



Our Ref:  
Your Ref:  
Office: Perth  
Date: 24 August 2022

To: Ashleigh Jordan  
Graduate Adviser  
National Indigenous Australian Agency  
Perth Office, WA 6000

Dear Ashleigh

**RE:** Input into NIAA and Department of Justice (DoJ) Reporting System Project (Stage 1)

Thank you for contacting YMAC and giving us the opportunity to provide input into this current and important project between NIAA and The DoJ.

As you will be aware, information about language group identity, culture, heritage, and custom can be sensitive and there are many nuances to navigate. It is also important to record and discuss this information in a culturally appropriate way.

Our Yamatji Regional Manager and Research Manager have reviewed the information you have provided to YMAC. As a general note, some information recorded in this table could be taken out of context and may conflict with other information on the record for the region.

We have provided some more targeted comments in the table you provided (and provided back with this letter) and some more general comments below.

- The region is known as the Yamatji Region (Geraldton/Midwest/Gascoyne), rather than just Gascoyne/Midwest.
- There seems to be inconsistency in terms of whether what is being described are language group areas/identities or determination/claim areas.
- We suggest that the table of information is re-worked and that the terms 'Peoples' and 'Dialects' are not used. Our suggestion for the table is that *language group* is the first column, followed by *claim/determination* (including size), *associated PBC*, *Cities/Towns/Communities/Reserves*, *Note*.
- We suggest that in the *Note* column, there is consistency about what information is provided here, i.e., a link to the relevant NNTT determination and a link to the associated PBC.
- Mapping the region accurately, including determinations and PBC areas of responsibility may further assist in understanding people and place.

This is a non-exhaustive list of comments, and we invite you to contact our Yamatji Regional Manager Chris Dann and Research Manager Amy Usher to further discuss how YMAC can assist and provide direction and support for this project.

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Yamatji Marlpa  
Aboriginal Corporation  
is a Native Title  
Representative Body  
ICN 2001  
ABN 14 011 921 883



Please feel free to contact me with any further questions.

Kind Regards,

*Signature supplied with submission*

**Simon Hawkins**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## Gascoyne / Midwest

	Peoples	Dialects	City/Towns/Communities/Reserves	Size	Note	Comments
Yamatji	Amangu		Three Springs, Mullewa, Morawa, Carnamah, Dongara, Eneabba	26,000 km2		
Yamatji	Naaguja	Naaguja			<a href="http://nntt.gov.au">Application Details (nntt.gov.au)</a>	
Yamatji	Nanda	Wardandi	Kalbarri, Kalbarri National Park, Zuytdorp Nature Reserve and Toolong Nature Reserve.	17,000 Km2	<a href="https://narvis.com.au/acknowledgement-of-country/">https://narvis.com.au/acknowledgement-of-country/</a>	
Yamatji	Badimia	Badimaya	Mount Magnet Shires of Dalwallinu, Yalgoo, Mount Magnet	36,000 km2	<a href="#">Home   Badimia Bandi Barna Aboriginal Corporation (badimiabandibarnaac.org)</a>  <a href="#">Badimia native title claim over 36,000sq km in WA's mid west rejected - ABC News</a>	
Yamatji	Wajarri	Wajarri	The area encompasses parts of the Shires of Meekatharra, Mount Magnet, Murchison, Upper Gascoyne, Cue and Yalgoo; as well as 56 pastoral leases.	96,676 km2	<a href="#">YMAC – Wajarri Yamatji</a>  <a href="#">Native Title Determination Details (nntt.gov.au)</a>	
	Malgana 'Gathaagudu'	Kartu langues fo the Pama-Nyungan family  Malgana	Shark Bay, Denham	28,800 km2	<a href="#">YMAC – Malgana</a>  <a href="#">Aboriginal Languages - Shark Bay</a>	
	Baiyungu	Kanyara group of languages	Coral Bay, Exmouth	10,000km2		

