

<a href="#">Date</a>	<a href="#">State</a>	<a href="#">Subject</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>	<a href="#">Source</a>
1-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Time to examine land rights changes "totally inadequate"</b>	A parliamentary committee has said that the time it was allowed to scrutinise the proposed changes to the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill 2006</i> was 'totally inadequate'. The committee was dominated by the coalition and lent its 'guarded support' to the bill where as Labor and other minor parties said that it should be 'rejected'. Labor had proposed that the bill be split with further debate and consultation allowed for the more controversial provisions. This included the 'removal of guaranteed funding for land councils' and '99 year leases on Aboriginal townships'. Central Land Council director David Ross said that the 'amendments could leave mining companies dealing with very small under-resourced and ill-informed bodies and pave the way for bitter disputes within families and communities'.	Mining Chronicle, Sep-06, pg 2.
1-Sep-06	VIC	<b>Reconciliation is hollow without land justice</b>	Policy Officer for Native Title Services Victoria Mark Brett has said that the 'indigenous governance and economic development have demonstrated that governance has to be culturally legitimate and only when that condition is satisfied will there be substantial economic growth.' The starting point, he says is the 'right to manage land' but in Victoria indigenous people held less than 0.1 per cent of available land and it is unlikely that there will be a land rights act in the foreseeable future. He says that the state government can resolve the 18 outstanding claims quickly if it offered a 'package of benefits to traditional owners in exchange of the withdrawal of claims'. This could include the 'return of culturally significant land...co-management of national parks...sustainable development of traditional owner corporations so that they have the capacity to manage their interests in land, cultural heritage and natural resources'. According to him, 'this is not about land handouts...[t]his is about land justice and compensation'.	Age, 1-Sep-06, pg 17.
1-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Change to native title claims</b>	The Federal Government's 'proposal to reform the native title claims resolution process last week aimed to improve the system'. Labor 'expressed concern over the ability of the government to increase its control of native title representative bodies'. Graeme Neate president of the National Native Title Tribunal has said that the reforms 'have the potential for positive outcomes to be reached by agreement'. Labor Senator Chris Evans said that the 'government is considering using the review recommendations to justify resurrecting the so-called Wik 10 point plan'.	Lawyers Weekly, 1-Sep-06, pg 8; 'Outcomes will be streamlined' Koori Mail, 13-Sep-06, pg 35.
1-Sep-06	NSW	<b>Call for halt to spending</b>	A parliamentary committee has said that the time it was allowed to scrutinise the proposed changes to the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill 2006</i> was 'totally inadequate'. The committee was dominated by the coalition and lent its 'guarded support' to the bill where as Labor and other minor parties said that it should be 'rejected'. Labor had proposed that the bill be split with further debate and consultation allowed for the more controversial provisions. This included the 'removal of guaranteed funding for land councils' and '99 year leases on Aboriginal townships'. Central Land Council director David Ross said that the 'amendments could leave mining companies dealing with very small under-resourced and ill-informed bodies and pave the way for bitter disputes within families and communities'.	Central Coast Express Advocate, 1-Sep-06, pg 10.
1-Sep-06	NT	<b>Indigenous Surveillance and Conservation Program</b>	The Minister for the Environment and Heritage Senator Ian Campbell has said that the Government would 'help with the publication of the Dhimurru Sea Country Plan which identifies opportunities for cooperation in marine and coastal management using traditional knowledge and contemporary science'. The plan involves both the Federal and Territory government as well as non-government interests in the management of 'marine and coastal areas for which the Yolngu people have custodial responsibilities'. So far the Government has contributed \$100 000 through the Department of the Environment and Heritage and the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination and the Northern Land Council has contributed \$20 000 to the Dhimurru Land Management Aboriginal Corporation.	Australian Maritime Digest, Sep-06, pg 6.

<p>2-Sep-06</p>	<p>NT</p>	<p><b>In ore of win</b></p>	<p>A partnership between Alcan Gove and the Yothu Yindi Foundation has been selected as the NT winner of the Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Community Business Partnerships. Alcan has a cultural awareness program which has been attended by more than 1500 employees aiming to 'foster relations by giving Alcan workers better practical knowledge of the indigenous culture and laws of the area'. Yothu Yindi foundation director Mandawuy Yunupingu said that the cultural awareness program fulfils the Foundation's aims of 'nurturing traditional culture, creating economic opportunities for Yolgnu and sharing knowledge'.</p>	<p>Northern Territory News, 2-Sep-06, pg 24.</p>
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3-Sep-06	WA	<b>Workers switch to the Mid-West</b>	The mid-West region is experiencing 'strong growth' and demand for residential and light-industrial land'. The 'mid-west's potential as a mineral and petroleum province is beginning to bear fruit' with the 'resulting demand for infrastructure and skilled workers is attracting families and singles to the region'. Subdivision is subject to native title clearance.	Sunday Times, 3-Sep-06, pg 16.
4-Sep-06	WA	<b>Oldest rock art loses out to mine projects</b>	The progress of Australia's largest resources project means that the Howard Government is likely to 'reject calls for blanket heritage listing' of the Burrup Peninsula. Under a new plan, a management plan will be reached with the state government allowing 'development to proceed while reducing the chances of environmental groups launching costly legal challenges to development applications'. This debate 'highlights the conflicting demands of the continuing to foster Australia's resources boom while protecting Aboriginal heritage'.	Australian, 4-Sep-06, pg 1.
4-Sep-06	QLD	<b>Centres 'set up to fail'</b>	Cape York Indigenous leaders have said that that 'fledging land and sea management centres were set up to fail. Strangled by the lack of government support.' Only one centre located at Kowanyama is still operational even though 13 communities in the area receive funding under the Natural Heritage Trust. Larry Woosup, deputy chairman of the Injinoo Land Trust said that the centre was forced to close after "'scratching around" for two years just to pay the bills'. He said that short funding cycles reflected a distrust of Indigenous skills and knowledge. Western Cape Traditional Landowners Corporation chief executive Bruce Gibson, said 17 rangers had to be sacked after funding 'dried up'.	Cairns Post, 4-Sep-06, pg 8.
5-Sep-06	NSW	<b>Aboriginal heritage study of Bago area</b>	An archaeological study of the Bago Plateau has been commissioned by the High Country Conservation Alliance Inc after concerns 'about appropriate management of these non-renewable cultural heritage resources.' There are also important issues over the patterns of Aboriginal land use in the area and persons of Aboriginal descent are encouraged to contact the archaeologist.	Tumut & Adelong Times, 5-Sep-06, pg 1.
5-Sep-06	VIC	<b>End in sight for land rights bid</b>	A provisional determination date has been set to 'end a 10-year battle by the Gunditjmarra people to reclaim 6581 square kilometres of land in Western Victoria'. An in principle agreement has been reached between the Gunditjmarra people and the Commonwealth Government. Mediation meetings will continue to resolve issues under the claim in the lead up to the provisional determination date set by Justice Tony North for December 18.	Warrnambool Standard, 5-Sep-06, pg 5; 'Native Title claim objection Talks' Warrnambool Standard, 2-Sep-06, pg 17; 'Provisional Date set for native title determination' Hamilton Spectator, 16-Sep-06, pg 13.
