

## Native Title in the News October 2006

Date	State	Subject	Summary	Source
01-Oct-06	WA	<b>Appeal 'wrong': lawyer slams Government's native title stand</b>	Marcus Holmes, who has been involved in several native title rulings has said that the 'appeal contradicted ALP policy which commits the party to implementing the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, one of which was that unallocated crown land should be given to Aboriginal people as freehold, allowing them to veto development and access'. He said that it would be 'more practical and economic if the Government negotiated with the Nyoongars'.	Sunday Times, 1-Oct-06, pg 29.
01-Oct-06	WA	<b>Sustainable growth on Rio's Argyle diamond agenda</b>	Rio Tinto is seeking to embark on a 'unique indigenous training program to ensure its mining operations will make a significant contribution towards the region's 'long term future growth.' It is looking to 'eventually source 80% of its employees from the local area with 40% of that work force being Indigenous'. The mining company is proactive in meeting Indigenous needs through 'conducting cross cultural programs and engaging in an on going open dialogue with the region's traditional owners'.	Gold and Minerals Gazette, Oct-06, 8, pg 8.
01-Oct-06	WA	<b>Kimberly awards \$120M Ellendale Mining</b>	The Kimberly Diamond Company has awarded a 'four year contract with a total value of about \$120m to MacMahon Holding Limited for its Ellendale Diamond Project in Western Australia'. Under the contract 'both parties have committed to examine opportunities for Indigenous employment and benefit'.	Australian Mining, Oct-06, pg 75.
01-Oct-06	SA	<b>Acquisitions and agreements keep Exco on track</b>	Exco will continue to 'expedite development of the White Dam project' after finalising a native title agreements.	Mining Chronicle, Oct-06, pg 26.
01-Oct-06	WA	<b>Native title works: Aboriginal land rights old hat to progressive local companies</b>	The Noongar native title ruling has 'brought many of WA's urban dwellers face to face with issues that regional communities and mining companies have been grappling for more than 20 years'. Kimberly Land Council executive director, Wayne Bergmann said that 'native title and land-use agreements should not be seen as a threat, but as an avenue by which Aboriginal people could become economically independent'. He said that 'native title forces interested parties to come together with the traditional owners and find common ground'.	Sunday Times, 1-Oct-06, pg 69.
01-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Aboriginal claim</b>	Hawkesbury Land Council will 'consider a recommendation to negotiate an Indigenous Land Use Agreement over more than 380 hectares of Crown reserves under its control'. The land is a part of a claim lodged by the Darung people in 1997 which covers a 'stretch from the Colo River to Appin and from Mount Victoria to Port Jackson'.	Hawkesbury Independent, Oct-06, pg 3.
02-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Greens say mine opening is a setback</b>	Greens MP Lee Rhiannon said that the opening of the Lake Cowal goldmine is 'not a good news story for western NSW'. She said that they may be 'damage to the Indigenous heritage and the environment'. Ms Rhiannon said 'in opening this mine Premier lemma has associated himself with a company that had a notorious international record for disregarding the health and welfare of the people living near its mines'.	Cowra Guardian, 2-Oct-06, pg 5.

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02-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Ruddock puts heat on native title</b>	Federal Attorney General Phillip Ruddock has 'maintained concerns that successful native title claims could allow traditional owners to stop non-indigenous people using parks and beaches'. This has attracted severe criticism from shadow attorney general Nicola Roxon who 'accused him of scaremongering and demanded that he apologise'.	West Australian, 2-Oct-06, pg 4; 'Native title warning' Burnie Advocate, 2-Oct-06, pg 12; 'AG claims beach risk' Kalgoorlie Miner, 2-Oct-06, pg 8; 'Ruddock branded 'racist' over native title beach claims' National Indigenous Times, 5-Oct-06, pg 15; 'The day native title ate Perth' National Indigenous Times, 5-Oct-06, pg 20.
02-Oct-06	WA	<b>Owner's fight miner's river plan</b>	Traditional Aboriginal owners near the McArthur river where Xstrata is proposing an open cut mine has said that it could 'seriously damage wildlife and increase heavy metal pollution' in the area. The company is planning to 'divert the McArthur River' which could potentially lead to flooding in the area.	Sydney Morning Herald, 2-Oct-06, pg 2.
02-Oct-06	WA	<b>Labor stance on NT shifts</b>	The Kalgoorlie branch of the ALP has 'voiced its disappointment that the State Government was threatening to appeal the decision'. Branch president Garry Campbell said that 'we were never against an appeal - our main concern was that the Nyoongar people were going to be fairly heard'.	Kalgoorlie Miner, 2-Oct-06, pg 5.
03-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Ruddock's claim lacks credibility</b>	Claims by the Attorney General Phillip Ruddock 'continue the ugly practice of truth manipulation that has become a disturbing characteristic of the Howard Government'. Claims that access to open spaces such as Perth's beaches could be denied 'were meant to mislead and he knows it'. 'Successful native title claims acknowledge prior tenure and should not be feared by the broader community but applauded.'	Sunshine Coast Daily, 3-Oct-06, pg 14.
03-Oct-06	WA	<b>Protest on native title appeal</b>	A group of both Noongar and non-Noongar people have gathered in front of Albany MP Peter Watson's office with placards saying 'celebrate! Negotiate! Don't litigate!' in protest against the state Labor government's decision to appeal.	Albany Advertiser, 3-Oct-06, pg 4.

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03-Oct-06	WA	<b>Hands linked by landmark deal</b>	A 'landmark memorandum of understanding between the South West Catchments Council and the South West Aboriginal and Sea Council' has been reached after 18 months of negotiations. The agreement was described by the council as a 'bold step for the organisation and the South West Boojarah and Gnaala Kala Booja traditional custodians'. The agreement 'ensures collaboration between both parties in managing South West natural resource issues and outlined how each party's rights and responsibilities could be applied to natural resource management'. South West Catchments Council chairman Tony Brun said that the 'engagement and use of the Noongar people in the \$65 million project will see money filtered through consultation with working groups'.	Bunbury Herald, 3-Oct-06, pg 7; 'Agreement in WA first' The cape Herald, 10-Oct-06, pg 4.
03-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Hills parks open to native title: judge</b>	Opposition leader Paul Omodei said that the 'state government should abandon its compensation talks with Nyoongar claimants until its appeal against the native title judgment over Perth is decided by the courts'. He said they 'can't have it both ways...its either supports the Nyoongar people's native title claim or it does not. If it does win its appeal, then what have they negotiated away and have they negotiated it away?'. The Government maintains that it supports Nyoongar native title but wants to 'clarify inconsistencies in the law'. Political analyst, Peter Van Onselen said that 'Labor was torn between its philosophical support for Aboriginal land claims and its public duty to follow legal advice'. Attorney General Jim McGinty said that 'regardless of the outcome of the appeal..the government acknowledged the Nyoongar people as the traditional owners of the South-West and remained committed to negotiating an outcome' dismissing Mr Omodei's concerns.	West Australian, 3-Oct-06, pg 1; 'Suspend compo talks: Libs' West Australian, 12-Oct-06, pg 5.
03-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Noongar appeals hurts Aborigines</b>	Oxfam executive director, Andrew Hewett says that a 'plan by the West Australian government to appeal against the historic Noongar native title decision sullies the spirit of reconciliation and runs the risk of undermining efforts to improve the lives and livelihoods of people in WA'. He said that the decision should be 'respected' and the appeal contradicts it's 'commitment to negotiating native title claims'. Mr Hewett also said that 'research shows that native title is a powerful lever for improved economic activity and other opportunities for Indigenous people by giving them a seat at the negotiating table on land and heritage'.	Australian Financial Review, 3-Oct-06, pg 57; 'WA native title appeal blasted' Sunday Tasmanian, 1-Oct-06, pg 4.
03-Oct-06	WA	<b>An appealing decision</b>	The Noongar decision is an 'important issues for Western Australia and Western Australians'. It is well known that the Noongar people are the traditional owners 'of not only the Perth Area, but also the entire south West Corner of Western Australia'. This 'very fact requires recognition and the acknowledgement of status and particular privileges that go with that'. The decisions is a 'magnificent window of opportunity' and it would be regretful if there is a position in 'Western Australia in which this decision from Justice Wilcox delivers no benefit to the Noongar people'.	Fremantle Herald, 3-Oct-06, pg 56.
04-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Title claim</b>	After the initial Federal Court of Australia hearing for the Gold Coast Native Title Group's...claim of the Gold Coast, the matter has been referred to a hearing in February next year'. The claim is for procedural rights rather than land itself.	Albert and Logan News, 4-Oct-06, pg 57.

