



**Marine
Biodiversity
Hub**

National Environmental Science Programme

Promoting partnerships for Sea Country Research and Monitoring in Western Australia:

A snapshot of Indigenous, science & management agency partners

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Limitations

1. This document should only be used for the purposes of promoting collaborative saltwater science projects between named Indigenous saltwater groups in Western Australia and those included organisations/agencies/collaborations with marine science agendas in the state.
2. Information contained herein is based on a rapid desktop assessment of available online materials and has not been formally endorsed by all groups or organisations it describes. As such, it cannot be viewed as a complete compilation of groups, capacity or interest.
3. Feedback from regional Indigenous representatives has been sought via email (members of the 2019 AMSA Indigenous Workshop organising group convened by NESP Marine Biodiversity Hub), in person at the AMSA 2019 conference and by follow up email to persons who expressed an interest in reviewing at the workshop.
4. Additional feedback was sought from each established Aboriginal Corporation listed. All changes recommended by groups who provided a response were incorporated. Only logos from those Indigenous groups who provided consent for their logos to be included, are included. Feedback was requested in writing via email with a two-week timeframe, extended by request and was received either verbally or in writing.
5. The logos contained within the following pages in no way indicate endorsement of this product. They have been included to support the identification of partners for future collaborations.
6. This document uses 2019 (August) information to profile a broad range of organisations whose goals, structures, policies and programs will change with time. As such, the information in this document will become progressively outdated. We have provided links to websites and key contacts where possible, please use these to ensure you are using current information.

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The potential benefits of collaborative science projects on Saltwater Country in Western Australia (WA) are many. Examples of successful collaborations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners that deliver a suite of co-benefits were showcased at recent events such as the 2019 AMSA conference.

The common elements of these success stories include the establishment of trusted relationships built on cross cultural understanding, clearly defined engagement processes, research agreements, and allocation of adequate resources to achieve agreed objectives.

In some parts of the state where capacity allows and governance structures are well established, there has been investment in developing culturally appropriate research protocols from community standards. In other areas, recently recognised Native Title holders are working hard to develop the capacity required to undertake science activities. Yet other saltwater groups are progressing through the lengthy process of seeking recognition of their Native Title rights.

This wide variability in the development, resourcing and capacity of Indigenous groups to participate and lead science projects on their saltwater Country is an important consideration for research institutions and management agencies looking to develop collaborative projects. Similarly, it is important for Indigenous communities to understand and evaluate the partnership opportunities among the various marine science institutions and management agencies operating within Western Australia.

While this document will not address all of the challenges, it aims to provide a big picture perspective of potential partners for Sea Country science in WA by providing simple, overview information of both Indigenous saltwater groups and western science agendas within the state.

In the following pages, we provide time-bound snapshots of thirty Western Australian saltwater Native Title holders and claimant groups; eight government agencies with significant marine science agendas; four major marine science collaborations; three professional organisations; and four major WA universities.

Due to the rapidly evolving nature of Sea Country science, as well as the growing number of marine science institutions and management agencies seeking Indigenous input and engagement, we acknowledge that the information provided will become progressively outdated. The document should not be seen as a complete representation of all Indigenous groups or land and sea capacity, or of marine science and management programs in WA. Nonetheless, we hope that it is one of many tools supporting Indigenous communities, science institutions and marine managers to develop collaborative and respectful partnerships enabling science that provides important benefits to people and their Country.

2. INTRODUCTION

This document was developed to provide a snapshot of existing Indigenous, government and academic entities with an interest in partnership approaches to Sea Country science in Western Australia (WA). It is designed to complement the final report of the 2019 Australian Marine Sciences Association Indigenous Workshop, *Promoting collaborative and respectful partnerships for Sea Country research and monitoring in Western Australia*.

This document seeks to support the evolution of opportunities for collaborative science projects between western science practitioners, marine managers and Indigenous communities within WA by providing introductory information about Native Title holders and their documented Sea Country management plans, structures and related science protocols; as well as brief descriptors of key documented marine science institutions and government initiatives that require Indigenous engagement and respectful science partnerships with Indigenous groups within the state.

It is structured in two parts:

Part 1: Information about Sea Country management & saltwater Native Title groups in WA

Part II: Information about marine science institutions & management agencies with interests in WA Saltwater Country

PART 1: CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT SEA COUNTRY MANAGEMENT IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

3. CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

3.1 Indigenous knowledges for ‘right-way’ science

The coastal regions of Western Australia have been lived in, cared for and carefully managed by fifty¹ or more Indigenous nations for tens of thousands of years. Each of these saltwater peoples possess their own unique and complex laws, customs, knowledges, cultural values and ways of being.

Far from passive, the management relationship of Indigenous people is one of intentional management, farming and aquaculture requiring significant technical knowledge and management proficiency. Each distinct language group achieved and maintained a sustainable balance between the use and care of their natural environment for millennia.

To achieve this balance, Indigenous nations developed intricate and highly complex, in-situ understandings of the ecosystems and environment of their Land and Sea Country. Much of this knowledge is alive today, held within Indigenous law, culture and practices.

The first Australians have developed an in-depth understanding of coastal marine systems, capturing knowledge about system function and change over the past 40,000 years. This understanding informs traditional aquatic resource management systems, and there is increasing recognition of this knowledge base and the benefits of its integration with western knowledge

(National Marine Science Plan, p26)²

In contemporary Western Australia, there is a growing understanding of the importance of these Indigenous knowledges and practice to the success of both management initiatives and science projects. Partnering with Indigenous communities through the full cycle of science projects from concept through implementation and knowledge sharing, is increasingly being acknowledged as best practice.

Often referred to as ‘right-way’ science, this way of undertaking collaborative projects offers a range of pragmatic, technical, cultural, personal and often unanticipated benefits to partners in collaborative research and monitoring projects.

3.2 Indigenous governance structures

To date, over two dozen WA saltwater groups have achieved legal recognition of their customary rights to use and manage their traditional Land and Sea Country through many lengthy, separate processes of Native Title³ application, negotiation and declaration.

More than half of the state of Western Australia is covered by Native Title determinations and within these, a suite of [Indigenous Land Use Agreements](#) apply (see [map current ILUAs](#)). Each Native Title determination applies to a specific area of Country, traditionally lived on and cared for by an Indigenous nation^a maintaining an unbroken cultural connection to the land since time immemorial.

Once Native Title has been determined and to assert their Native Title rights, each group establishes a Registered Native Title Representative Body (also known as a prescribed Body Corporate or PBC) which holds the Native Title on trust. Most groups will start with the support of a regional Land Council and as their capacity and resources grow, will move to community-based governance through their own PBC^b. PBCs are tasked with community-based decision-making including acceptance of research proposals on behalf of the community^c and sign-off on community-supported research agreements^d.

PBCs are beholden to their communities in a similar way as local shire council members and politicians are to their constituents. They have a board of community-elected directors, strict corporation rules, defined processes and meeting schedules. Just as decision-making processes within each state and local government area differ, so do those of each Indigenous nation.

3.3 Healthy Country Plans

Where resourced, Indigenous communities undertake a local, community-based consultative planning process to collectively define the group's land and sea priorities. Detailed planning processes such as [Conservation Action Planning](#) develop the details of each group's Healthy Country Plan.

Each plan identifies values, threats, condition and management objectives for a ten-year period and is the basis of annual works planning for the local Indigenous ranger group. These plans are important foundational resources for scientists and managers alike.

Current Healthy Country Plans for WA saltwater groups:

- [Balanggarra Healthy Country Plan](#)
- [Wunambal Gaambera Healthy County Plan](#)
- [Dambimangari Healthy Country Plan](#)
- [Karajarri Healthy Country Plan](#)
- [Pilbara Sea Country Plan](#)
- [Murujuga National Park Management Plan](#)

^a Some native title areas are determined on the basis of shared native title by a wider cultural group

^b This is a generalisation and not always the case

^c PBC endorsement is not the same as the consent of the Traditional Owners of the land or sea where research is proposed, which is a separate process of consultation, guidance and involvement

^d Indigenous Ranger involvement in projects is usually specified within the research agreement.

3.4 Indigenous Protected Area Management Plans

Where established, Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) are important enablers of collaborative science projects relevant to improving knowledge about local Indigenous natural and cultural resource priority values. Growing in number, IPAs now comprise roughly half of the total Australian National Reserve System⁴.

Healthy Country Plans and IPA Management Plans are important resources for researchers to understand local management aspirations and consider how the research concept supports local priorities.

As IPAs are declared over specific areas of land and Sea Country, resources become available to develop community-based management plans through the IPA Program, administered by the National Indigenous Australians Advancement Agency. These plans detail the range of cultural values, their state of health and the types of management priorities required to keep them healthy.

Current Indigenous Protected Area Management plans for WA saltwater groups:

- [Uunguu IIPA: Wundaagu \(saltwater\) Indicative Plan of Management](#)
- [Nyangumarta Warrarn IPA Plan of Management](#)

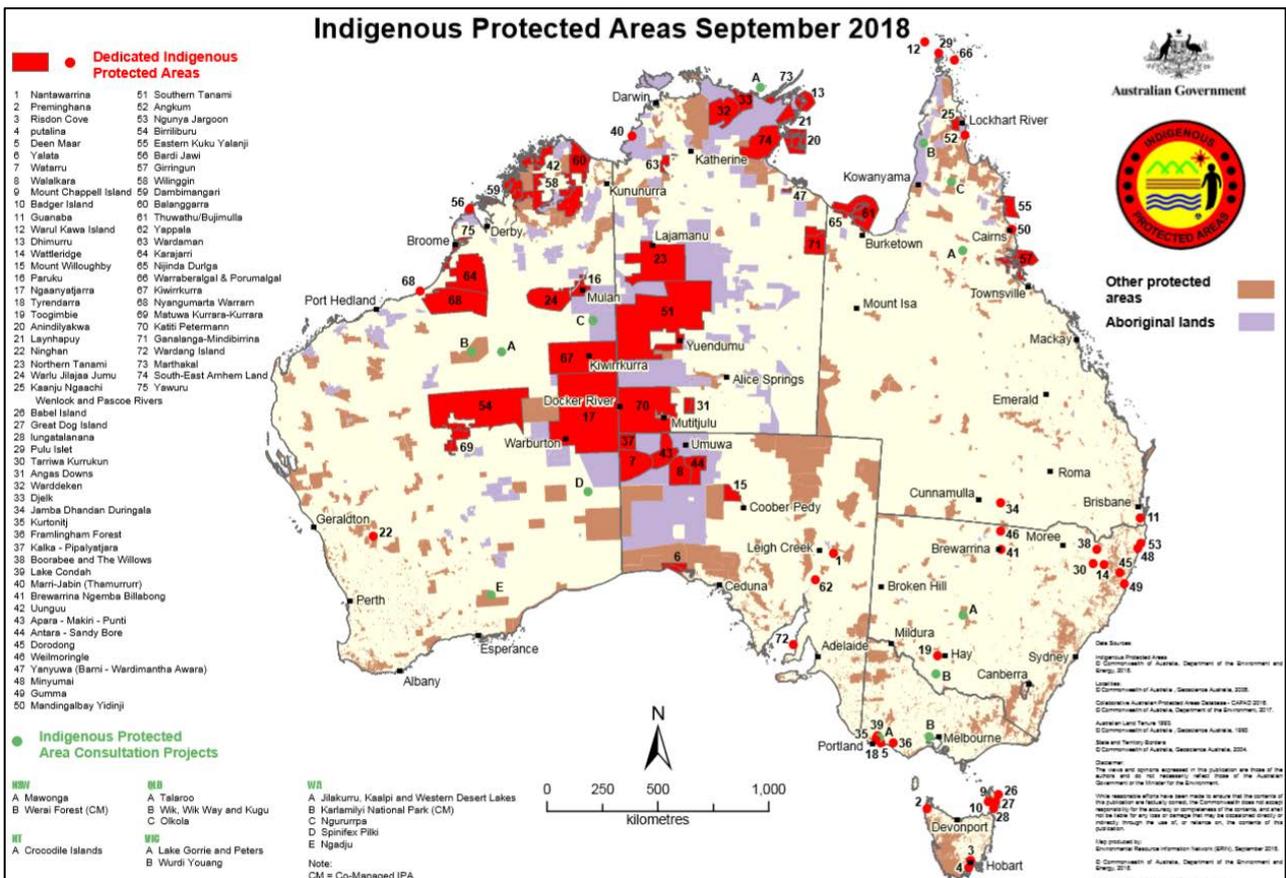


Figure 1 Map of Indigenous Protected Areas across Australia as at September 2018

3.5 Joint Management Plans

Many areas of state vested conservation estate (marine and terrestrial parks and reserves) are managed jointly through Joint Management Agreements between the Western Australian Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and Native Title holders. Each area has its own Joint Management plan either in place, or under development. Every plan identifies the cultural, ecological, heritage and recreational values of the park and for each of these, key management objectives, strategies, targets, measures and reporting requirements are specified.

Current Joint management plans for WA saltwater groups:

- [Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park](#)
- [Lalang-garram \(Camden Sound\) Marine Park](#)
- [Lalang-garram \(Horizontal falls\) and north Lalang-garram Marine Parks](#)
- [North Kimberley Marine Park: Balanggarra, Miriuwung Gajerrong, Wilinggin management areas](#)
- [Yawuru Birragun Conservation Park](#)
- [Yawuru Nagulagun \(Roebuck Bay\) Marine Park](#)
- [Guniyan Binba Joint Management Plan \(draft\)](#)
- [Draft Nyinggulu Coastal Reserves](#)

3.6 Indigenous Rangers

Indigenous rangers are instrumental to the success of any science project on the land and Sea Country they manage, both under the direction of the Traditional Owners and on behalf of their community. Often Traditional Owners themselves, they hold a wealth of technical, local, place specific and cross-cultural knowledge. Equally important for science projects, Indigenous ranger groups provide a wide range of professional services, are highly skilled and experienced and can facilitate access to local resources.

Whether Indigenous rangers are involved in a science project as a fee for service opportunity and/or as collaborators on a topic of importance to both the Indigenous community and western science, they are a resource not to be overlooked. There are currently twenty-five saltwater Native Title groups benefitting from the services of their Indigenous ranger teams in Western Australia.

Where funded, Indigenous rangers are usually employed through one of three mechanisms in Western Australia. They may be funded through federal government [Working on Country](#) and [Indigenous Protected Area](#) funding streams; through the short-term DBCA [Aboriginal Ranger Program](#) or through Joint Management agreements between DBCA and Indigenous organisations^e.

^e Occasionally, a group may be funded through specific agreement with a corporate entity

Due to the limitations of these funding types, supplementary resources are often sought from a mixture of public and private funding avenues. Indigenous ranger groups also rely on attracting fee for service opportunities to resource parts of their operations.

3.7 Indigenous research standards and protocols in WA

There is no single process of science project proposal, development and enactment that suits all Indigenous groups. Marine and coastal scientists looking to engage on projects with saltwater Indigenous people in Western Australia must find and follow the local group's community-based research and engagement protocol. In some areas, these cultural protocols have been documented, in others they are contained within the local community.

In general terms, all WA Indigenous groups have community standards and culturally appropriate protocols for engagement. However, few groups have received the requisite investment into community consultation and process required to develop an agreed, documented protocol.

3.7.1 AIATSIS Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies

Scientists can find general guidance around research processes from a set of fourteen principles developed by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), published in 2012: [Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies](#)^f.

Each principle is described in brief and followed by a list of ways it can be met or applied. They are presented within the following six categories:

- Rights, respect and recognition
- Negotiation, consultation, agreement and mutual understanding
- Participation, collaboration and partnership
- Benefits, outcomes and giving back
- Managing research: use, storage and access
- Reporting and compliance

These guidelines are often used by universities and research institutions as a point of reference for their staff looking to undertake research involving Indigenous people in Australia.

3.7.2 Kimberley Saltwater Research Protocol & online proposal form

The Kimberley region has developed a documented Indigenous research protocol that applies to land and sea science projects (natural and cultural resource) on Balanggarra, Wunambal Gaambera, Dambimangari, Bardi Jawi, Nyul, Yawuru & Karajarri Country^g.

^f As at the time of writing, the AIATSIS Guidelines are under review.

^g Development of the Kimberley saltwater research protocol was funded by WAMSI as part of [the Kimberley Indigenous Saltwater Science Project](#) (KISSP). Other Indigenous groups across WA have expressed interest in developing up their own protocol, using the lessons learnt during KISSP.

The [protocol](#) is presented in the form of a ‘Guide for Researchers’ and accompanying interactive online research proposal form via the relevant Indigenous group website:

- For projects on Unguu Country, researchers apply through the [Wunambal Gaambera](#) website;
- For projects on Yawuru Country, researchers apply through the [Yawuru](#) website;
- For projects on Balanggarra, Bardi Jawi, Mayala, Nyul Nyul, Yawuru or Karajarri Country, researchers apply through the [KLC](#) website.

Looking to the Kimberley experience, researchers should firstly identify the Indigenous group with Traditional Ownership of the area or research interest. In contemporary times, this can be approached by first identifying the local Native Title group. There follows a process of getting to know the group, their history and saltwater management work through standard background research.

Researchers are then in an excellent position to talk with the appropriate people within that group about their science interest and to develop the science project together, ensuring that the needs of both parties are addressed (stage 1 and 2 of the Kimberley collaborative project cycle).



Figure 2 Simplified stages of the Collaborative Research Cycle, extract from the Guidelines for Collaborative Science on Kimberley Saltwater Country

3.7.3 Guidelines for Collaborative Knowledge work in Kimberley Saltwater Country

Closely related to the Kimberley research protocols and based on the same data, the [Guidelines for Collaborative Knowledge work in Kimberley Saltwater Country](#) is an important resource for planners and policy makers.

Less prescriptive than the protocol, it provides a set of twenty guidelines for collaborative knowledge work informed by Kimberley saltwater communities. Although place specific, the principles may be a useful reference for collaborate knowledge activities more broadly

Table 2. Traditional Owner identified guidelines for knowledge collaborations

Source of Guideline	Before	During	After
Local Authority and Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect Local Law • Empower Local Indigenous Governance • Obtain Permissions and Permits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognise TO Authority • Follow Cultural Protocols • Include Knowledge Holders • Include Young People • Use the Right Language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Up After Yourself • Follow Cultural Protocols
Intercultural Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take Building Relationships Seriously • Empower Local Intercultural Governance • Ensure Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC) • Facilitate Local Participation • Begin with Knowledge System Equity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build Balanced Teams • Stick to the Plan • Do Training Both Ways • Communicate Clearly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Information Appropriately • Make Outputs Accessible • Facilitate Feedback • Interpret Results Together • Present Achievements Together • Share Benefits Equally • Store Data Properly • Plan for the Future Together

Table 1 Extract from Guidelines for Collaborative Knowledge Work in Kimberley Saltwater Country^a

3.7.4 Murujuga general and research protocols

Murujuga has developed a set of general and research protocols contained within the [Murujuga Cultural Management Plan⁵](#), available for purchase from the Murujuga Land and Sea Unit.

3.7.5 Murujuga general protocols

The Murujuga general protocols inform culturally appropriate and respectful behaviour of visitors to the area and are presented as a set of eighteen key points for discussion:

1. What are cultural protocols?
2. Who are these protocols for?
3. How to use this document as your resource for coming into Murujuga.
4. Are there costs associated with these protocols?
5. What do you do if you want to carry out research on Murujuga, or are already researching on Murujuga?
6. What do you do if you want to work on Murujuga, or are already working on Murujuga?
7. What is a cultural safety induction?
8. How can I organize a cultural induction?

9. Can I collect samples or souvenirs?
10. What do I do if I want to access Traditional Knowledge?
11. What do I do if I want to disturb the ground?
12. What do I do if I want to work in partnership or collaboration with Murujuga?
13. What do I do if I want to take photos or already have photos?
14. What do I do if I want to publish information about Murujuga through the media, books, research journals, social media, the internet, or any other sources?
15. How do I make initial contact?
16. How do I know that my request for contact will be actioned and how long will it take to process?
17. How can we help and get involved?
18. What are the benefits of following these protocols?⁶

3.7.6 Murujuga research protocols

Murujuga also provides a set of research protocols specifying seven guiding principles and seven rules for working on Murujuga, designed to support successful research in Murujuga from the perspective of Traditional Owners and scientists alike. The seven rules cover the following broad areas⁷:

1. Projects to be developed collaboratively from the very start
2. Murujuga Elders must be included in all stages of the project in strong partnerships, not in a fly-in fly-out field arrangement. This takes a large investment of time.
3. Researchers need to clearly and effectively communicate their research (what, why, where the results will go) as well as how it will benefit Murujuga people.
4. Always have the right Elders or the representatives on Country at all times.
5. Nothing to be removed from Country (including photos) without the prior consent of Elders.
6. All Indigenous knowledge remains the property of the knowledge holder/s (Elders) and cannot be used without their free, prior informed consent.
7. Provide Murujuga and their Elders with a copy of the research ethics application before it is submitted to the relevant ethics board.

Contacts for copies of the protocols

The Murujuga Research Protocol and Murujuga General Protocols are contained within the Murujuga Cultural Management Plan, available for purchase from the Murujuga Land and Sea Unit:

MLSU Administrator
 Murujuga Land and Sea Unit
 313 King Bay Rd Dampier WA, 6713
 PO Box 1544, Karratha, WA, 6714
 P: (08) 9183 1248

4. WA ABORIGINAL LAND COUNCILS (SALTWATER)

Contemporary Indigenous land and sea governance arrangements in Western Australia have been divided into six Indigenous regions: Kimberley, Pilbara, Geraldton, Southwest, Goldfields and the far inland Central Desert. An overview of the four land councils operating along the WA coast, their contact details and documented research protocols (where available) are presented on the following pages.

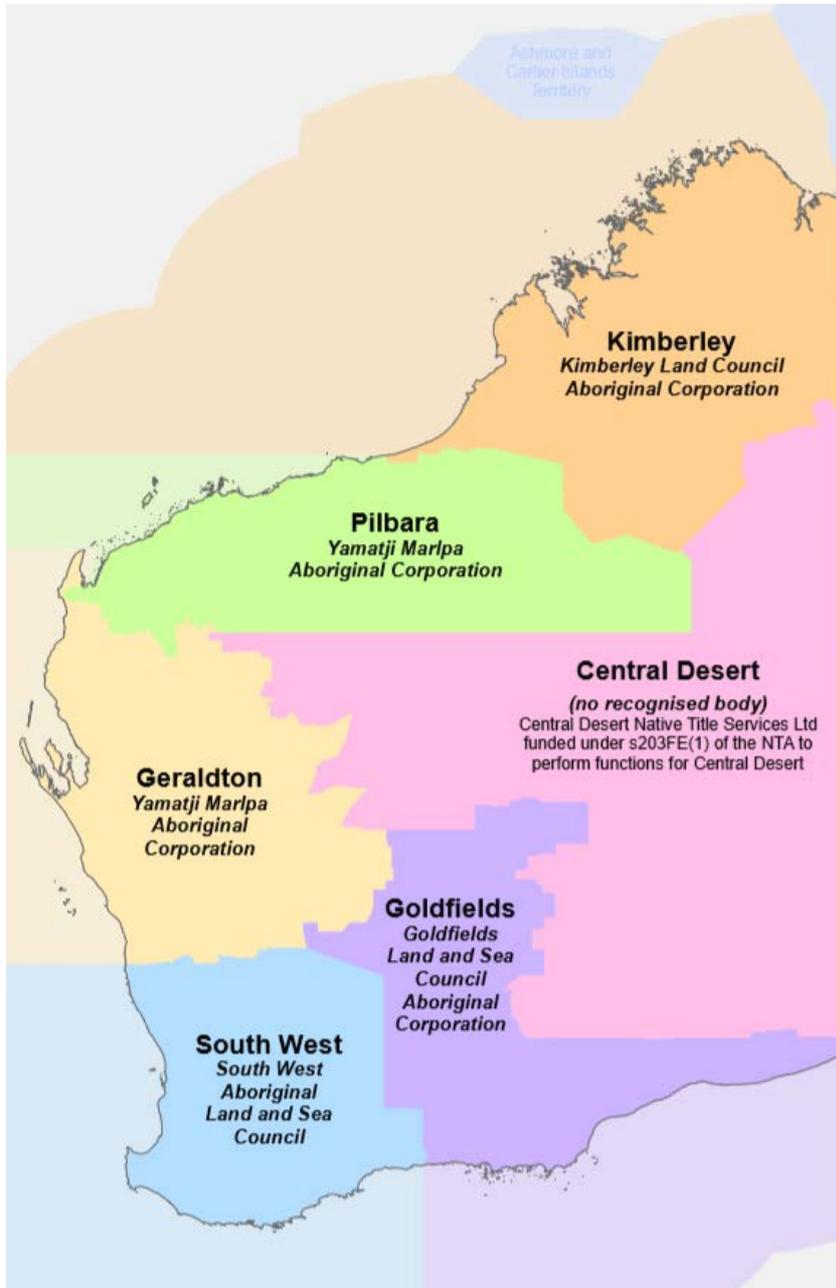


Figure 3 Above: Extract from RATSIC map (Sept 2017) ^a

4.1 Kimberley Land Council (Kimberley region)

Established in 1978, the Kimberley Land Council (KLC) is the peak Indigenous body in the region. It works with twenty-five individual Native Title groups in the areas of Native Title rights, land and sea management and cultural business enterprise.

