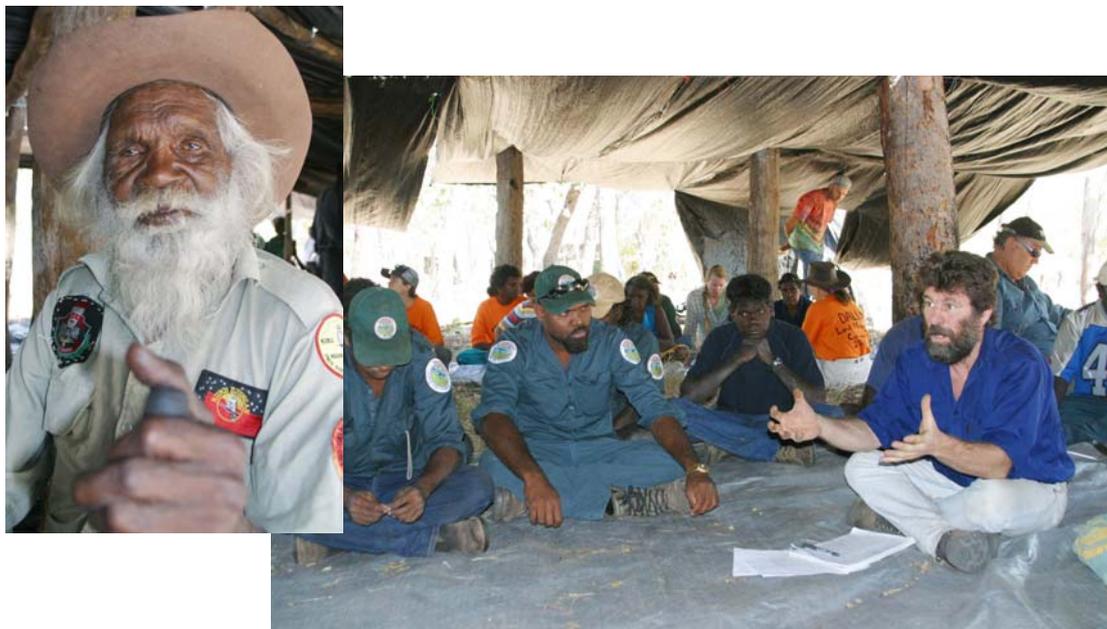


# **NORTH AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS LAND & SEA MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE**



## **FORUM REPORT 1-2nd September 2004**



**Report prepared by NAILSMA**

## Background

For Traditional Owners in that part of the north that can be called the wet/dry tropics there are many common issues, problems and circumstances that include:

- The links between families/clans/language groups and specific areas of land are still strong in the minds of older people and some younger people but shifts to towns, missions and settlements make it harder to maintain those links by being on and managing country;
- In many areas, the wisdom of the old people is being lost at varying levels;
- Much Indigenous land has not suffered excessive damage from development but there is increasing pressure for development;
- Problems like changes in fire regimes, spread of weeds and damage from feral animals threaten the health of people and of country;
- Indigenous land and sea owners and managers need a wide range of resources to deal with these problems using both western science tools and Indigenous knowledge tools;
- There are large areas of Indigenous owned lands and many species of plants and animals that are shared across state boundaries and right across the wet/dry tropics;
- Indigenous land and sea owners across the north require a strong voice to get help to care for country

During the year 2000, the **Kimberley Land Council**, **Northern Land Council** and **Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation** agreed to become core partners of the **Cooperative Research Centre for Tropical Savannas Management (CRC-TSM)** for the period from 2001/2002 to 2007/2008. Importantly, these groups also agreed to investigate forming an alliance of Indigenous land councils and land management agencies across north Australia to work on getting better land and sea management results for Indigenous people.

In early 2003, Joe Morrison commenced as the Executive Officer of NAILSMA, and is located within the CRC head quarters, based at the Charles Darwin University in Darwin. Since this time, the alliance has grown to operate several projects across the north.

The membership of the alliance is growing to include other relevant Indigenous organisations that are interested in caring for country.