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04-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Cowal is the golden bridge between past and future</b>	The Cowal Gold Mine has been officially opened with NSW Morrie lemma saying: 'today's mining companies understand that in order to be truly successful they must have a strong environmental track record show a willingness to invest in local communities and leave a positive legacy'. The mine has been made possible with the cooperation of the Wiradjuri Indigenous community. Wiradjuri Elder and caretaker of Wiradjuri Yalbalinda Flo Rant said: 'we realise the mine was inevitable as it is an economic boom for West Wyalong and the central west of NSW and it would give the Wiradjuri people the opportunity to be involved in all aspects of the mine and gain economic benefits'. Under the agreement 'young people are gaining scholarships into Universities, people are being employed and training is taking place'.	West Wyalong Advocate, 4-Oct-06, pg 1; West Wyalong Advocate, 6-Oct-06, pg 7.
04-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Call of dredge: Don't change channel says native claimants</b>	The Bunurong Land Council which has lodged a land claim over Port Phillip Bay is opposed to the State Government's channel-deepening project. They said 'its one thing to chop down trees and destroy the environment, but to alter the process of the earth is ludicrous...and if they think it won't affect the environment they're wrong.' The native title claim was filed in June and is for 'management rights over land and waters of the Mornington Peninsula National Park', the Port Philip Heads Marine National Park and the waters and foreshore of Port Phillip Bay from Point Nepean to Werribee. The group claims that it has an 'association with this area as the traditional owners of land and waters' and 'seeks right to access, live, camp and conduct ceremonies in the area'.	Williamstown Advertiser, 4-Oct-06, pg 3; 'Native title push for bay: Deepening port 'will alter earth's process'' Altona Laverton Mail, 4-Oct-06, pg 7; 'Title claim on Bay' Werribee Banner, 11-Oct-06, pg 6.
04-Oct-06	WA	<b>Noongars 'cannot restrict access'</b>	According to former Federal Court Judge the rights he granted the Noongar people in his native title ruling over Perth were 'non-exclusive' meaning that: 'there would be no right to deny access by other people to land that is covered by the determinations, if one's eventually made'. This contradicts Philip Ruddock's view that 'access to some beaches and parks could be restricted'. Despite saying that 'areas clearly reserved for public purposes would not be precluded from public access' he found that complications would arise where areas were not dedicated for a public purpose. He said: 'it is not possible to guarantee that public access to all such areas in major capital cities in Australia would be protected from a claim to exclusive native title. This reflect the importance of this case and its possible implications in relation to the development of native title law more generally.'	Australian, 4-Oct-06, pg 5.
04-Oct-06	SA	<b>SAPEX float follows massive land deal</b>	A native title land access deal has 'doubled the area of South Australia being explored for oil and gas'. Eight new petroleum exploration licenses have 'covering an area more than 74 000 sq km were awarded...fuelling a \$15 million float of..SAPEX'. The agreements involve 'heritage clearances, production payments, sign on fees and annual administration fees'. Syd Wayne claimant group member of the Yankuntjatjara/Antakirinja native title holders said 'it will be good for people for employment and for education of the children'. The director of Primary Industries and Resources SA's Petroleum and Geothermal Group Barry Goldstein said that the latest native title agreements were based on 'land mark template agreements that were first signed after three years of negotiations'. He said: 'we want an outcome which is fair to the Aboriginal people and sustainable in relationships to economic development'.	Adelaide Advertiser, 4-Oct-06, pg 51; 'Naive title deal unlocks oil prospect' Australian, 4-Oct-06, pg 37; 'Native title deal opens up oil, gas reserves' Northern Territory News, 4-Oct-06, pg 27; Independent Weekly, 7-Oct-06, pg 55.

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04-Oct-06	WA	<b>Hills parks open to native title: judge</b>	Former Federal Court Judge Murray Wilcox has said that the Darling Range could be used for 'traditional purposes but that did not mean that whites would be restricted from the area'. According to him, this means that 'an Aboriginal group will not have veto right but it will have the right to be consulted'. He also said that 'private property would not be taken over by Aboriginal claims because freehold and most leasehold land rights extinguish native title'. Mr Wilcox said: ' I think native title is more important for other reasons than compensation. So far there has only been one payment of compensation, a relatively small amount'. He said that 'there had been great levels of misunderstanding about exactly what native title gave to Indigenous people and sadly there has been some politicisation over the years'. He said that 'more people are recognising the reality that native title isn't a threat to people's backyards.'	West Australian, 4-Oct-06, pg 1; 'Wilcox speaks out on Noongar ruling', Kalgoorlie Miner, 4-Oct-06, pg 10; 'Justice Wilcox speaks out on Noongar native title ruling' National Indigenous Times, 5-Oct-06, pg 9.
04-Oct-06	TAS	<b>Bruny Island handed back to Aborigines</b>	A small parcel of land in Southern Tasmania has been handed back to descendants of Truganini who 'campaigns fiercely for the survival of Indigenous people following European settlement in the early 1800s'. Treasurer Michael Aird said 'we must be prepared to acknowledge the wrongs of the past before we can move forward as a united community we can all be proud of it'.	Burnie Advocate, 4-Oct-06, pg 4; 'More land returned to Aboriginal community', Launceston Examiner, 4-Oct-06, pg 10; 'Aboriginal title', Canberra Times, 4-Oct-06, pg 4; 'Island returned to Aboriginal hands', National Indigenous Times, 5-Oct-06, pg 12.
04-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Another win for Darkinjung</b>	The Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council has won another land claim at San Remo valued at \$10 million. The land had previously been claimed but was 'compulsorily acquired...by the Wyong Council for development' however Land and Environment Court Judge Nicola Pain said that the 'council did not have the power to acquire the land.' The decision to grant the land has been applauded by elder Jack Smith who said that 'the council has not negotiated with the Darkinjung and has wasted ratepayers money'. He said that their 'claim to land was completely legitimate under the 1983 Land Rights Act and the council should have known that'.	Central Coast Express-Advocate, 4-Oct-06, pg 19; 'Victory has restored faith in the system' Central Coast Express Advocate, 4-Oct-06, pg 19.
04-Oct-06	WA	<b>Perth native title judgment defends process</b>	Former Federal Court Judge Murril Wilcox said that 'people should question whether too much money was being spent fighting native title claims'. He said that the 'Noongar people had two advantages to their claim: the wealth of historical material from the settlement of Perth and the fact that they only had to go back to 1829 rather than 1788'. He said 'cases are different on their facts and you don't use one case for its facts you use it for the principles that it lays down. And that's why there is very little about Larrakia in my decision...it is just a different factual case. Yorta Yorta is referred to not for the facts but the principles that are laid down in the case'.	Australian Financial Review, 4-Oct-06, pg 3; 'Noongar debate proves native title is still alive' Australian Financial Review, 26-Oct-06, pg 15.

