

NATIVE TITLE IN THE NEWS

MAY 2014

DATE	STATE	SUBJECT	SUMMARY	SOURCE
30 May 2014	NT	Titjikala signs up to grog fight	The Federal Government has approved the first Alcohol Management Plan covering the central Australian Indigenous community of Titjikala. Titjikala is a dry community 120 kilometres south of Alice Springs but federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs Nigel Scullion says grog running is rife.	ABC Online Indigenous News , Sydney NSW (30 May 2014)
29 May 2014	WA	Long wait over for Nyikina Mangala native title bid	After years of waiting, the Kimberley's Nyikina Mangala traditional owners are gathering to have their native title claim recognised. Federal Court Judge John Gilmour is expected to make the determination today at an on-country hearing on the Fitzroy River. The area of land extends from the King Sound, through the Fitzroy Valley, to Noonkanbah and the Great Sandy Desert.	ABC Online Indigenous News , Perth WA (29 May 2014)
28 May 2014	WA	Miners fear native title 'connection' fallout	Mining giants have joined the West Australian government in warning against proposed changes to native	The Australian , Sydney NSW (28 May 2014)

			title laws, which they fear could trigger a fresh wave of litigation.	
28 May 2014	WA	Indigenous group fears CSG impact on Mount Mulligan water	Traditional owners are holding a public information meeting in Mareeba this morning to discuss a coal seam gas (CSG) exploration permit granted over land nearby at at Mount Mulligan. The chairman of the Western Yalangi Aboriginal Corporation, Alwyn Lyall, says WA-based company Mantle Mining will have to negotiate with traditional owners to secure an access agreement. Mr Lyall says he is worried about the potential for CSG extraction to contaminate water sources.	ABC Online Indigenous News, Sydney, NSW (28 May 2014)
25 May 2014	QLD	Native title recognised	The Federal Court in Brisbane has acknowledged the native title rights of the Bularnu, Waluwarra and Wangkayujuru people. The decision recognises native title rights over the Georgina River, its tributaries and includes the town of Urandangi.	Northwest Star , Mt Isa QLD (25 May 2014)
22 May 2014	NT	Native Title hurdles still in front of Ord Stage 3	There are still a number of Native Title hurdles to get over before the Ord Irrigation Scheme can expand into the Northern Territory. The Territory Government is keen on making land available for what would be known as Ord Stage 3, but there's a number of Traditional Owners who are yet to be convinced of its benefits.	ABC Rural , Darwin NT (22May 2014)
20 May 2014	ACT	Indigenous health leaders call for exemption from Federal Government's planned GP co-	Indigenous health services are calling for immunity from the \$7 co-payment for visits to the doctor	ABC News , Canberra ACT (20 May 2014)

		payment.	until the Closing the Gap targets are met. A group of Aboriginal health leaders will meet in Canberra today in an attempt to resolve concerns about the co-payment. The Federal Government wants to charge the \$7 fee for GP visits, pathology and radiology from July next year.	
16 May 2014	ACT	Budget 2014: \$534 million cut to Indigenous programs	<p>Over the next five years \$534 million will be cut from Indigenous programs administered by the Prime Minister and Cabinet and Health portfolios.</p> <p>The budget papers show the savings will be made by replacing more than 150 programs, grants and activities with five broad-based programs under the Government's new Indigenous Advancement Strategy.</p>	ABC News , Canberra ACT (16 May 2014)
15 May 2014	QLD	Queensland Government goes back to drawing board on draft Cape York Plan	<p>The Queensland Government has abandoned maps outlining land use areas in the draft Cape York Plan.</p> <p>Infrastructure Minister Jeff Seeney says the plan, which seeks to manage competing economic, environmental and cultural interests, will now go back to the drawing board.</p> <p>He says for now, protections under Wild Rivers legislation and the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve will remain in place but any future land regulation decisions will be made at a community level on a yearly basis. Mr Seeney says the</p>	ABC Online Indigenous News , Brisbane QLD (15 May 2014)

