

## Native Title in the News – November 2011

Date	State	Subject	Summary	Source
01/11/2011	WA	<b>Native title mining agreement</b>	Tasman Resources have secured a native title mining agreement with the Kokatha Uwankara native title claimants for the exploration of almost the entire Lake Torrens project.	<i>Mining Chronicle</i> (Australia, November 2011), 27.
02/11/2011	QLD	<b>Wild Rivers</b>	State Environment Minister Vicky Darling announced consultations of three far north Queensland river catchments—the Coleman, Olive-Pascoe and Watson river basins would begin in November for Wild Rivers declaration.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 2 November 2011), 7. <i>Weekend Australian</i> (Australia, 5 November 2011), 2. <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 4 November 2011). <i>Weekend Post</i> (Cairns Qld, 5 November 2011), 2. <i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 16 November 2011), 16.
02/11/2011	NT	<b>Lease funds</b>	Opposition Indigenous Affairs spokesman, Nigel Scullion told the hearing the Federal Government had paid money to the Northern and Central Land Councils to distribute to traditional owners but the councils were refusing to distribute the money and the parties had been locked in a stalemate since May 2010.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 2 November 2011), 12.
02/11/2011	WA	<b>Mayala people celebrate deal</b>	Mayala traditional owners celebrated a deal made with Pluton Resources for construction of an iron ore mine in the north Kimberley. The agreement will provide significant employment, training and business opportunities for Mayala people while protecting environmental and cultural heritage standards.	<i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 2 November 2011), 39.
03/11/2011	WA	<b>Fortescue Metals Group</b>	An administrative error by the West Australia government allowed Fortescue Metals Group to obtain an exploration licence without input from the local Indigenous community. The error was exposed when the WA Department of Mines and Petroleum granted Fortescue the license in August for the midwest location after inadvertently failing to register an objection by the local Wajarri Yamatji people. Fortescue Metals has since sent a heritage agreement to the Wajarri Yamatji people and says it will consider amendments.	<i>Australian Financial Review</i> (Australia, 3 November 2011), 13. <i>Age</i> (Melbourne Vic, 10 November 2011), 5. <i>Pilbara News</i> (Pilbara WA, 16 November 2011), 4. <i>Pilbara News</i> (Pilbara WA, 9 November 2011), 3. <i>Broome Advertiser</i> (Broome WA, 10

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			<p>Sue Singleton, the archaeologist that completed a survey of Aboriginal heritage sites commissioned by Fortescue Metals Group has admitted she removed key sections of the survey as she feared she would not be paid \$70,000 of an outstanding bill if she did not remove the information.</p>	<p>November 2011), 7.  <i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 16 November 2011), 6.  <i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 16 November 2011), 6, 7, 18.  <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Sydney NSW, 23 November 2011), 1.  <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 22 November 2011).  <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 23 November 2011).</p>
03/11/2011	WA	<b>Fortescue Metals Group</b>	<p>Fortescue Metals Group has rejected claims from the Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation (YAC) chief executive Micheal Woodley that they are disturbing land of cultural importance, including sacred sites.</p> <p>Fortescue Metals Group's annual gathering of shareholders failed to attract any criticism over how well the \$15.9 billion Pilbara iron ore miner rewards its senior executives. Shareholders owning \$320 million of Fortescue shares voted against the re-election of the miner's founder, Andrew Forrest.</p> <p>The YAC was denied the opportunity to speak at Fortescue's AGM.</p>	<p><i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Sydney NSW, 10 November 2011), 4.  <i>Kalgoorlie Miner</i> (Kalgoorlie WA, 10 November 2011), 3.  <i>West Australian</i> (Perth WA, 10 November 2011), 41.  <i>Canberra Times</i> (Canberra ACT, 10 November 2011), 13.  <i>Australian Financial Review</i> (Australia, 10 November 2011), 21.  <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 9 November 2011).  <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 10 November 2011).</p>
03/11/2011	SA	<b>Coorong National Park</b>	<p>After negotiations with the state government and the Ngarrindjeri nation over native title it was decided the Coorong National Park will be co-managed by the traditional owners. There are currently six co-managed agreements in place in South Australia, covering the Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges, the Witjira, the Coongie Lakes and the Flinders Ranges National Parks as well as the Mamungari and Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Parks.</p>	<p><i>Murray Valley Standard</i> (Murray Bridge SA, 3 November 2011), 3.  <i>Sunday Mail Adelaide</i> (Adelaide SA, 6 November 2011), 26.</p>

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03/11/2011	ACT	<b>Ngarigu people</b>	The ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal said Ngarigu woman Ellen Mundy is seeking recognition by the government of her clan's connection with the land. Ms Mundy is pursuing a discrimination complaint against the Chief Minister and the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs. The legal claim on behalf of the Ngarigu people argues that of the Ngarigu people have been left out in the cold by the ACT government when it makes decisions about acknowledging Aboriginal culture and history and in providing services to the territory's Indigenous people.	<i>Canberra Times</i> (Canberra ACT, 3 November 2011), 1.
09/11/2011	SA	<b>Ngadjuri people</b>	A Native Title mining agreement has been signed with the Traditional owners – the Ngadjuri Nation and Royal Resources for the Razorback Iron Ore project. The project is situated 80km north-east of Peterborough and 40km south of Yunta.	<i>Burra Broadcaster</i> (Burra SA, 9 November 2011), 1.
16/11/2011	WA	<b>Woodside</b>	Woodside will conduct a series of skill assessment workshops to enable Woodside to gain a better understanding of the training requirements and strategies required to maximize Indigenous participation in the development.  Woodside petroleum released information stating the Browse liquefied-natural-gas joint venture project could generate up to \$50 billion for the Australian economy and create 6000 jobs onshore and 2000 jobs offshore during its construction phase.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 16 November 2011), 36. <i>Broome Advertiser</i> (Broome WA, 17 November 2011), 3.