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05-Oct-06	QLD	<b>Major conference for Cardwell</b>	The Girringun Aboriginal Corporation will host the Second National Indigenous Land and Sea Management Conference in 2007. GAC chief executive officer, Phil Rest said: 'the conference will bring Indigenous delegates from all over Australia some from overseas (Canada and New Zealand)...and provide extensive discussion about the role of Indigenous people in land and sea management'.	Tully Times, 5-Oct-06, pg 3.
05-Oct-06	NT	<b>End to permits 'a disaster', says council</b>	Plans by the Indigenous Affairs Minister, Mal Brough, to scrap the permits system, which 'prevents unwanted visitors - including politicians, journalists and tourists - from entering Aboriginal land' have been criticised by the Central Land Council (CLC).The CLC said that 'Aboriginal people should have the right to decide who entered their land' and that the 'permit system allows them some privacy over curious onlookers, allows them some control over people such as unscrupulous art dealers and it allows them to protect sacred sites and special places'.	Ballarat Courier, 5-Oct-06, pg 10; 'Keep permits: owners', Sydney Morning Herald, 5-Oct-06, pg 2; 'Permits must go: PM', Adelaide Advertiser, 5-Oct-06, pg 35; 'Retain land permits please', Courier Mail, 5-Oct-06, pg 2; 'Council outraged on permit scrapping', Northern Territory News, 5-Oct-06, pg 2; 'NT vows to keep permits system', Centralian Advocate, 6-Oct-06, pg 2; 'Permit plan not needed: Ross', National Indigenous Times, 19-Oct-06, pg 12.
05-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Nothing to fear but fear itself...and Philip</b>	Professor Geoff Scott acting Chief executive Officer of the NSW Aboriginal land council said that irresponsible political comments designed to 'spark fear and loathing among ordinary Australians' should be held to account. He said that 'Aboriginal people are Australians too and enjoy the same access as everybody else to the rights and benefits of our common law. Native title applies only to land where native title has not been extinguished and when we consider the land where native title has not been extinguished even the rights and interests of other stakeholders including homeowners and farmers take precedence over Indigenous interests'. Accordingly 'the NTA is largely providing certainty in respect of land title and access for all Australians. Its certainly not about bestowing Aboriginal people with unwarranted special and exclusive benefits'.	National Indigenous Times, 5-Oct-06, pg 17.

05-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Looking after land: native title claim aims to preserve the environment</b>	Tweed-Byron Aboriginal Land Council chairmen Russell Logan has said that the claim by the Gold Coast Native Title Group is not aimed at 'locking up vacant crown land'. He said: "there's a lot of misinformation that this is some sort of land grab and that we intend to erect fences around these lands but nothing will really change'. Mr Logan said 'all we're about is gaining some official recognition that we're the traditional owners so that we can be included in the decision-making process about the future uses of the land'.	Border Tweed Mail, 5-Oct-06, pg 9.
05-Oct-06	NT	<b>Aboriginal permits backed by states</b>	Mal Brough's move to abolish the permit system has been rejected by the states. Mr Brough says that 'permits have created closed communities contributing to the economic disadvantage and isolation of indigenous people'. He also said that it by 'preventing scrutiny by journalists and others permits have contributed to problems such as drug abuse in communities'. While the Commonwealth can change the permits in the Northern Territory it does not have the same power in other States. WA Indigenous Affairs Minister Sheila McHale said that 'Brough's proposal to scrap the permit system showed 'a lack of understanding around the nature of Aboriginal communities'. SA Aboriginal Affairs Minister Jay Weatherill said that 'his government has not seen anything that suggested the permits in South Australia were creating problems'. He also questioned 'how the Commonwealth 'proposes to override these rights for Aboriginal land owners in a way which is not discriminatory on the grounds of race'.	Age, 5-Oct-06, pg 8.
05-Oct-06	NT	<b>Permit system 'denies court access'</b>	Journalists in the Northern Territory have argued that the permit system violates the 'long held and deeply entrenched" principle that courts be open to the public'. Court hearings are held 'in remote Indigenous communities where, under the <i>Aboriginal Land Act (1978)</i> the media and the public can be prevented from attending the proceedings'. In a submission to the NT Government the journalists said that the effect of the legislation was that the NT is the only place in Australia where court hearings can be closed to members of the public and the media and therefore not subject to scrutiny, without any power of the court to make such an order'. Open access to the courts have been supported by the 'NT Chief Judge Brian Martin and many other judges, magistrates and lawyers in the NT'.	Age, 5-Oct-06, pg 8; 'No' to plea on permits' Centralian Advocate, 27-Oct-06, pg 12.
05-Oct-06	NT	<b>Breaking ranks over leases</b>	NT Environment Minister Marion Scrymour has 'expressed concern her electorate will become the first Aboriginal community in Australia to allow for individual ownership on Indigenous land.' The traditional owners of the Tiwi Islands have 'committed to negotiate an agreement by the year's end to allow for private homes and commercial business development on their land at Nguui, on Bathurst Island'. In exchange the federal government has pledged '\$10 million to help the islanders establish their own college on the islands'. Ms Scrymour said: 'the problem I have is that this is Tiwi Land. this is our land. We have total ownership. That land will then become the ownership of a body that the Tiwi's have no control over'. She also questioned whether the Federal Government was using the funds from the Aboriginal Benefits Account to pay for the new school saying that 'it shouldn't come out of specific Aboriginal money that should be used to better the economic opportunities of Aboriginal communities' but the 'mainstream'.	National Indigenous Times, 5-Oct-06, pg 3.

05-Oct-06	NT	<b>Land permits a barrier: PM</b>	John Howard has said that the 'permit systems for Aboriginal land creates barriers 'both real and perceived' that prevent indigenous people engaging with the rest of the nation'. He said that 'I think indigenous Australians should as far as possible become part of the mainstream community' and that the 'future of indigenous Australians lies in them sharing the benefits and bounty that this country has to offer and the more and more they're segmented and the more and more they're kept separate and part...from the rest of the community, the less likely that is to occur'. He said that 'nobody wants Indigenous people to jettison their Aboriginality but if they are to enjoy the employment, health and educational opportunities of the broader Australian community they must participate in that broader community'. The Government's current proposals include expanding the 'categories for exemptions to allow free access by the media' and 'replacing the permit system with the law of trespass'.	Australian, 5-Oct-06, pg 6; 'Scrap Aboriginal permits says PM' Daily Telegraph, 5-Oct-06, pg 2; 'PM calls to scrap permits' Kalgoorlie Miner, 5-Oct-06, pg 6.
05-Oct-06	NT	<b>What permit system offers is not protection</b>	Mal Brough has argued that the 'permit system has been in place in the NT for almost 30 years. It has not protected them from exploitation, abuse and unscrupulous operators. However it does serve to reduce public scrutiny of conditions in those communities already isolated because of their geographic remoteness'. He said that there was no clear linkage 'between permits and prosperity' citing the neighbouring communities of the Daly River and Wadeye. He rejected the CLC arguments that 'Aboriginal land is private land and like all private land the owner should have the right to determine who enters the land'.	Australian, 5-Oct-06, pg 10; 'Howard says land permits wrong', North West Star, 5-Oct-06, pg 5; 'Aborigine permit battle; Govt may abolish ban on outsiders visiting native land', Sunshine Coast Daily, 5-Oct-06, pg 16; 'Permits may be scrapped', Townsville Bulletin, 5-Oct-06, pg 6; 'Push to Scrap permit system', Border Mail, 5-Oct-06, pg 18.
05-Oct-06	WA	<b>Title appeal to fail, says professor</b>	Professor of law lecturer Richard Bartlett said that the State Government's appeal over the Noongar decision is a 'waste of time' since Justice Murray Wilcox's ruling was 'evidence and fact driven'. He said that there was 'no threat to beaches or park access and...if the state Government can't accept that, its a very sad state of affairs'.	Joondalup Times, 5-Oct-06, pg 4.
05-Oct-06	NT	<b>Cape Lambert management appointment</b>	Cape Lambert Iron Ore has appointed Dudley Kingsnorth to 'oversee native title and environment functions and provide technical supervision for the feasibility assessment of the company's exploration project in the Pilbara region'.	Business News, 5-Oct-06, pg 38.

