

Native Title in the News - October 2011

Date	Region	Subject	Summary	Source
05/10/11	AUS	Mabo telemovie	The ABC's telemovie, <i>Mabo</i> , will begin filming at various far north Queensland locations in early November. The telemovie tells the story of Eddie Mabo's challenges and his determination in a landmark decision from the High Court which recognised the native title rights of the Indigenous people of Murray (Mer) Island; it was the beginning of native title claims throughout Australia.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 5 October 2011) 4. <i>Sunday Examiner</i> (Launceston TAS, 23 October 2011) 14.
05/10/11	AUS	Carbon trading boost	The Federal government welcomed the passage of the <i>Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011</i> , which ensures that native title holders will benefit from Carbon Farming projects on their land. The Carbon Farming Initiative is a carbon offset scheme that will reward farmers, forest growers and Indigenous landholders for putting in place projects that reduce carbon pollution. Landholders will be able to generate credits that can then be sold to other businesses, like those currently participating in the National Carbon Offset Standard.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 5 October 2011) 4.
12/10/11	NSW	Braidwood Literary Institute	The Braidwood council became aware of a native title claim over the Crown land on which the Braidwood Literary Institute sits in early October. This was just prior to the council meeting which was to pass the advertised works planned for the upgrade of the building. The claim over the site was lodged on behalf of the Batemans Bay Aboriginal Land Council (BBALC). Palarang General Manager Peter Bascomb spoke with the Executive Officer of the Batemans Bay Aboriginal Land Council and said that he could 'see no problem with providing Council with a letter agreeing to the renovations proceeding'. However there would be a delay as the matter must be determined by the BBALC Board which will meet next on 31 October.	<i>Braidwood Times</i> (Braidwood NSW, 12 October 2011) 1.
12/10/11	QLD	Djiru recognised as native title holders	The Djiru people have been recognised as native title holders of 9440ha of land and waters in Mission Beach and surrounding areas, including areas of national parks, reserves, unallocated State land	<i>Cairns Sun</i> (Cairns QLD, 12 October 2011) 2.

			and other leases.	
12/10/11	NT	Cattle station owned	Environment groups in conjunction with the Federal government and the Indigenous Land Council (ILC) have bought the cattle station which fronts the Daly River for \$13 million. Traditional owners intend to turn the 18,000 hectare Fish River Station into a conservation zone.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 12 October 2011) 12. <i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 19 October 2011) 35.
12/10/11	SA	Traditional owners to manage national park	The South Australian government has signed two agreements, an Indigenous land use agreement and a co-management agreement with the Chairman of the Adnyamathanha Traditional Lands Association. These agreements will give traditional owners of the Flinders Ranges National Park a greater role in its management. Environment Minister Paul Caica, said the agreements recognised the rights of the traditional owners, offered better protection of Aboriginal heritage and would allow the Adnyamathanha people to carry out traditional activities on the land.	<i>Port Augusta</i> (Port Augusta SA, 12 October 2011) 3.
13/10/11	NSW	ILUA's 10th anniversary	On 22 October, the Bundjalung people of Byron Bay (Arakwal) will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Indigenous land use agreement (ILUA), which led to the creation of Arakwal National Park.	<i>Byron Shire News</i> (Byron Bay NSW, 13 October 2011) 3. <i>Byron Shire</i> (Byron Bay NSW, 26 October 2011) 1. <i>Byron Shire News</i> (Byron Bay NSW, 26 October 2011) 4.
15/10/11	WA	Return of land to traditional owners	Fremantle city council is considering returning a parcel of land to the area's traditional owners. Fremantle councillor Josh Wilson said this could be a powerful symbol for reconciliation and acknowledgement of the Indigenous peoples that were dispossessed during colonisation.	<i>Fremantle Herald</i> (Perth WA, 15 October 2011) 1.
15/10/11; 20/10/11	QLD	Land handover	The final handover of 65,000 hectares of land to the Eastern Kuku Yalanji people described as Queensland's most significant land agreement has been postponed due to heavy rains. The land agreement will see around 15,000 ha of land between Mossman and Cooktown, which mostly adjoins the Daintree and Ngalba Bulal (Cedar Bay) National Parks, declared as new national parks.	<i>Weekend Post</i> (Cairns QLD, 15 October 2011) 27. <i>Port Douglas</i> (Port Douglas QLD, 20 October 2011) 3.