6-Sep-06	VIC	<b>Yorta Yorta Struggle</b>	Dr Wayne Atkinson, senior lecturer in indigenous studies at Melbourne University said that 'at the end of the long and gruelling native title process, where we witness the way the law and the politics of the day combined to pervert the course of justice in our case, no "tide of history" will ever wash away what we assert is something that always was and always will be Yorta Yorta land.' The story of the struggle for justice has been celebrated in the play <i>Yanagai Yanagai</i> .	Riverine Herald, 6-Sep-06, pg 2.

6-Sep-06	NSW	<b>Land use study to identify heritage</b>	A study undertaken by the Coffs Harbour City Council in the area of Corindi and Red Rock will 'determine future land uses and identify heritage features that may need protection'. The study will 'assist in determining the most appropriate zones for land' and indigenous community stakeholders including the Yarrwarra aboriginal Corporation, the Garby Eldersm the Coffs Harbour and District Aboriginal Land Council were given an outline of the study brief and asked for comment.	Coffs Coast Advocate, 6-Sep-06, pg 6.
7-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Native Title and the seven-year itch</b>	Graham Ring has proposed an alternative to the native title claims process arguing that given the amount of resources spent on native title (\$900 million to date) and the number of determinations (81 to date) there must be a simpler way to resolve claims. He has proposed that 'any claimant application is not resolved within seven years of lodgement shall be deemed proven'. This will shift the power balance and focus of the current system.	National Indigenous Times, 7-Sep-06, pg 19.
7-Sep-06	SA	<b>SA Govt hails consent native title deal</b>	Attorney General Mical Atkinson has said that South Australia's first consent determination is 'historic' and it is the first of its type rather than 'protracted litigation'. The determination covers an area of 18 665 square kilometres of land near Marla and seven pastoral stations with traditional owners and pastoralists sharing rights to access to land. Mr Atkinson said that the 'consent determination is a victory for common sense and is a win for all parties. Aboriginal people have their heritage protected, pastoralists have obtained certainty and clarifying land management and access issues'. He said that the decision was a 'guiding light' to settle the 22 claims in South Australia. Despite legal recognition of native title since 1993 the majority of gains have been achieved through Indigenous Land Use Agreements. Tribunal Member Barty McFarlane said that the 'agreement showed that a diverse group of people could be brought together to settle dispute over native title'. Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Tim Wolley said that 'a significant achievement of the determination was the right of the	National Indigenous Times, 7-Sep-06, pg 9; 'From Marla to Oodnadatta: native title claim settled', National Indigenous Times, 7-Sep-06, pg 14; 'Eyeing a better future' Koori Mail, 13-Sep-06, pg 1; Koori Mail, 13-Sep-06, pg 8; 'Relationships strengthened' Port Augusta Transcontinental 27-Sep-06, pg 4.
7-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Overhauls of Aboriginal Corporations</b>	Aboriginal corporations will be 'subject to tough new rules as part of a Government bid to prevent corruption and mismanagement of money'. Under the new proposal 'Aboriginal corporations will be subject to the same rules as mainstream companies...[forcing] company directors to fulfil certain duties or risk legal action'. The new rules also require approval from members before directors can receive financial benefits. The corporations will have two years to comply with the laws.	Age, 7-Sep-06, pg 8.
12-Sep-06	SA	<b>Indigenous land use talks held with fishing industry</b>	The first of a series of meetings was held between the Bargarla people, Aboriginal legal rights movement, South Australian Fishing Industry council and the Seafood council of south Australia, state government and fishers 'for relationship building between the parties'. Facilitator for the negotiations Derek Stamoulis said that 'land use agreements were a better way of dealing with Native Title rather than going to court'.	Port Lincoln Times, 12-Sep-06, pg 7.
13-Sep-06	QLD	<b>Agreement EPA propaganda</b>	Rodney Parker a Whalebone Bay caretaker has argued that the 'alleged 360hectrea of Aboriginal freehold land is in fact an Aboriginal conservation area' with the further 1320 freehold land transferred to the Yuku-Baja-Muliku people being restricted. The remaining 8830 hectares will become National Park. He said that the 'reality us that the traditional owners have actually handed over most of their land to the EPA and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife service'.	Cooktown Local News, 13-Sep-06, pg 2.

13-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Flaws in program to fight native title</b>	The Australian National Audit Office has 'uncovered flaws in the administration of a \$77 million Federal Government grants program that helps pastoralists, miners, fishers and local government councils respond to native title claims'. The review found that '\$43 million was paid in advance to respondents, with more than \$10 million sitting in trust funds and some organisations collecting the interest earned off the money'. It also found that the Attorney General's Department had failed to 'specify performance indicators for the expenditure' and that there were cases where the department 'held no details in the recipients of the funding'. Senator Chris Evans said that while the Government had been 'happily advancing millions of dollars to peak lobby groups opposing native title claims, with few strings attached, it had been systematically under-funding the Indigenous groups making the claims'.	Koori Mail, 13-Sep-06, pg 29.
13-Sep-06	NT	<b>Permit for indigenous land to be scrapped</b>	The Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Mal Brough said that he 'wanted more changes to the Land Rights Act' and 'appears to set to again clash with state and territory leaders'. He said 'we can no longer allow the situation where children are being abused, where these various serious crimes are being perpetuated on people and where the full glare of Australia' public, through its media, cannot be brought to bear, so that Australian demand this no longer occur'. He said that if the permit system was scrapped, 'journalists and the public would have greater access to communities where abuse and violence were commonplace'. The Northern Land Council said that 'Country Liberal Senator Nigel Scullion supported the permit system and journalists were granted ample access to communities'. The Territory's permit system was established in 1976 and was originally designed to prevent exploitation. Mr Brough's proposal angered Labor MPs Warren Snowdon and Kim Wilkie who were asked to leave parliament. Mr Snowdon said that 'the community [in Maningrida] is already dealing with the tragic set of circumstances. the last thing they need to	Sydney Morning Herald, 13-Sep-06, pg 3; 'Scrap permits plan' Courier Mail, 13-Sep-06, pg 9; 'Brough to scrap land permits', Australian, 13-Sep-06, pg 8; 'Push to end Aboriginal Permit System' Age, 13-Sep-06, pg 3; 'Rights in Doubt' Bendigo Advertiser, 13-Sep-06, pg 15; 'Snowdon Evicted' Northern Territory News, 15-Sep-06, pg 13; 'Aboriginal permits to go' Central Western Daily, 14-Sep-06, pg 4; 'Plan to scrap Aboriginal community permit system' Launceston Examiner, 13-Sep-06, pg 5; 'NT Permit system to be axed: Brough' National Indigenous Times, 21-Sep-06, pg 1.
13-Sep-06	QLD	<b>Cape mining project 'in its early days'</b>	A sand mining project by Matilda Mining on Western Cape York is 'still in its early days' with negotiations continuing with traditional owners for access. Matilda is 'actively seeking to enter into negotiations with the Cape York Land Council and the relevant Community Councils.'	Torres News, 13-Sep-06, pg 2.
