head Council of being hypocritical saying "Parks and Wildlife, their funding isn't adequate, they aren't looking after the state-governed land as we speak. Our heritage is being destroyed on a daily basis."	ABC News , Australia, 23 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
23/07/2015	NT	Mixed signals from Energy Resources of Australia on Ranger uranium mine future as Jabiru prepares for closure	Australia's most controversial uranium mine, Ranger, is expected to close by its major shareholder and the stock market. Energy Resources Australia had been planning to extend Ranger's life with an underground mine but last month it discontinued with the plan. The chief executive of the Mirrar traditional owners' Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation, Justin O'Brien, said there was now significant uncertainty around the mine's future. Traditional owners have ruled out any uranium mining at nearby Jabiluka, but they have not ruled out further mining at Ranger.	ABC News , Australia, 23 July 2015
22/07/2015	WA	'Cranky' 3.2-metre crocodile captured by Indigenous rangers in the Kimberley	The Nyikina Mangala Rangers have captured and relocated a second saltwater crocodile after it had become a threat to public safety at the Minnie Bridge camping area along the Fitzroy River.	ABC News , Australia, 22 July 2015
21/07/2015	Australia	Festival has best of all worlds	CinefestOZ 2015 features Victorian Nicole Ma's film Putuparri and the Rainmakers which is about the two-decade battle of a Fitzroy Crossing family for native title over part of the Great Sandy Desert they believe is the source of rain.	The West Australian , Australia, 21 July 2015
20/07/2015	WA	Transerv Gets Ready to Drill 2 Appraisal Wells at Warro Gas Field in WA	Transerv Energy Ltd. reported that it is preparing to start two pivotal appraisal wells at Warro, Australia's largest undeveloped onshore gas field, just 124 miles (200 kilometres) north of Perth, Western Australia (WA). The Warro Joint Venture has already secured all environmental and other approvals and has the necessary Native Title Agreement in place.	Rigzone , Australia, 20 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
18/07/2015	Australia	Trust us: Patrick Dodson and Noel Pearson devise plan to save Indigenous recognition referendum	The nation's two most significant Aboriginal leaders, Noel Pearson and Patrick Dodson, have cast aside personal differences to craft a plan to secure Indigenous consensus on a referendum question to recognise the first Australians that could be put as soon as the next year's federal election.	Sydney Morning Herald , Australia, 18 July 2015 The Australian , Australia, 18 July 2015
17/07/2015	WA	Buru celebrates Ungani startup	Buru Energy has declared the start of commercial production at the Ungani oil field in Western Australia's onshore Canning Basin. The Ungani oil field received the green light to begin production earlier this month following the execution of Native Title Agreements between the Buru Energy-Mitsubishi joint venture and the Nyikina Mangala, Karajarri Yanji and Yawaru people. At the official opening, Minister Marmion said "The small environmental footprint and significant economic benefits make Ungani an excellent example of how the oil and gas industry can generate positive returns for all sectors of the community, including the Native Title parties, local businesses, and for Western Australia generally."	EP mag , Australia, 17 July 2015 Rigzone , Australia, 30 July 2015
16/07/2015	QLD	Protesters deliver 2000-strong petition to Adani office	Abbot Point locals and traditional Indigenous landowners descended on Adani's Brisbane office to deliver a 2000-strong petition against the company's \$16 billion Carmichael mine in the Galilee Basin and its Abbot Point port expansion. Carol Prior, a Juru traditional owner from the Abbot Point area was part of the delegation delivering the pledges to Adani. "I'm here to send a strong message to Adani today - we don't want their coal mine or their port, that will destroy our heritage, sacred sites and the Great Barrier Reef," she said.	Sunshine Coast Daily , Australia, 16 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
16/07/2015	QLD	Metro Mining raising \$5.6M to complete Bauxite Hills DFS	Metro Mining is raising \$5.6 million to fund the final stages of preparation for development of its Bauxite Hills Project at Cape York, Queensland. Proceeds will be used for a range of activities including environment approvals and native title agreements.	Proactive investors , Australia, 16 July 2015
