



AIATSIS

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL  
AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES

## NATIVE TITLE IN THE NEWS

January 2016

### Northern Territory (NT)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
29/01/2016	NT	Development of sugar industry in Ord valley looks shaky, after native title talks stall	Native title discussions with the Northern Land Council (NLC) and traditional owners have stalled plans to develop an 'Ord Valley sugar' project on the border of Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Despite the Northern Territory government revealing to the Australian Broadcasting Commission that a deal will be struck within a couple of months, Joe Morrison the NLC Chief Executive confirmed that negotiations had not been finalised with traditional owners.	<a href="#">ABC News</a> , Australia, 29 January 2016

### Queensland (QLD)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
27/01/2016	QLD	Australia's largest open-cut zinc mine ships final load from Karumba amid questions on legacy of landmark native title agreement	Mining company MMG is about to close Australia's largest open zinc mine, challenging a native title agreement with the Waanyi, Mingginda, Gkuthaarn and Kukatj groups in far north-west Queensland.	<a href="#">ABC Rural</a> , Australia, 27 January 2016

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
23/01/2016	QLD	Pressure mounts on Adani go-ahead	The Palasz-czuk government is being pushed by Adani to approve a \$16 billion Carmichael coal project in Queensland. This pressure is a result of ongoing delays including Adrian Burragubba's appeal against the Native Title Tribunal's decision to grant a mining lease.	<a href="#">The Australian</a> , Australia, 23 January 2016
22/01/2016	QLD	Torres Strait Islanders livid over harpooning of albino dugong	Traditional owner Maluwap Nona has spoken out about the slaughtering of a rare albino dugong, calling for tougher regulations about traditional hunting of endangered species in the Torres Strait region. In accordance to the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> Indigenous people can hunt protected species, but only on their own country. Hunting for commercial sales is banned.	<a href="#">The Australian</a> , Australia, 22 January 2016 <a href="#">The Cairns Post</a> , Queensland, 26 January 2016
21/01/2016	QLD	Australia will not take action against former KCM CEO over pollution	The Federal government of Australia has decided against challenging Adani for failing to declare that its Chief Executive, Jeyakumar Janakaraj had pleaded guilty to leaking toxic water in the Kafue River, whilst previously running a mining company in Zambia.	<a href="#">Lukastimes</a> , Zambia 21 January 2016
21/01/2016	QLD	\$2 billion Weipa bauxite mine reaches native title agreement	Metro Mining has made a \$2 million agreement with the native title holders, Ankamuthi and the Old Mapoon Aboriginal Corporation over an area of land near Weipa. The agreement involves a cultural heritage management plan including employment, training and business opportunities, and compensation payments for the duration of the mine.	<a href="#">The Cairns Post</a> , Queensland, 21 January 2016 <a href="#">Metro Mining Limited</a> , Queensland, 21 January 2016 <a href="#">Finances net</a> , Australia, 21 January 2016
18/01/2016	QLD	Mosman Oil and Gas to withdraw from Officer Basin project after failing to meet Native Title Act requirements	Mosman Oil and Gas will have to withdraw their onshore application STP-EPA-0071, if they do not meet the recommendations of the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> including a heritage clearance, and other traditional owner requirements.	<a href="#">OilVoice</a> , Australia, 18 January 2016

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
01/01/2016	QLD	1985 Queensland cabinet documents reveal Indigenous land rights, Mabo decision, SEQEB dispute and gay rights on agenda	Recently released from a 30 year embargo are papers that offer an insight into Bjelke-Petersen's final years in the Queensland ministry. The papers reveal that Bjelke-Petersen implemented the <i>Queensland Coast Islands Declaratory Act 1985</i> in an attempt to deny any traditional rights to Torres Strait Islanders. However, this legislation was overturned following the historic Mabo ruling in 1992 – paving the way for native title rights across Australia.	<a href="#">Sunshine Coast Daily</a> , Queensland, 1 January 2016 <a href="#">ABC News</a> , Australia, 11 January 2016 <a href="#">The Australian</a> , Australia, 1 January 2016

## South Australia (SA)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
20/01/2016	SA	Native title claim approved on land around Innamincka	The Yandruwandha Yawarrawarrka people have been recognised as the native title holders for an area of country that is approximately 40,000 square kilometres in size and located in the outback of South Australia. The consent determination was celebrated last month at Innamincka's Cullyamurra Waterhole.	<a href="#">The Monitor</a> , South Australia, 20 January 2016

## Victoria (VIC)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
08/01/2016	TAS	Native Title Services Victoria Strengthens Board	Native Title Services Victoria has elected Jeremy Clarke and Marcus Stewart to join their board. Working with six other existing board members Clarke and Stewart have been assigned with setting the strategic direction for Victoria's outstanding native title matters as the 'organisation moves towards a post-settlement environment.'	<a href="#">Native Title Victoria Ltd</a> Victoria, 8 January 2016