13-Sep-06	NSW	<b>State plan to stamp out black cronyism</b>	Aboriginal land councils will be 'forced to seek the approval of regulators for all business and investment activities under reforms designed to bring an end to decades of cronyism and corruption'. Since 1983, 79 000 ha of Crown land has been divested to 121 local Aboriginal land councils which have a combined holding of 1 per cent of NSW with a value of about \$1 billion. NSW Aboriginal Affairs Minister Milton Orkopoulos said that these changes will 'stamp out nepotism' and transform 'land councils from small scale community organisations into "the multi-million dollar corporate structures"'. He hopes that these measures will 'provide local Aboriginal communities with permanent income to fund benefits'.	Australian, 13-Sep-06, pg 8.
14-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Aboriginal permit change "short sighted"</b>	The Western Australian government has said that the federal government's plans to 'strip Aboriginal communities of the right to regulate who comes on to their land is short sighted'. The 'decades old system is designed to protect the privacy and culture of Aboriginal people'. A spokesman for the WA Indigenous Affairs minister said that it was unnecessary for the laws to be changed.	Barrier Daily Truth, 14-Sep-06, pg 7; 'Indigenous land plan 'not on': WA, Maitland Mercury, 14-Sep-06, pg 8' 'Scrapping permit system criticised' North West Star, 14-Sep-06, pg 2.
14-Sep-06	NSW	<b>Land Council hails regulation changes</b>	New rules governing land councils have been welcomed by Dubbo's land council chairman Stephen Ryan who said that 'the Aboriginal Land Act was brought in to help Aboriginal people obtain land but instead some land councils had been selling off that land without accountability or scrutiny'. He said that he was concerned that the 'Aboriginal community of NSW put itself in a position where the government was able to amend legislation some people thought might have been working'.	Daily Liberal, 14-Sep-06, pg 4.

14-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Brennan fights on</b>	In his recent lecture Broome, Father Frank Brennan has said that 'with native title, what's now happening in the Kimberly is similar to what started happening in the Northern Territory in 1976...its important to people to realise that Native title is here to stay'. He said that 'this is an exciting frontier of Australia the fact that here in Broome you can have economic development without traffic lights.'	Broome Advertiser, 14-Sep-06, pg 10.
14-Sep-06	NT	<b>Groote mining pact</b>	The Anindilyakwa people will sign an agreement with mining company GEMCO 'securing ongoing mining operations on Groote Eylandt'. GEMCO, operated by BHP Billiton has been mining manganese on the island since 1969 and has agreed to continue employing indigenous people and commit to rehabilitation.	Northern Territory News, 14-Sep-06, pg 4.
15-Sep-06	NT	<b>Land use deal signed</b>	Traditional owners have signed an indigenous land use agreement covering the Desert Knowledge present south of Alice Springs. The agreement 'recognises native title holders' prior ownership and occupation of the 73 hectares allows development of the block to go ahead providing Aboriginal body Lhere Artepe is consulted'. Minister for Regional development Kon Vatskalis said that the agreement was a 'step forward in creating more jobs for Territorians' and that it gives priority to the Aboriginal body. The NT government has committed \$16.7 m for capital works in the are for the next two financial years.	Centralian Advocate, 15-Sep-06, pg 17.
16-Sep-06	QLD	<b>Green light to China for mine at Aurukun</b>	Chinese Aluminium company Chalco has been given preferred developer status to develop the bauxite mine at Aurukun. Chalco 'now has exclusive rights to complete agreements with the state government and the local Aboriginal community who control the land.' The mine's construction is set to create about 700 jobs in Aurukun.	Cairns Post, 16-Sep-06, pg 43; Townsville Bulletin, 16-Sep-06, pg 20; 'Bauxite Mine goes ahead' Sunday Telegraph, 16-Sep-06, pg 74; 'Massive Aurukun project moves to next stage' Western Cape Bulletin, 21-Sep-06, pg 2.
17-Sep-06	NT	<b>Permits must be scrapped</b>	Peter Murphy has criticised the permit system under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1976 saying that the 'architects of these laws believed that, with their privacy guarded by the permit system, Aborigines would continue to live a traditional life in these Utopian enclaves'. He said that allowing media access will 'force the Government to address the problem[s]' that occur in these communities.	Sunday Territorian, 17-Sep-06, pg 18.
18-Sep-06	WA	<b>Project at risk if rock art deal fails</b>	Development of the Burrup peninsula can be jeopardised if the 'State Government breaches an agreement with Pilbara Aboriginal communities over surveying ancient rock art'. The National Trust WA chief executive Tom Perrigo says that under the Burrup and Maitland industrial estate agreement, the Government agreed that all rock art in the are will be surveyed by 2008. The agreement 'allows development in parts of the region as long as the government and developers adhere to conditions including survey work.'	West Australian, 18-Sep-06, pg 8.

20-Sep-06	WA	<b>Land offer to double Ord River crop area</b>	The State Government is 'set to release land in the long-awaited stage two of the Ord River Irrigation Scheme' and is seeking tenders to develop the land. The settlement with the Miriwung Gajerrong people has 'paved the way for the first major expansion of the Ord scheme' since a dam was placed in the area forming Lake Argyle.	West Australian, 20-Sep-06, pg 50.
20-Sep-06	SA	<b>Kaurna group nomination push</b>	The Tea Tree Gully Council has returned a blank nomination form to the Local Government Kaurna Leadership/Negotiation Group which was set up to keep disputes over land rights out of the courts. This move was designed to 'prod other land councils to become involved' and generate interest in the body set up by the Local Government Association.	Leader Messenger, 20-Sep-06, pg 7.
20-Sep-06	WA	<b>Perth hit by native title win</b>	The Noongar people have successfully claimed native title over metropolitan Perth in an area covering 193 956 sq km . The decision handed down by Justice Murray Wilcox found that the Noongar people 'had proven title existed over the Perth area by continuing to observe traditional customs despite white settlement in 1829 that resulted in widespread dispossession'. Justice Wilcox warned that it was 'neither the pot of gold for the indigenous claimants nor the disaster for the remainder of the community that is sometimes painted'. However Justice Wilcox said that the 'vast majority of private land holders in Perth would be unaffected' and urged discussions with the claimants. The judge listed rights that have survived including the right to access and live in the area, to conserve and use the natural resources of the area for the benefit of the native title holders, to maintain protect sites of significance, to carry out economic activities, to conserve, use and enjoy natural resources, to control access to and use the area by Aboriginal people who seek to use the area according to traditional law and custom, to use the area to teach and	Australian, 20-Sep-06, pg 1; 'Aborigines win ownership over Perth' Sydney Morning Herald, 20-Sep-06, pg 5; 'Aboriginals want native title over 185 000 sq km of WA' West Australian, 20-Sep-06, pg 1; 'Aborigines win ownership over Perth' Sydney Morning Herald, 20-Sep-06, pg 5; 'Tribal title to Perth upheld, Hobart Mercury, 20-Sep-06; 'Tribal title to Perth upheld', Hobart Mercury, 20-Sep-06, pg 16; 'WA rejects land claim' Herald Sun, 20-Sep-06, pg 17; 'WA Government to appeal against Noongar people's native title claim' Canberra Times, 20-Sep-06, pg 5; 'Looming native title fight' Burnie Advocate, 20-Sep-06, pg 30; 'Landmark native title win over Perth' Australian Financial Review, 20-Sep-06, pg 3; 'Govt rejects title ruling' Ballarat Courier, 20-Sep-06, pg 13; 'Native title win' Northern Daily Leader, 20-Sep-06, pg 9; 'title over Perth' Koori mail, 27-Sep-06, pg 4.