05-Oct-06	WA	<b>NT move to be appealed</b>	The State Government will appeal 'the recent native title decision of the Federal County over the Perth Metropolitan area portion of the single Nyoongar claim'. The appeal was 'expected because of apparent inconsistencies in how this decision was made as opposed to previous judgments'. Premier Alan Carpenter is 'hoping that negotiations would result in a set of guidelines to be used in other native title claims and that negotiation would be reached prior to the appeal to the Federal Court being concluded'. In the meantime negotiations will be begin offering a 'real opportunity for both the state and the Nyoongar people to reach agreement about the recognition of native title and compensation for the extinguishment and impairment of native title'	Farm Weekly, 5-Oct-06, pg 246; 'Claim appeal', Canning Times 3-Oct-06, pg 4; 'Govt appeals decision', Eastern Suburbs Reporter, 3-Oct-06, pg 7; 'WA appeal on native title', Launceston Examiner, 12 Oct-06, pg 7; 'Govt Appeals decision', Melville Times, 10-Oct-06, pg 15; 'WA lodges title appeal', Koori Mail, 25-Oct-06, pg 13.
05-Oct-06	NT	<b>PM urged approval for McArthur mine</b>	The PM has 'urged the Territory Government to approve the expansion of the McArthur River mine' and has written to the Chief Minister Claire Martin. The company's original '\$86 million plan to convert the zinc and lead mine into an open-cut operation' had been knocked back but has one been given 'conditional approval'. Mister Howard said: ' I want this project to go ahead because its very good for the Territory and its good for the country'. he 'shrugged off the concerns of environmental groups and the Aboriginal community'.	Northern Territory News, 5-Oct 06, pg 4.
05-Oct-06	NT	<b>Permits to Aboriginal lands 'outdated'</b>	In response to Indigenous Affairs Minister Mal Brough's moves to scrap the permit system, Prominent Aboriginal Elder Cedris Wyatt said that the permits 'segregated people' and while 'there needs to be some review of it there are more important things happening like health and education and the delivery of services'.	West Australian, 5-Oct-06, pg 11.

06-Oct-06	WA	<b>Perth native title challenged</b>	<p>The Federal Government 'will appeal a court decision which upheld the indigenous Noongar people' claim on more than 6000 sq km of land in and around Perth'. Attorney General Phillip Ruddock said that the decision will be appealed because it 'left some uncertainty surrounding the future of some parcels of crown land across Australia'.</p>	<p>Cons Coast Advocate, 6-Oct-06, pg 6; 'Got to appeal' Canberra Times, 6-Oct-06, pg 6; 'Perth native title challenged', Toowoomba Chronicle, 6-Oct-06, pg 15; 'Noongar land claim appeal', Launceston Examiner, 6-Oct-06, pg 12; 'Title appeal', Adelaide Advertiser, 6-Oct-06, pg 4; 'Ruddock challenges native title decision', Age, 6-Oct-06, pg 5; 'Perth Native title challenged', Daily Mercury, 6-Oct-06, pg 10; Daily News, 6-Oct-06, pg 7; 'Perth Native Title challenged', Fraser Cast Chronicle, 6-Oct-06, pg 11; Gladstone Observer, 6-Oct-06, pg 12; Gympie Times, 6-Oct-06, pg 6; Morning Bulletin, 6-Oct-06, pg 16; News Mail, 6-Oct-06, pg 10; Queensland Times, 6-Oct-06, pg 12; 'Ruddock to challenge native title ruling over Perth', Sydney Morning Herald, 6-Oct-06, pg 5; 'Native title win appeal', Herald Sun, 6-Oct-06, pg 16; 'Ruddock Joins WA appeal', Australian Financial Review, 6-Oct-06, pg 7; 'Double challenge to Noongars'</p>
06-Oct-06	WA	<b>Noongar appellants divided on details</b>	<p>The Howard Government was 'condemned' for its decision to appeal the native title ruling over Perth. Attorney General Phillip Ruddock said that it was imperative to appeal the decision to ensure that there was consistency in the law and 'reiterated previous claims that Aborigines would be able to exclude non-indigenous people from public places such as beaches and parks'. However these claims have been described by Premier Allan Carpenter as 'ridiculous' which is also trying to appeal the decision but is trying to 'distance itself from its federal counterpart'. Attorney General Jim McGinty said 'unlike John Howard and Phillip Ruddock, the Western Australian Government embraces native title and recognises the Noongars as the traditional owners of the land'.</p>	<p>Australian, 6-Oct-06, pg 3; 'Little appeal in WA's hope for a good native title outcome', National Indigenous Times, 19-Oct-06, pg 8.</p>

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06-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Waking native title's great sleeper</b>	The States and the Commonwealth are still 'haggling' over who is meant to be responsible for the compensation bill for native title. As a part of the Wik legislation the Commonwealth had promised that it would 'pay 75 per cent of the compensation bill for native title that had been wiped out by governments...Fast forward eight years. How many millions in compensation have flowed from determinations under the Native Title Act? None.' However 'indigenous groups have been concentrating on the expensive time-consuming - a it turns out very difficult ask of getting their native title claims recognised rather than trying to claim compensation for lands where native title has been wiped out'. Currently, of the 599 native title claims, only 12 include a compensation claim. The recent Noongar decision has raised this debate since they will be 'eligible for compensation is land over which they held native title after 1975 when the Racial Discrimination Act came into effect'. Both the State and Federal Government had claimed that their appeal is not 'inconsistent with their stated goal of settling claims by negotiation'. However the task of mapping out the tenure of each parcel of land in the region is likely	Australian Financial Review, 6-Oct-06, pg 83.
06-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>End confusion on native title</b>	The Noongar decision has raised concerns over the implications of the decision with 'Deputy Premier Eric Ripper [saying that] Noongar society had not survived in any meaningful way, so its native title claim was invalid. It appeared that [he was] disputing the facts of the case'. The Federal Government is less concerned with the 'validity of the claim than the effect of the judgment'. 'Land rights carry hope of restoring some of the lost dignity of indigenous Australians. However, uncertainty about the scope of native title will lead only to mistrust, misunderstanding and worse.'	Sydney Morning Herald, 6-Oct-06, pg 12.
06-Oct-06	WA	<b>Traditional belonging</b>	Rockingham Nyoongar spokesman Trevor Walley and Nyoongar Spiritual Elder Russell Nelly said 'native title was purely recognition of the Nyoongar people as the traditional inhabitants of Perth and cultural and spiritual "belonging" to it'. They said that 'native title acknowledged the legality of being able to maintain traditional links to the spiritual and traditional aspects of their country and culture'	Weekend Courier - Rockingham, 6-Oct-06, pg 7.
06-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Bradford shrugs off criticism</b>	Darkinjung Land Council chairman Jeff Bradford has said that 'he was not involved in establishing the Darkinjung Trust but had become a key player on its board when questions were asked about it validity. He accused Aboriginal Affairs Minister Milton Orkopoulos of orchestrating the battle and appointing Peter Hillig as administrator'.	Central Coast Express - Advocate, 6-Oct-06, pg 7.
06-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Nyoongar title payout mooted as Ruddock confirms appeal</b>	The State Government has 'acknowledged compensation could be a part of a settlement that is negotiated between the State and the claimants pending a State appeal against last month's Federal Court judgment recognising native title over Perth'. South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council chairman Glen Kelly said that 'Nyoongar claimants were unsure about compensation, but a monetary payment could not be ruled out.' He said that the 'problem with compensation payments is that they don't lead to sustainable outcomes for people. It would be better if people could have a say in national park management'.	West Australian, 6-Oct-06, pg 4.