15/10/11	TSI	Torres Strait Island secession from Queensland	Torres Strait Islands elder George Mye made a promise to Eddie Mabo four years before his passing that he would lead their people to secession from Queensland. Now 85 years old, Mr Mye also known on the archipelago as the modern godfather of independence believes he is finally fulfilling that vow after Queensland Premier Anna Bligh wrote to Julia Gillard supporting the Torres Strait Islanders' long held desire for secession from Queensland.	<i>Weekend Australian</i> (Australia, 15 October 2011) 1.
16/10/11	SA	Fishers in court	The SA Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture has appealed Magistrate Derek Sprod's acquittal of two Aboriginal men who took 24 undersize abalone from Yorke Peninsula waters. The Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture has appealed the acquittal by Magistrate Derek Spord in an action now being viewed as a possible test for the use of native title as a defence. The current case is considered so significant that the Solicitor-General, Martin Hinton QC, led the appeal team in the Supreme Court.	<i>Sunday Mail</i> (Adelaide SA, 16 October 2011) 5. <i>Sunday Territorian</i> (Darwin NT, 16 October 2011) 7. <i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 19 October 2011) 5.
17/10/11	WA	Minors voting in Woodside poll	The Kimberley Land Council's chief executive Nolan Hunter has confirmed to <i>The Australian</i> that minors as young as 15 were among the 276 Goolarabooloo Jabirr Jabirr traditional owners who voted in the poll allowing Woodside's \$30 billion gas hub. The group voted 168-108 in favour of the gas hub in exchange for a \$1.3bn social benefits package for Indigenous people across the Kimberley.	<i>Australian</i> (Australia, 17 October 2011) 6.
19/10/11	QLD	Kalkadoon native title	The Kalkadoon native title claim group is one step closer to a native title determination after the applicant group along with traditional elders and claimants agreed to a number of initiatives that will guide the holding of native title and the proper governance of Kalkadoon community activities such as cultural heritage preservation and commercial ventures.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 19 October 2011) 35. <i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 19 October 2011) 37.
19/10/11	WA	Yindjibarndi sacred sites	Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation has called on Western Australia's Indigenous Affairs Minister Peter Collier to recognise all heritage sites in the area where Fortescue Metals Groups is seeking to establish its Solomon Mines project in the Pilbara region. They are also seeking a guarantee that Yindjibarndi traditional owners would be consulted and their permission sought by Fortescue before any mining work is carried out.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 19 October 2011) 10. <i>The Saturday Age</i> (Melbourne VIC, 15 October 2011) 7.

20/10/11	WA	Aboriginal Hostel	State Housing Minister Troy Buswell has threatened to discard the \$12 million earmarked for a badly needed hostel in Broome unless the Shire Council allows it to be built at One Mile. This area of land is subject to Yawuru native title, but vested in the Aboriginal Lands Trust under a lease only recently signed with the Department of Indigenous Affairs. Nyamba Buru Yawuru chief operations officer Andy McGaw, said Yawuru people supported the hostel development at One Mile, as long as native title was not extinguished and existing lease holders' rights are respected.	<i>Broome Advertiser</i> (Broome WA, 20 October 2011) 3.
20/10/11	SA	Explorations	Following government approval for Olympic Dam a number of mining companies have been enticed to explore the area near the massive BHP Billiton Mine. Fortescue has applied for almost a dozen tenements in the Woomera Protected Area and Rio Tinto is investing millions of dollars in nearby exploration. Rio Tinto Exploration last week announced it had signed an agreement with Tasman Resources to explore for similar mineralisation to Olympic Dam on land which contains the Vulcan prospects. The agreement comes just four weeks after Tasman entered into a Native Title Mining Agreement for exploration with native title claimants for that area.	<i>Roxby Downs Sun</i> (Port Augusta SA, 20 October 2011) 5. <i>Monitor Roxby Downs</i> (Roxby Downs SA, 19 October 2011) 2.
21/10/11	NT	Cox Peninsula	Independent MLA Gerry Wood has said that he won't support the Kenbi Land Trust Bill until he gets more information. Wood's decision comes after Julia Gillard announced in Darwin that the deal between the Northern Territory government and Kenbi land claimants was acceptable. The Kenbi Land Trust Bill will hand much of the land to traditional owners and will also open the way for building a large new suburb on another part of the peninsula.	<i>Northern Territory News</i> (Darwin NT, 21 October 2011) 10.
25/10/11	SA	Punt Hill mining project	A native title mining agreement signed by representatives of the Kokatha Uwankara native title claim has been registered by the South Australian government. This has given approval to Monax Mining to begin exploration of its Punt Hill copper-gold project.	<i>Adelaide Advertiser</i> (Adelaide SA, 25 October 2011) 4.
27/10/11	VIC	Indigenous name for State Park	The Gunaikurnai people have had native title rights recognised over the new Lake Tyers State Park as well as Raymond Island, which will be jointly managed with the State government. The St Arnaud Range National Park would be renamed Kara Kara National Park under new legislation introduced by State parliament to give it an Indigenous name.	<i>Herald Sun</i> (Melbourne VIC, 27 October 2011) 15.

31/10/11	WA	Mining leases	The outcome for the Wajarri Yamatji people in achieving a determination pursuant to section 38 of the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> (Cth), namely that the grant of four mining leases to Weld Range Metals Limited must not go ahead has been successful.	<i>Yamaji News</i> (Geraldton WA, 31 October 2011) 7.
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