The KLC employs over one hundred and twenty staff across its Native Title, legal, land & sea management, corporate services and finance divisions. KLC has offices in Broome, Kununurra and Derby and a large Indigenous Ranger Network operating from satellite stations on several remote communities⁸.

See [here](#) for an interactive Native Title map of the Kimberley.

Note to researchers

KLC does not represent all Indigenous groups in the region. The Miriuwung Gajerrong, Dambimangari and Yawuru peoples (Native Title groups) have their own established offices, corporations, infrastructure and operate independently of the KLC.

Contact details:

Main Office: Broome
11 Gregory St, Broome WA 6725
PO Box 2145
Ph: (08) 9194 0100

Kununurra office
Lot 2229 Speargrass Rd, Kununurra WA 6743
PO Box 821
Ph: (08) 9194 0190

Derby office
Lot 285 Loch St, Derby WA 6728
PO Box 377
Ph: (08) 9194 0175



Kimberley Land Council
© KLC

Website

<https://www.klc.org.au/>

Land and sea management

The KLC land and sea unit has been supporting Kimberley Aboriginal people to look after their Country since 1998. It has grown substantially in size, capacity and impact through resourcing Indigenous ranger groups and declaration of Indigenous Protected Areas. The unit is headed up by Manager Land & Sea Unit, supported by a team of Land & Sea Managers, [Indigenous Protected Area](#) (IPA) Coordinators and the [Kimberley Ranger Network](#).

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource science on Kimberley saltwater Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. For projects on Balangarra, Bardi Jawi, Mayala, Nyul Nyul, Yawuru or Karajarri Country, researchers must apply through the [KLC](#) website.

NOTE: Inclusion of the above logo does not represent endorsement of this document

4.2 Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (Pilbara & Geraldton Region)

Established in 1994⁹ the Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the regional Native Title representative body for Indigenous groups in the Pilbara, Murchison and Gascoyne (Geraldton) regions¹⁰. It is run by a board of directors with separate Pilbara and Yamatji regional committees. The Pilbara branch is sometimes referred to as the Pilbara Native Title Services.

YMAC works with twenty-four different Aboriginal Traditional Owner and Native Title groups over an area one third of Western Australia.

Contact details:

Main Office: Geraldton

171 Marine Tce Geraldton WA
PO Box 2119 Geraldton WA 6531
Phone: (08) 9965 6222



Perth office

Level 8, 12-14 The Esplanade Perth WA
PO Box 3072, 249 Hay St East Perth WA 6892
Phone: (08) 9268 7000

Port Hedland office

2/29 Steel Loop Wedgefield WA
PO Box 2252 South Hedland WA 6722
Phone: (08) 9160 3800
Fax: (08) 9140 127



Website

<http://www.yamatji.org.au>

Research protocols

A documented regional research protocol for land and seas within the YMAC region has not been found at this time.

<http://ymac.org.au/about>

Land and sea management

One of YMAC's six core service areas is Country & Culture including land management plans, ranger programs, Indigenous Protected Areas and traditional ecological knowledge. Within their legal advice and agreement making service, they also provide support and expertise in Joint Management agreements and reserve co-management.

Note for researchers:

YMAC does not represent all Indigenous groups in the region. It provides Native Title Representative Body functions for the following Native Title holders and claimants¹¹ along the Pilbara and Yamatji region coastline¹²:

- Marlpa (Pilbara): Ngarla, Ngarluma and Nyangumarta
- Yamatji (Murchison – Gascoyne): Gnulli, Hutt River, Malgana, Nanda and Southern Yamatji

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4.3 South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (Southwest region)

The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council is the Native Title Service Provider of the Noongar people, the Traditional Owners of the South West of Australia. Noongar lands (Boodja) extend from Leeman in the north-west to beyond Cape Arid in the south-east and out to the Goldfields regional boundary. Having lived across the area for over 45,000 years, the Noongar people are one of the largest Indigenous cultural blocks in Australia.

In the Noongar (Koorah, Nitja, Boordahwan) (Past, Present, Future) Recognition Act 2016 [Western Australia], Parliament acknowledged and honoured the Noongar people as the traditional owners of the Noongar lands and recognised the living cultural, spiritual, familial and social relationship that the Noongar people have with the Noongar lands.

Noongar Boodja is divided into six regions, each covered by a separate Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA). In each of these regions, following implementation of these ILUAs, a Regional Aboriginal Corporation will be established, each of which will be supported by a Central Services Corporation. These processes and governance arrangements are currently under development. More information about the transition process can be found [here](#).

The five coastal regions are:

- Yued
- Whadjuk
- Gnaala Karla Booja
- South West Boojarah
- Wagyl Kaip

Main office contact details:

Hometown Centre, 1490 Albany Hwy
Cannington WA 6107
PO Box 585 Cannington WA 6987
Phone: (08) 9358 7400
reception1@noongar.org.au

Website

<http://www.noongar.org.au/>

Research protocols

A documented regional research protocol for Noongar Country was not found at this time.

Other useful documents

The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council has published the [Noongar protocols for Welcome to Country](#) booklet to help people invite Noongar people to events and bring recognition to the Traditional Owners of the Noongar estate.

Land and sea management

The Noongar Boodja Mentored Employment and Training Partnership (MATES) is being delivered by the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council via contract with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA). Through this programme, two Noongar Indigenous Rangers are employed within the department in each of the six regions¹³.

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4.4 Goldfields Land and Sea Council (Goldfields region)

Established in 1984, the Goldfields Land and Sea Council Aboriginal Corporation is the recognised Native Title Representative Body in the Goldfields region.

Note to researchers:

The Goldfields Land and Sea Council's Native Title Representative Body status ceased in 2018. An expression of interest process to identify a suitable body to fill this role was undertaken in early 2019, with interim measures currently in place. It is understood that their Ranger Program will remain in operation throughout this transition period. At the time of writing, interim details were not found hence contact details for the Goldfields Land and Sea Council remain in their place.

Contact details:

Main Office: Kalgoorlie

14 Thossell St Kalgoorlie-Boulder WA 6430

PO Box 10006 Kalgoorlie WA 6430

P: (08) 9091 1661 or 1800 681 661

reception@glc.com.au

Ranger Project Manager:

anthony.sherlock@glc.com.au

Perth Office

Level 1 63 Adelaide Tce East Perth WA 6004

PO Box 3058 Adelaide Tce Perth WA 6832

P: (08) 9263 8700

New website

<https://www3.glsc.com.au/home>

Old website

<http://www.glsc.com.au/>

Ranger Group contacts

<https://rangers.glsc.com.au/home>

Research protocols

A documented regional Indigenous research protocol for the Goldfields region has not been found at this time.

Land and sea management

Since 2016 the Goldfields Land and Sea Council has employed a number of permanent part-time, full time and casual Indigenous Rangers through their Aboriginal Ranger Program. In 2018 the group received funding through the Western Australian government's Indigenous Ranger program and through a Commonwealth government commitment, the group has funding through to 2021.



<https://www3.glsc.com.au/services/area-covered>

5. REGIONAL INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES RELEVANT TO SALTWATER SCIENCE PROJECTS

5.1 North Australian Indigenous Land & Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA)

NAILSMA has been in operation as an independent non-profit organisation since 2012, working with Indigenous people across northern Australia to support sustainable management of their Country for future generations¹⁴. It works across four program areas:

1. Land & sea management
2. Education, training and professional development
3. Economic development and employment
4. Collaborative research partnerships

Area of operation

A map of the Indigenous ranger groups within the NAILSMA area of operation is found [here](#).

Main office: Darwin NT

23 Ellengowan Drive, Brinkin NT 0810
 PO Box 486, Charles Darwin University, NT 0815 Australia
 Tel: 0488 068 738
admin@nailsma.org.au

Website

<https://nailsma.org.au/>

Collaborative research partnership (detail)

Extract from the NAILSMA website:

“Our research is shaped by the needs of the people we work with and is informed by these people’s insights. It is also set in consultation with other key stakeholders including government.

NAILSMA’s role in research includes:

- commissioning and managing research projects;
- acting as a brokering body for research projects undertaken by Indigenous organisations and individual land owners;
- providing advice and support for research projects undertaken by Indigenous organisations and land owners; and
- participating in or providing input to bodies responsible for setting research agendas and assessing research proposals.’

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...NAILSMA also joins with other organisations and individuals with similar concerns to strengthen the impact of its research findings. Research is structured around findings from NAILSMA's programs. Some research activities cut across all programs, these include *Livelihoods*, *Indigenous Knowledge* and *Youth Leadership*.

In addition, we have a 'critical issues' research agenda, focusing on themes identified in strategic planning as significant for Indigenous people and therefore requiring NAILSMA to have a 'national voice'. Current critical issues are marine management, carbon and water reform." ¹⁵

Land and sea programs

NAILSMA implements land and sea management programs on a competitive selection basis for both state and federal governments, having delivered over \$30million worth of projects¹⁶. These include:

- I-tracker applications ([Land patrols for WA, NT, QLD](#); [saltwater Country patrol](#); NAFI fire ground truthing and [subtidal seagrass mapping & monitoring](#); [marine turtle monitoring](#))
- Knowledge brokering
- Certificate III in Indigenous Land Management
- [Certificate III in Fisheries Compliance](#) (currently under development)
- Indigenous state-of-the-region report 2018-2020
- Environmental offsets
- Malak Malak Sawfish project
- [Marine debris and waste management](#)
- NT Marine Science End User Knowledge Needs Analysis - Meeting Aboriginal Needs
- [The Northern Seascape Scoping Project](#)
- Business on Country Framework

NAILSMA supports the development of a [National Indigenous Land and Sea Management Network](#), open to Indigenous Land and Sea managers across Australia.

5.2 The Kimberly Indigenous Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG)

The Kimberly Indigenous Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) is a group of Indigenous saltwater managers committed to improving best practice marine monitoring, research and management across the Kimberley.

ISWAG operates on a regional scale across Kimberley saltwater Country and the issues relevant to Healthy Country science and management therein. It also provides agencies, scientists and corporate organisations with 'one door to knock on first' when engaging in regional saltwater Country science projects and management in the Kimberley.

With nominated membership and support from each of its nine parent PBCs, the group provides a regional network to empower Kimberley saltwater managers to implement their Healthy Country Plans through collaborative science, policy and management¹⁷.

Area of operation

As at the time of writing, ISWAG has membership from the Balanggarra, Wunambal Gaambera, Dambimangari, Mayala, Bardi Jawi, Nyul Nyul, Yawuru, Karajarri and Nyangumarta peoples.

Focus areas

1. Sharing experiences and best practice between saltwater managers
2. Facilitating collaborative regional projects and fee-for-service opportunities
3. Assisting saltwater managers to assert their authority for Country and regionally

Contact details

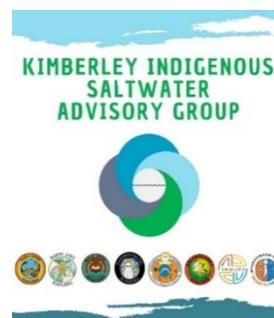
Dean Mathews c/- Nyamba Buru Yawuru
ISWAG co-leaders
55 Reid Rd, Cable Beach WA 6726
PO Box 425, Broome WA 6725
P: (08) 9192 9600
dean.mathews@yawuru.org.au

Daniel Oades c/- Bardi Jawi IPA office
ISWAG co-leader
Lot 19 - 20 First Street Ardyaloon WA 6725
PO Box 2145 Broome WA 6725
P: (08) 9194 0158
Daniel.oades@klc.org.au

Products

Through the Kimberley Indigenous Saltwater Science Project ([KISSP](#)), the group developed a suite of projects aimed at facilitating 'right-way' science in the region:

- [Guidelines](#) for collaborative knowledge work
- [Protocols for research](#) with Kimberley saltwater groups
- A regional [framework](#) and [toolbox](#) for saltwater monitoring
- A process of [mobilising Indigenous knowledge](#) for collaborative management of Kimberley saltwater Country
- A [pilot training package](#) for Indigenous rangers on the process of monitoring for management



Following the success of KISSP, the Kimberley Indigenous Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) was borne of the recognition of what this group of people could achieve for their Indigenous communities given the right support and investment.

Kimberley Turtle and Dugong initiative (in development)

A recent turtle & dugong workshop brought together nominees from nine Native Title groups and invited the participation of key marine science and state/federal agency staff.

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Arising from the workshop, the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative is the vision put to paper. Through this initiative it is planned that progress towards 'healthy and sustainable habitat and populations of sea turtle & dugong in Kimberley waters that support Indigenous livelihoods, culture and customary practices' will be made¹⁸.

Testament to the professionalism and strength of this group, both state and federal government agency staff (Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; and Parks Australia) as well as lead scientists from CSIRO and DBCA attended by invitation and participated in this Indigenous-led and designed process. These stakeholders and collaborators are now invested, supportive of the group and committed to the vision called the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

5.3 Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation

The Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation brings together five Indigenous groups with Traditional Ownership of the Burrup Peninsula to 'speak as one voice as an autonomous self-sustaining organisation with recognition for the best practice cultural land and sea management, while providing the best possible services to our members'¹⁹. It is the approved body corporate for the [Burrup and Maitland Industrial Estates Agreement \(BMIEA\)](#).

Area of Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation operation

The BMEIA agreement and the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation's area of operation includes land and Sea Country of the Ngarluma, Yindjibarndi, Yaburara, Mardudhunera and Wong-Goo-Tt-Oo peoples. A map of the agreement area can be found [here](#).

Murujuga Land & Sea Unit

The Murujuga [Land & Sea Unit](#) is led by the Manager Murujuga Land & Sea Unit supported by a team coordinator, team leader, office manager, cultural mentor/logistics officer and an Indigenous Ranger team responsible for operations on the Murujuga National Park. Their work is informed by the [Murujuga National Park Management Plan](#) and Murujuga Cultural Management Plan (2015). Their unit 's objectives are defined within the MLSU Strategic Plan 2015-17. A Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation Circle of Elders provides cultural advice and guidance to the MLSU.

Murujuga protocols

Murujuga has developed a set of general and research protocols contained within their Cultural Management Plan, available for purchase from the Murujuga Land and Sea Unit.

The Murujuga general protocols inform the culturally appropriate and respectful behaviour of visitors to the area and are presented as a set of eighteen key questions for discussion. Murujuga research protocols specify seven guiding principles and seven rules for working on Murujuga, which are designed to support successful research in Murujuga from the perspective of Traditional Owners and scientists alike. See [section 5.3, p21](#) for more detail.

Joint Management Arrangements

The Murujuga National Park is jointly managed jointly by the Murujuga Rangers and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions.

Contact details

Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation

313 King Bay Road, Dampier WA, 6713

P.O. Box 1544, Karratha 6714 WA

P: (08) 9144 4112 admin@murujuga.org.au

Murujuga Land & Sea Unit

313 Kings Bay Road, Dampier WA 6713

P: (08) 9183 1248 mlsu@murujuga.org.au

Website – Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation

<http://www.murujuga.org.au/>

6. KIMBERLEY SALTWATER NATIVE TITLE GROUPS

Current documented Indigenous governance structures, Sea Country management capacity and research protocols established by Indigenous communities along the Kimberley coast are described on the following pages.

Information is presented north to south (see map over page):

- Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation
- Balangarra Aboriginal Corporation
- Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation
- Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation
- Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation
- Mayala Native Title holders
- Bardi and Jawi Niimidiman Aboriginal Corporation
- Bindunbur Native Title holders
- Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl Native Title holders
- Yawuru Prescribed Body Corporate
- Karajarri Traditional Lands Association
- Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation (also located in the Pilbara region)

An interactive map of Native Title determinations and claims can also be found [here](#).

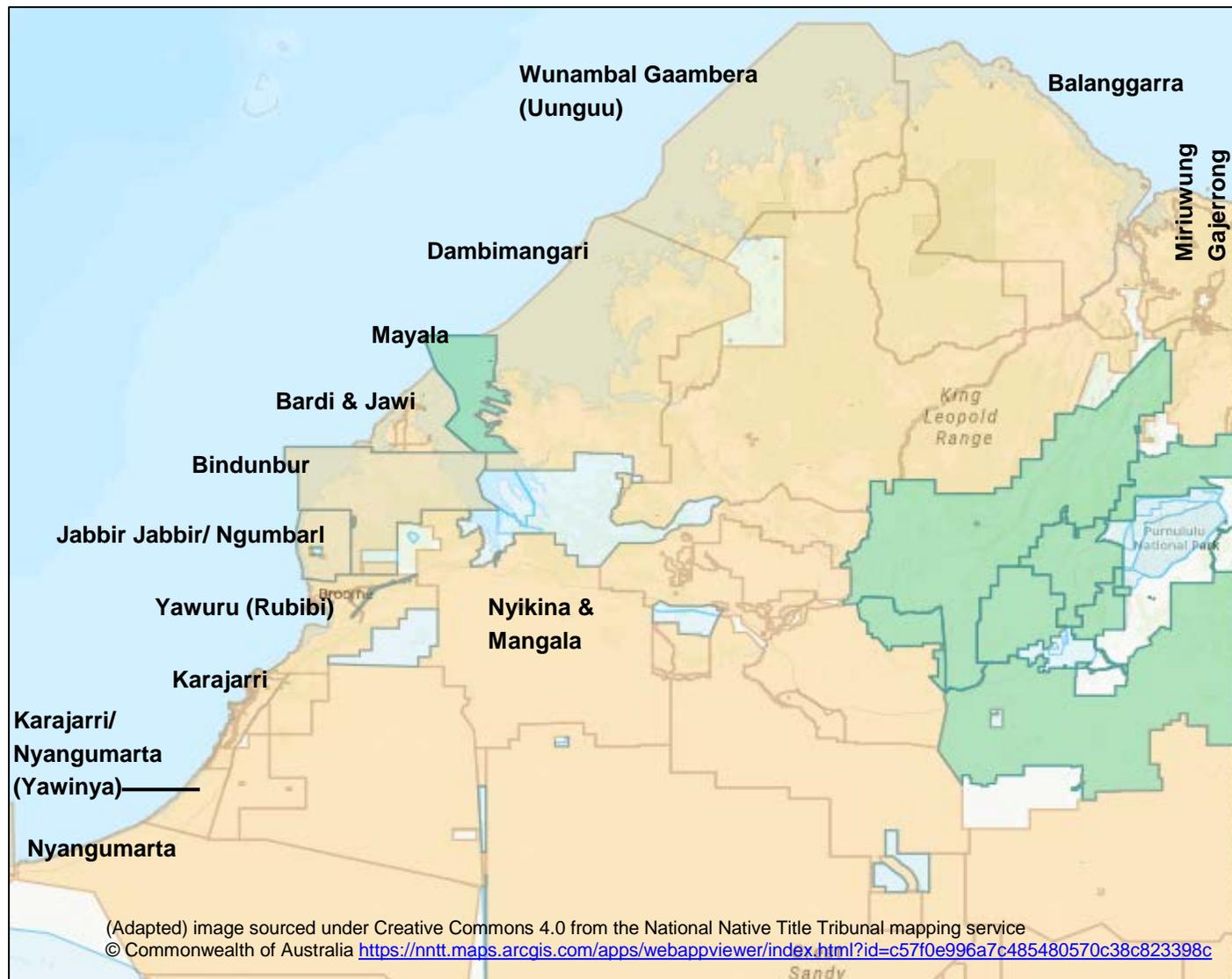


Figure 4 Indicative locations of Kimberley saltwater Native Title determinations & claims (July 2019)

6.1 Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation

Established in 2006, the Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation represents the interests of Miriuwung Gajerrong (MG) Native Title holders, including management of benefits transferred to Miriuwung Gajerrong people through the Ord Final Agreement. Through the Miriuwung Gajerrong Prescribed Bodies Corporate, the corporation works with Miriuwung Gajerrong people in the area of Native Title, economic development and evidence-based social and community development.

A map of the Miriuwung Gajerrong Native Title area can be found [here](#).

Note to researchers

MG Corporation is independent of the Kimberley Land Council.

Main Office: Kununurra

19 Chestnut Ave, Kununurra WA 6743, Ph: (08) 9166 4801

Website

<https://www.mgcorp.com.au/>

Research protocols

At the time of writing, no documented processes for research on Miriuwung Gajerrong Country have been found. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Miriuwung Gajerrong Country should contact the MG Corporation directly to discuss their project concept.

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Miriuwung Gajerrong do not have representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) at this time.

Indigenous Protected Area

Miriuwung Gajerrong have not declared an IPA over any parts of their Country at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

A Healthy Country Plan for Miriuwung Gajerrong Country was not found at this time.

Joint Management

In 2009, together with CSIRO, Department of Environment and Conservation and the Conservation Commission of WA, the Miriuwung Gajerrong Joint Management Body ([Yoorrooyang Dawang Park Council](#)) and the Miriuwung Gajerrong people were involved in writing the [Yoorrooyang Dawang Joint Planning Guidelines](#). Miriuwung Gajerrong is also a joint manager for the [North Kimberley Marine Park](#): Miriuwung Gajerrong management area.

The Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council is a Joint Management body consisting of representatives from Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions and the Miriuwung Gajerrong Corporation, providing for the Joint Management of nine conservation reserves.

6.1.1 Miriuwung Gajerrong Rangers

Three Miriuwung Gajerrong rangers are employed through the federal Working on Country program and are overseen by the Yoorrooyang Dawang Regional Park Council.

6.2 Balanggarra Aboriginal Corporation

Established in 2013, the Balanggarra Aboriginal Corporation administers land on behalf of the Balanggarra people.

Main Office: c/ Kimberley Land Council office, Kununurra

c/- KLC East Kimberley Office, Button Drive, Kununurra WA 6743

PO Box 168, Wyndham WA 6740

P (08) 9194 0190

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Balanggarra saltwater Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Kimberley Land Council website](#).

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Balanggarra have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

Indigenous protected Area

The Balanggarra people declared their [Balanggarra Indigenous Protected Area](#) in 2013.

Sea Country Management Plan

Balanggarra launched the [Balanggarra Healthy Country Plan](#) in 2012

6.2.1 Balanggarra Rangers

Extract from the Kimberley land Council website (June 2019):

“The five big rivers of the north Kimberley intersect on Balanggarra Country; the King River, Forest River, Pentecost River, Durack River and Ord River. It also borders the Cambridge Gulf and the Timor Sea.

The Balanggarra Rangers manage the 1000km of river and sea frontage on their Country using the latest technologies to access this remote area in the far north Kimberley.

The rangers work to manage, protect and enhance the unique biodiversity values of their Country through protecting cultural sites, cleaning tourist areas, coastline patrols, prescribed burning activities and marine and terrestrial biodiversity surveys. To ensure the long-term management of their Country, the Balanggarra people declared an Indigenous Protected Area across 10,000 square km on August 7, 2013.”²⁰



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6.3 Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation

Established in 2011 after a 20 year struggle, the Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation secured their Native Title over their Country through the Wanjina Wunggurr Native Title representative Body.

Note for Researchers

Wunambal Gaambera have developed an [Uunguu Visitor Management Plan](#) to help manage the use and impacts of tourism on their Country. Visitors must pre purchase an [Uunguu Visitor Pass](#) before arriving by road, sea or air.

Main Office: Wyndham

72d Pago Place, Kalumburu Community, Wyndham WA 6740

PMB 16 (Kalumburu) via Wyndham WA 6740

P (08) 9161 4205

Accounts/Administration finance@wunambalgaambera.org.au

Healthy Country infohc@wunambalgaambera.org.au

Uunguu Visitor Pass infouvp@wunambalgaambera.org.au

Media media@wunambalgaambera.org.au

Website

<https://www.wunambalgaambera.org.au/index.htm>

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Wunambal Gaambera saltwater Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Wunambal Gaambera website](#).

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Wunambal Gaambera have representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

Indigenous protected Area

The Wunambal Gaambera people declared the first stage of their Indigenous Protected Area, the Uunguu IPA in 2011, see [Uunguu Indigenous Protected Area: Wundaagu \(saltwater\) Indicative Plan of Management](#).

Sea Country Management Plan

Wunambal Gaambera launched their [Uunguu Healthy Country Plan](#) in 2010

6.3.1 Uunguu Rangers

The Uunguu Rangers are managed by the Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation.

Extract from the Wunambal Gaambera website (June 2019)

“We Wunambal Gaambera people have made our Healthy Country Plan to help us look after and keep our Country and culture healthy and build the capacity and wealth of our families to live on and secure futures from our Country.

