



## Yamatji Marlpa ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

# Land Agreements give pastoral station access to Traditional Owners

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The Budina People of Western Australia have entered into a series of Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) with pastoralists on their traditional country, approximately 150kms east of Coral Bay.

The agreements formalise how the Traditional Owners and pastoralists will co-exist on the land. The ILUAs deal with issues of land access, protection of Budina heritage sites, and many of the practical arrangements that allow both parties to enjoy their rights to the land.

ILUAs for Lyndon, Towera, Emu Creek and Middalya Stations have now been registered by the National Native Title Tribunal, covering approximately 80% of the Budina People's native title claim. Three more ILUAs are expected to be registered, covering the remaining pastoral leases in the area.

Budina Elder Clive Lyndon said, "These agreements change the relationship between our community and the station owners. It's recognition of our connection to this country. We're happy with this outcome."

Sean D'Arcy from Lyndon Station said, "The ILUA was written in the spirit of cooperation for mutual benefit and will help maintain a strong relationship between the Budina people and pastoralists."

Simon Hawkins, CEO of Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation, said "This is a major milestone in the Budina people's journey toward native title recognition. Budina country is all pastoral lands now, so these ILUAs guarantee in a very practical way that the Budina people can keep up their cultural obligations to look after country. I hope the Barnett Government will now recognise that the Budina people are the Traditional Owners of their country."

**ENDS**

### **About Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation**

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the native title representative body for native title claims in the Pilbara, Murchison and Gascoyne areas of Western Australia. The organisation has a representative area of almost one million square kilometres and represents over 20 native title claims, all with their own language, culture and traditions.

YMAC is a not-for-profit organisation, run by an Aboriginal Board and provides a range of services to its members including claim and future-act representation, heritage protection services, community and economic development and natural resource management.

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