16/07/2015	QLD	Desire for strong country and culture drives good governance	Girringun Aboriginal Corporation cares for more than one million hectares of land and sea on behalf of nine Traditional Owner groups in Far North Queensland. In 2013 the Girringun Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) was declared. Girringun IPA is only the second co-managed IPA to be declared in Australia, which means that a whole host of stakeholders from diverse backgrounds – be they private landholders, park authorities, local government and traditional owners - have come together around a unified plan for managing this significant area of Australia's world heritage Wet Tropics and Great Barrier Reef ecosystems.	Indigenous.gov.au , Australia, 16 July 2015
15/07/2015	QLD	Queensland budget	Queensland's first state Budget under the Palaszczuk government has been handed down. The \$49.9 billion budget will deliver better online services, boost coal seam gas compliance and manage public safety risks associated with abandoned mines. The initiatives in the budget includes \$2.2 million to address immediate native title trial costs and help accelerate the resolution of all outstanding Queensland native title claims through the Federal Court.	Mining Australia , Australia, 15 July 2015 Mining News , Australia, 15 July 2015 Mining Weekly , Australia, 15 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
15/07/2015	WA	Fracking fears in WA's south west downplayed as preferred exploration applicant announced	The Department of Mines and Petroleum have selected Bunbury Energy Pty as the preferred applicant for a shale gas and oil exploration permit in five local government areas including Bunbury, Busselton, Capel, Dardanup and Donnybrook-Balingup. Native Title negotiations are underway and a number of other approvals would also be required before an exploration title is granted.	ABC News , Australia, 15 July 2015 Bunbury Mail , Australia, 15 July 2015 Department of Mines and Petroleum – WA , Australia, 15 July 2015 Perth now , Australia, 16 July 2015 Herald Sun , Australia, 16 July 2015 News.com , Australia, 16 July 2015 PPO , Australia, 16 July 2015
15/07/2015	WA and NT	5000ha Ord land release proceeds	The Ord Irrigation scheme in Australia's far northwest is to be expanded for a third time as the West Australian government yesterday announcing the release of another 5300ha of potential cropping land. The traditional owners in the Northern Territory are yet to agree. The CEO of the Northern Land Council, Joe Morrison, says they're being asked to give up their hard-fought native title rights and he's not sure what they'll get in return.	Business News , Australia, 15 July 2015 The Australian , Australia, 16 July 2015 ABC – the World Today , Australia, 23 July 2015 ABC News , Australia, 23 July 2015 Farm Weekly , Australia, 26 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
14/07/2015	WA	Plea to Tony Abbott for help pays off for Aboriginal elders	Elders of the Martu tribe last year wrote to the Prime Minister as they were worried their own representatives were ripping them off. Now the Western Desert Lands Aboriginal Corporation, the body which is responsible for the Martu peoples' native title rights over 136,000 square kilometres of resource-rich land in outback Western Australia has been put into special administration. The land corporation had received about \$30 million from mining companies in return for permission to develop Martu lands. Millions of dollars were spent on salaries and fees for WDLAC staff, directors and consultants, but little of the money flowed to the wider Martu community.	The Age , Australia, 13 July 2015 ABC News , Australia, 14 July 2015
12/07/2015	Australia	Indigenous Australians want treaty, not constitutional recognition, says elder	Tauto Sansbury, the winner of the Naidoc week lifetime achievement award, says 60% to 70% of Aboriginal people do not support the Recognise campaign. A majority of Aboriginal people would prefer a treaty with the Australian government rather than constitutional recognition.	The Guardian , Australia, 12 July 2015
12/07/2015	ACT	Indigenous leaders appeal to Canberrans after Aboriginal heritage site 'scrubbed with bleach'	Traditional custodians of the Canberra region are reminding residents to take due care around Indigenous heritage sites after ancient grinding grooves were seemingly scrubbed with bleach.	ABC News , Australia, 12 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