...Managing the Healthy Country Plan

Wunambal Gaambera Aboriginal Corporation (WGAC) has responsibility to Wunambal Gaambera people to implement the Healthy Country Plan. WGAC's Healthy Country Team, headed by a natural cultural resource management (NCRM) professional (Healthy Country Manager) and the Unguu Rangers, leads the operations to implement Plan Strategies and activities focused on looking after the Targets, reducing Threats and building Wunambal Gaambera healthy Country management capacity. Partners assisting WGAC include Bush Heritage Australia, Australian Government Department of Environment, Kimberley Land Council and Western Australian Department of Parks and Wildlife, providing financial, personnel and technical assistance to the Healthy Country Team.

Management Standards

Wunambal Gaambera people have a Healthy Country strategy to declare Wunambal Gaambera Country the Unguu Indigenous Protected Area managed to International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) standards and registered on Australia's National Reserve System. The Unguu IPA commits Wunambal Gaambera people to protect at least 75 percent of Wunambal Gaambera Country and the remainder for multiple-use (e.g. community, communal needs, resource and enterprise use) to provide resources to maintain the protected area, but without conflicting values.

Monitoring Progress of the Healthy Country Plan

WGAC has established the Unguu Monitoring and Evaluation Committee [UMEC] to check on the Healthy Country Plan progress and provide expert advice to the Healthy Country Team. The UMEC has five senior Wunambal Gaambera Traditional Owners and five independent scientists from relevant disciplines. UMEC provides an annual Healthy Country progress report to Wunambal Gaambera people. A mid-term Healthy Country evaluation report was presented to Wunambal Gaambera people in November 2015.”²¹

6.4 Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation

Established in 2011 through the Wanjina Wunggurr NTRB, the Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation (DAC) supports their community through employment, business and social/economic assistance.

Dambimangari Country features extensive areas of the remote Kimberley coastline, including natural and cultural values such as many islands, whale breeding grounds, reef systems, waterfalls and high biodiversity values.

Main Office: Derby

15 Guildford Street, Derby WA 6728

PO Box 648

Ph: (08) 9191 2383

reception@dambi.org.au

Website

<http://www.dambimangari.com.au/>



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Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Dambimangari saltwater Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. The protocol is contained within a [Guide for Researchers](#) available on the WAMSI website.

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Dambimangari have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Dambimangari people declared an IPA across part of their Country in June 2013.

Sea Country Management Plan

Dambimangari launched their in [Dambimangari Healthy Country Plan](#) in 2012

6.4.1 Dambimangari Rangers

Extract from the Dambimangari website (June 2019):

“Our Environment

Dambimangari people are working to ensure the continuing health of their Country and sustainable use of their resources. They are working with a range of State and Federal Government authorities and western scientists to protect the region's unspoiled environment - former home to their ancestors and a continuing source of resources for food, art and living. Some of the key programs are listed below

Healthy Country Project

The Dambimangari Healthy Country Plan supports an Indigenous Protection Area covering much of the Dambimangari Native Title land and adjoining conservation reserves. The plan is an overarching strategy for the management and development initiatives which are designed to deliver an environmentally and economically sustainable future for the region and its people.

Dambimangari Ranger Program

A team of more than 12 rangers are working on the conservation program to manage the Dambimangari Indigenous Protected Area (part of the National Reserve System) and the neighbouring lands and waters. The rangers' expertise is based on a combination of traditional knowledge and western science with training provided by a number of government and non-government organisations and research institutions.

Marine and National Parks management with Department of Parks and Wildlife

Aboriginal knowledge will play a major role in the management of some of the most important parks in the Kimberley region. Traditional owners and Rangers will have key responsibilities in protecting the pristine marine and hinterland environments in the Dambimangari NT area. The Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation and the WA Government are negotiating appropriate protocols for conservation of spectacular landscapes and habitat for unique flora, fauna & marine life.”²²

6.5 Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation

In 2014, the Nyikina Mangala Native Title Determination was declared across Nyikina and Mangala Country, which meets the coast in some areas and extends out from the Fitzroy River thus interacting strongly with saltwater Country. The Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation was established as the Nyikina Mangala Native Title Representative Body in the same year.

More recently, the Walalakoo Environmental and Cultural Services (WECS) was established to improve cultural and natural land management on Nyikina Mangala Country.

A map showing the Mayala Native Title determined area can be found [here](#).

Contact:

PO BOX 1115, Derby, WA 6728
70A Stanley Street, Derby, Western Australia
damien@walalakoo.org.au

Website:

<https://www.walalakoo.org.au/about>

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Nyikina and Mangala Country are required to contact Walalakoo Aboriginal Corporation for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Nyikina Mangala do not have membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) at this time.

Indigenous Protected Area

Nyikina Mangala does not have a declared Indigenous Protected Area at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

The [Walalakoo Healthy Country Plan](#) was launched in 2017.

6.5.1 Yimardoo Warra Rangers

The Yimardoo Warra Rangers are the Indigenous ranger team for Nyikina Mangala. They are a team of six rangers and ranger coordinator based in the community of Jarlmadangah.

Extract from the KLC website:

“From the tidal waters of King Sound to the northern reaches of the Great Sandy Desert, the Fitzroy River is the lifeline that connects Nyikina and Mangala Country.

The Nyikina Mangala Rangers are charged with the responsibility to manage this significant water source through conducting water health research and monitoring, biodiversity surveys, marine and freshwater fish tagging programs, weed management, feral animal and saltwater crocodile management.

Cultural advisers and Elders work with the Nyikina Mangala Rangers to teach them about traditional knowledge, stories, language, culture and heritage. The rangers use traditional knowledge combined with western science to carry out their conservation and land management activities.”²³

6.6 Mayala Native Title holders

In 2018, the Mayala Native Title holders were recognised as the Traditional Owners of their Country in the Buccaneer Archipelago and King Sound in the Kimberley region of WA.

A map showing the Mayala Native Title determined area can be found [here](#).

Note for researchers

As at the time of writing, it is understood that the Kimberley Land Council currently provides Native Title Representative Body services to the Mayala people while their Aboriginal Corporation is undergoing establishment process.

Contact:

c/- KLC, PO Box 2145, Broome WA 6725

Ph: (08) 9194 0142

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Mayala Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Kimberley Land Council website](#).

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Mayala have interim representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

Indigenous Protected Area

Mayala does not have a declared Indigenous Protected Area at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

Mayala does not have a Healthy Country Plan at this time.

Indigenous Rangers

There are no known Mayala Indigenous rangers at this time.

6.7 Bardi and Jawi Niimidiman Aboriginal Corporation

Established in 2008 the Bardi and Jawi Niimidiman Aboriginal Corporation is the local registered Native Title representative body for the Bardi and Jawi people in the northern Dampier Peninsula.

Main Office: One Arm Point Community

Bardi Jawi Rangers Office, One Arm Point Community

Lot 19 - 20 First Street Ardyaloon

c/- KLC, PO Box 2145, Broome WA 6725

Ph: (08) 9194 0158

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Bardi Jawi Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Kimberley Land Council website](#).

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Bardi Jawi have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Bardi Jawi people declared the Bardi Jawi IPA across parts of their Country in June 2013.

Sea Country Management Plan

[Bardi Jawi Indigenous Protected Area Management Plan 2013-2023](#)

6.7.1 Bardi Jawi Rangers

Extract from the Kimberley Land Council website (June 2019):

“The Bardi Jawi Rangers started seven years ago as the first ranger group in the Kimberley. Since then the group has established itself as a professional and capable team that works to protect and manage its land and Sea Country on the Dampier Peninsula.

The Bardi Jawi Rangers use a combination of traditional knowledge and modern science to survey and research the coastline and surrounding islands. The rangers have a focus on developing long-term management plans to ensure the future biodiversity and cultural health of their Country. As part of this strategy, the Bardi Jawi people declared an Indigenous Protected Areas across parts of their Country on May 23, 2013”²⁴



6.7.2 Bardi Jawi Oorany Rangers

The Bardi Jawi Oorany rangers is the women’s ranger team for the Bardi Jawi people. Established in 2011, it undertakes natural and cultural resource activities including seed collection, running a local species nursery, cultural heritage management and traditional knowledge transfer and recording.



© BJNAC

6.8 Bindunbur Native Title holders

A governance process following the Bindunbur Native Title determination in 2018 is currently underway across the middle Dampier Peninsula area, north of Broome. Based on the 2017 court decision, three related Indigenous groups will be recognised as Native Title Holders for the areas (Nyul Nyul, Nimanbur and Jabbir Jabbir)²⁵. At the time of writing, of these only Nyul Nyul has an established Indigenous ranger group.

NOTE: Inclusion of the above logos does not represent endorsement of this document

Contact: C/- Kimberley Land Council

c/- KLC, PO Box 2145, Broome WA 6725

Ph: (08) 9194 0142

Ranger base contact details

(08) 9192 4051

nyulnyulrangers@klc.org.au

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Nyul Nyul or other Bindunbur Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Kimberley Land Council website](#).

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Nyul Nyul have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative

Indigenous Protected Area

Nyul Nyul does not have a declared Indigenous Protected Area at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

Nyul Nyul does not have a Healthy Country Plan at this time.

6.8.1 Nyul Nyul Rangers

Extract from the Kimberley land Council website (June 2019):

“The Nyul Nyul Rangers manage two coastlines, hundreds of kilometres of beach and inland freshwater springs on the Dampier Peninsula.

The ranger group has a diverse work plan that includes coastal patrols, quarantine inspections, marine debris clean-ups, ghost net detection and removal, feral animal control, water monitoring and research, crocodile management, fire management, and biodiversity surveys.

The Nyul Nyul Rangers use the high-tech Cybertracker GPS device to assist them record information and data from across their Country. The data is used to develop long-term management strategies to ensure healthy Country.”²⁶

6.9 Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl Native Title holders

In 2018, the Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl Native Title holders were recognised as the Traditional Owners of their Country in the Dampier Peninsula, within the Kimberley region of WA.

A map showing the Jabirr Jabirr Native Title determined area can be found [here](#).

Note for researchers

As at the time of writing, it is understood that the Kimberley Land Council provides Native Title Representative Body services to the Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl people while their Aboriginal Corporation is undergoing establishment process.

Contact: C/- Kimberley Land Council

c/- KLC, PO Box 2145, Broome WA 6725

Ph: (08) 9194 0142

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Kimberley Land Council website](#).

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl do not yet have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG).

Indigenous Protected Area

Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl does not have a declared Indigenous Protected Area at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl does not have a Healthy Country Plan at this time.

6.9.1 Indigenous Rangers

There are no known Jabirr Jabirr/Ngumbarl Indigenous rangers at this time.

6.10 Yawuru Prescribed Body Corporate

The Yawuru Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) is the membership organisation for Yawuru people, representing the values, *ambitions and aims for the Yawuru people*²⁷. It works through its subsidiary company, Nyamba Buru Yawuru, which manages all day to day operations including the employ of 90 staff members.

Note for researchers

The Yawuru Native Title determination is labelled 'Rubibi Community' on national Native Title tribunal maps.

Main Office: Broome

Nyamba Buru Yawuru

55 Reid Road, Cable Beach WA 6726

PO Box 425

Phone: (08) 9192 9600



Website

<http://www.yawuru.org.au/>

Land and sea management

Yawuru's environmental services unit helps Yawuru people look after their land and Sea Country. The unit is headed up by Manager Native Title & Environmental Services, supported by a land and sea project, GIS and Indigenous Protected Area staff as well as the Yawuru Country Managers, a team of Indigenous rangers who undertake natural and cultural resource management activities.

NOTE: Inclusion of the above logo does not represent endorsement of this document

Sea Country Management Plans

The following plans inform priorities, values and management activities on Yawuru Sea Country:

- Yawuru Cultural management Plan
- [Birragun Joint Management Plan](#)
- [Nagulagun Joint Management Plan](#)
- [Guniyan Binba Joint Management Plan \(draft\)](#)

Other useful documents and links

<http://www.yawuru.org.au/Country/yawuru-interactive-map/>

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Yawuru saltwater Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. The protocol is contained within a *Guide for Researchers* available on [Yawuru](#) website. The protocol is linked to an online proposal form that should be accessed through the [Yawuru](#) website.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Yawuru people launched their Yawuru Indigenous Protected Area in 2015.

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Dambimangari have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

6.10.1 Yawuru Country Managers

Extract from the Yawuru website:

“Five Country Managers work in the Yawuru Indigenous Protected Area and care for Country. They collaborate with the DBCA Yawuru Rangers across the Yawuru Conservation Estate and are also involved in other projects with external researchers, such as working on fire mitigation, community engagement and fencing. They undertake land management work but they also participate in cultural projects such as Nurlu throughout Yawuru Country.”



© NBY

The Country Managers are working on their Cert III and IV in Conservation and Land Management to increase their skills in a range of areas from fencing to GIS mapping, research and engaging with the local community.

In 2018, with funding from the Western Australian Aboriginal Ranger Program, NBY established a women’s Country manager team for the purpose of protecting the cultural and ecological values of the Monsoon Vine Thickets in the Minyirr Buru Conservation Park. The women’s team is involved in invasive plant control and native plant revegetation within the park as well as documenting the traditional Yawuru plant knowledge related to the MVT.”²⁸

NOTE: Inclusion of the above logo does not represent endorsement of this document

6.10.2 Yawuru Rangers (DBCA)

Much of the Yawuru Conservation Estate around Broome is managed under [Joint Management agreement](#) between Yawuru and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) by a team of Yawuru Indigenous rangers. Their work focusses on implementing management activities of Yawuru Conservation Estate as specified within The Birragun, Nagulagun and Guniyan Binba (draft) Joint Management plans. The Yawuru ranger team is based out of the Broome DBCA work centre.

6.11 Karajarri Traditional Lands Association

Established in 2012, the Karajarri Traditional Lands Association is the Native Title Representative Body for the Karajarri people.

Main Office: Broome

Office 2, Broome Lotteries House, Lot 642 Cable Beach Rd
PO Box 1539, Broome WA 6725
P: (08) 9192 8430
ktla@ktla.org.au

Website

www.karajarriipa.com

Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Karajarri Country are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Kimberley Land Council website](#).

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Karajarri have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Karajarri people declared the [Karajarri Indigenous Protected Area](#) in 2014.

Joint Management

The Karajarri Traditional Lands Association [jointly manages](#) the Kurriji Pa Yajula, Walyarta, Jinmarnkurrâ and Jinmarnkurr Kulja reserves in partnership with WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions through a Joint Management Body. Their work on Eighty Mile Beach area is informed by the [Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park](#) Joint Management plan.

Sea Country Management Plan

Karajarri people launched their [Karajarri Healthy Country Plan](#) in 2013.

Other useful documents

[Karajarri Rangers fact sheet](#) and the [Karajarri Visitor Guide](#).

6.11.1 Karajarri Rangers

Extract from the Karajarri website:

“The Karajarri Traditional Lands Association has a committed crew of indigenous rangers who are responsible for looking after Karajarri Country. The rangers carry out various activities aligned with Karajarri cultural values, practising both traditional and western styles of land management.

The rangers hold qualifications in conservation and land management and their work is guided by detailed plans that have been signed off by the KTLA and Karajarri Elders. The rangers’ activities include fire management, biodiversity monitoring and research, cultural site management, cultural awareness and immersion experiences, feral animal and weed management and the facilitation of tourism on Karajarri land.

The Karajarri Rangers are funded through the Australian Government Indigenous Rangers Program (formerly Working on Country) and are facilitated by the Kimberley Land Council.”²⁹

6.12 Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation

Established in 2009, the Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation is the Native Title Representative Body for the Nyangumarta and Warrarn people.

Note for researchers

Information about the Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation is repeated in the following Pilbara Saltwater Native Title Group section because it straddles both regions.

Corporation (YMAC)

2/29 Steel Loop, Wedgefield WA 6721
PO Box 2252, South Hedland WA 6722
P: (08) 9172 5433

Research protocols

Only the shared Native Title area of Yawinya has documented processes for research on Nyangumarta or Warrarn Country at this time.

Researchers with interest in the **Yawinya claim** (jointly held between Karajarri and Nyangumarta groups) are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Kimberley Land Council website](#).

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on all other Nyangumarta Warrarn Country should contact Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Nyangumarta have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

Indigenous Protected Area

Nyangumarta people declared the [Nyangumarta Indigenous Protected Area](#) in 2015.

Joint Management

The Nyangumarta Rangers manage the Nyangumarta (northern) section of the Eighty Mile Beach Marine park in joint partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Their work is informed by the [Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park](#) Joint Management plan.

Sea Country Management Plan

The Nyangumarta people launched their [Nyangumarta Warrarn IPA Plan of Management](#) in 2015.

Other useful documents

In 2016 the Nyangumarta people published a compilation of [Traditional Ecological Knowledge \(TEK\) of the Nyangumarta Warrarn Indigenous Protected Area \(IPA\)](#).

6.12.1 Nyangumarta Rangers

Extract from YMAC News, Issue 36 August 2018:

“The Nyangumarta IPA covers about 28,420 square kilometres including the Joint Management and protection of a section of Eight Mile Beach Marine Park and Walyarta Conservation Park – one of the most important sites for migratory shorebirds in Australia.



17 rangers employed in casual, part time and full-time positions, three part-time school based trainees and 14 Elders employed on a casual basis as cultural advisors”³⁰ © NWAC

NOTE: Inclusion of the above logo does not represent endorsement of this document

7. PILBARA SALTWATER NATIVE TITLE GROUPS

Current documented Indigenous governance structures, Sea Country management capacity and research protocols established by Indigenous communities along the Pilbara coast are described on the following pages. Information is presented north to south:

- Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation
- Wanparta Aboriginal Corporation
- Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation
- Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation
- Yaburara and Coastal Mardudhunera Aboriginal Corporation
- Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation

Framework information is also provided as a placeholder for those Native Title claimant groups currently undertaking claim processes and those in between determination and corporation establishment.

An interactive map of Native Title determinations and claims can be found [here](#).

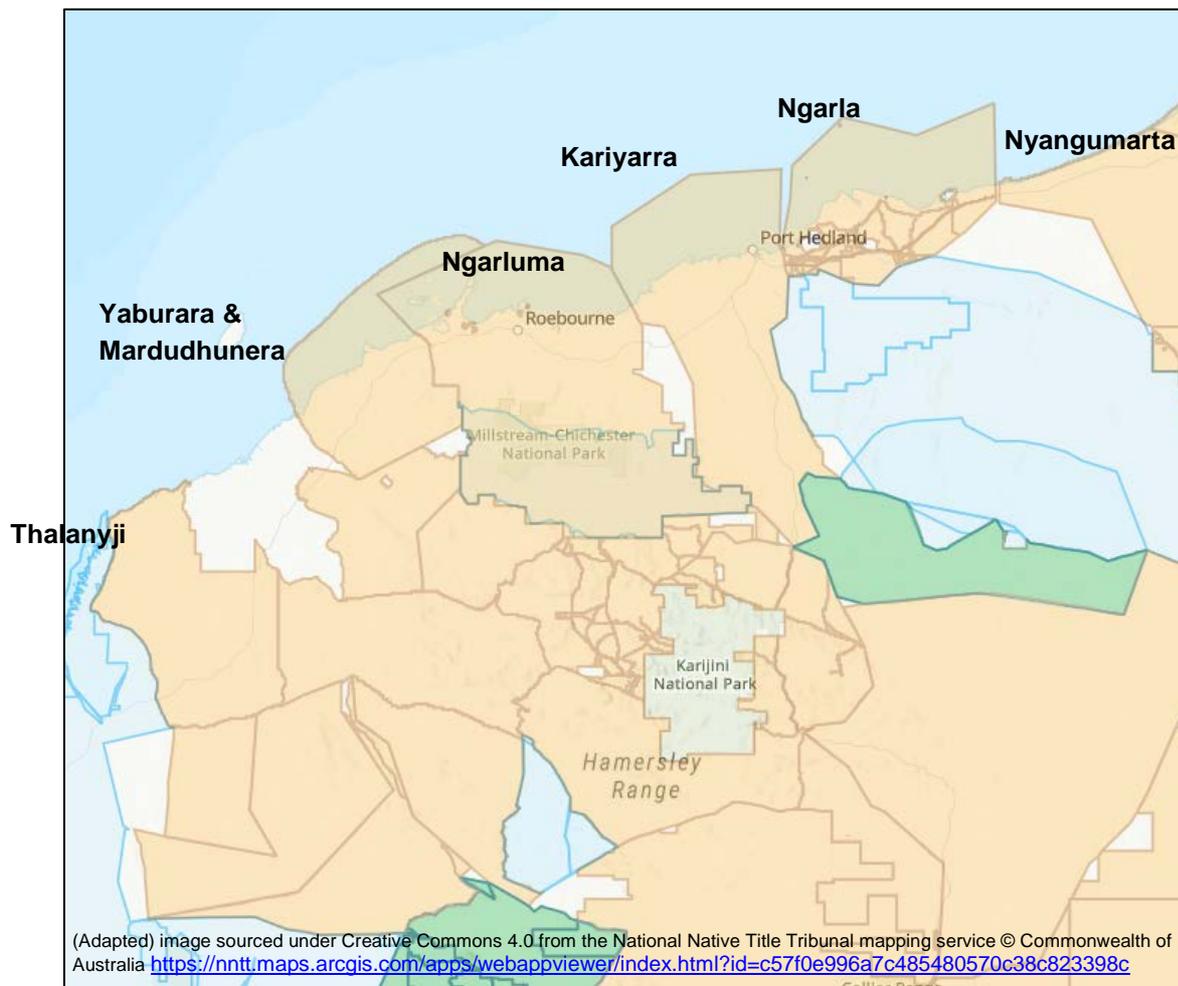


Figure 5 Indicative locations of Pilbara saltwater Native Title determinations and claims (July 2019)

7.1 Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation

Established in 2009, the Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation is the Native Title Representative Body for the Nyangumarta and Warrarn people.

Note for researchers

Information about the Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation is repeated in the previous Kimberley Saltwater Native Title Group section because it straddles both regions.

Main Office: c/- Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC)

2/29 Steel Loop, Wedgefield WA 6721
PO Box 2252, South Hedland WA 6722
P: (08) 9172 5433



© NWAC

Research protocols

Only the shared Native Title area of Yawinya has documented processes for research on Nyangumarta or Warrarn Country at this time.

Researchers with interest in the **Yawinya claim** (jointly held between Karajarri and Nyangumarta groups) are required to follow the Kimberley saltwater research protocol. Both the research proposal form and research protocol are available on the [Kimberley Land Council website](#).

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on all other Nyangumarta Warrarn Country should contact Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Membership on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group

Nyangumarta have nominated representation on the Kimberley Saltwater Advisory Group (ISWAG) and inclusion in the Kimberley Indigenous Turtle & Dugong Initiative.

Indigenous Protected Area

Nyangumarta people declared the [Nyangumarta Indigenous Protected Area](#) in 2015.

Joint Management

The Nyangumarta Rangers manage the Nyangumarta (northern) section of the Eighty Mile Beach Marine park in joint partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Their work is informed by the [Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park](#) Joint Management plan.

Sea Country Management Plan

The Nyangumarta people launched their [Nyangumarta Warrarn IPA Plan of Management](#) in 2015.

NOTE: Inclusion of the above logo does not represent endorsement of this document

Other useful documents

In 2016 the Nyangumarta people published a compilation of [Traditional Ecological Knowledge \(TEK\) of the Nyangumarta Warrarn Indigenous Protected Area \(IPA\)](#).

7.1.1 Nyangumarta Rangers

Extract from YMAC News, Issue 36 August 2018:

“The Nyangumarta IPA covers about 28,420 square kilometres including the Joint Management and protection of a section of Eight Mile Beach Marine Park and Walyarta Conservation Park – one of the most important sites for migratory shorebirds in Australia.

17 rangers employed in casual, part time and full-time positions, three part-time school based trainees and 14 Elders employed on a casual basis as cultural advisors”³¹

7.2 Wanparta Aboriginal Corporation

The Wanparta Aboriginal Corporation is the prescribed body corporate holding Native Title rights on behalf of the Ngarla people.

Joint Management

The Ngarla Rangers manage the section of Eighty Mile Beach Marine park west of Pardoo Station and Jarrkurnpang Nature Reserve in joint partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Their work is informed by the [Eighty Mile Beach Marine Park](#) Joint Management plan.

Main Office: c/-MacLean Legal, Perth

Enquiries via Wanparta's Contact Officer, Susan Clayton
Suite 156, Level 2 Equus Building
580 Hay Street,
PERTH, WA 6000
Ph: (08) 9218 8272
admin@macleanlegal.com.au



© WAC

Website

<https://www.wanparta.com.au/>

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Ngarla people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Ngarla Country should contact Wanparta Aboriginal Corporation for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Ngalala people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time³².