20-Sep-06	WA	<b>Way open for other city claims</b>	Chris Merritt has argued that 'the Federal court decision had dramatically increased the bargaining power of native title claimants and cleared the way claims over other capital cities'. He argues that the 'Western Australian government now has little choice but to compromise with Aborigines who have successfully claimed title over Perth'. The burden of proving extinguishment now rests with the Government which according to Christine Lovitt from Blakiston & Crabb would be an 'absolute nightmare' to resolve. Doubts about the future tenure of land can also 'stymie new land releases'.	Australian, 20-Sep-06, pg 4.
21-Sep-06	WA	<b>WA native title claim concern</b>	Justice Murray Wilcox has declared that 'Western Australia' Noongar people the traditional owners of almost 200 000sq km of the state's south-west' granting native title over 6000 sq km including Perth and its surrounding areas. The decision was 'slammed by the WA Government and provoked concern among politicians from both major parties'. The decision does not affect freehold land but John Howard has said that there can still be 'residual native title in a major settled metropolitan area'. He also said that the decision was 'at odds' with aspects of the High Courts findings. WA Liberals Senator Alan Eggleston 'attacked the ruling' and said that 'native title had delayed developments and land releases in northern WA towns'. Glen Kelly executive of the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council said that 'these claims are just scaremongering'.	Launceston Examiner, 21-Sep-06, pg 20.
21-Sep-06	Wa	<b>Mine dispute resolved</b>	A mine dispute between Golden West Resources and (GWR) and the Goldfields Land and Sea Council (GLSC) has been resolved. The GLSC initially requested the Department of Indigenous Affairs to stop work after claims that Aboriginal heritage sites were located at the mine and work was suspended for an independent survey of the area. GLSC executive director Brian Wyatt was critical of the Department of Indigenous Affairs saying that they 'were completely unable to enforce the process of protecting the heritage sites'.	Mid-West Times, 21-Sep-06, pg 7.

21-Sep-06	WA	<b>Negotiation smoothes way for Canadian settlement</b>	The Tsawwassen First Nation of Canada lodged a claim over Vancouver, the Capital of British Columbia. In contrast to the Noongar claim which 'faces the prospect of even more litigation' the 'Tsawwassen and the provincial and federal governments are putting the final touches on comprehensive treaties for the Vancouver group and a number of other groups'. In contrast to Australian Governments which 'have tended to leave difficult legal issues to the court, in British Columbia everything has been on the negotiating table and the settlements have been part of a broader reconciliation process'. BC Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Michael de Jong said that 'at the end of the day, the challenge in part is to ensure that the settlement provides a sufficient economic base and that the First Nation can establish a degree of self-sufficiency and economic sustainability'. He said that the 'negotiators for the parties need to be prepared to sit down and be imaginative about creating the appropriate mix [of cash and land] and doing so in a way that meets the needs of First Nations but is also affordable to government'.	Australian Financial Review, 21-Sep-06, pg 61.
21-Sep-06	QLD	<b>Renewed effort to quarry landmark</b>	Cairns geologist Vali Yousefpour has had his planning bid 'to permit quarrying of the 120 m high Behana Gorge Hill has been knocked back' three since between 1993 to 2004. The council has rejected his bid because of the 'vegetation, hill slope scenic significant and unresolved Aboriginal Cultural heritage' in the area.	Cairns Post, 21-Sep-06, pg 5.
21-Sep-06	QLD	<b>Brisbane native title pending</b>	A claim lodged by the Turrbal people over 65.9 sq km of land in Brisbane will be part heard by the Federal Court on October 27. The Noongar decision, the 'first to find that native title exists over the metropolitan area of any Australian capital city' has 'buoyed the groups' hopes of success in Brisbane'.	Courier Mail, 21-Sep-06, pg 20.
21-Sep-06	WA	<b>Ruling 'may delay development'</b>	WA Liberal Senator Alan Eggleston has said that 'granting of native title of Perth could see people charged fees to access the city's public parks and waterways [and] significantly delay development and land releases'. The Noongar community has said that this claims are 'baseless scaremongering'.	Daily News, 21-Sep-06, pg 13; Gladstone Observer, 21-Sep-06, pg 12; Gympie Times, 21-Sep-06, pg 22; News Mail, 21-Sep-06, pg 12; Queensland Times, 21-Sep-06, pg 12; Daily Mercury, 21-Sep-06, pg 10; Toowoomba Chronicle, 21-Sep-06, pg 22; 'People face fees for parks: Senator' Townsville Bulletin, 21-Sep-06, pg 18.
21-Sep-06	WA	<b>Why State has to challenge Perth Native title ruling</b>	The West Australian has argued that while 'native title is neither a pot of gold for the claimants nor the disaster for the remainder of the communities' it is 'also true that native title delivers confusion, consternation, public expense and commercial uncertainty'. Despite acknowledging the 'symbolic win' for the Noongar claimants who were acknowledged for the 'occupation of the land before European settlement and their continued traditional associations with it' the article notes that 'this leads to uncertainties about identifying land on which native title may exists' spawning 'disputes about the practical affects of rights and privileges'.	West Australian, 21-Sep-06, pg 20.
21-Sep-06	NATOINAL	<b>Howard and Beazley unite in native title fight</b>	Both the Prime Minister and Federal Opposition Leader have 'encouraged the West Australian Government to appeal against the [Noongar] decision. John Howard has said that 'many people will regard it as somewhat incongruous [that] there could still be some residual native title' and my Beazley said that the 'decision appeared to be different from previous native title rulings'. The Western Australian Government has 21 days to consider an appeal.	Sydney Morning Herald, 21-Sep-06, pg 5; 'PM ponders appeal in Perth Title claim' Daily Telegraph, 21-Sep-06, pg 23; 'Appeal likely as native title granted over Perth' Koori mail, 27-Sep-06, pg 1.



21-Sep-06	WA	<b>Questions hand over native title law ruling</b>	The State Government has been 'unable to clear up massive confusion over ramifications of the [Noongar] decision, including whether it would put further barriers in the way of the release of land for development' in an areas covered by the claim. A spokesman for the Deputy Premier Eric Ripper said that it 'would not have a significant impact on most people because native title has been widely extinguished'. He also said that land releases in the area have complied with the native title act. However he said that the decision was not 'consistent with High Court precedent and was not convinced that all Noongar people had authorised the court action'.	West Australian, 21-Sep-06, pg 1.
21-Sep-06	WA	<b>Native title over Perth</b>	Prime Minister John Howard has "considerable concern" about the successful Noongar determination and 'will examine whether to join an appeal against it'. The determination covers 6000sq km including Perth and its surround and has been criticised by both Mister Howard and the Federal Opposition Leader.	Northern Daily, 21-Sep-06, pg 9.