11/07/2015	WA	Bringing back the Outback into the political fold	More than 500 pastoral leases had lapsed in a midnight expiry of all West Australian leases, and renewed tenure over nearly 90 million leased hectares occurred Monday morning, before opening time. This allowed the existing leaseholders to be validated and prevented any other interests from registering. The West Australian government has heralded it as a success but many land stakeholders and informed observers are not as happy. They lament that the archaic leases — or 505 out of 507 of them, covering 435 pastoral stations — have been renewed on identical terms and for equivalent periods, generally up to 50 years.	The Australian , Australia, 11 July 2015
10/07/2015	QLD	Growing up Aboriginal in Mount Isa in the 1960's	Valerie Craigie still has vivid memories of growing up in Mount Isa in the 1960s, especially of racism in schools. Ms Craigie says racism still exists in Mount Isa but it is not as overt as it was in the 1960s. Ms Craigie was heavily involved in the 2011 court proceedings which saw nearly 40,000 square kilometres of land in north-west Queensland declared under native title for the Kalkadoon people. She says that win continues to be a wonderful achievement for the "fighting Kalkadoon". "Before that people wouldn't have cared so much [about our history on the land], but winning native title has given us official recognition as the traditional owners of the country," she said.	ABC – North West Queensland , Australia, 10 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
10/07/2015	SA	Indigenous documentary filmed in regional South Australia making waves around world	Yorke Peninsula filmmakers have had their Aboriginal land rights documentary selected for a French short film festival. The documentary has given voice to the stories of Aboriginal people in South Australia. The documentary includes interviews with Narrunga men Owen and Daniel Karpany, who took their fight over fishing rights on their traditional country all the way to the High Court, and Jeffrey Newchurch, who spoke on the difficulties of carrying out burials around Adelaide in the face of suburban development.	ABC – North and West SA , Australia, 10 July 2015
09/07/2015	WA	Mining giant suspends negotiations with land council amid corruption probe	Negotiations between Australia's biggest gold miner Newcrest and the Martu people who hold native title over its Tefler mine in WA have been called off due to an investigation into corruption allegations.	NITV , Australia, 9 July 2015
09/07/2015	WA	Be a part of the White Paper process urges Joyce	Federal Agriculture Minister Barnaby Joyce has said that WA's agricultural sector including wheat and live animal exports, beef production, irrigation and WA's northern Ord development, will be influenced by the White Papers proposals, including returns back to the farm gate, infrastructure, water and native title being top priorities.	Farm Weekly , Australia, 9 July 2015
09/07/2015	WA	Ben Wyatt: Recognising Rottnest's tragic past to clear an awkward silence	The resolution of native title between the WA Government and the Noongar people should also provide our State with an opportunity to resolve the awkward silence of Rottnest's penal history.	WA Today , Australia, 9 July 2015
08/07/2015	QLD	The sacredness of place	The theme of this year's NAIDOC Week 'We all Stand on Sacred Ground: Learn, Respect and Celebrate' has struck a chord with Bigambul woman Cheryl Moggs as she waits for a native title ruling on the land she grew up on in southern Queensland.	ABC – Southern Queensland , Australia, 8 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
08/07/2015	Australia	Native title yes, but still no land rights	Native title is great but it is not land rights. Sacred land must not be dug up and our constitution and laws should assure that.	The Sydney Morning Herald – comment , Australia, 8 July 2015
08/07/2015	WA	Kimberley Indigenous community ‘devastated’ after camels killed with arrows	Three camels used in a tourism business at Mount Anderson station, east of Broome have been found dead from gunshot and arrow wounds. It was highly unlikely someone would have assumed the Mount Anderson camels were feral and, even if they did, the animals were shot without permission on Aboriginal-owned land.	The Guardian , Australia, 8 July 2015