## Introduction

The first forum of the North Australian Indigenous Land & Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA) was held at Wynbarra waterhole on Menngen Aboriginal Land Trust in the Victoria River District near Katherine in the NT. The meeting was held from the 1-2nd September 2004 and was attended by 200 Indigenous people from Cape York to the Kimberley.

Invitations (Appendix 1) were sent to NAILSMA partner organisation and individuals in late June to advise that the meeting would be calling for input from Traditional Owners to come and talk about Indigenous land and sea management activities across the north.

## Welcome

Traditional Owner – Mr Bill Yidumduma Harney welcomed the forum attendees to Wardaman country and gave a talk about the meeting site, the local activities and the 2 books that he has co-authored over the last decade – *Born under the Paperbark Tree* and *Dark Sparklers*. The former is a book about Bill's life and the latter a book about Wardaman astronomy.



*Senior TO Bill Harney – Host of the NAILSMA Forum*

## Objectives

The objectives of the forum were outlined by Joe Morrison and Peter Yu as being to:

- Provide information to people about what NAILSMA is about
- Discuss a possible structure for the future of NAILSMA
- Discuss current NAILSMA initiatives
- Bring Indigenous people together to assist in planning for the future,
- Develop one voice on land and sea management,
- Handing the management of the alliance back to Traditional Owners,
- To hold workshop groups (informal and formal discussions) regarding the alliance and North Australian land and sea management activities,
- To promote and support Indigenous leadership and culture,
- Provide a forum for Traditional Owners to come together to talk about North Australian Indigenous land and sea management issues
- Present and workshop the outcomes of the Lingiari Paper.

## DAY 1

### Reports from the regions

A number of reports were received at the meeting to discuss what each of the partner agencies were up to at the regional level.

### **Kimberley Land Council – Ari Gorring provided the following outline:**

- Minyirr Park – Cable Beach looking at managing tourism
- Roebuck Bay – Rubibbi mob looking at ranger program to help look after RAMSAR site.
- Karrajari country – NT determination, fighting cotton development, looking at commercialisation of native plants
- Jarlmadangah – Geegully Creek researching water issues
- Fitzroy River – collaborative research of freshwater fish species with scientist. Has lead to a 6-month position to help look after the river.
- Great Sandy Desert Project – knowledge recording project, tourist interpretation.
- East Kimberley Pastoral and Cultural Development Project – planning for economic development on pastoral/cultural landscapes
- Purnululu NP – Working towards joint management of the World Heritage NP
- Mitchell Plateau project resulted in a management plan, which has given Traditional Owners more control over visitation. Looking at agreements to support Caring for Country activities.
- Saltwater project to identify issues and options, possible pilot area for Dugong and Marine Turtle project. Runs from Derby to Wyndham. Training of sea rangers to care for saltwater country. Working with Charter companies across the Kimberley.
- NHT planning



*Henry Nungamajbarr, Neville Guluy Guluy and Ray Pethrick*

### **Will Philippiades – Kimberley Regional Fire Management Project**

- Kimberley Regional Fire Project operating for 4 years, working on biodiversity surveys with Indigenous people. The project highlighted the need to deal with fire by sectoral groups (Indigenous, pastoral) with partners to do:

- Support Fire Control Teams x 2 groups, supporting intergenerational transfer of knowledge, protecting sites and community infrastructure;
- Research on fire effects;
- Mapping of fire scars.
- Been refunded for 2 years from NHT
- Good partnerships

**Northern Land Council - Paul Josif provided the following summary:**

- Big job is to Support for existing Ranger Groups:
  - Participatory planning;
  - Building capacity.
- Kabulwarnamyo – partnerships with researchers, working on equity of resources from govt to Indigenous held lands.
- Marine management – 12 sea ranger groups:
  - Establishment of Sea Ranger Groups is going well;
  - Link to Dugong and Marine Turtle project;
  - Low-tech aquaculture opportunities.
- Commitment to NAILSMA and support of the alliance. Need to continue to support our neighbours.
- Negotiating landuse agreements
- Struggling to work out the balance between supporting people on country and that within the NLC itself.
- Women’s groups focused on caring for country, increasing in numbers.
- Indigenous Knowledge support by getting people back onto country.
- Protected Area Management:
  - Negotiation on the handover of protected areas and the Master Plan initiative;
  - Support for IPA’s.
- AQIS and NAQS:
  - Relationship working;
  - NAILSMA potential.
- Top End Aboriginal Land Management Employment Strategy (TEALMES) due for renegotiation:
  - Looking at expanding TEALMES scope (5 – 7 years plus) in talks with NT Government, as part of a wider focus;
  - Aiming to develop an NT Cabinet submission.
- Dugong and Marine Turtle tender.
- NOO scoping consultation for Northern Region Ocean Plan.
- Leadership and support to on-ground work needed from NLC.