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17/11/2011	WA	<b>Decmil Australia</b>	Construction and contracting group Decmil Australia has reached a 5 year agreement with the Goolaraabooloo Jabirr Jabirr native title claim group. The agreement will target government, private and resource project opportunities and key performance indicators include measures benefiting Indigenous education, training, business development and employment.	<i>Business News</i> (Perth WA, 17 November 2011), 19.
17/11/2011	WA	<b>Toro Energy</b>	Toro Energy has set an exploration target range following promising results from drilling at its wholly owned Theseus Uranium Project in north eastern WA. The 14 tenements forming the project cover a total area of approximately 3286 sq km. The project is within native title determined lands overseen by the Ngaanyatjarra Land Council and an agreement is in place with the Kiwirrkurra people which allow Toro to explore for uranium and other metals on the reserve.	<i>Kalgoorlie Miner</i> (Kalgoorlie WA, 17 November 2011), 9.
18/11/2011	QLD	<b>Cultural assessment</b>	The Gold Coast City Council has apologized to the city's Aboriginal community after failing to allow for a cultural assessment of the site at Tipplers by the coasts native title group. The council has suspended all work on the barefoot bar and swimming enclosure.	<i>Gold Coast Bulletin</i> (Gold Coast QLD, 18 November 2011), 21.

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Date	State	Subject	Summary	Source
18/11/2011	AUS	<b>Tribunal to merge</b>	At a confidential meeting between the government and the heads of courts and tribunals, the National Native Title Tribunal was told it would be administered by the Federal Court as part of a costs review. A major change under the plan would be to give the court direct control of disputes over the future use of current or potential native title land, often involving mining companies who seek to expand their operations.	<i>Australian Financial Review</i> (Australia, 18 November 2011), 40
19/11/2011	SA	<b>Murray rights</b>	The first people of the River Murray and Mallee region have had their native title rights recognised over an area of 150km along a stretch of river in South Australia.	<i>Adelaide Advertiser</i> (Adelaide SA, 19 November 2011), 16. <i>Herald Sun</i> (Melbourne VIC, 19 November 2011), 26. <i>Sunraysia Daily</i> (Mildura VIC, 19 November 2011), 4. <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 18 November 2011). <i>Barrier Daily Truth</i> (Broken Hill NSW, 19 November 2011), 7. <i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (Townsville QLD, 19 November 2011), 45. <i>Daily Advertiser</i> (Wagga Wagga NSW, 19 November 2011), 22. <i>Murray Pioneer</i> (Renmark SA, 22 November 2011), 5. <i>River News</i> (Waikerie SA, 23 November 2011), 4. <i>Robinvale Sentinel</i> (Robinvale VIC, 24 November 2011), 3. <i>Riverland Weekly</i> (Riverland VIC, 24 November 2011), 5.

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22/11/2011	QLD	<b>Coalmine at Bathurst Bay</b>	A traditional owner of Bathurst Bay in the Cape York area will fight an Indigenous land use agreement (ILUA) aimed at helping open a coalmine. More than 80 people are expected to attend an ILUA meeting at Kalpowar Crossing, for native title claimants to sign an agreement. The issue involves Cape York Land Council and Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation against locals who say their interests are being ignored.	<i>Courier Mail</i> (Brisbane QLD, 22 November 2011), 5.
22/11/2011	NT	<b>Marra people</b>	The Marra people who live near Limmen Bight on the Gulf of Carpentaria and hold native title rights where Western Desert Resources have lodged notice of intent to pipe iron ore slurry from a project, have presented a petition to senior MP's outside the Northern Territory parliament. The Marra people believe the mine will disturb and harm sacred sites on the island.	<i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 22 November 2011).
23/11/2011	SA	<b>Compulsory acquisition</b>	The Australian Defence Force has announced it will start compulsory acquisition of the pastoral leases within the Cultana expansion area. The announcement comes after defence reached an agreement with the registered native title claimant regarding an Indigenous land use agreement.	<i>Port Augusta Transcontinental</i> (Port Augusta SA, 23 November 2011), 1.

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28/11/2011	QLD	<b>Mandingalbay Yidinji Country</b>	The Mandingalbay Yidinji people have signed an Indigenous Protected Area agreement over Mandingalbay Yidinji Country. It was the first of its kind in Australia and includes almost 10,000 ha of land including rainforest, woodland and marine park areas across from Trinity Inlet.	<i>Cairns Post</i> (Cairns QLD, 28 November 2011), 5.