

NTRBS, PBCS & RNTBCS

This sheet will explain the key differences between Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRBs), Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBCs), and Registered Native Title Bodies Corporate (RNTBCs).

What is a PBC?

A PBC is the corporation that holds and manages the native title rights and interests in trust for the Common Law Holders (also known as Native Title Holders) of that area. PBCs can be established pre- or post-determination under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) (NTA), and have certain obligations under the NTA, such as the requirement to incorporate under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Act) 2006* (Cth) (CATSI Act).

Key roles of a PBC:

- Future acts matters and Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs);
- Negotiating compensation and holding money in trust for Common Law Holders;
- Exercising, negotiating, implementing and monitoring native title agreements;
- Consulting with Common Law Holders and documenting evidence of consent;
- Consulting with and considering the views of relevant NTRBs and Native Title Service Providers (NTSPs) for an area regarding native title decisions;
- Land and water management, biodiversity and environmental protection, cultural heritage protection, land use planning; and
- Ensuring compliance to the CATSI Act and the PBC's rule book.

What is an RNTBC?

The NTA states that all PBCs must be registered with the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT). When a PBC has established native title and becomes officially registered, it becomes an RNTBC. This makes it clear to other people and organisations that it is a corporation that manages native title for the Common Law Holders and creates a legal obligation for these organisations to consult with the RNTBC on various matters. Registration of a PBC is achieved through the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC).

What is the difference between a PBC and an RNTBC?

The term 'PBC' is commonly used to refer to both PBCs and RNTBCs, these terms can be used interchangeably. However, the term 'RNTBC' refers to a PBC that has been officially registered with ORIC post-determination. Whereas, the term 'PBC' may refer to a corporation that has been registered, or it may refer to a corporation in the pre-determination claim space that has not yet been registered.



What is an NTRB?

NTRBs are organisations appointed under the NTA to assist Traditional Owners with all aspects of their native title claims.

YMAC is the NTRB for the Pilbara, Midwest, Murchison and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia.

As defined by provisions in the NTA, an NTRB receives government funding to support PBCs in its region with their native title obligations.

To review all of YMAC's functions as an NTRB (per the NTA), visit our [website](#).

Examples of assistance an NTRB could provide include:

- Legal assistance with pursuing a native title claim to achieve the recognition and protection of native title;
- Assisting a PBC to manage its governance obligations under the CATSI Act;
- Supporting a PBC to achieve self-determination through social and economic development opportunities; and
- Assisting a PBC to deal with and negotiate with government departments, agencies and instrumentalities, as well as the mining, tourism, fishing, development and other relevant industries, in all matters concerning these areas.

RNTBC AND NTRB Comparison

FUNCTIONS	RNTBC	NTRB
Manages native title rights and interests for its Common Law Holders following a determination	✓	
Is also referred to as a 'PBC'	✓	
Assists Traditional Owners with native title claims		✓
Can assist PBCs in consultations, mediations, negotiations and proceedings relating to managing native title rights and interests – if requested to do so		✓
Can assist PBCs with managing their governance obligations under the CATSI Act and other services - as requested - through a service agreement		✓

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