

## Native Title in the News – December 2011

Date	State	Subject	Summary	Source
01/12/11	QLD	<b>Cape York Peninsula coal mine</b>	Aust-Pac Capitals have been given approval to go ahead with Cape York Peninsula's first coal mine with the signing of an Indigenous land use agreement. The small scale underground coking coal mine will be located on Aboriginal land in the Laura basin, 150 km north west of Cooktown.	<i>Cooktown Local News</i> (Cooktown QLD, 1 December 2011), 5.
07/12/11	WA	<b>Compulsory acquisition notices unlawful</b>	Chief Justice of the WA Supreme Court Wayne Martin determined that three notices of land acquisition at James Price Point were invalid because they did not contain a description of the land required, as needed under the Land Administration Act. Chief Justice Martin determined that any decisions made since the government-issued notices to take land and extinguish native title were also unlawful. This determination does not prevent the WA Lands Minister from issuing further notices of intention to take land in this area.	<i>Hobart Mercury</i> (Hobart TAS, 7 December 2011), 36. <i>Canberra Times</i> (Canberra ACT, 7 December 2011), 15. <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 6 December 2011). <i>Shepparton News</i> (Shepparton News VIC, 7 December 2011), 20. <i>Australian</i> (Australia, 7 December 2011), 6, 3. <i>Age</i> (Melbourne VIC, 7 December 2011), 1. <i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (Townsville QLD, 7 December 2011), 26. <i>Adelaide Advertiser</i> (Adelaide SA, 7 December 2011), 64. <i>Herald Sun</i> (Melbourne VIC, 7 December 2011), 38. <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Sydney NSW, 7 December 2011), 8. <i>Daily Advertiser</i> (Wagga Wagga NSW, 7 December 2011), 21. <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 6 December 2011). <i>Launceston Examiner</i> (Launceston TAS, 7 December 2011), 22. <i>Business News</i> (Perth WA, 8 December 2011), 2. <i>Australian Financial Review</i> (Australia, 10 December 2011), 12. <i>Geelong Advertiser</i> (Geelong VIC, 7 December 2011), 28. <i>Newcastle Herald</i> (Newcastle NSW, 7 December 2011), 31.
07/12/11	WA	<b>Chevron</b>	Buurabalayji Thalanyji native title holders refused to provide a welcome to country for a ceremony marking the start of construction at Chevron's Wheatstone Project in Onslow. Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation chairman Rodney Hicks said the timing of the ceremony was 'an insult to the Thalanyji people's elders'. He said it would only inflame relations between the native title holders and Chevron because of unfinished and outstanding heritage issues surrounding the project.	<i>Pilbara News</i> (Pilbara WA, 7 December 2011), 3.

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07/12/11	WA	<b>Pilbara native title groups</b>	Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin announced an initiative to deliver management and governance training to Pilbara native title groups who have entered into an Indigenous land use agreement with Rio Tinto. This initiative will include induction training for new directors, corporate governance workshops and ongoing corporate governance support and mentoring services for directors to assist them to manage the significant benefits they will receive under the native title agreement—around \$2 billion for 40 years.	<i>North West Telegraph</i> (South Hedland WA, 7 December 2011), 31.
07/12/11	AUS	<b>Commonwealth government decision to withhold native title funding</b>	Prime Minister Julia Gillard has told the Western Australian government it intends to withdraw from an understanding between the Commonwealth and state and territory governments that the Commonwealth would meet 75 percent of the costs and compensation involved in native title agreements. The decision to withdraw would affect all state and territory governments in Australia and have a serious impact on how native title claims may be treated in the future.	<i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 7 December 2011), 3. <i>Esperance Express</i> (Esperance WA, 7 December 2011), 1.
08/12/11	QLD	<b>AgForce Template pastoral ILUA</b>	AgForce native title spokesman John Stewart said the state government's support for the template pastoral Indigenous land use agreement is a 'big win for pastoralists as it provides a 25% reduction in land rent for five years to landholders who sign'. Mr Stewart said that the template ILUA creates opportunities for native title claimants to access pastoral properties for traditional purposes. AgForce hope the template will assist parties to negotiate agreements.	<i>Rural Weekly – North Central Queensland</i> (Mackay QLD, 8 December 2011), 4. <i>Central Queensland News</i> (Emerald QLD, 9 December 2012), 18.

