



Yamatji Marlpa
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION
Knowledge Partnerships



Nyangumarta Warrarn IPA dedication

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Today marks a significant day for the Nyangumarta People with the dedication ceremony of their Indigenous Protected Area (IPA). An IPA is an area of land and/or sea over which Indigenous Traditional Owners have entered into a voluntary agreement with the Australian government for the purposes of promoting biodiversity and cultural resource conservation.

The Nyangumarta IPA covers about 28,420 km² and will be managed by the Nyangumarta Rangers according to International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) standards. This combines meaningful Aboriginal employment with the fulfilment of cultural obligations by Traditional Owners.

Simon Hawkins, CEO of YMAC, says this type of work is succeeding where many other programs have failed.

“The Nyangumarta People want to look after their Country. Today’s dedication ceremony of the IPA is a great example of a successful program which has been developed and applied in consultation with, and under the guidance of the Traditional Owners.

“What we are facing though, is funding uncertainty for these types of programs. There is currently a restriction on federal funding for Ranger jobs and IPAs. With more funding of these types of programs, we’d see more positive outcomes on Country,” he said.

Nyaparu Rose, CEO of Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation says that while the official recognition of the Nyangumarta IPA has been a long process, it has been worth it.

“As a Nyangumarta elder, I am very proud of this achievement for the Nyangumarta People. Having our IPA will allow us to maintain our significant sites, and look after our Country – from the desert to the sea.”

The day was marked with the signing of the official IPA certificate between the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet and the Nyangumarta Warrarn Aboriginal Corporation.

About Knowledge Partnerships

YMAC’s Knowledge Partnerships combines traditional knowledge with corporate and technical experience to create ethical collaborations for Traditional Owner Groups. Our work includes cultural, community and commercial projects, driven by Aboriginal people.

We support our partners with a respectful and culturally-appropriate approach, stemming from over 20 years of shared experience.

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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