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07-Oct-06	VIC	<b>Native title appeal not scare campaign</b>	Prime Minister John Howard has said that the 'Federal Government is not running a scare campaign on native title by appealing the controversial Federal Court decision'. He said: the question is whether there is any residual native title which might affect other area [that are not freehold land]...the law is still left quite obscure by this decision therefore we are going to appeal'.	Ballarat Courier, 7-Oct-06, pg 38; Kalgoorlie Miner, 7-Oct-06, pg 12.
07-Oct-06	WA	<b>Native title not a worry, say council chiefs</b>	Western Suburbs council chiefs are 'confident the recent native title ruling...will not have much effect on them'. Claremont CEO Arthur Kyron said that lake Claremont and the drive in site were 'safe from native title' but has 'adopted a position to engage the traditional owners in planning provisions'. Mosman Park CEO Paul Anderson said that 'hopefully the ruling was predominantly a symbolic gesture which would be used the right way'. 'Consolation was also the norm in Cambridge according to CEO Jason Buckley.'	Subiaco Post, 7-Oct-06, pg 6.
07-Oct-06	WA	<b>Poll backs native title appeal</b>	A westpoll of 404 people has found that '65 per cent of people supported the State Government's decision to appeal'. But it was also found that 'most people polled did not agree with the State Government's plan to start negotiations with the Nyoongar claimants'.	West Australian, 7-Oct-06, pg 4.
07-Oct-06	WA	<b>Anglican Archbishop says negotiation better than taking claimants to court</b>	Archbishop Roger Herft said that 'Australia is gripped in a second wave of 'Hansonism' and urged 'governments to treat negotiations with Aboriginals as a serious alternative to the courts. He said while the legal process could create some clarity, it may carry a heavy cost'.	West Australian, 7-Oct-06, pg 4.
07-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Aboriginal land councils, fast bucks and a coastal controversy: an unexpected development</b>	The NSW land rights act predates native title and enables 'local Aboriginal councils...to claim any crown land not being used for an essential purpose at the time the claim was made'. This means that some Indigenous groups have been able to claim 'scarce and environmentally sensitive coastal property' that has made them the target of big developers such as Macquarie bank. To date, 80 000 hectares of land have been 'handed over'. Geoff Scotte Deputy chief executive of the NSW Aboriginal Land Council said: 'we are swamped by developers every day' the 'land rights legislation is supposed to be more than just a form of compensation. It was also supposed to be a way for aboriginal communities to make themselves self-sustaining economically viable and able to afford decent services'. However there is continuing controversy over how the money is spent and the 'minefield of animosities and family rivalries'. ALP president Warren Mundine said: 'its a bizarre concept...the practical result is that we have a whole heap of money in the land council system and Aboriginal people still living in poverty.'	Australian Financial Review, 7-Oct-06, pg 24.
08-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Plan to create national park</b>	The 'first national park in NSW to be created from scratch with boriginal and white management' will be located in Port Stephens covering 4000 hectares in the Stockton Bight. The new management measures will be designed to stop 'uncontrolled four-wheel-drive vehicles, dumping of rubbish and degradation of vegetation'. Negotiations are still continuing between the State Government Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council and an Aboriginal negotiating panel. The co-management scheme will give Aboriginal people a 'higher profile in land care management'.	Sun Herald, 8-Oct-06, pg 16; 'Plan to create national park marks historic joint venture', Sun Herald, 8-Oct-06, pg 16

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09-Oct-06	QLD	<b>Lady Annie agreement</b>	An agreement has been signed between the Kalkadoon traditional owners and Copper CO in Mount Isa that 'grants access to five mining leases on Aboriginal land which comprise the Lady Annie project about 140 km north of Mount Isa'. Copper CO exploration and business development general manager Simon Pooled said that the 'compensation part has been agreed and signed off on through a memorandum of understanding' and includes 'monetary compensation, a commitment to provide employment and training and business development opportunities for the local community'.	North West Star, 9-Oct-06, pg 4.
10-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Mining boom a bucketful of legal gold</b>	Finlayson's partner George McKenzie has said that 'the demand for resources lawyers had increased in the past two years'. This is mainly due to 'native title issues, legislative requirements and contractual matters' that needed legal expertise.	West Australian, 6-Oct-06, pg 37.
11-Oct-06	WA	<b>Native title warning on housing land supply</b>	Liberal Senator Alan Eggleston said that the Federal Court's decision granting native title over metropolitan Perth will 'delay the release of Crown land for housing as it had done so in the north of the state'. He said: 'you have the situation in Part Headland where, other than the new land release at Pretty Pool, the housing is very limited because the land is subject to native title'. Noongar Spokesman Robert Isaac said that the 'Noongar people would cooperate with the State Government with requests to develop land'.	North West Telegraph, 11-Oct-06, pg 5.
11-Oct-06	WA	<b>Solid support by Nyoongar</b>	A Nyoongar rally in Perth has been attended by 700 people to 'show their support for the Federal Court decision granting native title over Perth and their opposition to the West Australian Government's plan to appeal'. West Australian Deputy Premier Eric Ripper was 'heckled as he addressed the rally, saying he and his government recognised the Nyoongar people as the traditional owners of Perth but an appeal was necessary to clarify the law.'	Koori Mail, 11-Oct-06, pg 3; 'Rally won't stop native title appeal' Perth Voice, 7-Oct-06, pg 1.
11-Oct-06	WA	<b>Partnerships points to a golden future</b>	An agreement has been reached between the Gnaala Karla Booja people and the owners and operators of the Boddington Gold Mine which is 'expected to deliver long-term social and economic benefits including at least 100 jobs in the mine for the Indigenous people'. The agreement 'details financial benefits and a community benefit management plan that includes training, education, employment, business development, community development and a contribution towards the establishment of a cultural centre'. South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council chief executive Glen Kelly said that the agreement was the first of its kind and 'ensures direct employment of the life of the mine as well as the development of Indigenous-owned business and enterprise'. The agreement also 'contains a special social package targeting school retention through scholarships training with assured employment outcomes and other cultural support'.	Koori Mail, 11-Oct-06, pg 27.

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11-Oct-06	NSW	<b>NSW denigrates land council scheme</b>	Darkinjung Chairman David Pross has said that there is a 'myth of Aboriginal naivety when it comes to sound business decision making - a myth that is becoming entrenched in contemporary "wisdom"'. He said that 'apparently its fine for anyone other than Aboriginal people to sell land without cultural significance and excess to their needs. Aboriginal groups are 'granted' an old quarry or tip site, apparently they must hand onto it in case it turns out to be valuable and someone wants it back'. He said that political criticisms of the land council for spending money on 'due diligence, feasibility studies, seed funding, management systems and attendant legal fees' is 'deliberate hypocrisy'.	Australian Financial Review, 11-Oct-06, pg 60.
11-Oct-06	NT	<b>Anger at permit plan</b>	The Northern Territory Government and the Central Land Council have responded 'angrily' to the federal Government's discussion paper 'Access to Aboriginal land under the Northern Territory Land Rights Act - Time for Change?' which has called for comments by 30 November. The discussion paper said that the permit system is 'becoming increasingly anachronistic and ineffective'. It proposes reforming the permit system with options ranging from 'complete abolition to opening up communal areas on Aboriginal land such as town centres. Another option would designate 'restricted areas' which requires Aboriginal people to demonstrate why a site should be restricted'.	Koori Mail, 11-Oct-06, pg 13.
12-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Mundine hits Labor native title appeal</b>	ALP president Warren Mundine has said that the West Australian Government's decision to appeal is 'treating the Noongar people as "less than human"'. He said that "it is bizarre that courts are even allowed to decide who an Aboriginal is, what is an Aboriginal and what is their culture'. The 'existence of a defined community and the maintenance over time of customs and beliefs is fundamental to native title recognition'. South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council chief executive Glen Kelly said that the appeal was 'not about seeking clarity in the law' and that it 'directly challenges the finding that the Noongars have a society with laws and customs and have a native title right'.	Australian, 12-Oct-06, pg 6.
12-Oct-06	QLD	<b>Agreement on display: land use still to be decided</b>	The National Native Title Tribunal has 'issued a notice of application to register an area for agreement on the register of the Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) for land in the Mirian Vale Shire'. The ILUA covers 1312 hectares of land near Agnes Water and will extinguish native title within the area. In exchange the 'state will make application to the Governor in Council to grant the freehold area to the Port Curtis Coast people in fee simple 'following the surrender'.	Gladstone Observer, 12-Oct-06, pg 6; 'Title claim', Morning Bulletin, 12-Oct-06, pg 2.
12-Oct-06	VIC	<b>Crown land to yield oil: native title claimant oil deal</b>	Essential Petroleum Resources has reached an agreement with the Gunditjmara native title claimants. The 'new indigenous land use agreement allows the company to commercially extract oil from crown land once it has a production license in the area'. The agreement is expected to be registered later in the month and 'forms part of the ongoing negotiations involving the Gunditjmara as they move closer to a landmark native title agreement' A 'tentative date' has been set for December 19 for a determination of the claim which has been 'ongoing for the past ten years'. The native title claim group has also signed an ILUA with Lynch mining.	Warrnambool Standard, 12-Oct-06, pg 3.

