



Yamatji Marlpa
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION



Solutions-focussed discussions to be front and centre at this year's Yule River bush meeting

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(Image: Mrs Doris Eaton, Deputy Co-Chairperson, Pilbara Region – Board of Directors of YMAC sharing knowledge of the 1946 Pilbara Strike, at the 2025 Yule River Bush Meeting. Image: Ophelie Barbeau.)

This year's Annual On-Country Bush Meeting at the Yule River Meeting Place will be held on **Wednesday, 29 and Thursday, 30 July 2026**, on Kariyarra Country.

Following the huge success of last year's event, Aboriginal people from across the Pilbara will again gather to work on solutions and improve the delivery of programs aligned to the [2024 Yule River Call to Action and Solutions Roadmap](#) (CTA) and the [2025 Community Priorities document](#).

Day One is for Pilbara Aboriginal people and organisations only. Aboriginal Controlled-Community Organisations (ACCOs) from across the region will share their successes and challenges, providing a space for Aboriginal community members to contribute to discussions, before recommended solutions are presented to senior government representatives and decision-makers on Day Two.

This year's meeting will also include important discussions about water health and safety in remote communities and commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Pilbara Strike.

The on-Country event will be attended by Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Water Hon Don Punch MLA; Minister for the Pilbara Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA; Commissioner for Children and Young People Jacqueline McGowan-Jones; and senior representatives from government agencies whose work aligns with key CTA priorities, including communities, health, education, justice, and housing.



At last year's event, Minister Punch announced \$300,000 in funding to support progression of the CTA, along with a commitment to return to the region to provide an update to the Yule River Working Group on actions the State Government has taken, and plans to take, in response to the CTA.

Mrs Doris Eaton, Deputy Co-Chairperson, Pilbara Region – Board of Directors of YMAC and Deputy Chairperson – Pilbara Regional Committee, encourages all Aboriginal people from across the Pilbara to attend and participate in this important event.

"This year's on-Country event will include important discussions on the solutions we want to see for our communities in the region," Mrs Eaton said.

"After a lot of work progressing the Yule River Call to Action, we are ready to talk about how we want to see this action carried out, and how we want Government to work with us.

"I encourage all Aboriginal people from right across the Pilbara to come along and be part of these conversations. Come and have your voices heard."

The *Yule River Call to Action and Solutions Roadmap* and the *2025 Community Priorities* documents clearly outline the key priorities identified by Aboriginal people in the Pilbara and are aligned to the *National Agreement on Closing the Gap*. Both documents have been developed by community through previous on-Country meetings at Yule River. This year's event builds on that work by bringing community, ACCO's and government together to progress practical solutions and strengthen support for services across the region.

The event will also feature a range of stalls hosted by government agencies, community service providers, and ACCOs providing attendees with opportunities to connect directly with organisations working in the region.

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) coordinates the Yule River Bush Meeting under the direction of its Pilbara Regional Committee and in consultation with the Yule River Call to Action Working Group.

YMAC also extends its appreciation to the Town of Port Hedland and Lotterywest for their support of this year's event.

Find out more on the YMAC website at ymac.org.au/events/yule-river.

About Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation

Established in 1994, Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC) is the Native Title Representative Body (NTRB), delivering native title and other services across the Pilbara, Mid West, Murchison and Gascoyne regions of Western Australia. As an Aboriginal corporation, YMAC is run by a First Nations board of directors, representing several native title groups, each of whom have their own language, culture, traditions, and protocols. YMAC services include native title claim, compensation and future act representation; heritage services; executive office, community, and economic development assistance; land administration, and natural resource management support.

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