## Western Australia (WA)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
19/01/2016	WA	Bunuba People celebrate native title determination	The Bunuba people from an area of country stretching from 'Fitzroy Crossing to the South East, the Leopold Range to the North East, the Oscar Range to the South West and the Napier Range to the North West' have been recognised in the Federal Court as the Native Title holders over 'Bunuba Part B, Bunuba #2 (Part A) and Bunuba #3 native title claims', in the Kimberley region.	<a href="#">Kimberley Land Council</a> , Western Australia, 19 January 2016
19/01/2016	WA	Kurungal land owners celebrate legal recognition of their land after almost two decades	On the 2 of December 2015 the Kurungal traditional located owners celebrated the settlement of their native title claim, which is situated close to Christmas Creek pastoral station. Kimberley Land Council Deputy CEO Tyrone Garstone said 'it is likely that traditional owners will enter into an agreement with pastoralists to secure access to the station.'	<a href="#">Kimberley Land Council</a> , Western Australia, 19 January 2016

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
11/01/2016	WA	South West Native Title Settlement	One of the most comprehensive native title agreements proposed in Australian history covering approximately 200,000 square kilometres of land has been settled. This agreement marks the final resolution of all native title claims in the south western region of Western Australia (WA). The settlement will provide an opportunity for 30,000 or so Noongar people to work with the WA Government to improve 'their economic, social and cultural outcomes.'	<a href="#">LANTU Bulletin</a> - Government of Western Australia, Western Australia, 3 December 2015 <a href="#">Land, Approvals and Native Title Unit</a> - Government of Western Australia, Western Australia, 11 January 2016
09/01/2016	WA	Government picks winners for new Ord expansion	Regional Development Minister Terry Redman has announced that the Kimberley Agricultural Investment and Tropical Forestry Services are proponents for the Ord-East Kimberley expansion project. Mr Redman also acknowledged the support of the Miriuwung Gajerrong who will surrender their native title lands under the provisions set out in the Ord agreement. The Ord-East Kimberley project is 'worth \$517 million with \$322.5 million invested through the Royalties for Regions program.'	<a href="#">Farm Weekly</a> , Western Australia, 9 January 2016
5/01/2016	WA	'It's time for Aboriginal identity and story to be embraced by all Australians'	Paul Keating challenged the nation when he delivered a speech at Redfern 23 years ago. Keating said Mabo and the subsequent Native Title Act will recognise culture and customary tradition of Australia's Indigenous peoples. Ben Wyatt reflects on Keating's speech suggesting that Australian geographic places, originally named by Europeans should have their Indigenous names recognised.	<a href="#">WA Today</a> , Western Australia, 5 January 2016

## Australia

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
27/01/2016	Australia	AIATSIS – Call for Papers: National Native Title Conference 2016 Strong culture, strong country, strong future	The 2016 National Native Title Conference will be co-convened by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), and the Northern Land Council (NLC), and hosted by the Larrakia - the traditional owners of Darwin. The conference will be held from 1 – 3 June 2016 at the Convention Centre in Darwin. AIATSIS and the NLC are now calling for papers, panels, workshops, dialogue forums and Indigenous talking circles to be presented at the conference.	<a href="#">NIRAKN</a> , Australia, 19 January 2016 Koori Mail, pg. 28, Australia, 27 January 2016 <a href="#">AIATSIS</a> , Australia
18/01/2016	Australia	This year, let's ditch the Queen's Birthday holiday and replace it with Mabo Day	Chris Bourke convenor of the National Indigenous Labor Network, writes that the Queen's birthday celebrated on the long weekend in June has very little significance for contemporary Australians. Instead of celebrating the Queen's birthday, Mr Bourke suggests a new celebration for the historical struggle of Indigenous land rights, the Mabo anniversary on the 3 June, and the subsequent passing of the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> .	<a href="#">The Guardian</a> , Australia, 18 January 2016
07/01/2016	Australia	Tackling the complexities of northern development	Josh Frydenberg the Minister for Northern Australia has finalised a \$5 billion plan that could offer 'commonwealth debt guarantees'. The package will encourage economic projects in the areas of water, transport, mining, energy and agricultural projects, in Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Private investment and federal backing for these projects will depend on consent from native title holders and local planning authorities.	<a href="#">The Australian</a> , Australia, 7 January 2016

## International

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
15/01/2016	International	Provincial government opposes aboriginal title claim on KGHM Ajax-owned land	The British Columbian government have opposed an 'aboriginal title claim' on land where the company KGHM Ajax are proposing to build a copper and gold mine near Kamloops. The Ministry of Justice has responded to the Stk'emlupsemc of the Secwepemc Nation comprised of Tk'emlups and Skeetchestn peoples, saying that the claim is a potential threat that could create 'uncertainty for private property owners across the territory.'	<a href="#">Kamloops This Week</a> , Canada, 15 January 2016 <a href="#">Global News</a> , Canada 16 January 2016

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