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AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL
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NATIVE TITLE IN THE NEWS

May 2016

Australian Capital Territory (ACT)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
06/05/2016	ACT	Ngambri elder prevents sale of Caloola farm	Ngambri elder temporarily prevents sale of Caloola farm south of Tharwa by claiming allodial title. The ACT Supreme Court ordered an injunction on the sale until early June.	Canberra Times Australia, 06 May 2016

New South Wales (NSW)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
26/05/2016	NSW	Githabul people protest logging	A group of Githabuul people are protesting against logging in the Donaldson State Forest while they review their ILUA with the NSW government.	Echo Net Daily Australia, 26 May 2016
18/05/2016	NSW	Bundjalung elder opposes housing site	A Bundjalung elder, acting on behalf of the Bundjalung Elders Council, is opposing plans to build a new suburb on North Lismore Plateau due to the site's cultural significance.	Koori Mail Australia, 18 May 2016
09/05/2016	NSW	ICAC Inquiry	NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption is investigating whether the board of Gandangara entered an Improper agreement that personally benefited a former CEO.	Koori Mail Australia, 18 May 2016 ABC News Australia, 09 May 2016

Northern Territory (NT)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
16/05/2016	NT	Northern Territory EPA drops charges	Northern Territory drops charges against the operator of Redbank copper mine for a breaching waste discharge licence. The Northern Land Council says they had little information and were not aware that the EPA's position was to be made public at this time.	PM Australia, 16th May 2016 ABC News Australia, 16th May 2016
04/05/2016	NT	NLC and CLC disapprove changes to ABA	Indigenous Affairs Minister Nigel Scullion is planning to change the structure of the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) by removing four land council representatives from the Advisory Committee. The CLC chair said the move was an 'erosion of Aboriginal control.'	New Matilda Australia, 05 May 2016 Koori Mail Australia, 04 May 2016

Queensland (QLD)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
26/05/2016	QLD	Mining to cease on North Stradbroke Island	Sand mining on Stradbroke Island will cease by 2019 after legislation was passed through the Qld parliament repealing a previous policy. Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation CEO said the group plans to turn the island into an eco-tourism destination and that the passing of the bill highlighted that native title agreements are to be followed. Quandamooka woman the Hon. Leeanne Enoch addressed parliament in her language explaining the importance of the decision for their country and people.	My Sunshine Coast Australia, 27 May 2016 Courier Mail Australia, 27 May 2016 Sydney Morning Herald Australia, 26 May 2016 Brisbane Times Australia, 26 May 2016

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
26/05/2016	QLD	Local company overlooked for mining tender	The overlooking of local company, comprised in part of native title holders, Aurukun Bauxite Development, for a major mining tender is said to be a contributing factor in the crisis at Aurukun. The tender decision has been the subject of legal action and senate enquiry.	ABC News Australia, 26 May 2016
18/05/2016	QLD	Wik and Wik Way drop high court challenge.	The Ngan Aak-Kunch Aboriginal Corporation, representing Wik and Wik Way have dropped their High Court challenge against the Queensland Government. Ngan Aak-Kunch opposed the choice of Glencore as the preferred developer for bauxite mining in the region.	ABC News Australia, 18 May 2016
18/05/2016	QLD	Indigenous landholders reject land clearing restrictions.	Cape York Land Council (CYLC) argues that proposed state government plans to restrict land clearing place an unfair burden on indigenous landholders. The CYLC has prepared a submission on the proposed laws.	Cairns Post Australia, 18 May 2016 The Australian Australia, 04 May 2016 Cape York Land Council Australia, 04 May 2016
12/05/2016	QLD	Planning Bill passed	The Qld Planning Bill has passed with a new clause (5, 2d), "(A)dvancing the purpose of this Act includes valuing, protecting and promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge, culture and tradition".	QLD Government Media Statement Australia, 12 May 2016
02/05/2016	QLD	Urannah Dam divides stakeholders	A spokesperson for native title claimants the Widi and Birriah people strongly opposes the Urannah Dam project, claiming the indigenous owner of Urannah Station does not act on their behalf.	Whitsunday Times Australia, 02 May 2016

South Australia (SA)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
04/05/2016	SA	Adnyamathanha Tribal Lands Association opposed to nuclear waste dump	Adnyamathanha people are opposed to the proposed nuclear waste dump at Wallerberdina Station near the Flinders Range's stating it is sacred country. Yankunytjatjara Native Title chairperson said they would campaign for more community consultation sessions in regional areas and for appropriate translation and interpretation for ESL speakers.	ABC News Australia, 16 May 2016 ABC News Australia, 07 May 2016 Koori Mail Australia, 04 May 2016

Victoria (VIC)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
30/05/2016	VIC	Traditional owners make claim on parts of the Grampians	A coalition of traditional owners have formed the Gariwerd native title group and have lodged a claim over 1672 square metres of the Grampians National Park. The group are negotiating for joint management and hunting rights.	The Age Australia, 30 May 2016 The Courier Australia, 30 May 2016
28/05/2016	VIC	Victoria takes step towards treaty	Victorian Aboriginal people have tentatively agreed on the process that could lead to a treaty with the Victorian Government within two years.	The Age Australia, 28 May 2016
10/05/2016	VIC	Yung Balug oppose chicken broiler	The Yung Balug clan have been added to a list of objectors in the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. The group are opposed to the broiler on the Buckrabanyule site because of the spiritual significance of the area.	Bendigo Advertiser Australia, 10 May 2016

Western Australia (WA)

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
25/05/2016	WA	Potential change to Rangelands pastoral leases	Draft legislation is to be presented to the WA Cabinet regarding potential changes to pastoral lease agreements. The National's leader has proposed a 10 member Rangelands Advisory board to include one Aboriginal land owner.	West Australian Australia, May 25 2016
13/05/2016	WA	Bindunbur native title trial update	The court heard evidence from an Aboriginal witness in Broome about native title rights on the Dampier Peninsula. The native title hearing resumes in September.	KLC News Australia, 13 May 2016
12/05/2016	WA	Noongar Recognition Bill Passes	The Noongar Recognition Bill and the Land Administration (South West Native Title Settlement 2015) has passed the West Australian Parliament. The Bill acknowledges Noongar people as the traditional owners of the south-west of Western Australia. The Settlement is comprised of six ILUAs and will resolve all native title claims in the region.	Koori Mail Australia, 18 May 2016 Busselton Mail Australia, 12 May 2016 South West Catchment Council Australia, 11 May 2016
04/05/2016	WA	Yika People and Cosmo Newberry Aboriginal Corporation agreement with Gold Road Resources	The Cosmo Newberry Aboriginal Corporation and the Yika People's agreement with Gold Road Resources is the first native title mining arrangement across the Yamarna Belt.	Mining Weekly Australia, 04 May 2016

Australia

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
06/05/2016	Australia	Social Return on Investment: Consolidated report on Indigenous Protected Areas	Report on Indigenous Protected Areas and ranger programmes finds success across a range of outcomes. IPA's analysed are Warddeken (NT), Giringun (Qld), Birriliburu and Matuwa Kurrara Kurrara (WA), and Minyumai in New South Wales (NSW).	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Australia, 06 May 2016
05/05/2016	Australia	Recognition of Representative Body	Seven representative bodies, Kimberley Land Council, Goldfields Land Council, Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation, North Queensland Land Council, Central Land Council, Cape York Land Council Aboriginal Corporation and the Northern Land Council, are to be re-recognised until June 2018.	Federal Register of Legislation Australia, 05 May 2016

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