21-Sep-06	VIC	<b>Native title claim looms</b>	There is speculation that 'a native title claim could be made over metropolitan Melbourne after [the Noongar] landmark ruling'. The Wurundjeri 'said they were encouraged' by the Federal Court decision. Wurundjeri spokeswoman Professor Joy Murphy-Wandin said 'her clan had been considering a native title claim over Melbourne for some time' but 'were not interested in claiming people's backyards and if the claim were lodged it would be a symbolic move'. She said that 'native title claims are about recognition [and] people working together based on the true history of the country or that particular area'.	Herald Sun, 21-Sep-06, pg 10.
21-Sep-06	WA	<b>Taking the fight from native title</b>	Federal court judge Murray Wilcox has taken a pragmatic approach to deciding the merits of the Noongar native title claim over metropolitan Perth and advised the parties involved to do likewise to resolve the issues created by his judgment'. In his judgment he identified 'rights to access and live on an areas to use its natural resources to maintain and protect areas of significance, to carry out economic activities such as hunting and fishing to use the natural resources for customary and traditional purposes, to control access in accordance with tradition law and custom and to use the area for teaching and passing on knowledge.' His decision recognised that the 'Noongar community had continued to exist despite the descent system being disrupted through mixed marriage ad people being forced off their land and dispersed to other areas'.	Australian, 21-Sep-06, pg 13.
21-Sep-06	WA	<b>Noongar families out to prove the sceptics wrong</b>	Ted Hart chairman of the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council said that the Noongar people are not 'after people's backyards' 'but 'recognition and if we get any type of benefits its to run businesses and train our people'. He said that the community was using native title as a 'resource to better ourselves'. He said 'We've always had people call us half-castes tat you've got to be from the desert to be a true Aborigine. This claim shows them that we are Aboriginal people'. Last week, an agreement was signed with Boddington Gold Mines over a mine in a larger Noongar land claim. The agreement includes apprenticeships and jobs for the Noongar community.	Australian, 21-Sep-06, pg 4. See also 'Should we be worried' Albany Advertiser, 26-Sep-06, pg 6.
21-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Showing the link though insoluble</b>	Judge Murray Wilcox's decision's has overcome 'problems that lawyers considered to be insoluble'. While acknowledging the set rules of the Yorta decision, he 'applies those rules in a way that native title lawyers describe as "novel"'. Blakiston and Crabb partner Christine Lovitt said that 'he is a brave man to be out there on his own'. His decision was based on the acceptance that it had been established 'upon the probabilities' that 'some members of the present day Noongar community were descended from one or more Noongars'. Further he rejected evidence tendered by the state that 'traditional' Swan valley Aborigines had died out 'saying that this 'disregarded mixed blood Aborigines'. Further he recognised the impact of expulsion from the Perth region saying that it was not surprising that 'people were mixed up in terms of identification with particular country.'	Australian, 21-Sep-06, pg 4.

21-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Native title row divides the ALP</b>	The outcome of the Noongar native title ruling has placed national president Warren Mundine 'at odds' with opposition leader Kim Beazley. His 'swift support for a state appeal against the court decision outraged indigenous labour members'. Mr Mundine said that he was 'not surprised by the West Australian Labor Government's move to signal an appeal' and said that people should 'calm down' and 'start looking at the benefits that could come out of this'. Indigenous leader Linda Burney said that 'people need to understand that native title is a property right like any other property rights in Australia'.	Australian, 21-Aug-06, pg 1 'Mundine Heaves ALP over Perth land rights' Australian, 27-Sep-06, pg 1.
22-Sep-06	WA	<b>Fear of native title land grab in cities</b>	Federal Attorney General Phillip Ruddock has said that 'more native title claimed over metropolitan areas could be made after...[the]Federal Court's decision to recognise native title rights over the city of Perth'. The decision held that the 'Noongar people were found to have proved their claim to an area of land' covering 193 956 sq km from Hopetoun to Jurien Bay. Judge Murray Wilcox was 'satisfied that the Noongar people had shown their society had been maintained since European settlement in 1829'. Mr Ruddock said that "it is not possible to guarantee that continued public access to all such areas in major capital cities in Australia would be protected from a claim to exclusive native title". Even though the court decision recognised native title 'the future of specific areas will be decided after further consideration of the ways the land have been used and whether those uses are consistent with traditional life'.	Sydney Morning Herald, 22-Sep-06, pg 5; 'Ruddock warns on native title ruling' Age, 22-Sep-06, pg 7.
22-Sep-06	QLD	<b>Top Adviser backs native title claim</b>	National Indigenous Council member Wesley Aird and descendants of the Yugambah people have filed a claim over the Gold Coast covering 1330 sq km. He said that 'local state and federal Governments don't recognise Aboriginal communities its like they won't even consider any Aboriginal people that aren't living around a camp fire'. Mr Aird said that the 'action was not a land grab and that the the original owners mainly...wanted was due recognition of original ownership'. The claim 'is inclusive of all traditional owners and covers all vacant Crown land and seabeds from the Logan River in the north to the Tweed River in the south...[and] is for procedural rights [that] will give Aborigines the right to be consulted about land management of cultural heritage.'	Australian 22-Sep-06, pg 1 'Native title bid on coast' Courier Mail, 22-Sep-06, pg 15; Gladstone Observer, 26-Sep-06, pg 7; 'Tweed native title claim' daily News, 22-Sep-06, pg 1; 'Title fight to hit the Court' Gold Coast Sun, 27-Sep-06, pg 9; 'Perth Noongar win prompts Gold Coast native title claim' West Australian 29-Sep-06, pg 39; 'Don't panic, says Boyd' Border Tweed Mail, 28-Sep-06, pg 10; 'Naive title claim to target Tweed' Border Tweed Mial, 28-Sep-06, pg 10.
22-Sep-06	VIC	<b>Melbourne may face title claim</b>	The Bunurong people have lodged a native title claim over waters in Melbourne's Docklands precinct stretching from Werribee to Point Nepean. Executive secretary of the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Sonia Murray said that 'her people were opposed to the channel deepening project'. She said that she doubted that the Bunurong could stop the project but said that 'they could use their claim to have their concerns heard'. Ms Murray also said 'I don't think they have investigated enough the ramifications and I don't think they have communicated with any Aboriginal community enough about it.'	Australian, 22-Sep-06, pg 4.
22-Sep-06	WA	<b>WA faces native title law nightmare: Ripper</b>	Deputy Premier Eric Ripper has said that 'WA could be plunged into long and expensive legal fights with Aboriginal groups...if the Government failed to overturn...the landmark ruling recogn[ising] the Noongar people's traditional ownership of Perth.' He said that the uncertainty caused by the judgment can 'lead to a flood of litigation, jeopardising the State's successful record of out-of-court negotiations.' According to him, 'the Noongar decision set completely different legal precedents from previous native title cases'.	West Australian, 22-Sep-06, pg 1.
22-Sep-06	WA	<b>Future mining activity 'may be hit'</b>	Blakiston and Crabb mining specialist Christine Lovitt said that 'a successful claim over the South West would raise the value of any compensation which may be paid to native title holder potentially making it uneconomic to explore certain mine areas'. However a spokesperson for BHP said that the decision would have "minimal impact".	West Australian 22-Sep-06, pg 4.