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Joint Management

Extract from the Department of Parks and Wildlife 2015-16 [annual report](#): “Following the signing of Indigenous Land Use Agreements with the Ngarla and Nyangumarta people in 2014, Aboriginal trainees under the Mentored Aboriginal Training and Employment Scheme (MATES) commenced work in the Kimberley in 2015.”³³

Sea Country Management Plan

The Sea Country of Ngarluma people is within the [Pilbara Sea Country Plan](#) released by the Pilbara Indigenous Marine Reference Group in 2010.

Other useful documents

Information about the Ngarla rangers can be found [here](#).

7.2.1 Ngarla Rangers

The Ngarla Indigenous Rangers are hosted by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Extract from the Wanparta website:

“The Ngarla People are the Traditional Owners who speak for the spectacular and sacred 80 Mile Beach Marine Park (RAMSAR site) to the west of Pardoo Station and Jarrkurnpang Nature Reserve. The land and waters in the adjacent eastern portion of the 80 Mile Beach Marine Park extends into the traditional lands of the Karajarri and Nyangumarta People.

Wanparta Aboriginal Corporation together with the Department of Parks and Wildlife jointly manages 80 Mile Beach Marine Park. The Ngarla Rangers are active in the conservation and management of 80 Mile Beach Marine Park and have achieved wonderful outcomes. Wanparta Aboriginal Corporation could not be prouder.”³⁴

7.3 Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation

In 2018, the Kariyarra Native Title claim was determined, covering land within the shires of Ashburton, East Pilbara and within the townsites of Port Hedland and Karratha^[1]. The Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation board is made up of members of all eleven family groups.

A map of the Native Title area can be found [here](#).

Main office

Unit 7-2A Leake Street,
South Hedland WA 6722
admin@kariyarra.com.au
KAC Chairperson 0491 221 398

Research protocols

The Kariyarra people have not documented their community research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Kariyarra Country should contact the Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation for advice on process. They will be required to float their research concept for consideration at the next available Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation board meeting.

Indigenous Protected Area

Kariyarra IPA have recently established an IPA. For details about the IPA contact the Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation direct.

Sea Country Management Plan

The Kariyarra people are currently in the process of developing their own Healthy Country Plan. The Sea Country of Kariyarra people is also within the [Pilbara Sea Country Plan](#) released by the Pilbara Indigenous Marine Reference Group in 2010.

7.3.1 Indigenous Rangers

There are no known Kariyarra Indigenous rangers at this time. Researchers may have a role in supporting the development of their ranger group through capacity-building opportunities as agreed by the Kariyarra Aboriginal Corporation.

7.4 Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation

In the same year that Native Title was recognised for the Ngarluma and Yindjibarndi people in 2005, the Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation was established as the prescribed body corporate for the Ngarluma people.

From the Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation website:

“Ngarluma Country is located in the West Pilbara region of Western Australia. Its land ranges from interior hills and tablelands, river systems and coastline, including the world-famous Burrup Peninsula and Dampier Archipelago.”³⁵

Main Office: Karratha

Unit 61, 5 Sharpe Ave Karratha 6714

PO Box 830, Karratha 6714

P: (08) 9182 1351

reception@ngarluma.com.au

Website

<http://www.ngarluma.com.au>

Research protocols

Documented Ngarluma research protocols were not found at this time.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Ngarluma people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time³⁶.

Sea Country Management Plan

The Sea Country of Ngarluma people is within the [Pilbara Sea Country Plan](#) released by the Pilbara Indigenous Marine Reference Group in 2010.

Other useful documents

Ngarluma published a [Ngarluma dictionary English-Ngarluma wordlist and topical wordlist](#) publication in 2008.

7.4.1 Indigenous Rangers

Information about Ngarluma Rangers was not found at this time.

7.5 Yaburara and Coastal Mardudhunera Aboriginal Corporation

The Yaburara and Coastal Mardudhunera Aboriginal Corporation (YACMAC) was incorporated in 1998. Twenty years later, their Native Title rights were recognised over a section of land and Sea Country along the Burrup peninsula.

Main Office: Karratha

5/985 Woodbrook Road Balmoral Road, Karratha WA 6714

PO Box 323 Karratha WA 6714

T (08) 9182 1712

admin@yacmac.com.au

Website

<https://yacmac.com.au/>

Research protocols

Yaburara and Coastal Mardudhunera are within the Murujuga sub region where the Murujuga Research Protocols and Cultural Protocols apply. These area contained within the Murujuga Cultural management Plan, available for purchase through the Murujuga [Land & Sea Unit](#).

Indigenous Protected Area

The Yaburara and Coastal Mardudhunera people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time³⁷.

Joint Management

Joint Management arrangements for Yaburara Mardudhunera people are undertaken through the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (see section on Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation) for the Murujuga National Park.

Sea Country Management Plan

The Sea Country of the Yaburara and Mardudhunera people is within the [Pilbara Sea Country Plan](#) released by the Pilbara Indigenous Marine Reference Group in 2010.

Joint Management

Through contractual arrangements with the state government, the corporation plays an important role in co-management of the Murujuga National Park.

7.5.1 Marduthuni Rangers

Extract from the YACMAC website:

“YACMAC, not so long ago, established the Marduthuni Rangers Program (mid of 2016) to provide an employment stream for members. YACMAC rangers program is funded through the Prime Minister and Cabinet Indigenous advancement strategy. The Marduthuni Rangers program is positioned to provide training opportunities and on-Country initiatives whilst being actively involved in cultural preservation and sharing.

The Marduthuni Rangers will focus on projects to manage key threatened fauna species and priority biodiversity and cultural assets in the area through active on ground management by

Traditional Owners implementing both traditional and contemporary natural and cultural resource management (NCRM) practices to reduce critical threats. These are likely to include population monitoring for both introduced predators/ herbivores and native species, identification of threatened species habitats, fire and weed management, and introduced predator/herbivore control.”³⁸

7.6 Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation

Incorporated 2008, the Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation (BTAC) is the prescribed body corporate and Native Title body for the Thalanyji people of Onslow and surrounds. It is a large and diverse organisation involved in a range of industries.

A map of the Native Title determination area is [here](#).

Extract from the BTAC website:

“From way back, old people tell us, look after Country, and Country will look after you. Thalanyji Country is a distinctive bio-region. It spreads out across the Ashburton River coastal plain south to Tubridji Point and then across to Yannarie River and upstream to Emu Creek, across the range hills of south west Pilbara to Henry River and Cane River in the north.

Country is made up of all things that are interconnected in a grand and complex design. It includes people, animals, plants, ancestors, creation beings, water, sea, sky, earth, the wind and the rain, above the ground and below ground including, landforms and rocks, minerals, air, stars and night and day.”³⁹

Main Office: Perth

Suite 1, Level 1, 9 Havelock Street, West Perth WA 6005
PO Box 810, WEST PERTH WA 6872
P: (08) 9321 3166
secretary@thalanyji.com.au

Onslow office

569 Beadon Creek Road, Onslow WA 6710
P: (08) 6500 6488

Website

<https://www.thalanyji.com.au/>



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NOTE: Inclusion of the above logo does not represent endorsement of this document

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Thalanyji people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Buurabalayji Thalanyji Country should contact BTAC for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Thalanyji people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁴⁰.

Joint Management

Joint Management arrangements between state government and Thalanyji pertaining to conservation estate were not found at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

The Sea Country of Thalanyji people is within the [Pilbara Sea Country Plan](#) released by the Pilbara Indigenous Marine Reference Group in 2010.

7.6.1 Thalanyji Land and Sea Rangers

The Thalanyji Indigenous Land and Sea Rangers (Nhaguwarra Ngarrigu) provide land and sea management services to the Buurabalayji Thalanyji Aboriginal Corporation.

8. GERALDTON REGION SALTWATER NATIVE TITLE GROUPS

Current documented Indigenous governance structures, Sea Country management capacity and research protocols established by Indigenous communities along the Geraldton region coast are described on the following pages. Information is presented north to south:

- Gnulli Native Title claimants
- Malgana Aboriginal Corporation
- Nanda Aboriginal Corporation
- Hutt River Native Title claimants
- Southern Yamatji Native Title claimants

An interactive map of Native Title determinations and claims can be found at the Native Title Vision portal [here](#).

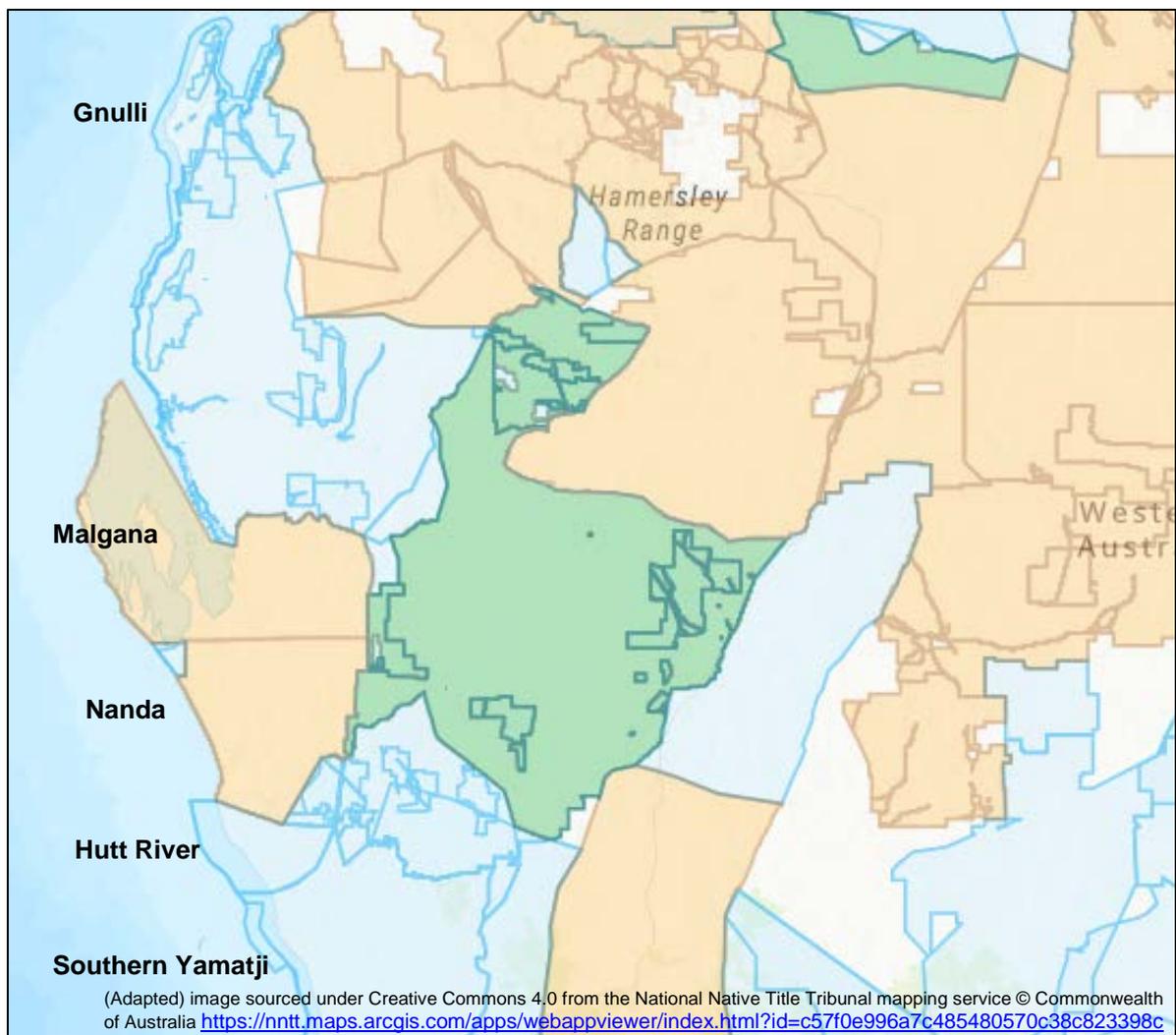


Figure 6 Indicative locations of Geraldton saltwater Native Title determinations/claims (July 2019)

8.1 Gnulli Native Title claimants

The Gnulli Native Title claim was lodged in 1997 and extends along the coast from around Exmouth through Coral Bay and South past Carnarvon. It is currently under claim process (WAD22/2019; WC 1997/028).

A map showing the Gnulli Native Title claim area can be found [here](#).

Note for researchers

As at the time of writing, it is understood that the Gnulli Native Title Claim is being run through the Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation.

Main Office: c/- Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC)

Contact: Program Manager (Land & Sea Management)

171 Marine Tce Geraldton WA 6531

PO Box 2119 Geraldton WA 6531

jkelpers@ymac.org.au

P: (08) 9965 6222

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Indigenous language groups represented within the Gnulli claim (Baiyungu in the north claim area and Yingarrda in the southern claim area) have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Gnulli Country should contact Program Manager (Land & Sea Management) at Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

Gnulli does not have a declared Indigenous Protected Area at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

Gnulli does not have a Healthy Country Plan at this time, however a [Nyinggulu \(Ningaloo\) coastal reserves draft Joint Management plan 2019](#) is currently out for public comment. The state and commonwealth government Ningaloo Marine Park Management Plans also apply in the area.

8.1.1 Indigenous Rangers

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions host a Gnulli Indigenous Ranger Team through Joint Management arrangement.

8.2 Malgana Aboriginal Corporation

In 2018, after a twenty year legal process, Native Title was recognised over large parts of Malgana Country in the Shark Bay Area. The Malgana Aboriginal Corporation is the Native Title representative body for Malgana people. They also receive support from the Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation.

A map of the Malgana Native Title determination area is [here](#)

Note to Researchers

At the time of writing, the Malgana Aboriginal Corporation was undergoing establishment processes. As such, the contact details herein will date rapidly. If contacting the corporation is difficult through contacts provided, researchers can contact Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) for updated details.

Mid-2019 contact details

Malgana Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 132 Denham, WA 6537
Chair Malgana Aboriginal Corporation:
marika.oakley@bigpond.com

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Malgana people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Malgana Country should contact Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Malgana people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁴¹.

Joint Management

Joint management arrangements between Malgana and the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions are unknown at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

The Malgana people recently endorsed the Gutharraguda Land and Sea Country Management Plan, which is available upon request to the Malgana Aboriginal Corporation. The plan includes establishment of a Malgana reference group that “will act as an interface between the wider Malgana community and all stakeholders with an interest in land and sea management in the Shark Bay area.”⁴²

The [Shark Bay World heritage Area Strategic Plan](#) also acknowledges cultural values and heritage values of the areas, with strategies such as: “Improve knowledge and understanding of cultural heritage sites, artefacts, places and their condition and people through research; Identify potential threats to cultural heritage; through effective management, avoid or minimise, threats to sites, artefacts and places of cultural significance; and Promote greater understanding, appreciation and awareness of cultural heritage.”⁴³

8.2.1 Malgana Rangers

As part of the ‘Pathway to a Malgana Country Land and Sea Management Program’, there is a Malgana Ranger’s Assistant employed by DBCA and a Malgana Land and Sea Management Coordinator currently employed by YMAC. They are based at the DBCA Denham

8.3 Nanda Aboriginal Corporation

In 2018, Native Title was recognised over large areas of Nanda Country with the Nanda Aboriginal Corporation providing Native Title representation for the Nanda people. The

Nanda people also receive support from the Yamatji Marla Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC). A map of the Nanda Native Title determination area is [here](#)

Main Office: c/- Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC)

171 Marine Tce Geraldton WA 6531

PO Box 2119 Geraldton WA 6531

P: (08) 9965 6222

cmourambine@ymac.org.au

Website

<https://ymac.org.au>

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Nanda people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Nanda Country should contact Program Manager (Land & Sea Management) at Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Nanda people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁴⁴.

Joint Management

The Kalbarri National Park is located within Nanda Country, with many recorded and unrecorded areas of high cultural importance. The Kalbarri National Park Management Plan describes the park as being of high Joint Management interest to Nanda people and that Joint Management arrangements will be made pending resources. In the interim, park management will continue to consult and work collaboratively with Nanda people to protect and manage cultural heritage sites⁴⁵.

Sea Country Management Plan

The [Kalbarri National Park management plan](#) includes cooperative Indigenous management objectives and actions.

8.3.1 Indigenous Rangers

It is unknown whether the Nanda people have their own Indigenous Rangers at this time.

8.4 Hutt River Native Title claimants

The Hutt River Native Title claim was lodged in 2000 and is located between Kalbarri and Geraldton (WAD 27/2019; WC2000/001). A map showing the Gnulli Native Title claim area can be found [here](#).

Note for researchers

In 2017, negotiations commenced between the Southern Yamatji, Hutt River, Mullewa Wadjari and Widi Mob claim groups, and the Western Australia State government. This [Yamatji Nation Southern Regional Agreement](#), is expected to develop an Indigenous Land Use Agreement over the claim area by the end of 2019.

Main Office: c/- Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC)

Contact: Program Manager (Land & Sea Management)

171 Marine Tce Geraldton WA 6531

PO Box 2119 Geraldton WA 6531

jkelpers@ymac.org.au, P: (08) 9965 6222

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Hutt River people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Hutt River Country should contact Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

Hutt River does not have a declared Indigenous Protected Area at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

Hutt River does not have a Healthy Country Plan at this time.

8.4.1 Indigenous Rangers

There are no known Hutt River Indigenous rangers at this time.

8.5 Southern Yamatji Native Title claimants

The Southern Yamatji Native Title claim was lodged in 2017 and includes a large area of land and coast including Geraldton, Morawa and Three Springs. It is currently under claim process (WAD 19/2019; WC2017/002).

A map showing the Southern Yamatji Native Title claim area can be found [here](#).

Note for researchers

In 2017, negotiations commenced between the Southern Yamatji, Hutt River, Mullewa Wadjari and Widi Mob claim groups, and the Western Australia State government. This [Yamatji Nation Southern Regional Agreement](#), is expected to develop an Indigenous Land Use Agreement over the claim area by the end of 2019.

Main Office: c/- Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC)

Contact: Program Manager (Land & Sea Management)

171 Marine Tce Geraldton WA 6531

PO Box 2119 Geraldton WA 6531

jkelpers@ymac.org.au

P: (08) 9965 6222

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Southern Yamatji people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Southern Yamatji Country should contact Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

Southern Yamatji does not have a declared Indigenous Protected Area at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

Southern Yamatji does not have a Healthy Country Plan at this time.

8.5.1 Indigenous Rangers

There are no known Southern Yamatji Indigenous rangers at this time.

9. SOUTH WEST REGION SALTWATER NATIVE TITLE GROUPS

Current documented Indigenous governance structures, Sea Country management capacity and research protocols established by Indigenous communities along the South West coast are described on the following pages. Information is presented northwest to southeast by Native Title region:

- Yued (Noongar claim area – ILUA region)
- Whadjuk (Noongar claim area – ILUA region)
- Gnaala Karla Boodja (Noongar claim area – ILUA region)
- South West Boojarah #2 (Noongar claim area – ILUA region)
- Wagyl Kaip (Noongar combined claim area – ILUA region)

An interactive map of Native Title determinations and claims can be found at the Native Title Vision portal [here](#).

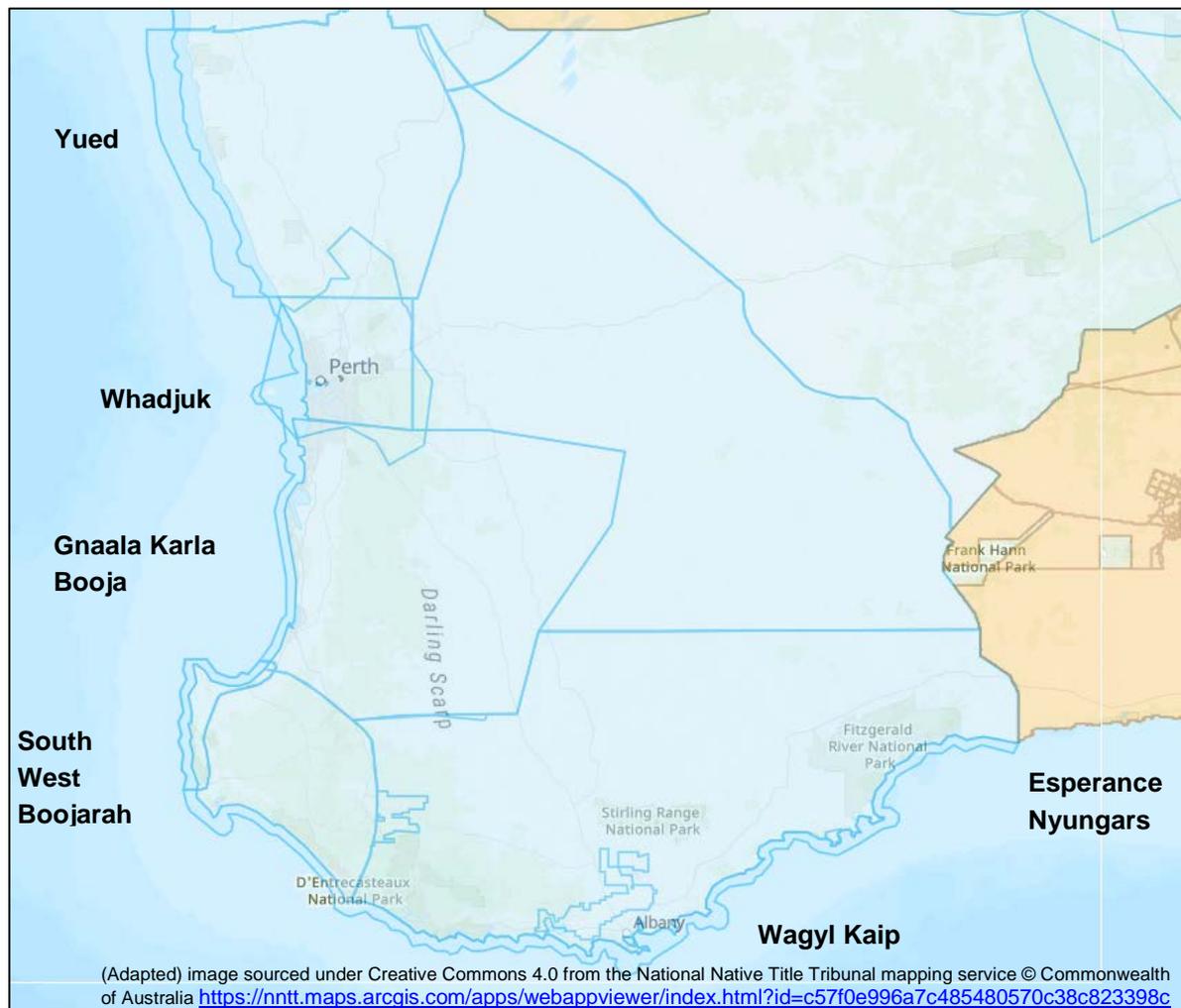


Figure 7 Indicative locations of South West saltwater Native Title determinations & claims (July 2019)

9.1 Yued (Noongar combined claim – ILUA region)

An Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) for the Yued region of the South West Native Title Settlement commenced operation in 2015 and was amongst six Noongar ILUAs registered by the National Native Title Tribunal in 2018. It includes the townships of Jurien Bay, Moora, Lancelin and Gingin.

A map of the Yued ILUA area can be found over page.

The Yued ILUA is the current guiding document for land use by Noongar (Yued) people within the ILUA area. Within the larger document, it defines the terms of the South West Settlement as they apply across this area, including co-operative and joint agreement, land access and activities, community development, and the recognition and protection of Aboriginal Heritage.

The Southwest Aboriginal Land and Sea Council will deliver administrative, corporate, financial and unique services across the Yued claim area through their [Central Services Corporation](#).

Main Office: c/- South West Aboriginal Land Council

Home Town Centre, 1490 Albany Hwy

Cannington WA6107

P: (08) 9358 7400

reception1@noongar.org.au

Website

<http://www.noongar.org.au/yued-region/>

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Yued people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Yued Country should contact South West Aboriginal Land Council for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Yued people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁴⁶.

