

## Native Title in the News November 2010

Date	State	Subject	Summary	Source
3/11/10	WA	<b>Housing shortage in Coral Bay</b>	Western Australia's Lands Minister Brendon Grylls and members of the Baiyungu Aboriginal Corporation (BAC) have signed a land transfer document which gives the BAC freehold ownership of about 30ha of the crown land near the town centre of Coral Bay. In return the state will be able to lease back just over one hectare of the site to provide seasonal staff accommodation in the town. Mr Grylls said the agreement would enable the development of a 70-bed facility to provide short term accommodation for people employed in the local tourism industry.	<i>Northern Guardian</i> (Carnarvon WA, 3 December 2010), 4. <i>Yamadji News</i> (Geraldton WA, November 2010), 16.
4/11/10	WA	<b>10 year conservation plan</b>	A 10 year conservation plan covering 16 million hectares of southeast WA is aimed at halting the loss of native vegetation. Western Australia's Environment Minister Donna Faragher said the plan will eradicate feral dogs and other pests through a buffer zone, support the resolution of many native title claims, implicate joint management with traditional owners and provide a tourist attraction.	<i>West Australian</i> (Perth WA, 4 November 2010), 18.
4/11/10	WA	<b>James Price Point</b>	The Western Australian State Opposition has slammed Premier Colin Barnett's move to compulsorily acquire the land surrounding James Price Point, saying the move slapped indigenous land holders and the Broome community squarely in the face. Shadow treasurer Ben Wyatt and shadow regional development minister Mark McGowan claimed the Broome community requires better consultation from the State Government on gas issues. In other related articles, Premier Colin Barnett has denied stalling a string of native title claims to gain a 'bargaining chip' to force the Kimberley Land Council to reach settled negotiation on the James Price Point land.	<i>Broome Advertiser</i> (Broome WA, 4 November 2010), 16. <i>West Australian</i> (Perth WA, 18 November 2010), 10. <i>Perth Voice</i> (Perth WA, 20 November 2010), 5. <i>Fremantle Herald</i> (Perth WA, 20 November 2010), 5. <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Sydney NSW, 20 November 2010), 4. <i>The Weekend West</i> (Perth WA, 20 November 2010), 65. <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Sydney NSW, 22 November 2010), 2. <i>West Australian</i> (Perth WA, 22 November 2010), 13. <i>Broome Advertiser</i> (Broome WA, 25 November 2010), 7. <i>Age</i> (Melbourne VIC, 25 November 2010), 12.

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6/11/10	WA	<b>Woodside Gas Tests</b>	<p>Woodside Petroleum has started preliminary work for the design of the \$30 billion gas precinct. Kimberly Land Council members have stated that this is a 'kick in the guts for traditional owners [who are] working hard to see this project done responsibly'. Jabirr Jabirr man Anthony Watson said 'it's worrying us to consider Woodside is willing to progress this work on country regardless of the concerns of traditional owners'. Mr Watson also said the work was in breach of a heritage protection agreement between the land council and Woodside.</p>	<p><i>Canberra Times</i> (Canberra ACT, 6 November 2010), 6. <i>Herald Sun</i> (Melbourne VIC, 6 November 2010), 87. <i>Oil &amp; Gas Review</i> (Australia, November 2010), 3. <i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 25 November 2010), 4, 5.</p>
9/11/10	QLD	<b>Wild Rivers</b>	<p>Tony Abbott, the federal opposition leader, has announced that he intends to table a private members bill in Parliament designed to roll back existing Wild Rivers declarations, and limit the capacity for future declarations to be made, with or without the support of key Indigenous leader Murrandoo Yanner.</p> <p>Mr Abbott has the support of powerful Cape York Aboriginal leader Noel Pearson, other Cape York Indigenous leaders, mining companies, farming lobby groups and north Queensland independent MP Bob Katter for his bill, but has so far failed to convince Mr Yanner. Mr Abbott met with Mr Yanner during November to try and gain support for his Bill. Mr Yanner said 'the greatest minds in my region are perplexed by this [the bill] because we don't see the reason for it'.</p> <p>In related news, Anna Bligh has announced five new Aboriginal ranger jobs in north Queensland; this will take the total to 35.</p>	<p><i>Courier Mail</i> (Brisbane QLD, 9 November 2010), 19. <i>Courier Mail</i> (Brisbane QLD, 10 November 2010), 2. <i>Australian</i> (Australia, 10 November 2010), 2. <i>Cairns Post</i> (Cairns QLD, 10 November 2010), 4. <i>Cairns Post</i> (Cairns QLD, 10 November 2010), 4. <i>Courier Mail</i> (Brisbane QLD, 12 November 2010), 8. <i>Courier Mail</i> (Brisbane QLD, 16 November 2010), 18. <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Sydney NSW, 16 November 2010), 7. <i>Age</i> (Melbourne VIC, 16 November 2010), 8. <i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (Townsville QLD, 16 November 2010), 3. <i>North West Star</i> (Mount Isa QLD, 17 November 2010), 7. <i>North Queensland Star</i> (Townsville QLD, 18 November 2010), 11.</p>
10/11/10	WA	<b>WA Native Title Amendments</b>	<p>Native title groups have reacted strongly to the WA Government proposal to streamline native title. The proposal requires Indigenous land use agreements (ILUAs) to be negotiated at the same time as claimants are proving they are traditional owners. Native title groups have said it would result in fewer claims being determined and less certainty for the resource industry.</p>	<p><i>North West Telegraph</i> (South Hedland WA, 10 November 2010), 19.</p>