22-Sep-06	NSW	<b>Native title no threat to suburbia</b>	<p>Labor president Warren Mundine has said that concerns over the recent Noongar decision are 'just hysteria'. He said that the decision recognised 'that Aboriginal culture is a continuing living culture and it can change' and that 'anyone who implied the decision would affect private land and public open space in other capital cities needs mental help'. Goldfields Land and Sea Council executive director Brian Wyatt said that 'justice Wilcox specifically ruled out suburban backyards as an issue and indications are that new land releases in the metropolitan area will not be unduly affected.'</p>	<p>Daily Advertiser, 22-Sep-06, pg 8; 'Backyards 'safe'; 'Backyard Hysteria' Adelaide Advertiser, 22-Sep-06, pg 12; 'Call to halt hysteria' Townsville Bulletin, 22-Sep-06, pg 10; 'Suburban backyard threat is 'hysteria' Launceston Examiner, 22-Sep-06, pg 4; 'GLSC Welcomes native title Win' Kalgoorlie Miner, 21-Sep-06, pg 5; 'Hysterical reaction to Noongar ruling' 27-Sep-06, pg 2006.</p>
22-Sep-06	WA	<b>Rich shire lies on an uncertain shore</b>	<p>Graeme Simpson, Peppermint Grove Shires chief executive said that the future of the Swan River frontage was uncertain. In the past traditional owners have been consulted over construction in the area, but the implications of the recent native title decision are uncertain. However 'local governments across the state preferred to work out native title rights by cooperation rather than litigation'.</p>	<p>Australian, 22-Sep-06, pg 4.</p>
22-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Rethink Perth appeal: Keating</b>	<p>Paul Keating 'accused the West Australian Labor Government...of reacting with seemly haste to the Perth native title decision'. He said that 'a state government should consider its social, economic and cultural terms before it decides to do something like this'. Mr Keating said that following the Mabo decision "the shock jocks had all the backyards going, and the Hills hoists. That wasn't true then and all these reactions aren't true now". State MP Carol Martin who belongs to the Noongar claim group said that the 'state should move towards compensation for traditional owners'.</p>	<p>Australian, 22-Sep-06, pg 4.</p>
22-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Foes of native title care only for the rich</b>	<p>Member of the National Indigenous Council Wesley Aird argues that what is 'really upsetting people, is that a group of Aboriginal people [have] demonstrated tradition and culture can survive in an urban setting. The decision is long overdue win for the underdogs and shows federal legislation can help overcome the state's bullying Aborigines'. He also emphasised that 'native title alone was never going to deliver indigenous Australians from economic wilderness [and that] Judge Murray Wilcox made it plain the decision is not a pot of gold for the indigenous claimants.' However the decision has the 'potential to help overcome indigenous disadvantage' by giving people a 'legislative right to be consulted, and sometimes that's all people want, even if there is no certainty about what comes out of the discussion'. According to him 'the real challenge goes to the fundamentals of Australian society'. He questions why 'state governments begrudge indigenous Australians the chance of a rare victory?' According to him, the Noongar people 'are entitled to use very price of legislation and even</p>	<p>Australian 22-Sep-06, pg 14.</p>
22-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Native title adversary proves tribe's friend</b>	<p>Sydney based barrister Vance Hughston, has worked on six native entitle cases over the last decade, five of which he successfully contested as a barrister for various governments including the 2003 Yorta Yorta decision. He's decision to represent the Noongar people was an "interesting challenge" given that he is more familiar with the "other side of the fence". He said that he "certainly has not political axe to grind" since he was a barrister and takes whatever case that comes his way. However he also said that he wouldn't put his "reputation on the line" for a weak case. Commenting on Justice Murray Wilcox's determination he said 'its a very difficult decision because it involves a capital city and an Aboriginal community who have had the rough end of the stick for 180 years...they are among the most marginalised Aborigines in all of Australia but they have kept their culture strong over all that time'.</p>	<p>Australian, 22-Sep-06, pg 25.</p>
22-Sep-06	WA	<b>Native title fear 'ill-founded'</b>	<p>Senior lawyers have refuted claims of Federal attorney General Phillip Ruddock that 'it is not possible to guarantee continued public access to all such areas in major capital cities in Australia would be protected from a claim to exclusive native title'. However in only 'two cases, in the remote Western Desert, have Aborigines been able to establish exclusive possession of their land despite the fact that all native title claims are framed in such a manner'. Robyn Glindeman of Allens Arthur Robinson said that it 'would be difficult to that in any metropolitan area'. Council that appeared for the Noongar people Vance Hughston 'rejected claims that the decision by Justice Murray Wilcox was at odds with court decisions in relation to the Larrakia people'. He said that 'people criticising the Noongar decision failed to distinguish between findings of fact and findings of law'. He said that he was involved in both the Larrakia and Yorta Yorta cases and said that the facts 'bore no resemblance to this [case]'.</p>	<p>Australian Financial Review, 22-Sep-06, pg 17.</p>

22-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Major parties polish their appeal to Hansonite sentiments</b>	The decision of Justice Murray Wilcox has redefined "connection between indigenous Australians and land is interesting on many levels". Both the Federal Government and opposition have indicated that they will appeal the decision. However even if the judgment 'remains undisturbed there will be no sweeping change to current metropolitan land holdings'. Wilcox J has 'dealt with only a threshold question. Extinguishment of native title is more than likely to still operate in a blanket fashion where freehold and leasehold title already exist'. However 'that's not the impression left by senior politicians' with the Prime Minister saying 'I'm quite concerned about its possible implications' and that 'there could still be some residual native -title claim in a major settled metropolitan area'. Mr Beazley supported an appeal saying that 'it does seem a different decision from decisions previously taken by the High Court'. The Democrats saw the decision as 'a test for the whole nation' with Andrew Bartlett saying 'our nation failed the maturity test after the major native title decisions of Mabo, W	Backyards 'safe': Mundine', 22-Sep-06, pg 14; 'Federal Govt may join WA in native title appeal' Canberra Times, 21-Sep-06, pg 3; 'Fears over titi;' Burnie Advocate, 21-Sep-06, pg 12.
22-Sep-06	VIC	<b>State to represent councils</b>	A coalition of applicant groups including the Dja Dja Wurrung group are seeking a regional settlement in a large part of an area covered by the Buloke Shire Council. A series of meetings have been held with the local government councils, the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the National Native Title Tribunal. Administration manager Alan Middleton said that 'sufficient clarity in the claims has not been achieved to allow the State of Victoria, as a major respondent in the claims, to make the offer that it can act as representative of all the various Local Government respondents.' This will mean that the local councils will withdraw as respondents and allow the State of Victoria to represent them in mediation and settlement negotiations.	Buloke Times, 22-Sep-06, pg 3.
25-Sep-06	NSW	<b>Land council to start a new era</b>	The Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council's administration will end. And general manager Andrew Smith said 'the land council had a new corporate structure that would help it manage both business and cultural heritage interests'. The new community business plan is meant to be reflective of the 'true needs of the Worimi people and Aboriginal communities'.	Newcastle Herald, 25-Sep-06, pg 14.
26-Sep-06	VIC	<b>Aboriginal trust's land bid</b>	Land near Port Fairy designated for a public reserve will be handed to the Farmingham Aboriginal Trust to 'protect cultural sites'. The Moyne Shire Councillors are discussing whether 'rate payers will have the opportunity to comment on the proposal made by the trust chief executive Geoff Clark'.	Warrnambool Standardm 26-Sep-06, pg 5.