Joint Management

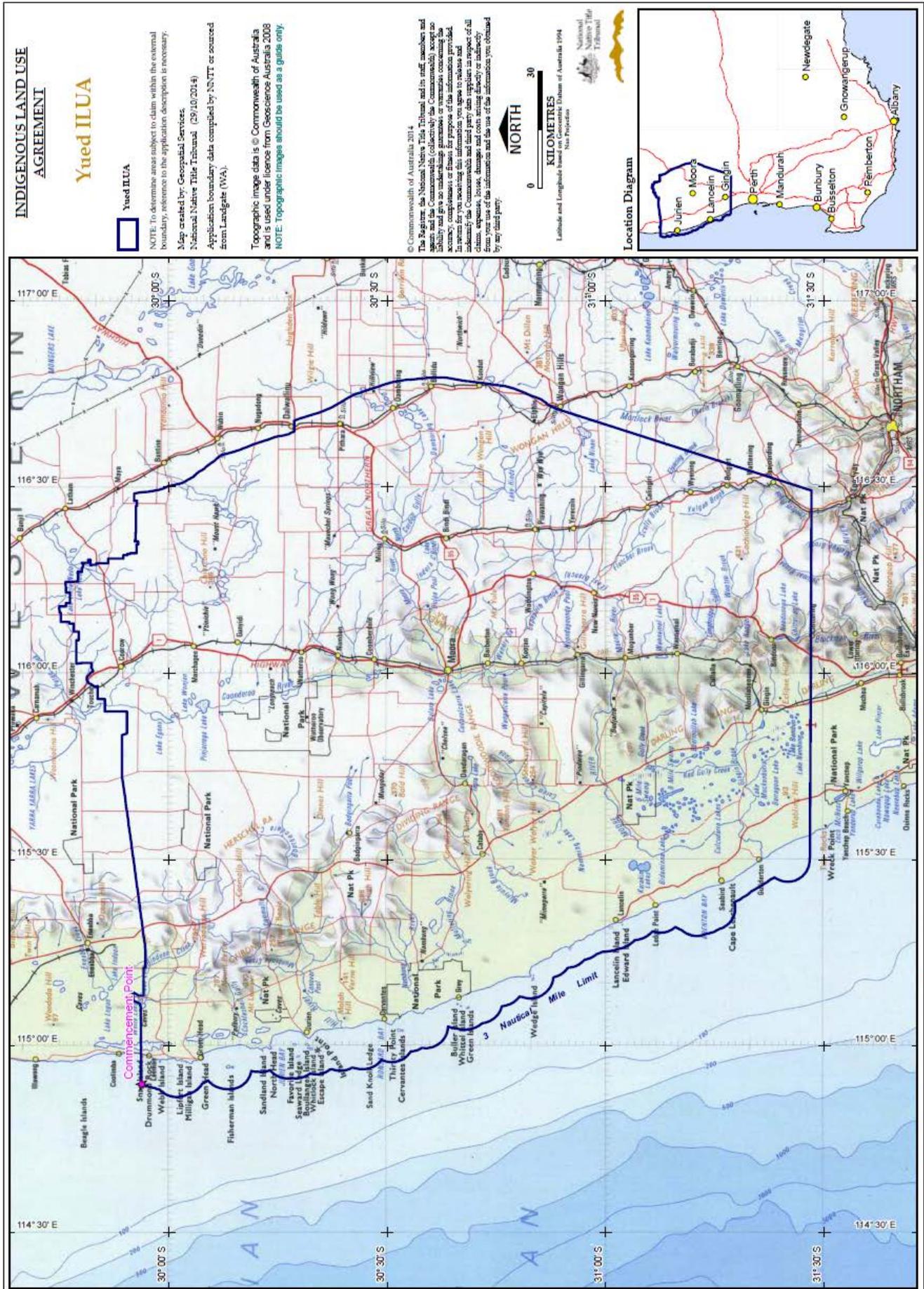
Under the terms of the Yued ILUA, at least one Joint Management Agreement will be made for land and waters within conservation estate contained in the Yued area within five years of signing.

Sea Country Management Plan

No Healthy Country Plans for Yued Country was found at this time.

9.1.1 Yued Rangers

Five Indigenous Rangers for the Yued region are employed through the Noongar Ranger Program via service agreement and hosting by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).



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Figure 8 Map of the Yued ILUA © National Native Title Tribunal. Access this map [here](#).

Extract from the Noongar website:

“Noongar Ranger Program

In February 2018, SWALSC was announced as one of thirteen Aboriginal organisations across the State to share in the first round of funding from the from the WA State government’s five-year \$20m Aboriginal ranger program.

The \$1.17m in funding SWALSC secured from this grant program is paying for the first round of a Noongar Boodja Mentored Employment and Training Partnership, which is being delivered by SWALSC via a service contract with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

12 full-time positions on 16-month long fixed-term s.50D contracts were advertised for six Noongar men and six Noongar women, with one Noongar man and one Noongar woman working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office location selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

After a competitive selection process, overseen by a majority Noongar selection panel, 12 Noongar people were employed to into these positions. Over the 16-month program, these 12 successful candidates will undertake a Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management, and DBCA’s Fire Fighting Crew Member Course. Successful candidates who already have Certificate II qualifications are receiving a modified training program to meet their individual training needs.

During their paid training placements, the Noongar Trainee Rangers will work in a wide range of land and sea management activities including biodiversity monitoring and research; prescribed burning and bushfire suppression and control; fauna and flora protection; cultural site management; feral animal and weed management; construction and maintenance of infrastructure; tourism management; and education programs and mentoring.

The project will increase capacity in the Noongar community to undertake conservation and land management activities on the lands that will come back to Noongar ownership and control, and to undertake Joint Management of the conservation estate in Noongar Boodja once the South West Native Title Settlement is implemented.

Where are the positions based?

One Noongar man and one Noongar woman are working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office locations that have been selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

- Albany (Wagyl Kaip / DBCA South Coast Regional Headquarters)
- Jurien Bay (Yued / DBCA Moora District)
- Mundaring (Whadjuk / DBCA Perth Hills District)
- Collie (Gnaala Karla Booja / DBCA Wellington District)
- Busselton (South West Boojarah / DBCA Blackwood District)
- Narrogin (Ballardong / DBCA Wheatbelt Regional Headquarters)” ⁴⁷

9.2 Whadjuk (Noongar combined claim– ILUA region)

An Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) for the Whadjuk region of the South West Native Title Settlement commenced operation in 2015 and was amongst six Noongar ILUAs registered by the National Native Title Tribunal in 2018. It includes the Perth Metropolitan area.

A map of the Whadjuk ILUA area can be found over page.

The [Whadjuk ILUA](#) is the current guiding document for land use by Noongar (Whadjuk) people within the ILUA area. Within the larger document, it defines the terms of the South West Settlement as they apply across this area, including co-operative and joint agreement, land access and activities, community development, and the recognition and protection of Aboriginal Heritage.

The Southwest Aboriginal Land and Sea Council will deliver administrative, corporate, financial and unique services across the Whadjuk claim area through their [Central Services Corporation](#).

Joint Management

Under the terms of the Whadjuk ILUA, at least one Joint Management Agreement will be made for land and waters within conservation estate contained in the Whadjuk area within five years of signing.

Main Office: c/- South West Aboriginal Land Council

Home Town Centre, 1490 Albany Hwy
Cannington WA6107
P: (08) 9358 7400
reception1@noongar.org.au

Website

<http://www.noongar.org.au/new-page-11>

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Whadjuk people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Whadjuk Country should contact South West Aboriginal Land Council for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Whadjuk people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁴⁸.

Joint Management

Joint Management arrangements between state government and Whadjuk pertaining to conservation estate were not found at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

No Healthy Country Plans for Whadjuk Country was found at this time.

9.2.1 Whadjuk Rangers

Two Indigenous Rangers for the Whadjuk region are employed through the Noongar Ranger Program via service agreement and hosting by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA). Extract from the Noongar website:

“Noongar Ranger Program

In February 2018, SWALSC was announced as one of thirteen Aboriginal organisations across the State to share in the first round of funding from the from the WA State government’s five-year \$20m Aboriginal ranger program.

The \$1.17m in funding SWALSC secured from this grant program is paying for the first round of a Noongar Boodja Mentored Employment and Training Partnership, which is being delivered by SWALSC via a service contract with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

12 full-time positions on 16-month long fixed-term s.50D contracts were advertised for six Noongar men and six Noongar women, with one Noongar man and one Noongar woman working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office location selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

After a competitive selection process, overseen by a majority Noongar selection panel, 12 Noongar people were employed to into these positions. Over the 16-month program, these 12 successful candidates will undertake a Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management, and DBCA’s Fire Fighting Crew Member Course. Successful candidates who already have Certificate II qualifications are receiving a modified training program to meet their individual training needs.

During their paid training placements, the Noongar Trainee Rangers will work in a wide range of land and sea management activities including biodiversity monitoring and research; prescribed burning and bushfire suppression and control; fauna and flora protection; cultural site management; feral animal and weed management; construction and maintenance of infrastructure; tourism management; and education programs and mentoring.

The project will increase capacity in the Noongar community to undertake conservation and land management activities on the lands that will come back to Noongar ownership and control, and to undertake Joint Management of the conservation estate in Noongar Boodja once the South West Native Title Settlement is implemented.

Where are the positions based? One Noongar man and one Noongar woman are working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office locations that have been selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

- Albany (Wagyl Kaip / DBCA South Coast Regional Headquarters)
- Jurien Bay (Yued / DBCA Moora District)
- Mundaring (Whadjuk / DBCA Perth Hills District)
- Collie (Gnaala Karla Booja / DBCA Wellington District)
- Busselton (South West Boojarah / DBCA Blackwood District)
- Narrogin (Ballardong / DBCA Wheatbelt Regional Headquarters)⁴⁹

9.3 Gnaala Karla Boodja (Noongar combined claim – ILUA region)

An Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) for the Gnaala Karla Boodja region of the South West Native Title Settlement commenced operation in 2015 and was amongst six Noongar ILUAs registered by the National Native Title Tribunal in 2018. It includes the townships of Mandurah, Bunbury and Donnybrook.

A map of the Gnaala Karla Boodja ILUA area can be found over page.

The [Gnaala Karla Boodja ILUA](#) is the current guiding document for land use by Noongar (Gnaala Karla Boodja) people within the ILUA area. Within the larger document, it defines the terms of the South West Settlement as they apply across this area, including co-operative and joint agreement, land access and activities, community development, and the recognition and protection of Aboriginal Heritage.

The Southwest Aboriginal Land and Sea Council will deliver administrative, corporate, financial and unique services across the Gnaala Karla Boodja claim area through their [Central Services Corporation](#).

Joint Management

Under the terms of the Gnaala Karla Boodja ILUA, at least one Joint Management Agreement will be made for land and waters within conservation estate contained in the Gnaala Karla Boodja area within five years of signing.

Main Office: c/- South West Aboriginal Land Council

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reception1@noongar.org.au

Website

<http://www.noongar.org.au/new-page-80>

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Gnaala Karla Boodja people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Gnaala Karla Boodja Country should contact South West Aboriginal Land Council for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Gnaala Karla Boodja people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁵⁰.

Joint Management

Joint Management arrangements between state government and Gnaala Karla Boodja pertaining to conservation estate were not found at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

No Healthy Country Plans for Gnaala Karla Boodja Country was found at this time.

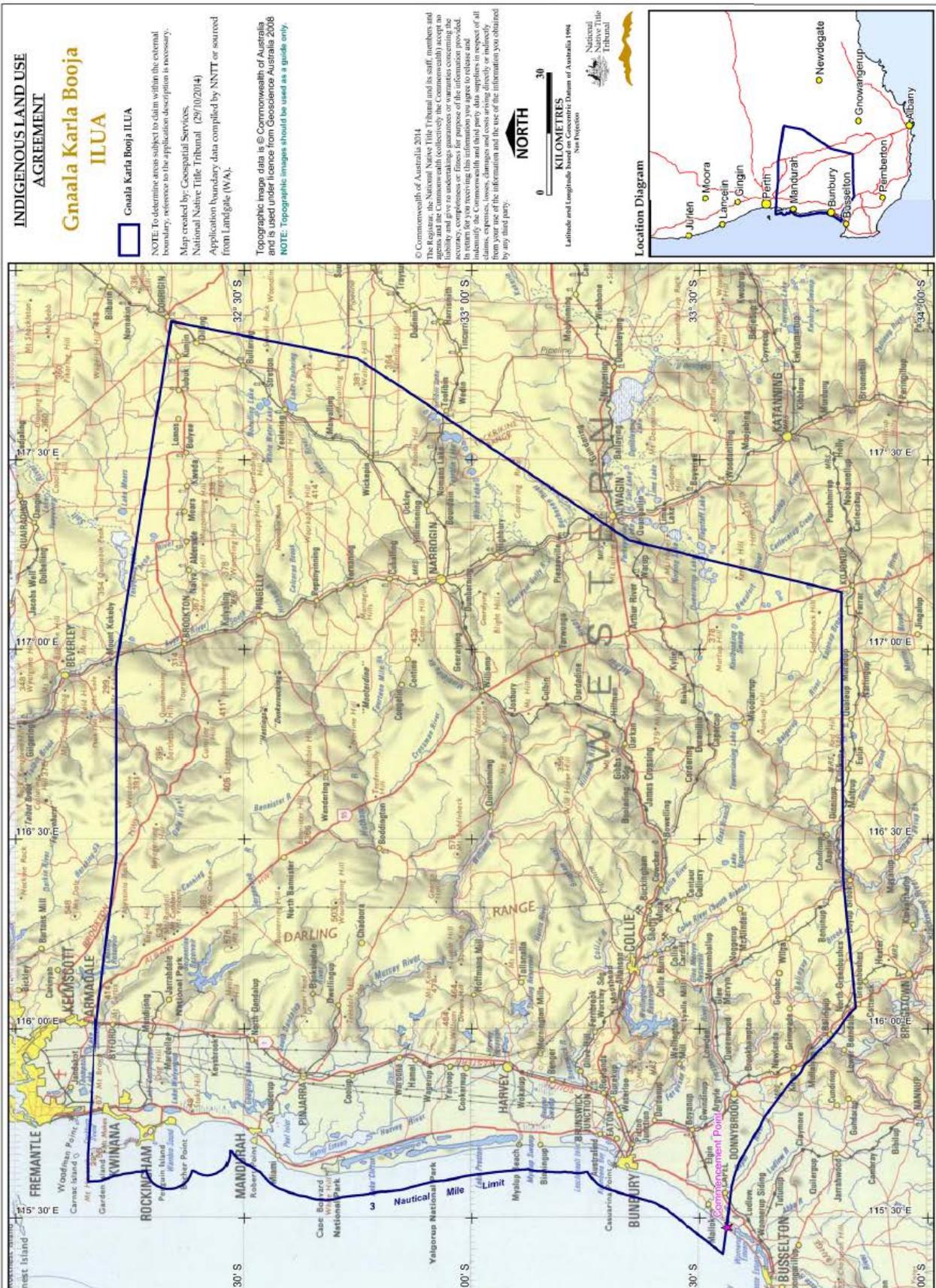


Figure 10 Map of the Gnarla Karla Booja ILUA (c) National Native Title Tribunal. Access this map [here](#)..

9.3.1 Gnaala Karla Boodja Rangers

Two Indigenous Rangers for the Gnaala Karla Boodja region are employed through the Noongar Ranger Program via service agreement and hosting by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA). Extract from the Noongar website:

“Noongar Ranger Program

In February 2018, SWALSC was announced as one of thirteen Aboriginal organisations across the State to share in the first round of funding from the from the WA State government’s five-year \$20m Aboriginal ranger program.

The \$1.17m in funding SWALSC secured from this grant program is paying for the first round of a Noongar Boodja Mentored Employment and Training Partnership, which is being delivered by SWALSC via a service contract with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

12 full-time positions on 16-month long fixed-term s.50D contracts were advertised for six Noongar men and six Noongar women, with one Noongar man and one Noongar woman working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office location selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

After a competitive selection process, overseen by a majority Noongar selection panel, 12 Noongar people were employed to into these positions. Over the 16-month program, these 12 successful candidates will undertake a Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management, and DBCA’s Fire Fighting Crew Member Course. Successful candidates who already have Certificate II qualifications are receiving a modified training program to meet their individual training needs.

During their paid training placements, the Noongar Trainee Rangers will work in a wide range of land and sea management activities including biodiversity monitoring and research; prescribed burning and bushfire suppression and control; fauna and flora protection; cultural site management; feral animal and weed management; construction and maintenance of infrastructure; tourism management; and education programs and mentoring.

The project will increase capacity in the Noongar community to undertake conservation and land management activities on the lands that will come back to Noongar ownership and control, and to undertake Joint Management of the conservation estate in Noongar Boodja once the South West Native Title Settlement is implemented.

Where are the positions based? One Noongar man and one Noongar woman are working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office locations that have been selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

- Albany (Wagyl Kaip / DBCA South Coast Regional Headquarters)
- Jurien Bay (Yued / DBCA Moora District)
- Mundaring (Whadjuk / DBCA Perth Hills District)
- Collie (Gnaala Karla Booja / DBCA Wellington District)
- Busselton (South West Boojarah / DBCA Blackwood District)
- Narrogin (Ballardong / DBCA Wheatbelt Regional Headquarters)⁵¹

9.4 South West Boojarah #2 (Noongar combined claim–ILUA region)

An Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) for the South West Boojarah region of the South West Native Title Settlement commenced operation in 2015 and was amongst six Noongar ILUAs registered by the National Native Title Tribunal in 2018. It includes the townships of Busselton, Dunsborough, Margaret River, Pemberton and Nannup.

A map of the South West Boojarah #2 ILUA area can be found over page.

The [South West Boojarah #2 ILUA](#) is the current guiding document for land use by Noongar (South West Boojarah) people within the ILUA area. Within the larger document, it defines the terms of the South West Settlement as they apply across this area, including co-operative and joint agreement, land access and activities, community development, and the recognition and protection of Aboriginal Heritage.

The Southwest Aboriginal Land and Sea Council will deliver admin, corporate, financial and unique services across the South West Boojarah claim area through their [Central Services Corporation](#).

Joint Management

Under the terms of the South West Boojarah #2 ILUA, at least one Joint Management Agreement will be made for land and waters within conservation estate contained in the South West Boojarah area within five years of signing.

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reception1@noongar.org.au

Website

<http://www.noongar.org.au/new-page-42>

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the South West Boojarah people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on South West Boojarah Country should contact South West Aboriginal Land Council for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The South West Boojarah people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁵².

Joint Management

Joint Management arrangements between state government and South West Boojarah pertaining to conservation estate were not found at this time.

Sea Country Management Plan

No Healthy Country Plans for South West Boojarah Country was found at this time.

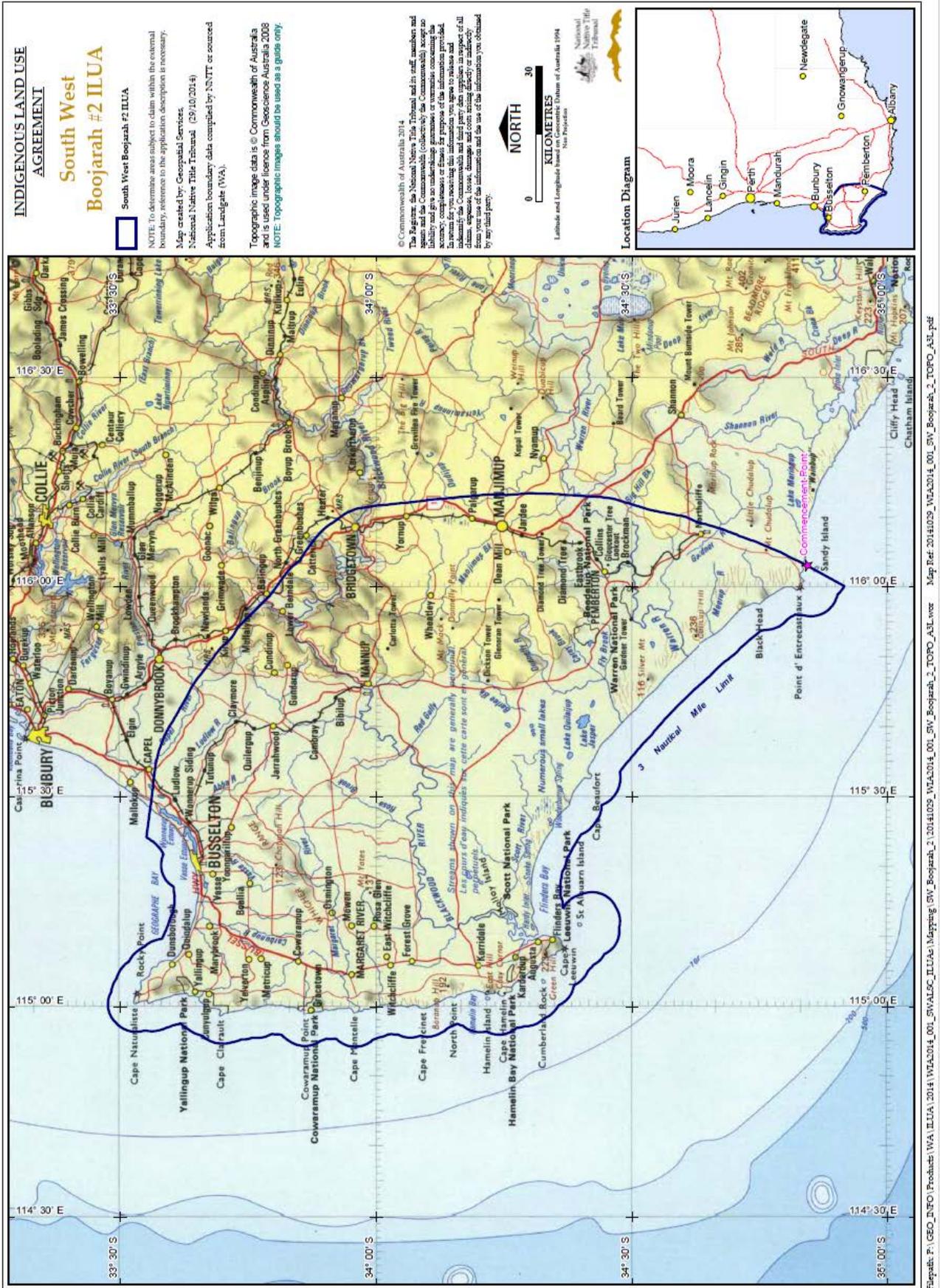


Figure 11 Map of the South West Boojara #2 ILUA (c) National Indigenous Native Title Tribunal. Access this map [here](#)..

9.4.1 South West Boojarah Rangers

Two Indigenous Rangers for the South West Boojarah region are employed through the Noongar Ranger Program via service agreement and hosting by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

Extract from the Noongar website:

“Noongar Ranger Program

In February 2018, SWALSC was announced as one of thirteen Aboriginal organisations across the State to share in the first round of funding from the from the WA State government’s five-year \$20m Aboriginal ranger program.

The \$1.17m in funding SWALSC secured from this grant program is paying for the first round of a Noongar Boodja Mentored Employment and Training Partnership, which is being delivered by SWALSC via a service contract with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

12 full-time positions on 16-month long fixed-term s.50D contracts were advertised for six Noongar men and six Noongar women, with one Noongar man and one Noongar woman working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office location selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

After a competitive selection process, overseen by a majority Noongar selection panel, 12 Noongar people were employed to into these positions. Over the 16-month program, these 12 successful candidates will undertake a Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management, and DBCA’s Fire Fighting Crew Member Course. Successful candidates who already have Certificate II qualifications are receiving a modified training program to meet their individual training needs.

During their paid training placements, the Noongar Trainee Rangers will work in a wide range of land and sea management activities including biodiversity monitoring and research; prescribed burning and bushfire suppression and control; fauna and flora protection; cultural site management; feral animal and weed management; construction and maintenance of infrastructure; tourism management; and education programs and mentoring.

The project will increase capacity in the Noongar community to undertake conservation and land management activities on the lands that will come back to Noongar ownership and control, and to undertake Joint Management of the conservation estate in Noongar Boodja once the South West Native Title Settlement is implemented.

Where are the positions based?

One Noongar man and one Noongar woman are working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office locations that have been selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

- Albany (Wagyl Kaip / DBCA South Coast Regional Headquarters)
- Jurien Bay (Yued / DBCA Moora District)
- Mundaring (Whadjuk / DBCA Perth Hills District)
- Collie (Gnaala Karla Booja / DBCA Wellington District)
- Busselton (South West Boojarah / DBCA Blackwood District)
- Narrogin (Ballardong / DBCA Wheatbelt Regional Headquarters)⁵³

9.5 Wagyl Kaip (Noongar combined claim– ILUA region)

An Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) for the Wagyl Kaip & Southern Noongar region of the South West Native Title Settlement commenced operation in 2015 and was amongst six ILUAs registered by the National Native Title Tribunal in 2018. It includes the townships of Katanning, Gnowangerup and Albany.

A map of the Wagyl Kaip ILUA area can be found over page.

The [Wagyl Kaip ILUA](#) is the current guiding document for land use by Noongar (Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar) people within the ILUA area. Within the larger document, it defines the terms of the South West Settlement as they apply across this area, including co-operative and joint agreement, land access and activities, community development, and the recognition and protection of Aboriginal Heritage.

The Southwest Aboriginal Land and Sea Council will deliver administrative, corporate, financial and unique services across the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar claim area through their [Central Services Corporation](#).