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Date	State	Subject	Summary	Source
08/12/2011	QLD	<b>Land handover</b>	Sixty-three thousand hectares (ha) of land between Mossman and Cooktown has been handed back to the Eastern Kuku Yalanji people. 16,500 ha will be available for the development of the Eastern Kuku Yalanji people's social, cultural and economic aspirations, with the rest to be declared a nature refuge.	<i>Port Douglas Mossman Gazette</i> (Port Douglas QLD, 8 December 2012), 5.
09/12/11	QLD	<b>Bandanna coal project</b>	Bandanna Energy announced that the South Galilee Coal Project Joint Venture has received consent from the Wangan and Jagalingou people for all approvals needed to develop the project and infrastructure corridor.	<i>Central Queensland News</i> (Emerald QLD, 9 December 2011), 5.
13/12/11	QLD	<b>Kalkadoon people</b>	The Kalkadoon people have been recognised as native title holders of 40,000 sq km of land in the Mt Isa region. The Kalkadoon people hold exclusive native title rights over about 4,000 sq km and non-exclusive rights over the remaining land.	<i>Courier Mail</i> (Brisbane QLD, 13 December 2011), 18. <i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (Townsville QLD, 13 December 2011), 7. <i>National Indigenous Times</i> (Malua Bay NSW, 14 December 2011) 9.

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Date	State	Subject	Summary	Source
14/12/11	QLD	<b>Muluridji people</b>	The Muluridji people have had their native title rights recognised over about 12,000 hectares (ha) of land in and around Mareeba in far north Queensland. The Federal Court recognised the Muluridji people hold exclusive native title rights over about 745 ha and non-exclusive native title rights over the remaining areas. The Muluridji Tribal Aboriginal Corporation has been established to manage the native title rights and interests on behalf of all native title holders.	<i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 14 December 2012). <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 15 December 2011). <i>Cairns Post</i> (Cairns QLD, 16 December 2011), 16.
20/12/11	QLD	<b>Gunggandji peoples</b>	The Federal Court has recognised the Gunggandji people's native title rights over 7528 hectares, including areas on Fitzroy Island after a 17 year court battle.	<i>Cairns Post</i> (Cairns QLD, 20 December 2011), 5. <i>Townsville Bulletin</i> (Townsville QLD, 21 December 2011), 16.
22/12/11	SA	<b>Gawler Ranges</b>	The Gawler Ranges Aboriginal claimant groups have been recognised as the native title holders of about 34,000 square kilometers of pastoral lease and national park land in South Australia. Justice John Mansfield of the Federal Court made the consent determination on 19 December. The Federal Court recognised non-exclusive native title rights. Indigenous land use agreements were signed for the Lake Gairdner National Park and Gawler Ranges National Park.	<i>West Coast Sentinel</i> (Ceduna SA, 22 December 2011), 3. <i>Kalgoorlie Miner</i> (Kalgoorlie WA, 20 December 2011), 4. <i>Canberra Times</i> (Canberra ACT, 20 December 2011), 6. <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 19 December 2011). <i>Port Lincoln Times</i> (Port Lincoln SA, 20 December 2011), 4.

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Date	State	Subject	Summary	Source
28/12/12	WA	<b>Fortescue signs deal</b>	Fortescue Metals have signed a land access agreement with the Njamal people for access to land covered by the company's North Star and Glacier Valley magnetite projects. In exchange the Njamal people will become co-owners and joint owners of another magnetite mine.	<p><i>Border Watch</i> (Mt Gambier SA, 28 December 2011), 10. <i>Adelaide Advertiser</i> (Adelaide SA, 24 December 2011), 42. <i>Sydney Morning Herald</i> (Sydney NSW, 24 December 2011), 4. <i>Hobart Mercury</i> (Hobart TAS, 24 December 2011), 20. <i>Canberra Times</i> (Canberra ACT, 24 December 2011), 1. <i>AAP Newswire</i> (Australia, 23 December 2011). <i>Shepparton News</i> (Shepparton VIC, 24 December 2011), 32. <i>Ballarat Courier</i> (Ballarat VIC, 24 December 2011), 27. <i>Border Mail</i> (Albury-Wodonga VIC, 24 December 2011), 25.</p>