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12-Oct-06	WA	<b>Cultural site management</b>	The Saltwater Country Project has successfully completed its first phase and has been extended by the Rangelands NRM Co-ordinating group. The project's steering committee includes '2 elders from four Aboriginal groups stretching from the Buccaneer Archipelago to Cambridge Gulf with coordination support from the Kimberly Land Council and Department of Indigenous Affairs'. The Project has 'provided an opportunity for North Kimberly Aboriginals to articulate their values for the natural and cultural resources of the coastal and marine environment, allowing for better NRM planning in the region.' So far the project has developed a 'comprehensive list of indigenous places...including dreaming places, ancestral lands, burial sites, law grounds and camping, water and art places'.	Kimberly Echo, 12-Oct-06, pg 17.
12-Oct-06	WA	<b>Elder condemns appeal</b>	Wardandi Elder Bill Webb has said that the decision to appeal the Noongar natives ruling was 'disgraceful': "they have an arrogance about how they manipulate any circumstance to their own benefit". He said that negotiations were 'tried before' and that the Government has 'allowed the (ventures) to fail so they could pull the plug'.	Busselton Margaret River Times, 12-Oct-06, pg 8; "Stop the scaremongering", Augusta Margaret River Mail, 18-Oct-06, pg 15.
12-Oct-06	VIC	<b>Buloke accepts help with native title claim</b>	Buloke shire council has accepted 'an offer from the state to represent it in the Dja Dja Wurrung Native title claim'. Buloke Shire Council CEO Mark Amirtharajah said that there was 'sufficient clarity in the claims has now been achieved to allow the State of Victoria as a major respondent in the claims, to make the offer that they can act as representative of all the various Local government respondents in the claims'.	Sealake and Whycheprof Time Ensign, 12-Oct-06, pg 2.
12-Oct-06	WA	<b>Nyoongar not united claims Federal Appeal</b>	The federal government appeal 'aimed at overturning the recent judgment recognising native title over Perth, argues that Nyoongar people did not all share the same rights to the land. Instead particular areas were owned by small groups which inherited their parcels of land'. The appeal also argues that the 'rules relating to marriage, funerals, hunting and gathering are not applied in the same way today'. The hypocrisy of the appeal has been largely criticised. 'Contrary to its public statements, the State was challenging findings of fact about the Nyoongar society'.	West Australian, 12-Oct-06, pg 5.
12-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Title decision appeal made</b>	The 'Tweed native title fight could be derailed with the Attorney General Philip Ruddock appealing a recent precedent which paved the way for the local claim'. If the appeal is successful the 'the Gold coast and Tweed position in Court could be substantially weakened'. Claim group spokesman Wesley Aird said that 'it was important to understand the Tweed and Gold Coast claim was not about seizing land but about the right to be consulted about any developments which affect traditional rights'.	Tweed Sun, 12-Oct-06, pg 15.

13-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Why native title should be scrapped</b>	Graeme Campbell has argued that the native title system 'has been operating long enough to demonstrate that while it keeps a few Aborigine fat cats and a lot of lawyers in relative splendour it has done nothing at all for Aboriginal advancement and has probably been counter productive as it has split communities and families into warring groups.' He says that 'the native title legislation is bad legislation, it is corrupt legislation and it should be swept away'. He argues that a citizen initiated referendum 'would temper the arrogance of our leaders and impose some intellectual rigours on the moral vanity of the judiciary that is becoming increasingly out of touch with public values'.	Kalgoorlie Miner, 13-Oct-06, pg 2.
13-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Aborigines desert Labor after trust fund ruling</b>	The Darkinjung land council is leading a campaign to 'get Indigenous residents, traditionally Labor voters, to boycott the party' after what 'they believe are continuing attacks by the State Government on Aboriginal land rights'. The announcement came after a 'Supreme Court ruling last week that the land council board had acted improperly under land rights legislation in authorising the transfer of \$27 million in funds from the sale of land at Magenta to the Darkinjung trust fund'.	Central Coast Express - Advocate, 13-Oct-06, pg 5; 'Court rules trust payments were for 'improper purpose', Central Coast Express-Advocate, 6-Oct-06, pg 7
14-Oct-06	NT	<b>River diversion approved for controversial mine</b>	The Swiss mining company Xstrata will 'pay the Northern Territory Government one of the largest security bonds in Australian history to access three per cent of the world's zinc supplies'. The Northern Territory government has approved the diversion of the McArthur River by 5.5km to expand from underground to open cut mining. The proposal was initially knocked back based on 'environmental concerns'. Since then McArthur River Mining has 'made a number of concession including funding an independent environmental monitoring process and providing \$332 million for a Community Benefits Package'. Chief Minister Claire Martin said: 'this has been a difficult issue there is no doubt about it...but there will be a substantial injection of funds into the community'. However Peter Robertson from the NT Environment centre said that 'there is no amount of bond that will stop the contamination of the water because there is nothing you can do once the toxins leak out the environment'.	Barrier Daily Truth, 14-Oct-06, pg 7; 'Xstrata gets gulf go-ahead after protracted appraisal', Weekend Australian, 14-Oct-06, pg 35; 'Controversial mine expansion approved', National indigenous Times, 19-Oct-06, pg 8.

14-Oct-06	WA	<b>State in test case over airport land</b>	The State Government has 'launched legal action against Westralia Airports Corporation for allegedly damaging a registered Aboriginal site'. It is an offence 'under the WA <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972</i> to excavate, damage or alter an Aboriginal heritage site without the consent of the (WA) Minister for Indigenous Affairs'. The action is a 'test case to show whether State heritage law could be applied to airport land'. The matter will be heard in the Perth Magistrate's Court on Wednesday December 13.	barrier Daily Truth, 14-Oct-06, pg 7; 'Xstrata gets gulf go-ahead after protracted appraisal', Weekend Australian, 14-Oct-06, pg 35; 'Airport accused', Canning Time, 10-Oct-06, pg 8; 'Court date for site damage', Southern Gazette, 10-Oct-06, pg 3; 'Airport faces court over breach claim', Echo, 7-Oct-06, pg 1.
14-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Properties of integration</b>	Noel Pearson has argued that 'Aboriginal communities living on Aborigine lands are not integrated into the Australian property system.' This means that 'billions of dollars transferred from government to Aboriginal communities end up in the form of dead capital'. He also notes that a further 'complicating factor' is the 'dual role' of Indigenous land: 'facilitating economic independence and at the same time securing the connection with...ancestral land'. He argues that there is a need to 'map' the 'difference species of indigenous land holdings against their present and likeliest future use in economic development'. He says that 'if the Nyoongar are to participate in the economic life of Perth and to integrate into the Australian economy, they will need to own their homes and businesses'.	Weekend Australian, 14-Oct-06, pg 28.
14-Oct-06	WA	<b>Devil's in the detail of Carpenter's title fight</b>	There has been a loss of faith in the Carpenter Government which has been seen as 'strong supporters of native title title'. The appeal 'denies Noongars existed as a single society with laws and traditions passed down through time'. South West Land and Sea Council executive Glen Kelly said that the appeal 'seeks to extinguish the cultural identity of the Noongar people'. Noongar leaders have said 'the appeals were an attack on the credibility of the Nyoongar people as the traditional owners of the South-West and Perth Metropolitan area, founded in years of prejudice and motivated by vested interests'	Weekend Australian, 14-Oct-06, pg 31; 'Native title appeals racist, says Nyoongar', West Australian, 13-Oct-06, pg 17; 'Title appeal 'attacks Noongar existence', Australian, 12-Oct-06, g 6; 'State to question Noongar 'society', Australian, 11-Oct-06, pg 3; 'Disunity undoes claim, says state' West Australian 11-Oct-06, pg 5.