08/07/2015	Northern Australia	Minister Joyce: \$12.4 million for Northern Australia’s Indigenous rangers	Minister for Agriculture Barnaby Joyce, and Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Senator Nigel Scullion, said the Australian Government’s commitment of an additional \$12.4 million for the Indigenous Ranger Biosecurity Initiative would increase biosecurity surveillance, skills, participation and employment across Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in northern Australia.	Indigenous.gov.au , Australia, 8 July 2015
07/07/2015	Australia	The Importance of Space and Place	Professor Peter Radoll reflects on the meaning of space and place for Indigenous people and the real impact the proposed forced closures of remote Aboriginal communities in Western Australia would have. Connection to country is important for language, family, culture, traditional songs and ceremony. Part of the legislation is that for a Native Title claim to be successful, individuals and communities have to prove their continuing connection to the land that they are claiming. If communities are closed and people are then forcibly removed, how will that impact on any future Native Title claims?	mnnews today , Australia, 7 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
07/07/2015	Australia	Eddie Mabo's legacy for unity within reach, says daughter Gail Mabo	Gail Mabo was born on terra nullius — nobody's land. Her father, Eddie Mabo, never lived to see his lifetime battle of overturning that legal falsehood realised. Now, the daughter of Torres Strait Islander land rights hero feels the next step in her father's legacy is almost within reach. "His wishes were to unite a country, not divide a country. We are all Australians at the end of the day. We all come from one country, but at the moment we are divided. We need to be united as one voice, one people, of one country." The constitutional recognition push is another step in truth telling: this time, acknowledging in the nation's constitution that Aboriginal people were the first nation's peoples, and hold a special place at the heart of a -nation.	The Australian – National Affairs , Australia, 7 July 2015
06/07/2015	WA	Yindjibarndi vote for new leadership	The split between Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation and Wirlu-murra started in 2011 after a conflict over money being received by YAC from Fortescue Metals Group to mine their land for the FMG Solomon Hub project. A secret ballot was held asking Yindjibarndi to vote for or against new applicants to replace the Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation with a new corporation called Yindjibarndi Native Title Aboriginal Corporation to be the new directors for Native Title.	ABC – North West WA , Australia, 6 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
06/07/2015	Australia	Indigenous referendum: Noel Pearson says summit 'stage-managed', left 'bitter taste' in mouth	Tony Abbott and Bill Shorten hosted about 40 of the nation's most influential Indigenous representatives at Kirribilli House on Monday to discuss a possible referendum to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the constitution. Noel Pearson has blasted the Prime Minister and Opposition Leader after the summit on Indigenous recognition in Sydney, saying while the event was "a good start", it was "stage-managed" and left a "bitter taste" in his mouth.	Financial Review , Australia, 6 July 2015 News.com.au , Australia, 6 July 2015 Sydney Morning Herald , Australia, 6 July 2015 The New Daily , Australia, 6 July 2015 ABC – 7:30 , Australia, 6 July 2015 Business Insider , Australia, 6 July 2015 ABC News , Australia, 7 July 2015 The Courier Mail , Australia, 7 July 2015 The Guardian , Australia, 7 July 2015 Sydney Morning Herald , Australia, 7 July 2015 World Socialist Web Site , Australia, 8 July 2015 News.com.au , Australia, 8 July 2015 Sky News , Australia, 8 July 2015 BBC News , England, 8 July 2015 ABC News , Australia, 9 July 2015 Brisbane Times , Australia, 18 July 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
06/07/2015	WA	WA's Ungani Oil Field on Track for Production Startup in Mid-July	The Buru Energy Ltd. Mitsubishi Corp. Joint Venture received the production licenses for the Ungani oil field in Western Australia's Kimberly region following the execution of Native Title Agreements with the Nyikina Mangala, Karajarri Yanja and Yawaru people. Buru Energy executive chairman Eric Streitberg thanked the Government and the native title parties for their support, saying that production from the field would deliver significant benefits to all stakeholders.	The West Australian , Australia, 6 July 2015 Rigzone , Australia, 6 July 2015
