



AIATSIS

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies

Native Titles Research Unit

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See also : the [Native Title Research Unit page](#)

NATIVE TITLE NEWSLETTER

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STOP PRESS

As we go to press the Federal Government has released the draft legislation which will amend the Native Title Act and incorporate its response to the Wik decision. Called The Native Title Amendment Bill 1997. Working draft. It is available from Senator Minchin's office at Parliament House Canberra. Phone: (06) 277 7130. It will also be loaded on the Dept. of Prime Minister and Cabinet's web site at www.nla.gov.au/pmc/pmchome.html.

AIATSIS has two current projects relating to native title being undertaken by consultants:

- Jon Stanhope and Chris Fabricius, legal consultants, have been contracted to prepare a manual for general use, covering each Australian jurisdiction, of legislation relevant to native title and heritage. The manual will contain summaries of relevant legislation. They may be contacted at the Institute on telephones (06) 246 1160 or 246 1163 or fax (06) 249 7714, and would be pleased to discuss any aspect of the project with anyone interested.
- Lee Godden and Shaunnagh Dorsett from the Faculty of Law, Griffith University are preparing a publication on overseas precedents relating to native title. Call the NTRU if you would like to discuss any aspects of this project.

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NATIVE TITLE IN THE NEWS

APRIL - MAY 1997

(Note: Where an item also appears in other newspapers, etc, an asterisk (*) will be used. People are invited to contact the Native Title Research Unit at AIATSIS if they want the additional references. As usual, NTRU will try to provide people with copies of particular newspaper articles on request.)

Aus = Australian
Ad = Advertiser (SA)
CM = Courier Mail (QLD)
CP = Cairns Post
CT = Canberra Times
Fin R = Financial Review
HS = Herald Sun (VIC)
Mer = Hobart Mercury
LE = Launceston Examiner
NTN = Northern Territory News
SMH = Sydney Morning Herald
Tel M = Telegraph Mirror (NSW)
WA = West Australian
WAus = Weekend Australian
KM = Kalgoorlie Miner

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CLAIMS

ACT

Ngunnawal [NNTT Ref#AC96/2]

ACT Chief Minister, Kate Carnell, said a native title claim over one fifth of the ACT, might be settled by a regional agreement providing for compensation and joint control of national parks. Ngunnawal lawyer, Peter Kilduff said the status of long term private leasehold or public monuments and buildings in Canberra would not be challenged (WAus 31 May, p1).

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New South Wales

Shellharbour [NNTT Ref#NC95/9]

The Shellharbour marina still could be built if native title claims are successful. There have been six separate claims on the marina site and the project has been held up while waiting for claims to be finalised. Developers believe that if native title is granted the project may proceed if compensation can be negotiated. Two claims in the area [NNTT Ref# NC96/31 and NC96/32] have been rejected by the National Native Title Tribunal. (*Illawarra Mercury*, 1 May, p18)

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Byron Bay [NNTT Ref#NC95/1, NC96/23]