- Pursuing relationships with partners and stakeholders and expanding contacts and participation.
- NT NRM Strategy:
  - Updates;
  - Input especially to marine issues.

**Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation - Ann Creek and Gail Fisher provided the following summary:**

The delegation included representatives from Wujal, Coen and Old Mapoon

- Balkanu established to support practical caring for country activities.
- 17 sub-regions in Cape York
- Most of the coastal country of the cape is Indigenous owned except Cooktown.
- Business hubs have based good officers with advice in communities with Westpac
- Ranger projects are struggling, as there are no real jobs for people back on country after they go to town to study and train.
- Partnerships with QLD PWS, GBRMPA,
- Land and Sea Centres funding has ceased; Centres are now falling over as funding has ceased.
- NHT II projects focused on vegetation management working around:
  - China Camp with rangers
  - Wawadimbi project by Mossman community
  - Chuula on Lockhart River working on commercial use of native plants.
  - Cape Flattery dealing with erosion
  - Kulpa outstation near Coen.
  - Saxby
  - Lakeland Downs
  - Palmer River

**Charles Prouse**

- NAILSMA has to support people on country
- Want to see outcomes that are achievable for people to take back to country

**Overview of NAILSMA as it currently stands – Joe Morrison & Peter Yu**

- Introduction to the Alliance concept

- Introduction of staff members:
  - **Lisa Binge** working on communication, leadership for young people, education/scholarships to support access for people from the bush to formal education.
  - **Stephen Johnson** working on the development of an Indigenous Knowledge Strategy for the conservation, protection and further management of IK by Traditional Owners across north Australia.
  - **Wayne Davis** working on the development of a voice on fire management across north Australia so that effective engagement can occur, as well as the development of capacity for TO's to assert their intellectual knowledge to this pervasive issue.
  - **Dugong and Marine Turtle Management Coordinator (TBA)** working on a large NHT funded project that will develop up to 5 management strategies developed by TO's on their country.
  - Future management of water in north Australia, NAILSMA is developing a process where Indigenous rights to water are driving the water agenda through consultation.
  - **Peter Yu** is the Chair of NAILSMA and sits on the Board of Management of the Cooperative Research Centre for Tropical Savannas Management who currently hosts NAILSMA in Darwin out of the Charles Darwin University.
  - **Joe Morrison** is the Coordinator/Convenor of NAILSMA and his job is to ensure that the alliance is developed and operates effectively and on behalf of Traditional Owners from across north Australia.
  - Current Steering Committee membership – NAILSMA Coordinator, KLC, NLC, Balkanu, ILC, CRC-TSM & DIPE.
  - Proposed board structure – CEO's of KLC, NLC, CLCAC, Balkanu and TSRA.



*NAILSMA Chair – Mr Peter Yu*

## **Discussion Group reports**

The meeting broke into groups to discuss the alliance idea, what it was currently doing, what were people's concerns and how will the alliance support people on country across north Australia.

### **Paul Josif**

- Need to cross 'artificial' boundaries through regional projects
- Need to address local management needs – money infrastructure etc
- Who decides how the money is spent, and who is accountable for the money?
- NAILSMA can develop good relationships with researchers and other partners to get resources for on-ground work.