29/06/2015	Australia	Native title review finds process slow, resource intensive and inflexible	A major review of Australian native title has found successful claims in NSW take an average of 13 and a half years, and is unduly onerous, complex and technical.	The Guardian , Australia, 29 June 2015
29/06/2015	QLD	Cape York mining deal a breach of race: Wik group	A Wik native title group is launching a High Court challenge in a bid to overturn the former Queensland government's decision to favour Swiss mining giant Glencore to develop a bauxite deposit on the western side of Cape York.	The Australian – National Affairs , Australia, 29 June 2015
26/06/2015	NT	More than 100 people rallied in Darwin to protest proposed changes to native title laws	More than 100 people rallied in the Darwin to protest elements of the newly released white paper on northern development, saying proposed changes to native title laws would erode land rights, and arguing that Indigenous labor plans were unfair.	ABC News , Australia, 26 June 2015 SBS , Australia, 26 June 2015 Perth now , Australia, 27 June 2015
26/06/2015	QLD	Paroo River people reclaim their western Qld lands	The Federal Court's determination of about 11,002 square kilometres of land and waters southwest of Cunnamulla. For 81-year-old Budjiti Elder Ruby Eulo, the determination will mean her culture can continue to grow on her people's traditional lands in the state's far south-west.	First Nations Telegraph , Australia, 26 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
25/06/2015	QLD	Native Title rights acknowledge Boonthamurra people's history	The Federal Court of Australia has acknowledged the native title rights and interests of the Boonthamurra People over about 23,405 square kilometres of land and waters south-east of Windorah.	ABC News , Australia, 25 June 2015 My Sunshine Coast , Australia, 25 June 2015 First Nations Telegraph , Australia, 27 June 2015
25/06/2015	NSW	Native title awarded to traditional land owners on NSW north coast after 18-year battle	New South Wales' longest-running native title claim and oldest-existing matter in the Federal Court of Australia has been determined in favour of the Yaegl people.	ABC News , Australia, 25 June 2015 SBS , Australia, 25 June 2015 Indigenous.gov.au , Australia, 26 June 2015 The Daily Examiner , Australia, 26 June 2015 The Daily Examiner , Australia, 26 June 2015 The Daily Examiner , Australia, 27 June 2015 First Nations Telegraph , Australia, 28 June 2015
23/06/2015	WA	Noongar agreement helps to build trust	The WA State Government and Noongar groups throughout the state have come to a long-anticipated agreement, with the signing of six Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) covering 200,000sq km of the South-West. Premier Colin Barnett said the execution of the ILUAs was a significant step on the path towards the largest native title settlement in Australian history, resolving all native title claims in the South-West in exchange for approximately \$1.3 billion in land and other benefits.	Community news , Australia, 23 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
23/06/2015	QLD	Stradbroke's Quandamooka people back Cleveland Harbour revamp	A multi-million dollar plan to redevelop Cleveland's Toondah Harbour has the backing of Quandamooka people, the custodial owners of the Moreton Bay and Stradbroke islands. The Quandamooka CEO Cameron Costello said the harbour redevelopment offers good job opportunities. Their only concern was the steady progress towards native title reconciliation, some environmental issues around the size of the proposed 800-berth marina and some cultural heritage matters.	Brisbane Times , Australia, 23 June 2015
23/06/2015	Australia	Elwyn Jimmy Wright: Mourners farewell visionary leader	Elwyn James Wright, a pioneer of the Aboriginal rights movement, was farewelled with a memorial service at Newcastle City Hall Concert Hall. He was described as a visionary leader, a man with a golden heart, a fighter, an organiser, a man who was not afraid to say "that's black fella money".	Newcastle Herald , Australia, 23 June 2015
23/06/2015	Australia	Simple reforms could 'dramatically' improve native title process for all: tribunal president	At the Australian Mining and Exploration Conference, Raelene Webb QC, president of the National Native Title Tribunal has called for more collaboration and trust between miners, government and native title parties.	ABC Rural , Australia, 23 June 2015