	Peoples	Dialects	City/Towns/Communities/Reserves	Size	Note	Comments
	Thalanyji	Thalanyji	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 southwest Pilbara to Henry River and Cane River in the north (the Cane River is outside the Thalanyji determination).  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Onslow</li> </ul>	11,120km2	Linked to other language groups in the Pilbara and Gascoyne (Technically the determined area falls in the Pilbara RATSIB region).	
	Yinggarda	Yinggarda Mandi	Carnarvon, Gascoyne Junction		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One of the Kartu languages of the Pama-Nyungan family</li> <li>Yinggarda</li> <li>Gascoyne coast area of Western Australia; Shark Bay coast between Gascoyne and Wooramel rivers, inland to Red Hill, West Pilbara</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
	Yugunga-Nya		Cue, Meekatharra, , ,	30,287 km2	<a href="http://yugunga-nya.org.au/">http://yugunga-nya.org.au/</a>	
	Nharnuwangga		Shire of Ashburton, Shire of Meekatharra, Shire of Upper Gascoyne		<a href="http://nntt.gov.au">Native Title Determination Details (nntt.gov.au)</a>	This determination refers to a group wider than just Nharnuwangga people.

	Peoples	Dialects	City/Towns/Communities/Reserves	Size	Note	Comments
	Thiin-Mah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mantharta languages</li> <li>Thiin</li> </ul>	Shires of Ashburton, Carnarvon and Upper Gascoyne	6,804 km2	<a href="https://www.ymac.org.au/the-thiin-mah-warriyangka-tharrkari-jiwarli-people-celebrate-native-title/">https://www.ymac.org.au/the-thiin-mah-warriyangka-tharrkari-jiwarli-people-celebrate-native-title/</a>  <a href="https://www.gdc.wa.gov.au/our-region/aboriginal-culture.aspx">https://www.gdc.wa.gov.au/our-region/aboriginal-culture.aspx</a>	
	Warriyangka		Shire of Ashburton, Shire of Carnarvon, Shire of Upper Gascoyne	6809km2	Combined Thiin-Mah Warriyangka, Tharrkari, Jiwarli <a href="#">Application Details (nntt.gov.au)</a>	
	Jiwarli	<p>Jiwarli</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part of the Pama-Nyungan language family</li> </ul>	Carnarvon and Onslow		<a href="https://www.wangkamaya.org.au/pilbara-languages/jiwarli">https://www.wangkamaya.org.au/pilbara-languages/jiwarli</a>  People of Jiwarli heritage are located in the area between the towns of Carnarvon and Onslow, through to Geraldton in the south and Port Hedland in the north.	This information refers more to place and where people have moved to, rather than traditional connection to country.
	Widi		Shire of Carnamah, Shire of Dalwallinu, Shire of Morawa, Shire of Perenjori, Shire of Yalgoo	12054km2	<a href="#">Application Details (nntt.gov.au)</a>	There is complexity with Widi and Mullewa Wadjari as they are/were claims however there are further nuances when discussing

	Peoples	Dialects	City/Towns/Communities/Reserves	Size	Note	Comments
						language and identity.
	Mullewa Wadjari		City of Greater Geraldton, Shire of Chapman Valley, Shire of Murchison, Shire of Northampton, Shire of Yalgoo	16287km2	<a href="#">Application Details (nntt.gov.au)</a>	
	Budina				<a href="#">Application Details (nntt.gov.au)</a> <a href="#">Application Details (nntt.gov.au)</a>	
	Thudgari/Thakarri				<a href="#">Application Details (nntt.gov.au)</a>	

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2019/2019fca0508>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2018/2018fca1929>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2019/2019fca1812>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2020/2020fca0042>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2019/2019fca1812>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2018/2018fca1849>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2018/2018fca1929>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2019/2019fca2090>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2017/2017fca1215>

<https://www.judgments.fedcourt.gov.au/judgments/Judgments/fca/single/2019/2019fca0508>

<http://www8.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/cth/FCA/2000/1249.html>

[Mid West Languages - Bundiyarra](#)