			changes were prompted by community feedback on the draft plan, with more than 6,000 submissions raising concerns the maps were unsuitable.	
14 May 2014	WA	Ancient rock art being defaced in Pilbara	Rock art in Western Australia's Pilbara region believed to be up to 60,000 years old has been attacked by vandals. Tourist guide and Ngarluma man Clinton Walker said he had discovered a defaced piece of rock art on the Burrup Peninsula in Murujuga National Park. "Someone has actually etched into a rock right above where some of the rock art is and wrote: 'go and work for a living'," he said. The Burrup Peninsula is home to the world's biggest collection of Aboriginal rock art and gained national heritage listing in 2007.	ABC Online Indigenous News , Perth WA (14 May 2014)
14 May 2014	QLD	Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove to see Cape welfare reform trial in action	The scheme aimed at addressing social problems on Cape York will be showcased to Governor-General Sir Peter Cosgrove as he wraps up his far north Queensland tour. Sir Peter will today visit the 'Opportunity Hub' at Mossman Gorge, north of Cairns, where parents are getting help with healthy living and income management as part of the Cape York Welfare Reform trial.	ABC Online Indigenous News , Brisbane QLD (14 May 2014)
13 May 2014	NSW	Goodes urges support for constitutional change	Australian of the Year Adam Goodes has urged fellow Australians to get behind a campaign for recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the constitution. The AFL star spoke at the We Want	ABC Online Indigenous News , Sydney NSW (13 May 2014)

			<p>Recognition event at Sydney's Wayside Chapel on Tuesday in an effort to increase public awareness about constitutional change.</p> <p>"There's nothing in the constitution right now - not a single word - that mentions that anyone was here in 1788. So we need to acknowledge that simple fact," the Sydney Swans player said.</p>	
12 May 2104	NT	Final report tipped to recommend dumping bush secondary education	<p>The final report commissioned by the Territory Government on ways to improve remote indigenous school results will soon be released. It's expected to advocate scrapping most secondary education in the bush and mandating an English-only primary curriculum.</p>	<p>ABC News, Sydney NSW (12 May 2014)</p>
9 May 2014	QLD	Doubts raised over Queensland's Indigenous freehold title legislation	<p>Queensland South Native Title Services, CEO Kevin Smith says there are fundamental flaws in the Queensland Government's legislation that proposes freehold land ownership opportunities for Indigenous communities.</p> <p>The legislation would allow 34 communities to transfer the tenure of selected land from communal ownership to freehold title, abolishing native title over chosen land. He is concerned the legislation requires traditional owners to give up their native title rights and he says cost is also an issue.</p> <p>"The big problem is if there is a default on the mortgage then the bank can actually foreclose and the traditional land can then be handed over to non-Indigenous</p>	<p>ABC Online Indigenous News, Brisbane QLD (9 May 2014)</p>

			people and that is really our biggest concern," he said.	
8 May 2014	SA	South Australia's approvals process for exploration land access has been slammed by one of the State's most active and highly credentialed explorers, Australian Securities Exchange-listed Minotaur Exploration.	Managing Director of Minotaur Exploration Andrew Woskett said a logjam had been created, stifling exploration activity. He said reinterpretation two years ago of the Native Title Act, which required Native Title Mining Agreements to be in place before drilling could begin, was the main culprit to the "mounting logjam of access approvals".	The Australian , Sydney NSW (8 May 2014)
6 May 2014	WA	Forrest review of indigenous employment to recommend tough earn or learn welfare rules	Next week's budget will make it harder to get the dole. This morning, AM can reveal the Government's is urged to strip welfare from teenagers if they're not in school, work or training. The idea will come from a review of Indigenous training by billionaire miner Andrew Forrest. Not every element of the plan will be accepted, but the strong message the Government intends to send in recasting benefits is 'earn or learn'.	AM ABC , Sydney NSW (6 May 2014)