26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Negotiation the way to SA boom</b>	Acting Executive Officer of the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (ALRM) has said that the ALRM and the Congress of Native Title Management Committee endorses a program 'for native title agreements which is marked by sensible negotiation rather than expensive litigation'. It is marked by the 'recognition that legitimate interests in land can be held in common with no disadvantage to either side'.	Adelaide Advertiser, 26-Sep-06, pg 17.
26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Land lock-out claims denied</b>	The Western Australian Government has 'dismissed claims that people may be locked out of Perth's Parks and beaches because of a Federal Court ruling granting native title over the city'. However the Premier, Alan Carpenter has said that 'the ruling is "highly inconsistent" with previous judgments'. The Federal and Western Australian Government are considering an appeal.	Sydney Morning Herald, 26-Sep-06, pg 6; Queensland Times, 26-Sep-06, pg 12; 'Native Title 'Furore' Northern Territory News, 26-Sep-06, pg 9; Gympie Times, 26-Sep-06, pg 6; Gladstone Observer, 26-Sep-06, pg 9; Daily News, 26-Sep-06, pg 9; Daily Mercury, 26-Sep-06, pg 10; Toowoomba Chronicle, 26-Sep-06, pg 19; 'Claims ridiculous' Adelaide Advertiser, 26-Sep-06, pg 12; 'Native title allegations "ridiculous" Barrier Daily Truth, 26-Sep-06, pg 8; 'Native title no threat: Premier. Border Mail, 26-Sep-06, pg 12; Fraser Coast Chronicle, 26-Sep-06, pg 17.

26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Native title decision creates baseless hysteria in nation</b>	Justice Murray Wilcox's decision 'to accept the native title claim of the Noongar people over metropolitan Perth defies a run of court decisions that have essentially held tight the status quo that was affirmed in the Yorta Yorta case'. Even though 'its difficult to imagine indigenous communities that have not been severely fractured from their land by colonisation, what is so extraordinary about the Noongar decision is that no matter how high the High Court sets its hurdles of proof, there are Aboriginal communities capable of proving to the umpteenth degree their traditional connection to their country.' More importantly, 'what is ignored by punters and defeats their angst is the fact that there exists in this country a litany of successful agreements that have given indigenous people native title over land without one white Australian being reefed from their Hills Hoist'.	Toowoomba Chronicle, 26-Sep-06, pg 9.
26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Premier reluctant to appeal over title</b>	West Australian Premier Alan Carpenter has said that 'he would prefer not the appeal the [Noongar] ruling'. He said that 'he had not doubt the Noongar people were the traditional owners of the land in metropolitan Perth as recognised by the Federal Court...and it was important that any action by the government maintained a good outcome for them'. His comments contrast with the response of Deputy premier Eric Ripper and Labor leader Kim Beazley and have been welcomed by South Aboriginal Land and Sea Council executive Glen Kelly. The Premier said that the 'State Government had a solid record of negotiating consent agreements on native title without litigation. He said he did not want this put at risk by legal uncertainty.'	Australian, 26-Sep-06, pg 3.
26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Native title rule probed</b>	There is uncertainty over the implications of the Noongar decision for Perth. The City of South Perth 'says a comprehensive study is needed to determine the full effect of last week's landmark native title ruling on local governments. Mayor John Collins says that it 'will wait to see whether the State Government appealed against the decision before commenting on implications for the city'. The second limb of the claim concerning the extent to which native title has been extinguished is yet to be determined.	Southern Gazette, 26-Sep-06, pg 1.
26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Land title secure</b>	Belmont and Victoria Park Councils have 'moved to reassure residents that most of the land within their boundaries will not be affected' by the Noongar native title ruling. They 'confirmed that most of the land in their municipalities was owned freehold, which extinguished any native title claims'. The 'foreshores areas of McCallum Park and Tylor Reserve' may be affected. portions of airport land in the City of Belmont may also be affected but 'Belmont Mayor Glenys Godfrey said 'the Federal Government's lease of the land to the airport could overrule native title'. Town corporate and customer services executive manager Brian Callander said that 'it was unlikely the claim would affect planning now or in the future.'	Southern Gazette, 26-Sep-06, pg 1.
26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Free kick for carps</b>	Western Hugh has argued that 'Indigenous people everywhere would no doubt be feeling a strong sense of betrayal by politicians, give that they have so successfully and skilfully used <i>wadjella</i> (white fella) methods to achieve justice, only to be potentially thwarted again by further legal action'. He says that the Government' strategy 'seems out of step with labor politics' particularly where ministers are known to acknowledge the traditional owners of land. He says that this should be an opportunity to 'ensure that future West Australians are in a just and equitable partnership that reflects both our indigenous and colonial past and a shared future.'	Western Suburbs Weekly, 26-Sep-06, pg 2.
26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Opportunity not a crisis</b>	University of WA law lecturer David Ritter has said that the Noongar decision is an opportunity rather than a crisis. He said 'despite the alarmist rhetoric of Mr Ruddock, there is nothing to be concerned about here...rather the decision presents an opportunity to deal with a range of land and heritage matters in a comprehensive and effective way.' Mr Ritter also noted that 'it is normal practice for native title matters to resolved by negotiation and there is not reason why the Noongar claim neede any different'. He said the 'Noongar native title holders would need to clearly set out a realistic set of negotiation aspirations, while the State would need to carefully evaluate what was possible an what it wanted form the negotiations, but there is room for creativity.'	Western Suburbs Weekly, 26-Sep-06, pg 5.

26-Sep-06	WA	<b>Elder applauds native title</b>	Wardandi Elder Bill Webb has 'applauded last week's native title decision' saying that the ruling was 'the first step in a 176 year journey for recognition of continuity in Aboriginal Culture'. He said that 'it was a contradiction that WA and federal Government had rejected the decision (to uphold the Perth claim) since Government agencies regularly called on Aboriginal elders for advice in land matters'. 'The commonwealth and WA lawyers fight against is to take care of their long term visions; but the are not worried about our long term visions' he said. He also said that the Government had 'use native title to create fear and division that homes and farms would be taken'.	The Capes Herald, 26-Sep-06, pg 3.
26-Sep-06	WA	<b>No need to be scared: Elder</b>	Aboriginal Elder and Swan River Plains spokesman Richard Wilkes 'wants all residents to know' that the Noongar decision will not affect their properties. He said 'we want people to understand that we are the traditional owners and we were here first. it means that we will have a sense of equality...to be able to say hey we are part of this country too.' He also wants West Australians to know that the 'Noongar people would not close the door on developers. However they would have to be part of the negotiation process when it came to land developments'.	Guardian Express, 26-Sep-06, pg 3; 'Landmark decision' Eastern Suburbs reporter, 26-Sep-06, pg 1; 'Elder Lauds land ruling' Western Suburbs Weekly, 26-Sep-06, pg 5.
27-Sep-06	ACT	<b>Native title breakdown</b>	Chief Minister Jon Stanhope said that 'negotiations between the ACT government and a family that lodged a native title claim over the territory broke down because the family failed to meet deadlines'. The claim made on behalf of the Nggunawal traditional owners encompasses 'Namadgi National Park and all vacant Crown land within the ACT'. The claim was lodged by Damien Bell four years ago which was rejected by the National Native title Tribunal which ordered the claimants and the government to enter into mediation.	Canberra Times, 27-Sep-06, pg 3.