Main Office: c/- South West Aboriginal Land Council

Home Town Centre, 1490 Albany Hwy

Cannington WA6107

P: (08) 9358 7400

reception1@noongar.org.au

Website

<http://www.noongar.org.au/new-page-17/>

Research protocols

It is unknown whether the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar people have documented research protocols at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar Country should contact South West Aboriginal Land Council for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

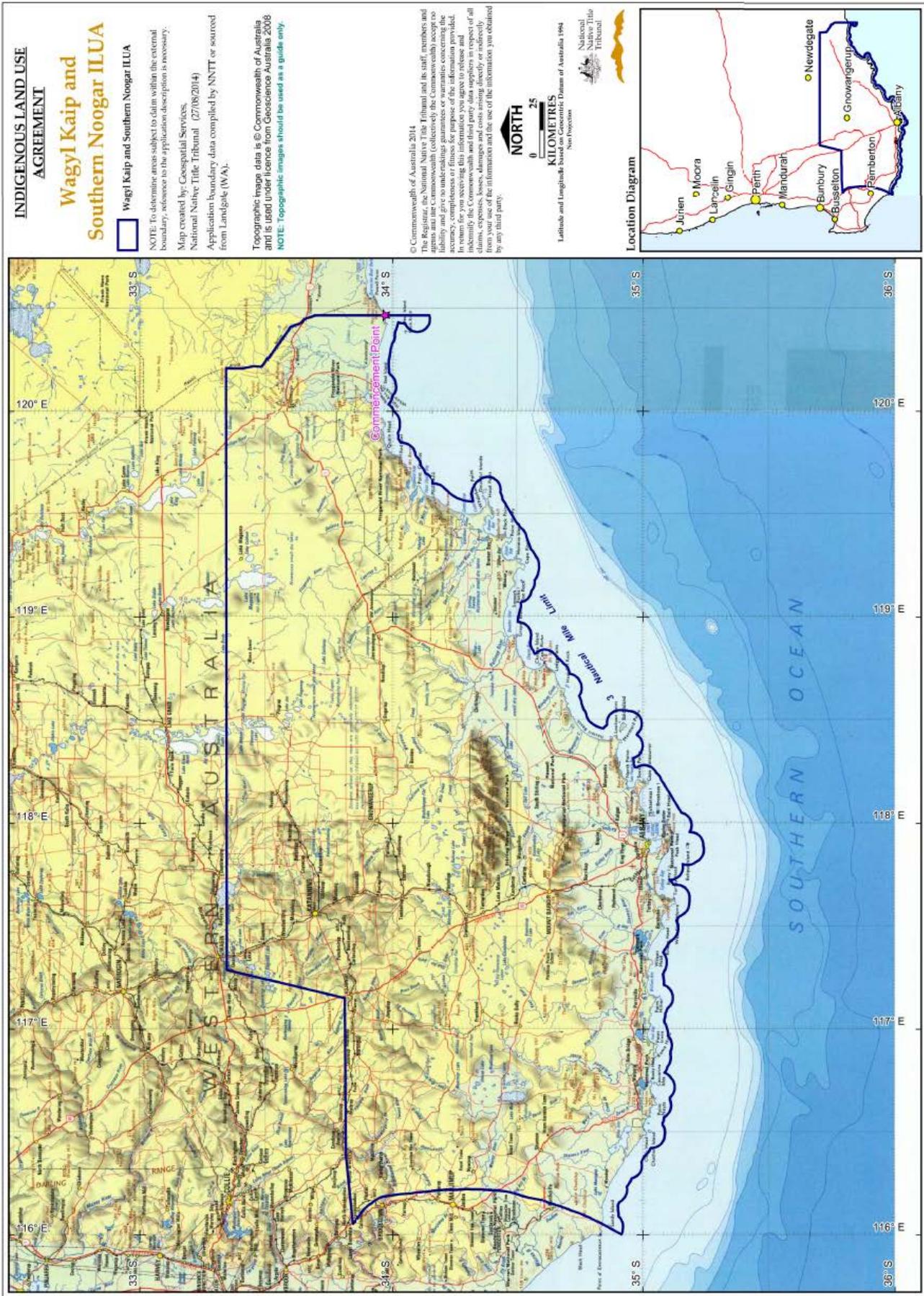
The Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar people have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁵⁴.

Joint Management

Under the terms of the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar ILUA, at least one Joint Management Agreement will be made for land and waters within conservation estate contained in the area within five years of signing.

Sea Country Management Plan

No Healthy Country Plans for Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar Country was found at this time.



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Figure 12 Map of the Wagyl Kaip & Southern Noongar ILUA (c) National Native Title Tribunal. Access this map [here](#)..

9.5.1 Wagyl Kaip Rangers

Two Indigenous Rangers for the Wagyl Kaip and Southern Noongar region are employed through the Noongar Ranger Program via service agreement and hosting by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

Extract from the Noongar website:

“Noongar Ranger Program

In February 2018, SWALSC was announced as one of thirteen Aboriginal organisations across the State to share in the first round of funding from the from the WA State government’s five-year \$20m Aboriginal ranger program.

The \$1.17m in funding SWALSC secured from this grant program is paying for the first round of a Noongar Boodja Mentored Employment and Training Partnership, which is being delivered by SWALSC via a service contract with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA).

12 full-time positions on 16-month long fixed-term s.50D contracts were advertised for six Noongar men and six Noongar women, with one Noongar man and one Noongar woman working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office location selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

After a competitive selection process, overseen by a majority Noongar selection panel, 12 Noongar people were employed to into these positions. Over the 16-month program, these 12 successful candidates will undertake a Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management, and DBCA’s Fire Fighting Crew Member Course. Successful candidates who already have Certificate II qualifications are receiving a modified training program to meet their individual training needs.

During their paid training placements, the Noongar Trainee Rangers will work in a wide range of land and sea management activities including biodiversity monitoring and research; prescribed burning and bushfire suppression and control; fauna and flora protection; cultural site management; feral animal and weed management; construction and maintenance of infrastructure; tourism management; and education programs and mentoring.

The project will increase capacity in the Noongar community to undertake conservation and land management activities on the lands that will come back to Noongar ownership and control, and to undertake Joint Management of the conservation estate in Noongar Boodja once the South West Native Title Settlement is implemented.

Where are the positions based?

One Noongar man and one Noongar woman are working on Country in each of the six Noongar regions, in DBCA Regional Office locations that have been selected for the high quality of training available at those locations.

- Albany (Wagyl Kaip / DBCA South Coast Regional Headquarters)
- Jurien Bay (Yued / DBCA Moora District)
- Mundaring (Whadjuk / DBCA Perth Hills District)
- Collie (Gnaala Karla Booja / DBCA Wellington District)
- Busselton (South West Boojarah / DBCA Blackwood District)
- Narrogin (Ballardong / DBCA Wheatbelt Regional Headquarters)⁵⁵

10. GOLDFIELDS REGION SALTWATER NATIVE TITLE GROUPS

Current documented Indigenous governance structures, Sea Country management capacity and research protocols established by Indigenous communities along the Goldfields region coast is described on the following pages. Information is presented west to east by Native Title group:

- Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation
- Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation
- The WA Mirning People

An interactive map of Native Title determinations and claims can be found at the Native Title Vision portal [here](#).

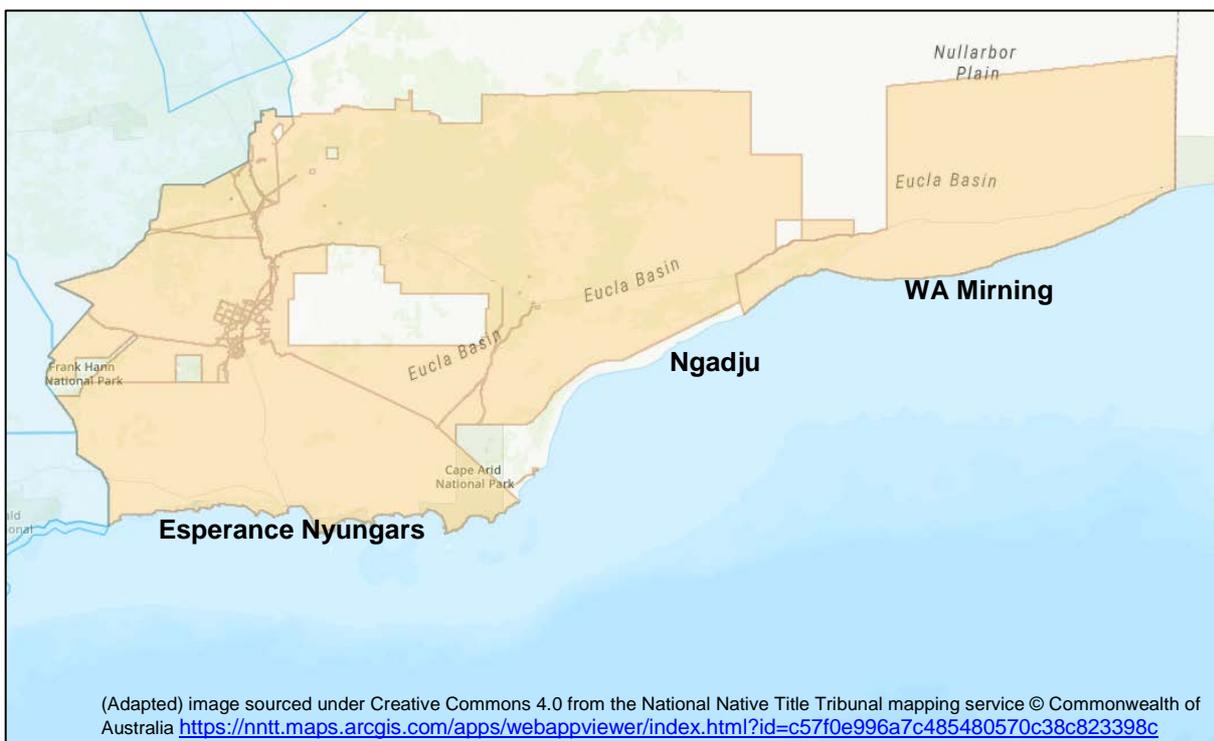


Figure 13 Indicative locations of Goldfields saltwater Native Title determinations & claims (July 2019)

10.1 Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation

In 2014, the Esperance Nyungar people were recognised as Native Title holders over 27,000 square kilometres of southern WA in the Esperance region. The Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation is the Registered Native Title Body for the group.

Main Office: Esperance

18 Andrew Street, Esperance WA 6450
PO Box 1451, Esperance WA 6450
P: (08) 9072 0094
admin@etntac.com.au



Research protocols

Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Esperance Nunga Country should contact Tjaltjraak for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Sea Country Management Plan

In 2018 Tjaltjraak launched a Healthy Country Plan which provides a 10 year plan of management for Esperance Nyungar land and Sea Country. Interested parties should contact Tjaltjraak for further information about the HCP.

Indigenous Protected Area

Tjaltjraak submitted an IPA proposal to the Australian Government in March 2019 and is currently awaiting a decision.

Joint Management

There are currently no formalised joint management arrangements between Tjaltjraak and other land managers, however, strong working relationships exist between Tjaltjraak and DBCA.

Tjaltjraak is in the preliminary stages of negotiating joint management arrangements with DBCA in relation to the possible creation of a marine national park off the Esperance coast and in relation to terrestrial areas.

Tjaltjraak has signed a collaboration deed with Marine Parks Australia in relation to Commonwealth waters off the Esperance coast.

10.1.1 Esperance Tjaltjraak Rangers

In March 2018, Tjaltjraak launched its Ranger program with support under the [WA Government's Aboriginal Ranger Program](#). This enabled the employment of six men and six women rangers for a 9 month pilot project. During this time, rangers each completed Aboriginal Sites Work (Certificate III), Indigenous Land Management (Certificate III) and other practical training modules, along with completing important cultural and environmental protection works.

Following the conclusion of the pilot project, Tjaltjraak has continued its ranger program through securing commercial fee-for-service work and is seeking further funding support to sustain its operations.

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10.2 Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation

Ngadju were granted Native Title rights and interests across their Country through separate determinations in 2014 and 2017. In 2015 The Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation became the Native Title Registered Body Corporate for the Ngadju people. A map of Ngadju Country can be found [here](#).

Main Office: Perth

Level 8, 225 St George's Terrace, Perth WA 6000
PO Box 2710, Cloister's SQ, Perth WA 6850
P: (08) 9462 3500
reception@nntac.org.au

Website

<https://nntac.org.au/>

Research protocols

Documented research protocols for the Ngadju people were not found at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on Ngadju Country should contact the Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Sea Country Management Plan

A Sea Country Plan for the Ngadju people was not found at this time.

10.2.1 Ngadju Conservation Aboriginal Corporation

The Ngadju Conservation Aboriginal Corporation manages a team of Ngadju Rangers to protect and conserve Country. Ngadju Conservation works with the Ngadju community to increase the understanding of land and sea conservation and management opportunities, as well as helping to build capacity to do so.

Main Office: Norseman

90-92 Angove Street, Norseman WA 6443
admin@ngadjuconservation.org
P: 0400 454 456

Website

<https://ngadjuconservation.org/>

Sea Country Management Plan

A Sea Country Plan for the Ngadju people was not found at this time.

Indigenous Protected Area

The Ngadju are negotiating an inland Indigenous Protected Area but it has not been declared at this time.



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10.2.2 Ngadju Rangers

The Ngadju Rangers care for the Ngadju Native Title lands. Their portfolio includes management of fire, feral animals, and weeds; protection of mijalkarru (rockhole) granites, water places, the flora and fauna of the Great Western Woodlands and the Nullarbor plains. The group aspires to engage in a greater capacity in saltwater Country management activities.

10.3 The WA Mirning People

The WA Mirning People's Native Title determination (conditional) was affected in March 2019. As such, the author expects that this group is in the process of establishing governance structures and management capacity at this time. Inflation about the WA Mirning Native Title claim is found [here](#).

NB. The Mirning people's Native Title extends well into South Australia, however from the border of WA and SA it is a separate Native Title area. The Native Title rights of SA Mirning people are held by the Far West Coast Aboriginal Corporation, which is not associated with the WA Mirning people.

Extract from Wangka (Goldfields Aboriginal Language Centre) website:

“Mirning is a language associated with the south-eastern Goldfields region of WA and with the far west-coast of South Australia, along the Great Australian Bight. The coast – especially the head of the Great Australian Bight – is a significant area for the Mirning people, as they have always been connected to water and to whales, the totem animal.

Mirning people live in many communities now, including Esperance in WA, Norseman in WA, Port Lincoln, Ceduna, Yalata, Port Pirie, Koonibba, several farms and communities and Adelaide.”⁵⁶

Main office: Kalgoorlie

Mirning Traditional Lands Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC
(Agent Body Corporate)
14 Throssell Street Kalgoorlie Western Australia 643

Sea Country Management Plan

A Healthy Country Plan for the WA Mirning People was not found at this time.

Research protocols

Documented research protocols for the WA Mirning People was not found at this time. Scientists with interest in natural or cultural resource research on WA Mirning Country should contact Mirning Traditional Lands Aboriginal Corporation for advice on process and to float their project concept.

Indigenous Protected Area

The WA Mirning People have not declared an Indigenous Protected Area at this time⁵⁷.

Joint Management

Joint Management arrangements between state government and WA Mirning People pertaining to conservation estate were not found at this time.

10.3.1 Goldfields Land and Sea Rangers

No records of WA Mirning Indigenous Rangers was found at this time, however, the Goldfields Land and Sea Ranger team operates across the Goldfields region.

Goldfields Land and Sea Ranger Group contacts

<https://rangers.glsc.com.au/home>

PART II: INFORMATION ABOUT MARINE SCIENCE INSTITUTIONS & MANAGEMENT AGENCIES WITH INTERESTS IN WA

11. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH SIGNIFICANT MARINE SCIENCE AGENDAS

11.1 Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS)

AIMS is the Australian government's tropical research agency. It employs over two hundred staff across three states, and focusses on long-term, large-scale research programs that support government, industry and community to make informed management decisions that lead to growth in sustainable use, effective environmental management and protection of unique ecosystems in Australian tropical marine environments⁵⁸.

As AIMS has a remit specific to the tropics, their research effort in Western Australia is focused on the Ningaloo and Shark Bay World Heritage Areas, the Kimberly coast, and Australia's more remote northwest reefs, shoals and atoll.

AIMS has key roles, associations and MOUs with a number of Western Australian-relevant initiatives, institutions and groups including the Western Australian Marine Science Institution, Tropical Ecosystems Hub of the National Environmental Research Program, the North Australia Marine Research Alliance and the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre.

Website

<https://www.aims.gov.au/>

Contacts

Townsville office (07) 4753 4444

Darwin office (08) 8920 9240

Perth office (08) 6369 4000

reception@aims.gov.au



Australian Government



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE
OF MARINE SCIENCE

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Indigenous Partnerships Plan

In 2018, AIMS updated its strategic plan to explicitly include new targets for enhanced capability in working alongside Traditional Owners to create new research that joins traditional knowledge with other sciences⁵⁹. AIMS' Indigenous Partnerships Plan sets out the workplan to meet these targets.

Besides strategies to increase the cultural competency of AIMS staff and better understand and incorporate the science and capacity needs of Traditional Owners, the plan establishes a tiered engagement framework to characterise the strength of partnerships and engagement expected across the spectrum of AIMS projects.

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An underpinning principle of the plan is to respect and support the rights, interests and responsibilities for Sea Country that Traditional Owners have exercised for millennia, including the practice of marine observations, monitoring and research.

The vision is to achieve genuine 2-way marine science partnerships between AIMS and Traditional Owners, where projects are co-designed and co-delivered, and outputs co-authored. The plan is focused where the interests of Traditional Owners and AIMS overlap, to deliver science that supports the sustainability of Sea Country resources for future generations.

The [AIMS website](#) is currently being updated to include details about the plan.

Contacts – Indigenous Partnerships

AIMS Indigenous partnerships coordinator

P: (07) 4753 4233

t.forester@aims.gov.au

Research

AIMS has four [research programs](#), three of which are directly relevant to Western Australia:

1. Sustainable Use of North-West Marine Ecosystems
2. Sustainable Coastal Ecosystems and Industries in Tropical Australia
3. Data Technology Innovation

For the past year AIMS and Bardi Jawi rangers have collaborated on a [project to establish baseline data and a monitoring program for seabed habitats and fish within the Bardi Jawi IPA](#). Another AIMS project is the North West [Shoals to Shore](#) project which seeks to inform sustainable development in the region. It includes four research areas:

- Marine noise monitoring and impacts
- Seabed habitats and biodiversity
- Threatened species of the north west
- Understanding the isolated coral reef atolls of the north west shelf

The North Australian Marine Monitoring Alliance (NAMMA) – a concept

Some of the most successful AIMS-Indigenous marine science partnerships have been in marine monitoring. These projects address priorities of both AIMS and Indigenous Sea Country groups; generate genuine 2-way knowledge sharing of traditional knowledge and western science; and result in significant capacity building.

AIMS is currently having discussions with many groups to explore and seek feedback on the concept of establishing an alliance of marine monitoring capability right across Northern Australia. This may create an opportunity to share data and experiences and analyse combined data to look at broad cross-regional or national trends as well as the local Sea Country scale.

AIMS is currently having discussions about this concept with Traditional Owners and representative Indigenous groups as well as other research organisations and government agencies who already conduct marine monitoring in some areas with Traditional Owners.

Reef Restoration methods to improve reef resilience in the face of climate change – an opportunity

A recent study showed that for 75 per cent of Western Australian reef systems with long-term data of between five and 26 years, coral cover is currently at, or near, the lowest on record⁶⁰. We know reefs are under pressure from global climate change, cyclones and extreme weather events, and local human activities.

AIMS studies the ability of reef populations to adapt to stress and environmental changes. This includes studying the potential of coral to evolve to become more tolerant; how coral populations that seem to be more tolerant are connected to areas that are losing their coral; and how dispersal of coral larvae after spawning from resilient areas, can assist recovery of impacted areas.

Traditional Owners and sea rangers may be interested in partnering in this research, which may lead to developing feasible interventions that rangers could use, to assist reef areas to become more resilient.

11.2 Geoscience Australia

Since 2001 Geoscience Australia has been Australia's national geoscience organisation, providing a range of earth science related services and functions. In addition to earth observations from space, its focus includes natural hazards, environmental issues, climate change impacts, groundwater, marine and coastal research, carbon capture/storage and vegetation monitoring.

Research and knowledge topics

Geoscience Australia has the following research and knowledge topics:

- [Astronomical Information](#)
- [Disciplines and Techniques](#) (includes marine survey)
- [Earth Observation from Space](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [National Location Information](#)
- [Community Safety](#)
- [Marine and Coastal](#)
- [Minerals](#)
- [Positioning and Navigation](#)
- [Water](#)



Australian Government
Geoscience Australia

Contacts

Senior advisor on land access and Indigenous engagement

c/- GA Head Office

Cnr Jerrabomberra Ave and Hindmarsh Drive, Symonston ACT 2609

GPO Box 378 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

1800 800 173

clientservices@ga.gov.au

Indigenous Employment Strategy 2016-18

Geoscience Australia has an [Indigenous Employment Strategy](#).

Resources

There is a range of products with the potential to support Indigenous managers in their work.

- For example the [Marine and Coastal](#) research theme includes products and interfaces on coasts and estuaries, Australia's marine jurisdiction maps, marine and coastal survey techniques, [seabed mapping](#) and interactive maps.
- [Digital Earth Australia](#) holds a wealth of spatial information with relevance to Sea Country science and management.

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- [OZcoasts](#) (Australian online coastal information) is an example of other resources linked to the Geoscience Australia website.
- [The Australian Marine Spatial Information System \(AMSIS\)](#) is an interactive map service provided by Geoscience Australia, showing various environmental management data.

11.3 Western Australian Museum

For 120 years the Western Australian Museum has the home of the state's scientific and cultural museum collection. The museum has several departments including Aquatic Zoology which holds a large collection of preserved marine species. WAM also has a significant [research](#) program including a body of completed marine research projects and ongoing research in WA waters.

Aboriginal Advisory Committee

The role of the WA Museum's Aboriginal Advisory Committee is to advise the museum on issues around "the care and management of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collections; education and public programs that have Aboriginal content or that are of particular interest to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples; relationships and liaison between the Museum and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities."⁶¹

Contact - general

49 Kew Street, Welshpool Western Australia 6106

Locked Bag 49, Welshpool DC. WA 6986

P: 1300 134 081 or (08) 9431 8413

reception@museum.wa.gov.au



Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan

The Western Australian Museum's [Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2021](#), its second Reconciliation Action Plan, was launched in 2019.

Research program

WAM has been doing research on the natural and cultural heritage of Western Australia for around one hundred and twenty years. WAM's research can be grouped into natural history, maritime heritage, culture and society.

It houses a significant body of [research](#) work with potential interest to Indigenous sea managers. For example:

- [Coral resilience and the optimal management of biodiversity project](#) where the WA Museum works with government and industry to develop strategies for best practice management of Australia's coral diversity.
- [Conservation Systematics of the western Pilbara fauna project](#) which aims to improve and develop in-depth knowledge about composition and systematics of specific terrestrial and marine fauna in the western Pilbara region.
- [Atlas of Living Australia](#) which is a national collaborate project that provides an online repository and access to information on Australia's biodiversity.

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- [Whale research - Aerial Survey off Shark Bay](#) which provided a number of [datasets](#).
- [Marine life of the Dampier Archipelago project](#) which involved a survey that recorded over four thousand marine species, resulting in the region being recognised as one of the most biodiverse in Australia.
- Kimberley Videos including sets of video on the following web pages: [Kimberley](#), [Tides and Islands](#), [Tides and Islands 2012](#), [Kimberley 2013](#)

11.4 Australian Research Council (ARC)

The Australian Research Council is an Australian government entity that funds high quality research across the Country. It also has a role assessing the quality, engagement and impact of funded research and advises the government on research matters.

Funding for research projects is assessed by peer review and delivered through the National Competitive Grants Program in two components: Discovery and Linkage. ARC works with AIATSIS and Universities Australia to develop policies and procedures supporting Indigenous researchers and research.

There are set eligibility criteria for all ARC research grants.

Contact - general

GPO Box 2702, Canberra ACT 2601
Level 2, 11 Lancaster Place
Canberra Airport ACT 2609P: (02) 6287 6600
info@arc.gov.au



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

Linkage Program

The Linkage Program resources cooperative approaches to research. It seeks to improve the use of research outcomes by strengthening linkages between Australian science innovators and internationally. It “promotes national and international research partnerships between researchers and business, industry, community organisations and other publicly funded research agencies.”⁶²

The Linkage Program also seeks to provide opportunities for Indigenous organisations to participate in research projects, centres and hubs by requiring funded organisations to partner with other bodies such as industry, government and non-government organisations.

Linkage program schemes include:

- [ARC Centres of Excellence](#)
- [Industrial Transformation Research Program](#)
- [Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities](#)
- [Linkage Learned Academies Special Projects](#)
- [Linkage Projects](#)
- [Special Research Initiatives](#)
- [Supporting Responses to Commonwealth Science Council Priorities](#)

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Discovery Program

The [Discovery Program](#) seeks to build Australia's research capacity by supporting high quality research by teams and individuals. It also provides research training and career development to Australian researchers and supports international research collaboration in priority areas.

