



Yamatji Marlpa ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

The formation of the Southern Yamatji claim

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At community meetings facilitated by YMAC on March 4 – 5 2017, Traditional Owners from the Naaguja and Wilunyu (formerly known as Amangu) claim groups met to discuss native title boundary overlaps.

Over 350 Traditional Owners attended this historic gathering and voted to combine their claims to create the Southern Yamatji claim.

This is the culmination of over 10 years of negotiations, and could be the basis of negotiations with the West Australian Government for a comprehensive alternative settlement.

Simon Hawkins, CEO of YMAC, says Traditional Owners from the groups have been able to resolve all remaining native title overlaps in the area.

“By taking this important step in resolving the boundary overlaps, Southern Yamatji Traditional Owners are now speaking with one voice to the WA State Government about their aspirations for a comprehensive settlement of their native title claims,” he said.

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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