21/06/2015	WA	What's sacred now?	The WA government two-and-a-half years ago changed the guidelines to decide what should go on the state's register of Aboriginal Heritage sites. A Background Briefing investigation has found that using those new guidelines, 1,300 sites have been removed or blocked from the heritage register.	ABC – Radio National , Australia, 21 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
19/06/2015	Australia	Queenslanders to co-chair inaugural PBC National Council	Far south-west Queensland Chairs of the Kooma and Kullilli Prescribed Body Corporates, Cheryl Buchanan and Stephen Hagan, have been elected co-Chairs of the inaugural PBC National Council at the National Native Title Conference in Port Douglas yesterday.	First Nations Telegraph , Australia, 19 June 2015
19/06/2015	Australia	Indigenous representatives call for constitutional convention ahead of final model for recognising Aboriginal people	At the National Native Title Conference in Port Douglas, hundreds of native title holders, traditional owners and other Indigenous representatives passed a motion calling for an official convention to be held at Uluru to settle on a final proposal for recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the constitution.	ABC News , Australia, 19 June 2015
19/06/2015	Australia	Noel Pearson: politics holding treaty back	Indigenous activist, Noel Pearson has called for a constitutionally mandated national indigenous advisory body to Parliament. Aboriginal leader Murandoo Yanner has given conditional support to Noel Pearson's proposal saying members of the advisory body should be elected by the Prescribed Bodies Corporate in the hope of ensuring the proposed body represented "the tribe".	The Courier Mail , Australia, 19 June 2015 The Australian – National Affairs , Australia, 20 June 2015
19/06/2015	WA	Proposed Broome conservation park to restrict access on cultural lines	The newly-released Yawuru Birragun Conservation Park Draft Management Plan 2015 proposes restricted access to areas around Roebuck Bay and north of Broome towards Willie Creek "to accommodate Aboriginal cultural customary practices".	ABC News , Australia, 19 June 2015 The West Australian , Australia, 19 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
19/06/2015	Tasmania	Victorian group reveals it was approached to run Tasmanian Aboriginal legal service	A Victorian legal service that was controversially awarded a \$12 million contract for Aboriginal services in Tasmania says it was encouraged by Tasmanians to apply. Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre (TAC), which has operated the service for the past 40 years, was told last week its application had been rejected. The Federal Government cited compliance issues with the Tasmanian centre, and concerns some people had missed out on legal assistance. The awarding of the contract to the Victorian Aboriginal Legal Service (VALS) has angered some in the Tasmanian community.	ABC News , Australia, 19 June 2015
18/06/2015	WA	Mine failures take shine off northern development talk for Roper River traditional owners	Aboriginal traditional owners from the Roper River region of the Northern Territory are wary of talk about northern development, after two mines failed to deliver on promised jobs and economic activity for their communities. The traditional owners had welcomed the Sherwin Iron and Western Desert Resources mines in the south-eastern region of the NT, but after the collapse of the projects the promise of jobs had not materialised and questions remained about how the environmental clean-up would be funded.	ABC News , Australia, 18 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
18/06/2015	Australia	Northern Australia white paper 'Developing Northern Australia: Our North, Our Future'	The Federal Government's northern Australia white paper 'Developing Northern Australia: Our North, Our Future' has been released. The \$1.2bn plan was developed to tap into the potential of the country's least developed region, the north. These articles discuss the pros and cons of the plan.	Yahoo 7 News , Australia, 18 June 2015 ABC News , Australia, 18 June 2015 The Guardian , Australia, 18 June 2015 The West Australian , Australia, 18 June 2015 Financial Review , Australia, 18 June 2015 The Guardian , Australia, 19 June 2015 BBC News , Australia, 19 June 2015 ABC News , Australia, 19 June 2015 The Mandarin , Australia, 19 June 2015 The North West Star , Australia, 22 June 2015 BBC – Australia , Australia, 22 June 2015 The Guardian , Australia, 23 June 2015 ABC Rural , Australia, 26 June 2015 Yahoo 7 News , Australia, 27 June 2015 Farm Weekly , Australia, 27 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