One stream of the discovery program is [Discovery Indigenous](#), which exclusively funds Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander researchers and research.

Statement of Support 2018-2019: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Researchers and Research

Under their statement of support the ARC specifies engagement standards for all funded research:

“Researchers are required to build strategies for enabling collaboration with Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and follow a process of meaningful engagement and reciprocity with individuals and/or communities, as applicable, in accordance with the:

- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Guidelines for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies (2012)
- Australia Council for the Arts Indigenous Cultural Protocols for Producing Indigenous Music; Writing; Visual Arts; Media Arts; and Performing Arts (2007)
- Ethical conduct in research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities: Guidelines for researchers and stakeholders (2018)
- Keeping research on track II (2018)
- National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007) – updated 2018.”⁶³

11.5 Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is Australia's national science research agency. It is a long-standing federal government body formed by the *Science and Industry Research Act 1949*. CSIRO employs over five thousand staff members within fifty five locations in Australia and has three International offices.

Some key CSIRO research themes:

- Animals and Plants
- Environment
- Farming and Food Production
- Future Science Platforms
- Health
- Indigenous Engagement
- Information Technology
- Major Initiatives
- Mining and Manufacturing
- Renewables and Energy
- Astronomy and Space

CSIRO's research and development business units:

- Agriculture and food
- Astronomy and Space Science
- Health and Biosecurity
- Data 61
- Energy
- Land and Water
- Mineral Resources
- Oceans and Atmosphere
- Manufacturing
- Australian Animal Health Laboratory

Indigenous Science Program

Through their CSIRO Indigenous Science Program, the organisation is moving from co-delivery of projects, to co-design, and now co-innovation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. CSIRO provides a range of initiatives and research streams relevant to Indigenous Country science, science capacity and management in Western Australia⁶⁴.



Indigenous-driven science solutions for a sustainable future

CSIRO works with Indigenous communities and organisations across Australia to develop Indigenous-driven science solutions for a sustainable future.

Enterprises on Country

'Our work with Indigenous partners is developing methods and information to support sustainable land and Sea Country-based enterprises and economies and successful enterprise models'. A few Western Australian relevant examples include:

- [Aboriginal fire knowledge in the Great Western Woodlands](#) where CSIRO staff work with Ngadju people support re-engagement in the management of Western Australia's Great Western Woodlands
- [Research priorities for Indigenous Protected Areas](#) where CSIRO worked with National Environmental Science Programme (NESP) to help assess research priorities for IPAs in Northern Australia also identifying social, economic and cultural benefits of Indigenous Protected Areas

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- [Knowledge brokering for Indigenous land management](#) which is currently working with Indigenous people as co-researchers to deliver tailored knowledge brokering tools, knowledge sharing opportunities amongst Indigenous land and sea managers and an assessment of the favourable conditions for knowledge brokering to improve Indigenous adaptive management of the local environment.
- [Indigenous knowledge and environmental management](#). CSIRO has also worked with a number of Indigenous language groups to develop seasonal calendars including the Ngadju and Gooniyandi people of Western Australia.

Advances in Indigenous STEM education

Through their Indigenous STEM education team CSIRO runs six programs that cater for Indigenous students from primary school through to tertiary education and employment:

1. [“Science Pathways for Indigenous Communities](#) targets primary and middle school students in remote Indigenous communities and uses on-Country projects as the context for learning science linked to Indigenous ecological knowledge.
2. [Inquiry for Indigenous Science Students](#) targets middle-school students in mainstream metropolitan and regional schools, using hands-on inquiry-based projects to increase student engagement and achievement in science.
3. [PRIME Futures](#) targets Foundation to Year 9 students in metropolitan and regional schools and uses the YuMi Deadly Maths approach to improve student outcomes in mathematics.
4. [Aboriginal Summer School for Excellence in Technology and Science \(ASSETS\)](#) is a nine-day residential program for high-achieving Indigenous Year 10 students with an ongoing leadership and support program to nurture students through Years 11 and 12
5. [Indigenous STEM Awards](#) rewards Indigenous students, teachers, schools and scientists as well as STEM champions who have supported Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples achievements in STEM.
6. [Bachelor of Science \(Extended\)](#) A degree program that provides a supported pathway to complete a mainstream Bachelor of Science at the University of Melbourne for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who show potential, but who might otherwise not have access to such an opportunity”⁶⁵

Independent Indigenous Reference Group^h

CSIRO is currently scoping the future of how the organisation conducts collaborative science with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. CSIRO have invested efforts to support a dedicated team at CSIRO to scope and co-develop a new, innovative, culturally respectful pathways and science programs with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The scoping of the Indigenous Science Program involves co-designing with an Independent Indigenous Reference Group.

^h Previously known as the First Nations Reference Group

Contacts

Office of Indigenous Engagement

OfficeofIndigenousEngagement@csiro.au

CSIRO's Reconciliation Action Plan

Through the CSIRO Office of Indigenous Engagement, the first CSIRO Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) was established in 2016 and the organisation has updated its commitments through the second RAP which can be accessed [here](#).

Resources

There is a large collection of research and resources relevant to Sea Country Management available through the CSIRO website available [here](#).

12. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH MARINE SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT AGENDAS

12.1 Parks Australia

Parks Australia is the federal government agency responsible for management of commonwealth marine and terrestrial parks and reserves⁶⁶. It is part of the federal environment portfolio ([Department of the Environment and Energy](#)).

Contacts

Marine Protected Areas Branch, Parks Australia
 Department of the Environment and Energy
 Edgar Waite Building, 203 Channel Highway
 Kingston TAS 7050
 1800 069 352
marineparks@environment.gov.au



Vision

Parks Australia's vision is for "healthy and resilient marine parks that protect nature and culture and are valued and enjoyed by the community now and into the future." With reference to all Australians, Parks Australia seeks to ensure that:

- "the natural, cultural, socio-economic and heritage values of marine parks are understood, appreciated and conserved
- marine parks support jobs and businesses, providing multiple benefits to regional communities and the economy
- people have opportunities to enjoy marine parks
- visitors and tourists can enjoy world-class nature-based experiences in marine parks
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and marine park users are partners in managing marine parks."⁶⁷

Where are Australian Marine Parks?

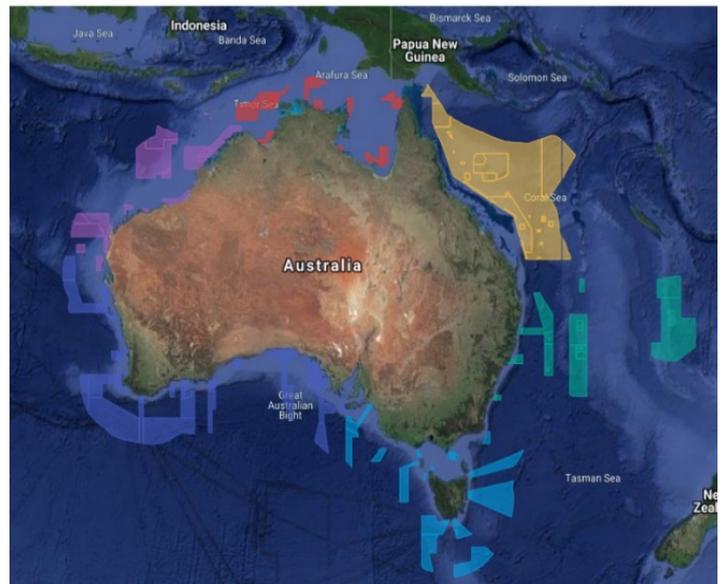


Figure 14 Map showing the network of Australian marine parks across federal waters in the southwest (purple), north west (pink), and northern network (red).

<https://parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/parks/>

Australian Marine Parks

In 2017, Parks Australia declared a network of 58 [marine parks](#) in federal waters (further than five nautical miles out from the coast) around Australia.

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Called Australian Marine Parks, these are divided up into regional networks for the purposes of management planning.

Management programs

For each network, Parks Australia has developed implementation plans, each detailing objectives and actions within seven [management programs](#):

- Communication, education and awareness
- Tourism and visitor experience
- Indigenous engagement
- Marine science
- Assessments and authorisations
- Park protection and management
- Compliance

Indigenous engagement principles

Together with Indigenous representatives, Parks Australia developed a [set of 8 principles](#) to guide Parks Australia's approach to Indigenous engagement in marine park management.

Indigenous engagement program

Parks Australia's [Indigenous engagement program](#) applies to the management of all Australian Marine Parks so as to "ensure we achieve outcomes and benefits that support social, cultural and economic benefits for Traditional Owners." ⁶⁸

To achieve this Parks Australia staff will work with Indigenous organisations, land councils and Indigenous ranger groups to create collaborative projects, to protect cultural values and to support Indigenous people to undertake marine park management work such as monitoring, threat mitigation and surveillance activities.

Marine science program

Parks Australia's [Marine Science Program](#) seeks to work in partnership with scientific agencies and researchers to:

- "increase understanding of marine park values, pressures and adequacy of responses
- improve understanding of the effectiveness of park management in protecting park values
- inform decision making and improve evidence-based decisions." ⁶⁹

12.2 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions is the Western Australian government department responsible enactment of the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and *CALM Act 1984*. Created in 2017 from amalgamation of the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, Rottnest Island Authority, Zoological Parks Authority and the Department of Parks and Wildlife⁷⁰, it is better known as the department that manages Western Australia's conservation estate.

Joint management and Aboriginal involvement

Amendments to the CALM Act and Regulations in 2012 laid the legal foundation for DBCA to develop greater [involvement of Aboriginal people](#) in management of conservation estate as well as formal Joint Management arrangements between the department and Indigenous people (see [Policy Statement 87 Aboriginal Joint Management](#))

Since then a growing number of marine and terrestrial reserves have their own formal Joint Management arrangements between DBCA and Traditional Owners groups, Joint Management plans and Joint Management boards consisting of local Indigenous representatives and DBCA staff.

As at the time of writing the following Joint Management plans for marine and coastal areas are available on the DBCA website:

available on the DBCA website:

- Eighty Mile Beach
- Lalang-garram Camden Sound
- North Lalang-garram and Horizontal Falls
- North Kimberley
- Yawuru Birragun
- Yawuru Nagulagun Roebuck Bay
- Nyinggulu (Ningaloo) coastal reserves (draft)



Customary activities

Changes in the CALM Act and Regulations also provide legal rights for Aboriginal people to undertake non-commercial cultural business of conservation state in Western Australia. Details can be found in the [Aboriginal Customary Activities Policy](#).

Aboriginal Ranger Program

The DBCA [Aboriginal Ranger program](#) is delivering around \$20million of funding over two rounds for Indigenous rangers in Western Australia.

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Round one recipients (2017-18) include the saltwater groups of:

- Goldfields Land and Sea Council
- Esperance Tjaltjiraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation
- South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council Aboriginal Corporation
- Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation
- Yanunijarra Aboriginal Corporation and Karajarri Traditional Lands Association
- Nyamba Buru Yawuru Ltd
- Nyul Nyul and Bardi Jawi Women Rangers

Round two applications closed in early 2019 with recipients yet to be announced.

Contacts – Aboriginal Ranger Program

Aboriginal Ranger Program Coordinator

(08) 9219 9933

aboriginalrangerprogram@dbca.wa.gov.au.

Reconciliation Action Plan

DBCA has its own [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) which includes a number of objectives relevant to Sea Country science and management. For example:

- “Aboriginal ranger teams to undertake research and monitoring activities on Country that align with departmental priorities.
- Work collaboratively with Representative Body, Prescribed Body Corporates, ranger teams and other research providers to co-design research and monitoring projects that are culturally appropriate, mitigate threats and ensure persistence of biodiversity on Country.
- Co-design research and data-sharing agreements with Traditional Owners and their Prescribed Body Corporate or Representative Body, to enable research to occur on Country. This research needs to be culturally appropriate, acknowledge and enable Traditional Bio-cultural Knowledge and the intellectual property rights of Traditional Owners.
- Develop a procedure to support the aspirations of Aboriginal people in naming of the department’s areas, features and assets; ensuring cultural protocols are followed with Traditional Owners who have authority to do so and that the name suggested is appropriate.”⁷¹

Contact - Reconciliation Action Plan

Manager, Aboriginal Participation and Involvement

Aboriginal Heritage Unit Parks and Visitors Services Division

(08) 9219 8283 rhonda.murphy@dbca.wa.gov.au

Science Strategic plan

DBCA has its own science branch including both marine and terrestrial plants, animals and ecosystems. Within [DBCA’s strategic science plan](#) there are five theme areas:

- Biodiversity and conservation

- Fire management
- Natural and cultural values
- Our community and partners
- Our people

Marine research program

The DBCA [marine research program](#) undertakes research and monitoring of marine ecosystems to make sure that conservation and management of Western Australia's state marine parks is based on sound science. Key activities and projects currently include:

- Developing science plans for new Kimberley marine parks
- Monitoring seagrass, algae, fish and social values across marine reserves
- Research and monitoring of threatened marine life including sea turtles, dugong, seals & sealions, whales and dolphins
- Research on the importance of seaweeds to tropical fish, fish recruitment, marine ecosystem recovery from disturbance, intertidal reef communities
- Leadership of the Kimberley Marine Research Program funded through the WAMSI I project

Resources

DBCA online features a number of [databases and publications](#) with relevance to Saltwater Country management. These include:

- [Standard operating procedures](#)
- [Conservation Science Western Australia Journal](#)
- [Nuytsia - WA's Journal of Systematic Botany](#)
- [Staff publications](#) and research papers
- [Information sheets](#) on research findings
- [Plans and reports](#)
- [Landscape Magazine](#)
- [Naturemap](#)
- [Florabase](#)
- [data.wa.gov.au](#)
- Access to the Biodiversity and Conservation Science library

12.3 Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development of Western Australia (DPIRD) is a recent amalgamation of several WA state departments into one: Fisheries, Agriculture and Food and Regional Development plus regional development commission staff.



For the purposes of this snapshot summary, the focus will be on the Fisheries section of DPIRD.

Fisheries contacts – Metro

Main Office (Perth)
1300 374 731
Research (08) 9203 0220
Research Labs (08) 9203 0111
Biosecurity (08) 6551 4444
Fish Health (08) 9368 3357
Operations (08) 9432 8000

District and regional offices

Albany (08) 9845 7400
Broome District (08) 9193 8600
Bunbury (08) 9721 2688
Busselton (08) 9752 2152
Carnarvon (08) 9956 3333
Denham (08) 9948 2250
Exmouth (08) 9949 2755

Geraldton (08) 9920 8400
Fremantle (08) 9432 8000
Jurien (08) 9652 1048
Hillarys (08) 9203 0111
Karratha (08) 9144 4337
Kununurra (08) 9166 4000
Mandurah (08) 9583 7800

Aboriginal Fishing Strategy

The former Department of Fisheries, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation and the Department of Indigenous Affairs jointly published the WA [Aboriginal Fishing Strategy](#) in 2003 (Fisheries Management Paper #168) as a draft report to the then Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries from the Chairman of the Aboriginal Fishing Strategy Working Group. A significant body of work, it details a number of recommendations in the areas of customary fishing, involvement in fisheries management and economic development.

Customary Fishing Policy

Under a [policy](#) developed through work with Indigenous groups and stakeholders in other sectors, DPIRD acknowledge the importance of customary fishing to the continuing Aboriginal cultures in Western Australia, and to ensuring a comprehensive and sustainable integrated fisheries management framework. This policy has been instituted in amendments to the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994*, which provides the 'head powers' required to define and protect customary fishing rights, and the capacity to regulate customary fishing to ensure sustainability of fish stocks.

Aboriginal Economic Development (AED) unit

The focus of DPIRD's Aboriginal Economic Development unit is pursuing the development and implementation of economic opportunities across DPIRD's remit of regional development, agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries. There are currently a range of projects being discussed that present opportunities at various locations around the state.

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Staff from the Aboriginal Economic Development unit and DPIRD's policy and science areas form an internal working group to ensure that current and planned DPIRD activities are well understood and appropriately cross-referenced.

Traditional Owner & Indigenous Ranger collaboration in Kimberley Marine Park research

Through Traditional Owner consultation since 2012, Indigenous Rangers from several saltwater groups have collaborated in a range of fisheries research and monitoring activities centred on Kimberley State Marine Parks. Specific activities that Indigenous Rangers have been involved in include the deployment of baited remote underwater video stations, mud crab and demersal fish trap surveys, and gillnet surveys of nearshore fish.

Involvement has ranged from fee-for-service arrangements for specific projects to opportunistic involvement in fish sampling activities, with trips ranging in duration from 1-2 days to extended periods (1 – 2 weeks) at sea aboard large research vessels. Rangers have been closely involved in a number of ways, for example by providing technical support for research activities and essential local knowledge that ensures work can be completed safely and effectively.

Indigenous ranger training in biosecurity

In 2017, around sixty Indigenous Rangers from Bidyadanga to Kununurra attended Fisheries training in aquatic biosecurity defence in the Kimberley. It was envisaged that these rangers would provide an early warning system for marine biosecurity threats.

Fisheries said that “Indigenous rangers are instrumental in managing the land, waterways and protected species in the Kimberley region. Their deep local knowledge of the environment, strong connection to the region and regular patrols to remote locations puts them in an ideal position to notice and report anything unusual.”⁷²

Fisheries science

DPIRD has its own Fisheries Science and Resource Assessment division employing around one hundred staff. Its main role is to provide scientific findings and objective advice in support of timely management decisions for conservation and sustainability of the state's aquatic resources.

The division runs ongoing research, monitoring and assessment programs focussed on increasing our understanding of the state's major fish stocks and marine ecosystems, with information made available to the WA government, industry, fishing groups and the public.

Fish stock sustainability assessments are undertaken using a holistic Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) approach which considers all ecological resources, from fish to dolphins and coral reefs, as well as economic and social factors, in deciding how to manage fisheries. This section of DPIRD has a strong presence in Sea Country and facilitates the marine ecosystem monitoring and assessment mentioned above.

As part of the larger DPIRD departmental merger process, the structure of its Fisheries' Science and Resource Assessment Division is currently under review. At present, it has four major branches:

- [Biodiversity and biosecurity](#)

- [Finfish fisheries](#)
- [Invertebrate fisheries](#)
- [Stock assessment and data analysis](#)

The division has a range of research vessels including the larger RV Naturaliste. Commercial fishing boats are also chartered for research expeditions.

Regional and metropolitan education

DPIRD have a range of community and schools Fisheries [education programs](#) that may be of interest to Indigenous saltwater communities. These include excursions and incursions around the state. The programs are supported by a range of education resources, such as [Marine Waters](#), an online resource that includes a wide range of curriculum linked lessons, fact sheets, posters, videos and other educational resources specific to Western Australia's unique aquatic environment. There is also a [Perth Beachcombers' Education Kit](#).

Contacts – education outreach

- Jessamy Bennett (Northern Region) (08) 9193 8600
jessamy.bennett@dpird.wa.gov.au
- Michelle Condy (South West) (08) 9752 2152
michelle.condy@dpird.wa.gov.au
- Tahryn Thompson (South Coast & Kimberley Marine Parks) (08) 9845 7400
tahryn.thompson@dpird.wa.gov.au
- Kylie Outhwaite (South Coast) (08) 9845 7400
kylie.outhwaite@dpird.wa.gov.au
- Kylie Chatfield (Indian Ocean Territories) (08) 9203 0345
Kylie.Chatfield@dpird.wa.gov.au

Research partnerships

DPIRD maintains [research partnerships](#) with a number of organisations including DBCA, WAMSI, CSIRO, AIMS, FRDC and IOMRC.

Resources

A large body of fisheries related research of potential use to Indigenous Sea Country managers is available through the [scientific and research reports](#) webpage.



Figure 15 Marine management & research activities are conceptualised by fisheries region.

<https://www.fish.wa.gov.au/Sustainability-and-Environment/Fisheries-Science/Pages/default.aspx>

13. LARGE-SCALE MARINE RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

13.1 National Environmental Science Program

Funded by the Australian Government and administered by the Department of the Environment and Energy, the National Environmental Science Program (NESP) is a 'longer term' investment designed to deliver applied environmental science with a focus on biodiversity and climate systems research. It was launched in 2015 and is due for completion in 2021. The Australian Government has a long-term commitment to environmental research to support evidence-based decision making, early planning for a future environmental research program to succeed NESP has commenced.

Indigenous engagement and participation in research is one of the NESP's defining features. The program builds on the previous National Environmental Research Program (2011-15) and the Commonwealth Environmental Research Facilities (2007-10).

NESP research activity is comprised of six research hubs, many with their own Indigenous engagement and participation strategy:

- Clean Air and Urban Landscapes
- Marine Biodiversity
- Threatened Species
- Earth Systems and Climate Change
- Northern Australia Environmental Resources
- Tropical Water



The Marine Biodiversity Hub and the Tropical Water Quality Hub are the primary focal points for coastal and marine research. The Marine Biodiversity Hub has a national research focus, including a number of projects relevant to Western Australia (see below for more details on the Marine Biodiversity Hub). The Tropical Water Quality Hub has a number of projects focused on coastal and marine research in Queensland, in particular the Great Barrier Reef. The Earth Systems and Climate Change Hub has a project focused on climate change effects in Shark Bay, Western Australia.

The Northern Australia Hub has a number of projects focused in the coastal zone of Northern Australia and these include topics like migratory shorebird, marine debris and the benefits of Indigenous land and sea management programs Indigenous habitat use in the Gulf of Carpentaria, Northern Territory.

Website

<https://www.environment.gov.au/science/nesp>

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Resources

The NESP has two mechanisms for allocating research funds for environmental research: approval of projects through each hub's annual research planning process; and, approval of projects through its emerging priorities fund. The vast majority of NESP funds are allocated through the annual research planning processes.

Each of the six Hubs is required to undergo an annual research planning process to allocate funds to research. At the time this document was written the program was in its last year of annual planning with all research needing to be completed by the end of 2020. The final annual research plans are expected to be approved in December 2019.

The NESP has a small budget for emerging priorities to allow the program to be responsive to the changing needs of environmental decision-makers. These research needs can be identified by the Minister for the Environment, the Department or external parties. Criteria for 'emerging priority' funds can be found on the website.

Funding recipients are required to contribute at least equivalent co-investment to the project. Research funded under NESP must address the needs of the Australian Government and other stakeholders in developing evidence-based policy and improving environmental management.

NESP Indigenous Engagement and Participation Strategy Guidelines

Developed in 2014 to ensure effective integration of Indigenous aspirations and outcomes, the guidelines can be found [here](#). Some innovative examples of engagement and participation can be found within the individual hub strategies (see examples below).

NESP Threatened Species Hub - innovative engagement and participation strategies

The NESP threatened species hub established an Indigenous Reference Group (IRG) in 2017, in recognition of the value of Indigenous knowledges to species management. Its Indigenous membership is diverse, with one member from Broome, two from north Qld and one from northern NSW⁷³.

The hub is currently collaborating with several Indigenous groups on specific threatened species projects. While most are local to the hub one is an overarching project around ways to increase and formalise Indigenous involvement in threatened species management.

Contact for follow-up:

NESP Threatened Species Hub [Indigenous Liaison Officer](#)
Brad Moggridge c/- Threatened Species Recovery Hub
Room 532, Goddard Building, The University of Queensland
St Lucia, QLD 4072, Australia
P: (07) 3346 7541

NESP Marine Biodiversity Hub

The NESP Marine Biodiversity Hub, hosted by University of Tasmania, builds on earlier programs to provide information and understanding for biodiversity management and conservation in the marine environment, with funding of \$23.88 million over six years through the University of Tasmania. The Hub brings together 10 research partners and management

agencies from around Australia. They are: the Australian Institute of Marine Science, Charles Darwin University, CSIRO, Geoscience Australia, the Integrated Marine Observing System, Museums Victoria, New South Wales Department of Primary Industries, New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage, University of Tasmania, and University of Western Australia.

Research users include the Australian fisheries management agencies, the fishing and aquaculture sectors, the Department of the Environment, the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority, Parks Australia, the offshore oil and gas sector, environmental non-government organisations and Indigenous interests.

The NESP marine Biodiversity Hub developed its own Indigenous Engagement and Participation Strategy (Version 1.1) in 2015. The Strategy can be downloaded [here](#).