27-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Native title appeal had caucus worried</b>	Labor backbenchers are unimpressed with the response of Deputy Premier Eric Ripper to questions of a pending appeal. One MP said 'we wanted to know exactly what they want to appeal and they couldn't tell us'. Mr Ripper said 'the government is interested in there being consistent native title laws right across the country and right across the State'. It seemed that no one on the Labor back bench looked particularly impressed with the line of logic'.	West Australian, 27-Sep-06, pg 8.
27-Sep-06	WA	<b>Callous, short sighted decision</b>	A decision by the Western Australian Government to allow Woodside Petroleum to develop a gas installation on the Burrup Peninsula has 'drawn heavy criticism'. WA indigenous affairs minister Sheila Mc Hale has said that she 'would allow Woodside to proceed on part of its \$5 billion Pluto project if it can re-route a transportation pipe and access road away from rock art and ceremonial sites in the area'. James Donnelly has argued that 'there can be few if any discussions made by any Government rank possibly the most callous, short sighted, and money driven as the one made recently by both the State and Federal Governments giving Woodside permission to systematically destroy ancient rock art on the Burrup Peninsula.' He said 'the development of the gas terminal does not depend on destroying these historical artefacts. Land is one thing we have an abundance in this State and for them to claim that future projects would be put at risk is a falsehood of the highest order.' The Goldfields Land and Se council has also said that it was an 'unacceptable body blow to Australia's indigenous heritage'. Executive Director Bryan Wyatt said 'our culture r	Kalgoorlie Miner, 27-Sep-06, pg 2; 'Burrup ruling blasted' Koori mail, 27-Sep-06, pg 5.
27-Sep-06	NSW	<b>Major changes for the Land Rights Act</b>	After a two year review of the legislation, the NSW Government is set to introduce major changes to the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983. These changes, according to State aboriginal Affairs minister Milton Orkopouous are designed to 'address shortfalls in the NSW land council system, which has been dogged for years by allegations of corruption, nepotism and mismanagement.' Local councils hold 1 per cent of NSW land and at April tis year the Statutory Investment Fund stood at \$638 million. The changes include local aboriginal and councils will need approval for business and investment activities, board members and councillors must take training to understand their responsibilities under the act, and the number of regions will I be reduced form 13 to six.	Koori Mail, 27-Sep-06, pg 6.

29-Sep-06	WA	<b>WA Labor to fight native title ruling</b>	The Western Australian Government has announced that the 'Government would appeal against [the Noongar decision] granting native title over Perth'. Premier Alan Carpenter said that 'while he recognised the Noongar people were the traditional owners of the south west of Western Australia he owed it to his state to get legal clarity on native title law'. He said that the decision was 'inconsistent with other rulings...mak[ing] it difficult for governments mining companies developers and others to negotiate with Aborigines on land deals'.	Age, 29-Sep-06, pg 8; 'Title plea' 29-Sep-06, pg 9; 'Lawyers urge appeal' daily Telegraph, 29-Sep-06, pg 31; 'Premier braced for native title appeal' West Australian, 29-Sep-06, pg 1' WA to appeal native title ruling' Australian Financial Review 29-Sep-06, pg 15; 'Native title challenge' Canberra Times, 29-Sep-06, pg 6.
29-Sep-06	NATIONAL	<b>Does the law really support native title to Perth?</b>	The Perth native title claim is a part of a larger claim known as the Single Noongar claim. In order to 'expedite the determination and achieve some certainty over Perth metropolitan area' that parties agreed that the court was only required to consider a 'separate question' which is why 'authorisation' and 'extinguishment' was not considered. In terms if the separate question Wilcox J found that despite the "enormous forces [which assailed Noongar society since 1829 making it impossible for many of the traditional laws and customs to be maintained]" the claimants had maintained their connection to the land. He identified eight native title rights and interests but said that 'the formal terms of a determination of native title would need to be agreed by discussions between the parties'. He also indicated that if agreement could not be reach than 'the enormous task of searching the tenure of every piece of parcel of land within the Perth Metropolitan area would...add significant cost and delay'. The Yorta Yorta decision was believed to make it very difficult to succeed in claims in areas of intensive settlement. However Wilcox	The Australian, 29-Sep-06, pg 24.
29-Sep-06	WA	<b>Ripper drowned out on title</b>	A rally of about 400 demonstrators outside parliament house 'shouted down' Western Australian Treasurer Eric Ripper when 'after first acknowledging the Noongars were the traditional owners of the land, said the Government had to consider the impact on native title law'. He said 'against our most basic philosophical instincts we have to consider the implications of this decision for the application of native title rights across the state of Western Australia'. '[C]ries of "shame" rang out before the protestors began booing and chanting "no appeal, no appeal".'	Australian, 29-Sep-06, pg 7; 'rally lashes Ripper on title appeal' 29-Sep-06, pg 7; See also 'Noongar rally over Native Title Claim'. 28-Sep-06, pg 2.
29-Sep-06	QLD	<b>Native title claim 'threatens Spit'</b>	A native title claim over the Gold Coast is being assessed by the National Native title Tribunal 'amid fears valuable land such as The Spit could be at risk'. Gold Coast Liberal MP Steven Cibo said that 'there can be not doubt that if this claim was successful it would present significant problems for development of unallocated Crown land'. He said that a successful claim could result in 'millions of dollars of compensation'. Claimant spokeswoman Wesley Aird said that Mr Cibo's comments were 'reckless and needed to "get his facts straight" before "mouthing off"'.	Gold Coast Bulletin, 28-Sep-06, pg 7; 'Title claim' Sunshine Coast Daily, 29-Sep-06, pg 13; 'native title claim on coast assessed' Courier Mail, 29-Sep-06, pg 23.
29-Sep-06	NT	<b>99-year land leas disquiet</b>	Lingari MHR Warren Snowdon 'said NT cabinet Minister Marion Scrymgour was reflecting indigenous feelings when she said there had not been enough consultation.' He said that 'people are genuinely worried the lease proposal will mean they lose control of their land'. Leasing itself is not the problem since Aboriginal people have been leasing land for commercial and resource development 'but the fact that they would be expected to sign over their land to a body that they don't control or own'. He said that 'it's nothing less than a fundamental assault on the nature of Aboriginal land ownership.' Ms Scrymgour said that; it is imperative we involve indigenous people in the process, including the traditional owners of the land'.	Northern Territory News, 29-Sep-06, pg 4.
29-Sep-06	WA	<b>Native title and the laws of our fair land</b>	Michael Lavarch dean of the QUT faculty of law has argued that the Noongar decision is 'not a new development in the law'. He argues that 'all land holders are able to use their land as they always have and whether any native title rights continue in the region will depend on the history of the Aboriginal peoples in the South east'. Mr Lavarch said that 'a principle controversy in the Yorta Yorta decision and repeated in the recent Noongar case is the extent to which the courts require that Aboriginal traditional laws have resisted change from pre-European times'. Accordingly 'where evolution of traditional laws ends and abandonment begins is a matter that the courts are sometimes required to decide.'	The Courier Mail, 29-Sep-06.