



# Yamatji Marlpa

ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

## Native title recognised for Ngarlawangga people

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The Ngarlawangga people today celebrated the legal recognition of their land and culture at a Federal Court hearing held in Tom Price.

Federal Court judge, Justice Michael Barker made the consent determination recognising the Ngarlawangga people's claim to the non-exclusive rights to the area of land. The Ngarlawangga native title determination application was filed in 2005 and covers approximately 6100 sq kms of land located within the Shires of East Pilbara and Meekatharra.

Dianne Limerick, Ngarlawangga Traditional Owner says, the journey towards the Ngarlawangga people's native title determination has been long and hard.

"We have lost much family in this time, both Elders and young ones. Today we finally have a happy ending as our Country has been returned to us," she says.

Simon Hawkins, CEO, Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation says today is a great day of celebration for the Ngarlawangga people.

"Today is a significant day for the Ngarlawangga Traditional Owners. After 11 long years of legal process they have finally gained the recognition of a part of their Country which was previously denied," he says.

Ngarlawangga Aboriginal Corporation will continue to administer the Ngarlawangga people's business as their nominated prescribed body corporate.

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### 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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