There are some innovative ideas contained within the strategy. Extracts are included below:

- “The Hub may allocate resources (in collaboration with other NESP hubs) for the employment of Indigenous Research Facilitators regionally located across northern Australia. The Hub may also allocate resources for a cultural broker, cultural mentor or other expert to assist with implementation of this strategy.
- Opportunities and support should also be provided for Indigenous participants to represent and promote research projects, activities and findings outside their communities (e.g. at conferences) and to participate in research communication through joint authorships and public presentations.
- Where appropriate the Hub will also inform the [Indigenous Advisory Committee](#) (IAC) on research projects, progress and outcomes.
- It is important to ensure that leaders of projects with significant opportunities for Indigenous engagement allow a realistic amount of time for effective collaboration and project development, implementation and communication
- Allowing time for community meetings as well as social interaction with the community will assist in building stronger relationships.
- Where appropriate, the Hub will provide resources to project leaders for communicating their research and sharing knowledge with Traditional Owners and Indigenous people, for example to develop and package bilingual products or those that meaningfully integrate Indigenous knowledge.”⁷⁴

The Marine Biodiversity Hub advances Indigenous engagement and participation in two main ways: the first through select research projects. The Hub’s research is organised into the following research themes:

- [Threatened and migratory species](#)
- [Supporting management decision making](#)
- [Understanding pressures on the marine environment](#)
- [Biophysical, economic and social assessments](#)
- [Science for a sustainable Australia](#)
- [Responding to emerging priorities](#)

The Hub has several research projects with early stage Indigenous engagement in Western Australia, these include; seagrass restoration in Shark Bay, and mapping Indigenous values in the South-west Capes Region and surveying fish communities in the Ningaloo Australian Marine Park. There are also a number of nationally focused projects with relevance to Sea Country interests in WA, for example a national shark action plan and improving our understanding of pressures on the marine environment.

The second way the Hub advances Indigenous engagement and participation in research is through partnering with the Australia Marine Sciences Association ([AMSA](#)) to promote Indigenous engagement and participation in Australia's marine research by convening annual Indigenous workshops. The 4th AMSA Indigenous Workshop was convened in Fremantle in 2019 and focused on promoting collaborative and respectful partnerships for Sea Country research and monitoring in Western Australia.

Contact for follow-up:

Deputy Director and Knowledge Broker, Paul Hedge
NESP Marine Biodiversity Hub, Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, UTAS
CSIRO GPO Box 1538, Hobart TAS 7001 Australia
P: (03) 6232 5023
www.nerpmarine.edu.au

NESP Tropical Water Hub - innovative engagement & participation strategies

The NESP Tropical Water Hub's Indigenous Engagement and Participation Strategy Includes reference to the Guidelines for Research in the Torres Strait and to eight Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreements (TUMRAs). The strategy can be found [here](#).

NESP Northern Australia Environmental Resources Hub – Guidelines

This hub is in the process of developing '[Our Knowledge Our Way 'Guidelines](#)' as a resource for Indigenous land managers to learn from the experience of others about issues and options for bringing Indigenous knowledge into management and economic development⁷⁵.

13.2 Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre

Located within the University of Western Australia campus (Crawley WA) and at the refurbished Department of Fisheries marine centre in Waterman's Bay, the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre ([IOMRC](#)) is a purpose built facility bringing together four of Australia's leading marine research organisations:

- AIMS
- CSIRO
- DPIRD
- UWA

With a charter of “leading scientific research into one of the world's least explored marine environments”⁷⁶, the IOMRC collaboration focuses on the broad areas of marine climate change, resource sustainability and conservation.

Research will focus on the “most important drivers of innovation in the marine sector – climate change, the sustainable use of marine resources, conserving marine biodiversity, coastal zone management, and security and safety” as identified in ‘[A Marine Nation, National framework for marine research and innovation](#)’ released by the Oceans Policy Science Advisory Group (OPSAG) the in 2009⁷⁷.

This framework encompasses: exploration, discovery and sustainability; observations, modelling and prediction; marine industries development; engagement and knowledge transfer

Within the Engagement and Knowledge Transfer theme, sits a community program that seeks to inform and engage the wider community on the values, challenges and opportunities of the Australian marine environment. It states that “the use of Indigenous knowledge and the engagement of Indigenous Australians in the management of Australia's coastal and marine domain will be a special focus.”⁷⁸

More recently, the OPSAG was superseded by the National Marine Science Committee, which released the [National Marine Science Plan 2015-2025](#): Driving the development of Australia's blue economy⁷⁹. This document states that an ‘Increase in involvement in marine research & monitoring – Recognition of cultural connection with ocean- Collaboration between Indigenous and western knowledge’ as being one of four community benefits of an effective Blue Economy.

13.3 Fisheries Research & Development Commission

The Fisheries Research and Development Commission (FRDC) is a collaboration between the Australian Government and the fishing and aquaculture sectors. It has legislative responsibility to the federal minister for agriculture and water resources. FRDC's key focus is to plan and invest in fisheries research, development and extension activities in Australia, including the communication of research findings, extension activities and commercialisation.

The FRDC coordinates government and fishing/aquaculture industry investment into its research, development and extension activities. On behalf of the Australian government it ensures that its research supports the sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture resources. "This means that a significant proportion of funding is directed at research that has a benefit for the three sectors of the fishing industry: commercial (wild catch and aquaculture), recreational and indigenous."⁸⁰

Indigenous Reference Group

In 2012, the FRDC established its [Indigenous Reference Group](#) (IRG), an advisory body to the FRDC that contributed to the development of an Fisheries and Aquaculture Research, Development and Extension Plan. Its scope is "primarily to ensure that fishing and seafood industry focused research, development and extension delivers improved economic, environmental and social benefits to Australia's Indigenous people."⁸¹

The IRG has five overarching [research, development and extension priorities](#) that guide their activities:

- Primacy for Indigenous People
- Acknowledgement of Indigenous Cultural Practices
- Self-determination of indigenous rights to use and manage cultural assets and resources
- Economic development opportunities arising from Indigenous people's cultural assets and associated rights
- Capacity building opportunities for Indigenous people are enhanced.



Fisheries and Aquaculture Research, Development and Extension Plan

The FRDC [extension plan](#) refers to the Indigenous fishing sector in several locations. It includes an Indigenous fishing sector profile that acknowledges the cultural, social and economic benefit of Indigenous fishing to communities etc. It also specifies that "a key area is advancing appropriate governance and economic models to best support individual and community economic development."⁸²

Research projects

The FRDC have delivered a range of research projects, [some](#) of which may be of relevance to Indigenous WA Sea Country managers. A small selection of recent FRDC projects supported by their Indigenous Reference Group are included below to provide an idea of related research scope:

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- Ensuring that fishing and seafood industry focused RD&E delivers improved economic, environmental and social benefits to Australia's Indigenous people [FRDC Project 2017-132](#)
- Mapping livelihood values of Indigenous customary fishing [FRDC Project 2015-205](#). The [report](#) recently completed by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies.
- Sharing and preserving knowledge through story [FRDC Project 2018-135](#)
- Indigenous Capacity Building Program [FRDC Project 2017-069](#). This is a current project, with the following objectives:
 1. Develop a national, culturally appropriate capacity building program for involvement of Indigenous Australians in fisheries management.
 2. Build capacity of 20 Indigenous Australians to participate in a range of fisheries management, policy and research and development processes by increasing their knowledge, skills and experience...and capacity to participate in relevant committees and workshops and providing an introduction to leadership and building leadership knowledge.
 3. Increase the understanding of managers, researchers and MAC and RAG members of potential contributions of Indigenous Australians and cultural aspects of their own engagement processes.
 4. Foster an ongoing legacy of the project to enable capacity building to be undertaken regularly as required.
- Improving data on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander marine resource use to inform decision-making [FRDC Project 2018-016](#). This is a current project being run by the Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA).

The project objectives are:

1. Conduct national workshops to identify appropriate methodologies for collecting spatially and temporally resolved catch and effort information for a range of indigenous fisheries.
2. Investigate and evaluate approaches for assessing the relative importance of key species to traditional fishing to inform multi-sectoral decision-making processes.

Other historical and Indigenous-related projects are listed on their FRDC Indigenous Reference Group [webpage](#).

Contacts

FRDC IRG Executive Officer
38 Lake Ridge Ct, Lake Macdonald Qld 4563
Tel: 0401 692 601
calogeras@iinet.net.au

Resources

The FRDC delivers research grant rounds each year. Criteria for funding is [here](#); call for applications information is [here](#) and relevant priorities can be found [here](#) Including the projects listed as completed above, the FRDC website provides a large number of FRDC funded [final reports into fisheries related topics](#) on their website dating back decades.

13.4 Western Australian Marine Science Institution

The Western Australian Marine Science Institution (WAMSI) is a leading marine science collaboration between state and federal government, industry and academic institutions. It is based in the Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre, Western Australia. See more [here](#).

WAMSI was established in 2006 to facilitate Western Australia's integrated and coordinated approach to complex marine research issues to inform the sustainable use and management of the marine estate. WAMSI has had a 13 year legacy of scoping, developing and undertaking large-scale, strategic marine research in Western Australia. The partnership comprises 14 research providers that collectively provide enormous capability and capacity to plan and implement multidisciplinary marine science programs.

In the period 2006-2011, WAMSI planned and implemented marine research programs, with an estimated value of ~\$93 million, for:

- Ningaloo marine conservation
- Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- Climate change and ecosystems
- Oceanography for offshore industry



In the period 2010-2018, WAMSI planned and implemented marine research including:

- Dredging Science Node (DSN); ~\$19 million
- Kimberley Marine Research Program (KMRP); ~\$30 million

Blueprint for Marine Science

The **Blueprint for Marine Science 2050** (the Blueprint) was an independent, objective assessment of the priorities of end-users of marine science for future research in Western Australia. The Blueprint was stakeholder focused to ensure any resulting research agenda was guided by real world priorities.

WAMSI uses the Blueprint as a strategic planning instrument for future large-scale research programs in Western Australia. Currently WAMSI is developing science and investment plans for three bioregions and a program to increase efficiency in marine science. Those plans include:

- Shark Bay
- Metropolitan West Coast
- South Coast
- Information Management

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Plans are developed through an established WAMSI process, which involves identifying and understanding the needs of stakeholders (including the WA Government, industry and the community) and reviewing previous knowledge outputs to establish if those needs/questions have been answered previously or constitute a gap in knowledge. Indigenous engagement and involvement of Traditional Owners is a focus across all WAMSI research projects.

The planning process provides an understanding of knowledge gaps and science priorities for each area of focus, which are used to attract funding from WAMSI partners and interested stakeholders. Strategic, long-term opportunities for multiple end-users of marine science are identified and progressed through the Blueprint. It is envisaged that the Blueprint be revisited every 5 years.

Opportunities for involvement in science and investment planning are identified through stakeholder consultation during the WAMSI planning process. WAMSI would be glad to hear from groups interested in contributing to the planning process.

Resources

WAMSI provides access to a large body of work including research documents and the raw data upon which research is based.ⁱ

Resources are provided in the following areas:

- [Kimberley Marine Research Program](#)
- [Dredging science node](#)
- [Blueprint for Marine Science](#)
- [WAMSI research 2007-11](#)
- [Research articles](#)
- [Project reports](#)
- [General products](#)

Contacts

WAMSI
 Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre
 The University of Western Australia (M095)
 64 Fairway, Crawley WA 6009
 P: (08) 6488 4570
www.wamsi.org.au
info@wamsi.org.au

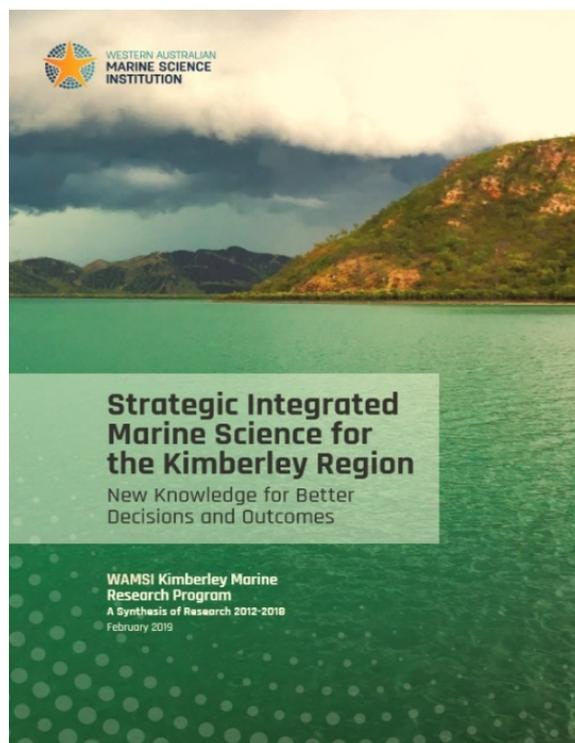


Figure 16 Kimberley Marine Research Program synthesis report (2019) is available at <https://www.wamsi.org.au/kimberley-marine-research-program>

ⁱ Pending publishing embargo periods

14. KEY WEST AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

14.1 University of Western Australia

Indigenous Research strategy

The University of Western Australia (UWA) is developing an Indigenous Research strategy for UWA, which plans to include a framework for Indigenous research as well as identify specific protocols and processes for particular regions, groups and research disciplines^j.

The [strategy framework](#) is presented as 23 strategic goals 2017 - 2020 spread across four areas:

- **Indigenous Education** (Indigenous students and Indigenous curriculum)
- **Indigenous Research** (Indigenous researcher capacity, Indigenous community research capacity and Quality research)
- **Community and Engagement** (Indigenous development and alumni, Aboriginal communities and organisations)
- **People, Policy and Planning** (Indigenous workforce strategy, Indigenous governance, Cultural competency)

For the purposes of this document, we draw attention to several of the strategic goals:

- #10. Recognition of Indigenous knowledge and knowledge holders.
- #11. Enable culturally determined research, setting research agendas that meet Indigenous needs.
- #12. Establish research training that builds skills base and is accredited.
- #13. Promote Indigenous research protocols and guidelines - community and discipline specific.
- #15. Embed Indigenous engagement in research decision-making.
- #16. Establish Indigenous knowledge as a strategic research priority.
- #20. Strengthen Engagement and Partnerships with Aboriginal Communities and Organisations.
- #21. Ensure Indigenous engagement in decision-making.

^j Pers. coms

Contact for follow up:

Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous Education,
School of Indigenous Studies
M303, Perth WA 6009 Australia
P: (08) 6488 7829
jill.milroy@uwa.edu.au



UWA Oceans Institute

Within its Coasts and Communities research theme, UWA seeks to “ensure the sustainability of coasts and communities – including Indigenous and cultural heritage - by delivering key knowledge and practical advice to agencies responsible for coastal management, communities, property and heritage along our coastline.”⁸³

The Institute adheres to the [National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research \(2007\)](#) and the [AIATSIS Guideline for Ethical Research in Australian Indigenous Studies](#) (pers comm).

Contact for follow up:

Peter Veth, Director Oceans Institute
P: (08) 6488 8123
peter.veth@uwa.edu.au

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14.2 Edith Cowan University

Kurongkurl Katitjin

Kurongkurl Katitjin is the centre for Indigenous Australian Education and Research at Edith Cowan University (ECU). While currently having a small research agenda, it helps ECU meet its commitments to Indigenous people in four main ways:

- Engaging with Indigenous people and communities
- Supporting Indigenous students and staff
- Ensuring an environment respectful of diversity
- Contributing to Indigenous community development and sustainability through students, staff and graduates

Old Ways New Ways science outreach team

ECU has a specific science outreach team which seeks to engage Indigenous students in science study and links Aboriginal cultural competency and the “old ways of Aboriginal science with the current or new ways of scientific knowledge.”⁸⁴

Contact - Kurongkurl Katitjin and Old Ways New Ways

Community Partnerships Adviser

Kurongkurl Katitjin, Centre for Indigenous Australian Education and Research

P: (08) 9370 6771

c.bishop@ecu.edu.au

Contact - Reconciliation Action Plan

Strategic and Governance Services Centre

sgsadmin@ecu.edu.au



ECU Reconciliation Action Plan

This [plan](#) details thirty six actions aligned to the three pillars of relationships, respect and opportunities by working within seven themes:

1. Leadership and Governance
2. Cultural Understanding
3. Community Partnerships
4. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Students
5. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Staff
6. Teaching and
7. Research

Of these themes, Community Partnerships and Research are of particular relevance to this document. For examples, within community partnerships, one target is to “Explore opportunities for new relationships/ partnerships with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations and create one new formal partnership.”⁸⁵

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Similarly, two actions from the research theme are: “Establish an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Research Steering Committee to guide ECU researchers in the implementation of protocols, ethics, coordinate resources and support [and] Identify, undertake and promote research which focuses on Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander culture and communities.”⁸⁶

14.3 Murdoch University

Kulbardi Aboriginal Centre

Murdoch university provides support to Indigenous students through its [Kulbardi Aboriginal Centre](#) which seeks to increase Indigenous students in tertiary education through awareness and student support mechanisms. It provides support services in four main areas:

- Welcome to Country protocols
- Engagement and outreach (high school student focus)
- K-track enabling program (supporting students looking to enrol/enrolling at Murdoch)
- Support for Murdoch students.

Contact for follow up:

Manager, Kulbardi Aboriginal Centre

P: (08) 9360 6743

braden.hill@murdoch.edu.au



Reconciliation Action Plan

Murdoch has a [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) 2015-2018 which details numerous actions relevant to supporting Indigenous knowledge in research and ethical conduct standards. For example, Action 2.6 and Action 3.1, both with timelines of 2015:

“**Action 2.6** Disseminate guidelines and protocols to ensure that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research and research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants is culturally safe and methodologically sound.

Target: Guidelines and protocols for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research at Murdoch University to be disseminated. NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct on Research Involving Humans to be disseminated.

Target: Workshop developed and held for those undertaking research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their communities.’

‘**Action 3.1.** Create an adequately funded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Strategy to build Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research capacity.

Target: Create an adequately funded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Strategy to build Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research capacity.”⁸⁷

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14.4 Curtin University

Karda Centre for Aboriginal Studies

Curtin's [Centre for Aboriginal Studies](#) was established in 1983. It provides support to Curtin Indigenous students as well as courses at undergraduate, postgraduate and research levels.

Contacts

Curtin Centre for Aboriginal Studies
GPO Box U1987, Perth WA 6845
Building 211, Bentley campus, Curtin
University

(08) 9266 7091 or 1300 052 732

<https://karda.curtin.edu.au/>
cas.enquiries@curtin.edu.au



Indigenous Terms of Reference

Curtin's Indigenous Terms of Reference protocol seeks to

- “Reflect Indigenous values and aid students in asserting the right to self-representation, self-definition, and self-identification.
- Privilege and affirm Aboriginal cultural ways of working.
- Highlight diversity among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- Provide a framework for engaging successfully in Indigenous community, education, health and research projects.”⁸⁸

Institute of Aboriginal Knowledge and Innovation

The Institute of Aboriginal Knowledge and Innovation aims to: help researchers and students prepare to engage and collaborate with Indigenous people; foster international collaborations around Indigenous knowledge exchange; foster opportunities for postgraduate students to pursue safe and appropriate Indigenous research practice.

Reconciliation Action Plan

As the first university in Australia to do so, Curtin has its own Reconciliation Action Plan which can be accessed [here](#).

One of the initiatives of the plan is to deliver an Indigenous Australian Research Strategy (p14) that recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research as a key priority. Within this initiative, a number of targets are specified. Of particular relevance are:

- Promotion and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander research achievements
- Development of a website for Indigenous Australian research

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- Assistance in place for Indigenous Australian grant applications
- Introduction of a postgraduate unit focussed on Indigenous Australian methodologies
- Identification and codification of Indigenous Australian research methodologies

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Committee is Curtin's Indigenous leadership group engages regularly with senior leaders to provide a voice for Aboriginal people in decision-making.

Conducting research in Indigenous communities

Curtin staff and students looking to engage Indigenous communities in research are required to follow set [guidelines](#). These are provided as a set of three policies and procedures:

- [Indigenous Governance Policy and Principles for Implementation](#)
- [Research standards](#)
- [Guidelines for research students](#)

Reference is also made to the [AIATSIS Guidelines for ethical research in Australian Indigenous Studies 2012](#) and researchers are similarly presented with a suite of ten more [articles](#) highlighting specific considerations of research with Indigenous communities.

15. KEY PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS WITH SALTWATER SCIENCE AGENDAS

15.1 Australian Marine Sciences Association

Australian Marine Sciences Association (AMSA) acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the Traditional Owners of Australia's Land and Sea Country.

Formed in 1963, the Australian Marine Sciences Association is Australia's peak marine science professional association with membership drawn from all marine science disciplines. Information about AMSA's mission, objectives and values can be found [here](#).

Contact – WA Branch

Penny Berents
President, Australian Marine Sciences Association
0412 129 650
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Submissions & position statements

AMSA draws on its membership base to inform the development of [submissions](#) and [position statements](#) on arising marine science and management issues. For example, AMSA's position statements on Marine Protected Areas (2008) and Introduced Marine Pests (2007).

Annual conferences

AMSA holds annual conferences where members and others come together to learn about the latest marine research, new technology and to network. In 2016 AMSA partnered with the NESP Marine Biodiversity Hub to promote the engagement and participation of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in marine science right across Australia. To date the partnership has championed and resourced four Indigenous workshops at annual conferences between 2016-2019 to showcase numerous Indigenous collaborations with science organisations and management agencies, identify barriers and share learnings to improve collaborations, and promote future partnerships for marine research and monitoring on Sea Country.

Indigenous engagement workshops:

- The first workshop was convened on Ngatiawa lands at the 2016 Joint Conference between AMSA and New Zealand Marine Sciences Society (NZMSS). Indigenous panellists from Australia and New Zealand met to discuss the benefits that arise from genuine and lasting collaborations and mutual respect of knowledge in an approach embodied in the Maori proverb 'He moana pukepuke, e ekengia e te waka' (Mountainous seas can be navigated in a canoe when we all work together). The first workshop provided the opportunity to start discussions and identify issues around Indigenous engagement in marine science in New Zealand and Australia. A major driver for the first workshop was the need for more effective and meaningful collaborations between marine scientists and Indigenous groups in the area of Sea Country research.

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- In 2017 a one-day workshop was convened in Darwin on the traditional lands of the Larrakia people to promote Indigenous engagement in marine science by sharing information on successes and identifying what can be done to advance meaningful collaboration. The workshop provided numerous examples of effective engagement and participation in northern Australia and identified keys to effective engagement and developing trusted partnerships⁸⁹ Read more in the workshop report [here](#).
- In 2018 a half-day workshop on *Marine Science and Meeting Indigenous Research Priorities* was convened on Kurna Country in Adelaide. This workshop was predominantly focused on capturing current Indigenous research priorities for temperate Australia and identifying key barriers to building cross-cultural relationships in marine research. Presentations from 11 Indigenous and non-Indigenous speakers actively leading Sea Country initiatives provided a diverse insight to Sea Country knowledge, future aspirations and recommendations to AMSA for improving their Indigenous outreach capacity at an organisational level. Read more in the workshop report [here](#).
- In 2019 a two-day workshop was convened in Fremantle on Whadjuk Country. The workshop was convened to promote the establishment of collaborative and respectful partnerships for Sea Country research and monitoring in Western Australia (WA). A key focus of the workshop was to bring together influential people from Indigenous organisations, marine science organisations and marine management agencies to discuss the idea of a standard for engagement of Indigenous people in marine research and monitoring in Western Australia. The workshop report can be accessed on the [AMSA website](#) (at the time of writing this report the workshop report was still being drafted).

AMSA Indigenous Engagement developments

As a result of the relationships formed and feedback provided by Indigenous scientists and Sea Country leaders, AMSA has developed an Indigenous Engagement Sub-committee linked to the AMSA National Council. This sub-committee aims to develop an AMSA Indigenous engagement strategy guided by Indigenous perspectives and priorities. See [AMSA's Sea Country](#) tab for more information.

15.2 Ecological Society of Australia

The [Ecological Society of Australia](#) (ESA) is a peak group of Australian ecologists with around twelve hundred members nationwide. It supports ecologists through professional development; promotes the role of ecologists in society and the importance of ecological issues; and coordinates ecological research.

Indigenous Engagement Working Group

The Indigenous Engagement Working Group is one of several ESA working groups. Within the society's [strategic plan](#), the engagement working group specifies the following overall objectives:

- Develop a broad strategy for support and development of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge structures for implementation under the umbrella of the Society;
- Advise the ESA Board on Indigenous Engagement opportunities and priorities;
- Advise the Board of potential funding or sponsorship partnerships to progress IE initiatives.;
- Establish an active indigenous scientists' network and/or research chapter;
- Co-ordinate the annual Indigenous Symposium & Indigenous Plenary in collaboration with the Conference Committee.

Contact

Indigenous Engagement Working Group
Gerry Turpin Chair



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15.3 Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry

The Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) is an international non-profit group of over five thousand people in ninety countries “dedicated to the study, analysis and solution of environmental problems, the management and regulation of natural resources, research and development and environmental education.”⁹⁰

SETAC has a wide range of research interests from its huge, international membership base. There are many resources available to members and a selection available to the public, including science briefs. A relevant example is SETAC’s [brief](#) on plastic pollution.

Interest Group on Indigenous Knowledge and Values

Established in 2017, the interest group aims to provide a vehicle for Indigenous and non-Indigenous people to collaborate on research and to support Indigenous knowledge input into the SETAC community.

Contact

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