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			Yamatji Marpa Aboriginal Corporation chief executive Simon Hawkins said combining the two processes would add an extra level of complexity to the already complex process. The proposed amendment was slammed by National Native Title Council chief executive Brian Wyatt as taking WA back to the dark ages. 'The Western Australian Government has an attitude of development at any cost but this type of approach will not contribute to the goal of closing the gap that all other stakeholders, including industry are striving to achieve,' Mr Wyatt said.	
11/11/10	QLD	<b>Native Title Agreement for Palm Island</b>	Palm Island Aboriginal Council and the Manbarra people have meet to work towards the first native title agreement which will include social housing, home ownership, and economic and commercial development, while preserving the native title rights and interest of the Manbarra people. Natural Resources Minister Stephen Robertson welcomed the ratifying of a decision to move towards an Indigenous land use agreement.	<i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (Townsville QLD, 11 November 2010), 5. <i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 25 November 2010), 14.
16/11/10	NSW	<b>Hunter Valley Mining Lease</b>	The Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation has distanced itself from statements made by another Aboriginal Group who is preparing to negotiate with Ashton Coal over a mining lease in the Hunter Valley. Their acting chief executive officer Laurie Perry has said that his organisation did not support the statements by Scott Franks, on behalf of the Wanaruah Plains Clans in <i>The Singleton Argus</i> . Mr Perry said 'it is important that people understand that The Wonnarua Nation Aboriginal Corporation, at this stage, has no involvement in the negotiations with Ashton Coal, in relation to the proposed expansion of mining through the south east open cut project.'	<i>Singleton Argus</i> (Singleton NSW, 16 November 2010), 2.
16/11/2010	NT	<b>Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve</b>	Locals are invited to have their say on a new joint management plan for the Alice Springs Telegraph Station Historical Reserve. The 1171ha reserve will be jointly managed by the Lhere Atrepe native title body and the NT government. Parks and Wildlife Minister Karl Hampton stated 'the joint management plan will provide direction for the management of the Reserve for the next 10 years, outlining how the interests of the community, traditional owners, and heritage and conservation values will be served.'	<i>Centralian Advocate</i> (Alice Springs NT, 16 November 2010), 4.
19/11/10	NT	<b>Dispute resolved</b>	The Federal Court has ordered a private company, Banabi Pty Ltd, which has held the grazing licence at Elsey Station for nearly 10 years to leave by November 26, 2010. Banabi Pty Ltd is owned by traditional owners and is backed by the federal Indigenous Land Corporation. It has held the grazing licence at Elsey Station, about 120km south of Katherine, for nearly 10 years. The Northern Land Council applied to the Federal Court to evict Banabi after allegations that the property was not being managed well.	<i>Northern Territory News</i> (Darwin WA, 19 November 2010), 7.

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24/11/10	QLD	<b>New Bill Introduced to Parliament</b>	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities could gain more options to manage and develop their land under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land and Other Legislation Amendment Bill (QLD), which was introduced to Queensland Parliament. The bill proposes additional leasing and land transfer arrangements for Indigenous communities. If passed, the bill will allow Indigenous communities to appoint existing community groups to manage land.	<i>Cairns Post</i> (Cairns QLD, 24 November 2010), 7.
25/11/10	QLD	<b>Claim Lodged on Gold Coast</b>	The Gold Coast Native Title Group lodged an application for a determination of native title with the Federal Court in September 2006 over an area of 1640sq km between Beenleigh and Tweed Heads. The Native Title Registrar has accepted the application for registration.	<i>Gold Coast Sun</i> (Gold Coast QLD, 24 November 2010), 3. <i>Gold Coast Sun</i> (Gold Coast QLD, 25 November 2010), 3.
26/11/10	QLD	<b>Cape York National Park</b>	The Queensland State Government will return more than 75,000ha of Cape York national park to traditional owners and rewrite a shameful chapter in Queensland's history', Sustainability Minister Kate Jones says. Another 380,000ha of land that makes up the remainder of the Mungkan Kanju National Park, northwest of Cairns will be jointly managed by the Government and the Wik Mungan people under changes approved in State Parliament.	<i>Courier Mail</i> (Brisbane QLD, 26 November 2010), 22.
30/11/10	WA	<b>Joseph Roe Challenge</b>	Joseph Roe commenced a legal challenge to being ousted as a named applicant on the Goolarabooloo Jabirr Jabirr native title claim. The Broome hearing was instigated by the Kimberley Land Council for the claimant group after its members voted in August to remove Mr Roe and Cyril Shaw as named applicants and replace them with six others. The move followed a breakdown in negotiations after the group entered into an agreement with Woodside Pty Ltd and the WA State Government to allow a \$30 billion gas processing precinct at James Price Point a move Mr Roe strongly opposes. Mr Roe lodged an objection in the Federal Court, claiming several of the new applicants were not authorised to speak for the Goolarabooloo Jabirr Jabirr people.	<i>West Australian</i> (Perth WA, 30 November 2010), 13.