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14-Oct-06	NSW	<b>It's 'up to Aborigines': Fingal decision should be made by the Land Council: Milne</b>	Fingal Environment activist said that the 'proposed Fingal Aboriginal land sale is for local Aborigines to sort out for themselves'. She said that is the sale of the land estimated to be worth \$80 million goes ahead then the 'wider community will be able to comment as part of the approvals process'. Land Council chairman Russell Logan said that 'he was interested in re-activating a joint venture with development companies Medallist and the Stevens group' which was 'narrowly defeated by a land Council vote late last year.'	Daily News, 14-Oct-06, pg 4; 'Greg Norman Plan' ,Coffs Coast Advocate, 11-Oct-06, pg 28.
15-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Mega mine prompts council concerns</b>	Cessnock city Council has 'raised environmental concerns about a huge new mining project straddling three local government areas'. The plans of Donaldson Coal to extract '90 million tonnes of coal over the next 21 years' also raises questions as to the 'potential effects on Aboriginal heritage and culture'.	Sun Herald, 15-Oct-06, pg 51.
16-Oct-06	QLD	<b>Councils address native title issues</b>	WHaMBROC is an 'agency developed and owned by the nine local government councils...Bowen, Whitsunday, Mackay, Sarina, Broad Sound, Mirani, Nebo, Belyando and Peak Downs' has been working on native title issues with a law firm paid by the Federal Government. Executive Officer, Peter Sherlock said that the agency is seeking to clarify access issues and 'to the extent that public access to all or some parts of a claim area is such an issue, negotiation outcomes can be achieved'. He stated that 'the usual result of negation is some form of coexistence'.	Daily Mercury, 16-Oct-06, pg 9.
16-Oct-06	WA	<b>Noongar appeal at odds with reconciliation</b>	The 'State and Federal Government's argument that there is no option but to appeal the Noongar decision, because it is inconsistent with the earlier Yorta Yorta decision in Victoria is not a valid argument'. In reaching his decision, Justice Wilcox had followed the legal principles laid down in Yorta Yorta and 'even the WA premier freely acknowledges that the Perth district is traditional Noongar land, and if native title has survived it could only be a small part of that area. So what's the problem?'. It has been suggested that the 'blindness of these ideologues is again evident in their determination to appeal the Noongar decision, which will cost taxpayers a fortune and unnecessarily provoke community ill feeling. The obstinacy of these ideologues is a major reason why the Government now finds itself at odds with the increasing acceptance of native title by its own party, churches and other key players such as courts, miners and pastoralists'.	Goldfields Express, 13-Oct-06, pg 17; Kalgoorlie Miner, 16-Oct-06, pg 15.
18-Oct-06	WA	<b>Australia could learn from Canada</b>	National Chief of Canada's Chief assembly Phil Fontaine is in 'Australia to meet with politicians and reconciliation lobbyist in a bid to pass on the lessons of Canadian reconciliation'. In 'May 10 this year Canadian Parliament signed off on an open ended compensation plan for Indigenous people abused in Indian residential schools'. He said that there 'was no reason for Australians to be concerned by the recent Noongar native title claim' and said: 'people should never fear the presence of Aboriginal people in urban areas'.	Kalgoorlie Miner, 18-Oct-06, pg 17.

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18-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Native title hostility pointless</b>	Tony Rutherford has questioned the logic of the State and Federal Governments to appeal the Noongar decision. According to him 'the basic question, however remains: was the pursuit of this claim, at the very considerable expense of public money, ever a very good idea in the first place? This state government is after all very strongly committed to the settlement of claims but a negotiation process carried out as far as on could see in a spirit of remarkable good will a process which would seem foolish to prejudice'. He said that even though 'native title seems to be claimed to have a spiritual value...surely in the end the whole concept will only do good if it does something for the lives of those involved'. He also said that the 'real problem lies with the nature of the title obtained. Title is communal; title is inalienable. The property rights it contains are more or less useless'. He said: 'of we put aside the dry and torturous legal problems of clarifying the precise status of every parcel of land in question, most of the lands in question now effectively belongs to everyone'. As a result' damaging the dealings of common memory and common heritage which out lifetime enjoyment of all this had br	West Australian, 18-Oct-06, pg 23.
18-Oct-06	VIC	<b>City welcomes signs</b>	The Horsham Rural City Council has 'endorsed a proposal to place [signage]...explaining the traditional background of the land people are entering'. The signs 'fit neatly into the council philosophy of embracing regional heritage.' Councillor Gary Bird said the 'signs would be a natural addition to an historic Wotjobaluk People's national Native title Claim along a stretch of the Wimmera River in December last year'.	Wimmera mail Times, 18-Oct-06, pg 14.
19-Oct-06	NSW	<b>Mt Warning sign appeals to walker's conscience</b>	Widjabul Elder John Roberts is 'so angry about the desecration of his people's sacred mountain Wollumbim (Mt Warning ) he is thinking of re-visiting an abandoned native title claim'. He said that he wanted a sign erected at the base of the summit saying 'if you climb this mountain, you do so against the wishes of the Bundjalung elders and the Bundjalung people.' He said 'how can we have reconciliation if people don't respect the Aboriginal sacred laws and customs?'	Northern Rivers Echo, 19-Oct-06, pg 5.
19-Oct-06	NT	<b>No case for permit change</b>	Chris Graham editor of the National Indigenous Times has argued that 'no one in the Aboriginal land movement in the Northern Territory has ever opposed' the principle that 'any responsible professional journalists should be allowed access to courts to report proceedings'. He argues that 'since the creation of the Land Rights Act in 1976, no journalist has ever been refused access to court proceedings on Aboriginal land'. Further the 'Central Land Council has not received a single application from a journalist to cover a court case'. Mr Graham says that 'it is simply an issue of 'sovereignty' - either you support the right of Aboriginal people to determine who comes onto their land the circumstances under which they come ( a right other Australians enjoy as freehold title owners) or you don't.'	National Indigenous Times, 19-Oct-06, pg 16.
19-Oct-06	WA	<b>Management plan for Tuarts</b>	Environment Minister Mark McGowan has announced a new development plan for the Tuart Forest National Park. The advisory committee will include a 'member from the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council...representing native title claimants'.	South Western Times, 19-Oct-06, pg 9.