17/06/2015	Australia	Minister Scullion: \$15 million to benefit remote NT communities	Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Nigel Scullion has said remote Northern Territory Indigenous communities will benefit from \$15 million worth of projects to be funded under the Aboriginals Benefit Account latest funding round. It is said that 37 organisations will get financial support for more than 40 projects.	Indigenous.gov.au , Australia, 17 June 2015
17/06/2015	QLD	Adani's Indigenous Participation Plan to deliver \$250 million benefits to traditional Australian owners	India's mining giant Adani Group has launched an Indigenous Participation Plan that is said could deliver benefits worth \$250 million over the next 30 years to traditional owners.	The Economic Times , India, 17 June 2015 DNA , India, 17 June 2015
17/06/2015	NSW	Calls for NSW Government to make native title claims easier to resolve, following successful Barkandji ruling	The lawyers for the Barkandji traditional owners are calling for the State Government to make claims easier to resolve after yesterday's native title ruling in far west New South Wales.	ABC News , Australia, 17 June 2015
16/06/2015	Australia	Peak native title body elected in 'change of tide'	At the National Native Title Conference in Port Douglas, delegates from 46 Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) elected a PBC National Council to provide a lobby voice for their members.	First Nations Telegraph , Australia, 16 June 2015
15/06/2015	QLD	Labor must honour vow on Stradbroke Island mining law, Indigenous group says	The Quandamooka people are calling on the Palaszczuk government to make good on a commitment to repeal laws extending sand mining on North Stradbroke Island.	The Guardian , Australia, 15 June 2015 The Courier Mail , Australia, 16 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
15/06/2015	NSW	Largest native title claim in NSW acknowledges Barkandji people in state's far west	The Barkandji people have had their native title rights recognised in the largest native title determination in New South Wales covering 128,000 square kilometres.	ABC News , Australia, 15 June 2015 ABC News , Australia, 16 June 2015 The Guardian , Australia, 16 June 2015 The Land , Australia, 16 June 2015 Sunraysia Daily , Australia, 16 June 2015 Barrier Daily Truth , Australia, 17 June 2015 The Guardian , Australia, 23 June 2015
11/06/2015	NT	New skills for rangers teaming up with NT fisheries	19 Indigenous rangers from Daly River, Crocodile Island and Finnis River have travelled to Maningrida in West Arnhem Land to join the Djelk rangers in training for a Certificate II in Fisheries Compliance. The training will support their management of Indigenous Protected Areas	indigenous.gov.au , Australia, 11 June 2015
09/06/2015	Australia	Australian Law Reform Commission recommendations for reform of the Native Title Act	The ALRC has released their report, Connection to Country: Review of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) (ALRC Report 126). This Report marks the first major review of 'connection' in native title claims since the introduction of the Native Title Act. The Report also includes 30 recommendations for reform.	indigenous.gov.au , Australia, 9 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
06/06/2015	Australia	Native title key to Indigenous communities' wellbeing	Aboriginal leaders met in Broome last month to develop a road map that would smash barriers that undermined land rights and provide full economic benefits from their land under native title. Attorney-General George Brandis said: "It's not enough to have native title rights. Native title owners must be able to use native title to meet their expectations for economic advancement as well as acts of cultural and economic significance."	The Australian – Opinion , Australia, 6 June 2015
05/06/2015	WA	More women taking on ranger jobs on Martu country	For the first time the Martu people have a permanent women's ranger team based at Parnngurr in the Western Desert region of Western Australia. Women's Ranger Program Manager Tracy Carboon said it was a great opportunity to get local women into jobs that help care for country.	indigenous.gov.au , Australia, 5 June 2015
