

NATIVE TITLE IN THE NEWS

AUGUST 2012

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
01/08/2012	QLD	Juru and Birriah people lodge native title application	The Juru and Birriah people of Queensland have lodged a native title application with the Federal Court for an area covering the Burdekin and Whitsunday Shires. The area applied for covers 4905km from the southern side of the Burdekin River to Bowen.	<i>ABC News</i> (1 August 2012). <i>Advocate</i> (Ayr QLD, 10 August 2012), p. 2.
03/08/2012	QLD	Consent determination for Djungan people	The Federal Court has recognised the native title rights of the Djungan peoples of Queensland nearly 20 years after the claim was first registered. The Court recognised native title rights and interests over 182,000ha of land.	<i>Cairns Post</i> (Cairns QLD, 3 August 2012), p. 2.
06/08/2012	NSW	New Western Bungjalung claim	Thousands of descendants of 10 Aboriginal ancestors could be included in the Western Bungjalung native title claim after 10 family groups agreed on a joint submission. Councils affected by the Western Bungjalung native title claim across the Tenterfield, Grafton and Glen Innes areas have until 29 August 2012 to register to become a party to the claim.	<i>ABC News</i> (6 August 2012). <i>Daily Examiner</i> (Grafton NSW, 7 August 2012), p. 5. <i>Northern Star</i> (Lismore NSW, 7 August 2012), p. 5.
18/08/2012	WA	Nyayaparli people and BHP sign mining agreement	BHP Billiton Iron Ore has signed its first multibillion-dollar native title deal with the Nyayaparli people of the Pilbara in Western Australia. The agreement allows the mining group to expand its current operations in the area and upgrade the 120 million tonnes of iron ore a year output to an anticipated 350 million tonnes by 2020.	<i>The Weekend West</i> (Perth WA, 18 August 2012), p.9. <i>ABC News</i> (18 August 2012). <i>Business News</i> (Perth WA, 23 August 2012), p. 4.
22/08/2012	NT	Consent determination	The Ilperrelhelam, Malarrarr, Nwerrarr, Meyt, Itnwerrengayt and Ampwertety traditional owners have had their native title rights recognised by the Federal Court over the Lake Nash and Georgina Downs pastoral leases in the Northern Territory.	<i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 22 August 2012), p. 34.

22/08/2012	WA	Widji people's claim dismissed	The Widji people have had their native title claim dismissed on a technicality. The Widji had a claim over Coolgardie, Kambalda and Widjimootha and Kalgoorlie-Boulder. Agreements with companies lapsed with the claim, resulting in the loss of future act rights and potential payments. The judge dismissed the Widji claim because it was not properly authorised by the claim group.	<i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 22 August 2012), p. 33.
22/08/2012	AUS	New 'think tank': Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dialogue Group	A new 'think tank' named the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dialogue Group (ATSISDG) has been formed to promote and protect the rights of ATSI people. The group will focus on and pursue strategy, collaboration and information sharing and support the National Congress of Australia's First People.	<i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 22 August 2012), p. 18.
22/08/2012	WA	Fortescue Metals Pilbara-based Solomon Project and the Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation	Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation (YAC) Chief Executive Officer Michael Woodley has issued a media statement in response to Fortescue Metals Group (FMG) invitation for banks to take part in a \$US1.5 billion loan to help fund the completion of the mines. In YAC's media statement Mr. Woodley said he wanted to make it clear to all of the FMG investors, lenders and joint venture partners that FMG has never obtained the consent of the Yindjibarndi people for its Solomon Project.	<i>Koori Mail</i> (Lismore NSW, 22 August 2012), p. 15.
28/08/2012	QLD	Pitta Pitta people's rights recognised	The Federal Court has recognised the native title rights of the Pitta Pitta people over 30,000km ² of land in western Queensland. The native title claim covers land across the Boulia, Cloncurry, Diamantina and Winton municipalities.	<i>The Australian</i> (28 August 2012).
29/08/2012	VIC	Barengi Gadjin Land Council appointment	Michael Stewart has been appointed as the Land, Water and Heritage Manager of the Berengi Gadjin Land Council (RNTBC). The RNTBC will use a \$117,000 grant from the Indigenous Land Corporation to restore native title land awarded to the Wotjobaluk, Jaadwa, Jadawadjali, Wergaia and Jupagalk peoples in 2005.	<i>Wimmera Mail Times</i> (Horsham VIC, 29 August 2012), p. 6.