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19-Oct-06	SA	<b>SA leads the way with native title</b>	Tim Mellor from Mellor Olsson Lawyers said that: 'in SA we take some pride in the fact that for the last six years, discussion and negotiations have been taking place with a view to reaching agreement on native title in order to avoid litigation'. He said that 'native title claims are of particular relevance in pastoral areas' with the 'position of pastoralists in the claim area being recognised and recorded in ILUAs'. He said that the 'most significant advantage of this process is the fact that it preserved relationships from the past and develops relationships for the future'.	Stock Journal, 19-Oct-06, pg 6.
20-Jan-00	NSW	<b>land councils face massive shake up</b>	Changes to the Land Rights Act was introduced this week into NSW in a bid to make Land Councils more 'accountable'. The changes include 'requiring the councils to submit business plans and train board members and councillors'. Also the 'powers between the decision makers and those who carried out the decision would be separated and the councils would be able to disqualify board members from standing for election, or continuing to have office'.	South Coast Register, 20-Oct-06, pg 4; 'Act to be changed' Riverine Herald, 27-Oct-06, pg ; 'We'll see how it goes' South Coast register, 20-Oct-06, pg 4.
20-Oct-06	QLD	<b>Native title talks aim to avoid court</b>	Negotiations have 'begun between 16 Queensland councils and three Indigenous groups on a native title deal covering an area of the state two thirds the size of Tasmania'. The talks were marked by a ceremony and are designed to avoid 'a prolonged court battle over a 45 000 sq km area of Central Queensland'. Bundaberg Mayor Kay Mc Duff said: 'we think an agreement can be reached which enables the peaceful coexistence of all interest in land, including native title rights, local government interests and the rights and interests of the general public'.	Sunshine Coast Daily, 20-Oct-06, pg 15; 'Central Queensland memorandums signed', Koori Mail, 25-Oct-06, pg 13.
24-Oct-06	WA	<b>Comments welcome</b>	Peter Tagliaferri Mayor of the City of Fremantle 'aims to continue advancing the spirit of reconciliation and respect with the Nyoongar people'. He said: 'the council recognises the Nyoongar people are the original owners of the Fremantle area; it acknowledges and respects native title and the relationship that Aboriginal people have with their land and water'.	Fremantle Gazette, 24-Oct-06, pg 27.
24-Oct-06	NATIONAL	<b>Native title 'scrooges'</b>	Carmen Lawrence has said: I don't understand why the State Government decided to appeal...I understand why the Federal Government did - they've been hostile from the start'. She also said 'the fact that [the Carpenter government] said they'll negotiate, I think, is recognition the appeal won't succeed...its not good enough ...for state ministers to say they recognise Noongar rights without making good on that'.	Fremantle Herald, 24-Oct-06, pg 1.
25-Oct-06	VIC	<b>Gunai Kurnai people recognised</b>	A plaque recognising the Gunai Kurnai people as traditional owners has been placed on land at Old Gipps town in the Victorian town of Moe in the LaTrobe Valley'.	Koori Mail, 25-Oct-06, pg 27.
25-Oct-06	New	<b>Aboriginal sites destroyed</b>	Wadi Wadi Elder Allan Carriage has said that mining in 'Appin is destroying aboriginal site along Simpson's creek'. 'Several Aboriginal rock shelters have severe cracks through them, and in one the overhanging roof has collapsed onto the cave floor'.	Campbelltown-Macarthur advertiser, 25-Oct-06, pg 15.

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25-Oct-06	NT	<b>NLG anger at mine</b>	NLC chief executive Norman Fry has said that the 'council has received legal advice which says the Kurdanji traditional owners would win a court case against the NT government for impairment of native title rights and that resulting compensation would be considerable'. He said that the 'mining company and the NT government refused to negotiate an agreement and an unresolved compensation claim was lodged by traditional owners in 1996'. He said: 'X strata wants to trample on Aboriginal rights and culture by permanently diverting a major river and interfering with major rainbow serpent sites without negotiating an agreement'.	Koori Mail, 25-Oct-06, pg 8.
25-Oct-06	QLD	<b>Tribute for a pioneer</b>	A sculpture commemorating Eddie Mabo will be erected by the Townsville City Council at the entrance of the Victoria Street Bridge to commemorate his 'persistence' which 'overturned the legal fiction of 'terra nullius' establishing the principle of native title' The statue will be unveiled on Mabo day June 3 2007.	Townsville Bulletin, 25-Oct-06, pg 7.
26-Oct-06	WA	<b>Perth title claim appeals for rehearing</b>	The 'appeals against last month's landmark judgment upholding native title over Perth have been scheduled to be heard early next year'. Federal Court Judge Robert French 'ruled the separate appeals lodged ...should be heard together at the full court sittings of the Federal Court in Perth in March'.	West Australian, 26-Oct-06, pg 6.
26-Oct-06	WA	<b>Weld Range exploration agreement</b>	The Weld Range Wajarri Yamatji Exploration and Heritage Agreement was 'finalised at a meeting in in Yalgoo last week, after several months of discussion between the landowners and Murchison Metals'. The site is an 'old area where there are a significant number of Aboriginal sites including the Wilgemija ochre mine'. A similar agreement has been signed with the Midwest Corp. in April 2006.	Mid-West Times, 26-Oct-06, pg 5.
26-Oct-06	SA	<b>Native title</b>	Native title has been 'invoked in the Naracoorte town for the first time and may have implications for all undeveloped Crown land under the council's care'. Council Manager Daryl Smith said: 'the clear message is that all 'underdeveloped' Crown land under council's care control and management will run the gauntlet of the Native title legislation in the advent of proposed future development'.	Naracoorte Herald, 26-Oct-06, pg 2.

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26-Oct-06	WA	<b>In balance: boom or environmental bust</b>	The resources boom means that 'both the State and Federal governments are also performing an increasingly tricky balancing act by attempting to foster more industrial development and exports while protecting WA's fragile environment and its unique Aboriginal heritage'. More recently this has affected Woodside's \$5 billion Pluto project near the Burrup Peninsula which is also 'muddied somewhat by the fact that LNG is considered to be cleaner'. Chevron has also had 'difficulty maintaining its quarantine program' and has 'also raised concerns about the planned dredging program'. Heritage activists have likened 'Woodside's plan to relocate or destroy some of the art to building a petrochemical plant next to Stonehenge or putting an oil well in the Great barrier Reef'. Federal Environment Minister Ian Campbell has said that 'it could be many months before he decides whether to add the rock art to the federal heritage list and he would seek public comment before deciding on the fact of the hundreds of engravings'. He also said : I believe strongly that the economic benefits of development at the Burrup are in synergy with the environmental benefits of exporting natural gas to the north	Australian Financial Review, 26-Oct-06, pg 20; see also 'Burrup treasure is history in the taking' Australian 31-Oct-06, pg 10.
26-Oct-06	WA	<b>State blamed for land bottleneck</b>	Housing and Urban Research Institute of WA director Professor Fiona McKenzie said that the 'government failed to heed warning signs six years ago that extra land would be needed to support mineral projects'. She said that 'the neglect had caused enormous pressure for both mining companies desperate to capitalise on a buoyant world market and local communities struggling to provide vital housing an infrastructure'. Planning Minister Alannah MacTiernan said that the 'Government had worked tirelessly on native title dispute in the North West, to fund infrastructure in Geraldton, Albany and Kalgoorlie and oversaw a fourfold rise in the number of town planning students'.	West Australian, 26-Oct-06, pg 6.
28-Oct-06	WA	<b>Bridging cultures in mining</b>	Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines (KCGM) is 'providing a platform for a growing number of indigenous workers in the mining industry'. KCGM said: 'we see a great future for Indigenous workers in the mining industry' and has 'instituted cross-cultural training' which is 'now mandatory for all workers'. Goldfields Land and Sea Council executive director Brian Wyatt said 'we need more support from both government and industry in both training and consultation. Agreements making and relationship building between Aboriginal people and mining companies is becoming more commonplace'.	Kalgoorlie Miner, 28-Oct-06, pg 8.
28-Oct-06	WA	<b>Barnett plea for Burrup rock art</b>	Former resources minister Colin Barnett has 'called the State Government to insist that Woodside's \$5 billion Pluto gas project be located on cleared land adjacent to the North West Shelf project on the Burrup Peninsula'. He said that there was 'already a huge cleared site on flat land that should be given preference over uncleared land littered with ancient rock art that has been earmarked for the Pluto project'. He said that the 'Government allocated the land to Woodside and should be playing a greater role in determining the location of Pluto.'	West Australian, 28-Oct-06, pg 54.