05/06/2015	Overseas	First Nations series: A landmark court victory for the Xenj Gwet'in	The Supreme Court of Canada's landmark 2014 decision to grant the Tsilhqot'in people to about 1,750 square miles of land is the first major step in helping their people recover from a troubled history. The title lands represent up to about 10 per cent of overall Tsilhqot'in traditional territory. Natives now want to leverage the court win to reach agreements on management throughout their territory, including revenue sharing and decision-making roles.	Vancouver Sun , Canada, 5 June 2015 The Globe and Mail , Canada, 24 June 2015
04/06/2015	NT	After 70 years, Aboriginal sacred site Kurlpurlunu found in Central Australia	An Aboriginal elder in Central Australia has shed tears of joy upon the rediscovery of a sacred site, about 500kms north-west of Alice Springs, lost for the past 70 years. The site is important to the Warlpiri people because it was used for all the ceremonies for that area, including songs and rain dancing.	ABC News , Australia, 4 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
04/06/2015	WA	Human life in WA's Mid West existed 30,000 years ago, archaeologists say	The first proof that humans lived in Western Australia's Mid West has been found in a cave 50 kilometres north-west of Cue. Previously, archaeologists had no established evidence that humans occupied the Mid West region more than 10,000 years ago. But charcoal associated with stone artefacts excavated in the Yalibirri Mindi rock shelter in the Weld Range have been shown to belong to ancestors of the Wajarri native title claimants living 30,000 years ago.	ABC News , Australia, 4 June 2015 Phys.org – News , Australia, 4 June 2015
03/06/2015	Australia	Indigenous Land Corporation bid to bring in Future Fund	In the aftermath of its acquisition of the Ayers Rock Resort, the Indigenous Land Corporation has asked Tony Abbott to hand its \$2 billion land account to the Future Fund.	The Australian – National Affairs , Australia, 3 June 2015
03/06/2015	Australia	Mabo Day: 23 years of native title in Australia	Twenty-three years ago today the Australian government first recognised the native title rights of Indigenous Australians. The Mabo decision, as it become known, followed a decade-long legal battle by Eddie Mabo and several others to have their land rights recognised. The effects of the Mabo decision continue decades later. Today native title rights exist across about a quarter of Australia.	ABC Radio , Australia, 3 June 2015 My Sunshine Coast , Australia, 3 June 2015 ABC – Opinion , Australia, 3 June 2015 SBS , Australia, 4 June 2015
03/06/2015	Australia	A star is named: Eddie Mabo honoured in star dedication	Sydney Observatory will on Wednesday evening honour the Mabo legacy in a star naming ceremony on the 23rd anniversary Mabo decision. Director of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Rose Hiscock said "The stars have great significance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It is fitting that we honour Uncle Eddie through the dedication of a star in our most iconic constellation, the Southern Cross."	NITV , Australia, 3 June 2015

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
03/06/2015	QLD	Mabo Day was celebrated in Cairns with local Torres Strait Islander people at the Serbian Centre in Edge Hill	Bonita Mabo, the wife of late land rights activist Eddie Mabo wants a national public holiday declared to honour her husband's legacy and one of his dying wishes. "On his deathbed Eddie wanted to see a national holiday for all Australians," Bonita Mabo said. "In the US they have Martin Luther King Day and we would like to have June 29 (his birthday) recognised as Eddie Mabo Day."	Cairns Post , Australia, 3 June 2015
02/06/2015	QLD	Traditional Owners challenge Adani Carmichael mine in Federal Court	The Wangan and Jagalingou Family Council have launched a Federal Court challenge to the Adani Carmichael mine saying it will negatively impact traditional lands. The Federal Court challenge is part of a two pronged approach by traditional owners. They're also visiting banks and other financial institutions in the United States, urging them to rule out funding the mine.	SBS , Australia, 2 June 2015 APTN – National News , Australia, 5 June 2015 The Morning Bulletin , Australia, 17 June 2015

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in the articles linked to and mentioned in this document do not necessarily reflect those of AIATSIS, and the Institute accepts no responsibility for them. Some of the links in this resource may lead to subscription only news items.