### **Charles Prouse**

- How does NAILSMA work with Land Councils?
- What are the issues that communities share across north Australia?
- Training and qualifications for rangers to work on country
- Encourage government workers to stay in northern Australia for more than a couple of years – need to stop repeating stories

### **Ari Gorring**

- Powers of enforcement needed for people who are working on-country
- Need for ongoing funding of ranger programs – also land use planning & training
- Protocols needed for people visiting country
- Need to record and share knowledge
- Issues that women share across northern Australia – NAILSMA can help women have a strong voice

### **Ann Creek**

- Need to build up alliance of communities on Cape York

- Need for networking and alliances and communication across the Land Councils and Land & Sea Management Centres
- Need to develop support mechanisms for young leaders
- Have to support leadership exchanges across north Australia to develop strong knowledgeable leaders
- Create awareness of L&S management at primary school level
- ‘Computer culture program’ – learning in schools about how to:
  - Manage money/budgeting
  - Manage country
  - Public speaking
  - Sharing knowledge between elders and young people
  - How to prepare and write land and sea country management plans
- Law enforcement training and powers for rangers – especially for enforcement of fisheries (recreational fishermen going where they shouldn’t)
- Need to build good relationships with other land management agencies (e.g. GBRMPA).

### **Ngukurr Women**

- Trouble getting funding
- No vehicle
- Studying through Batchelor
- Protocols for visiting tourist
- Support/value for teaching young kids cultural & about country
- Need to link women from right across north Australia that are recording and passing down IK using:
  - CDEP
  - Training

## **Summary – Day 1**

- NAILSMA has to work across north Australia as our issues are unique
- How are decisions made?
- How does NAILSMA work with Land Councils
- Need to support the protection of IK at the local level
- Need to seek ways of developing local enforcement powers
- Need “Real” funding to support action on country
- Need protocols for working on country across north Australia
- Women’s issues
- Need to develop alliances at the local level as well
- We need to network amongst ourselves (Indigenous people)
- We have to support leadership at the local level (through regional exchanges)
- Build relationships and partnerships with other land and sea management agencies – GBRMPA, State and Territory Governments, research organisations etc



*Young Wardaman dancers*



*Didj player for bunggal*

## DAY 2

### Discussion Groups

#### **Paul Josif**

Discussed the Heads of Agreement for NAILSMA that were outlined in the recent Discussion Paper developed by the Lingiari Foundation.

**N**orth  
**A**ustralian  
**I**ndigenous  
**L**and &  
**S**ea  
**M**anagement  
**A**lliance

**What?**

- A tool for us to use

**Why?**

- Get new resources & \$\$
- Increase Indigenous control over research \$ for example Turtle and Dugong Project
- Aboriginal people to drive the research agendas
- Stronger opportunity to get national & international resources and \$\$
- We (indigenous people) control it.
- Combined strength (one voice)

**Who?**

- Land Councils doing land & sea management

**Where?**

- Northern Australia's wet/dry tropics

**When?**

- Now and for the future

The Lingiari Discussion Paper is about strong unity but the 11 points in the Heads of Agreement (Appendix 2) can be broken down into plain language:

1. Share knowledge & experience eg fire management
2. Back-up TO's & Land Councils, help out with good working arrangements
3. Get the word out about the alliance but also about caring for country in general
4. Back up TO's with a mixture of white and black science – 2 way approach
5. Support and promote Indigenous leadership through strong families and communities
6. Help handing down the intellectual knowledge from elders to younger people through practical back to country initiatives
7. Manage country the right way for the future and help government to understand blackfella caring for country
8. Partnerships to get new funds that individual regions and land councils can't get by themselves
9. Better talking with one consistent voice from all across north Australia for TO's through the newsletter and these annual forums
10. To protect Indigenous Knowledge
11. To make sure we have a national say by highlighting that north Australia IS different and that our issues have to be addressed differently
12. To protect economic rights of TO's to make a living off their country
13. To identify other national & international groups to have partnerships with TO's eg. The Christensen Fund
14. To support Indigenous people who have training to network – rangers, people with TAFE training etc.

## **Bill Panton**

- There were concerns that Land Council's weren't always the best organisations to deal with.

## **Melissa George**

- Will \$\$ flow to the community?
- How will \$\$ be distributed?
- Alliance is a good idea
- Decisions can be Land Council business, but good for NAILSMA to support these bodies
- Projects have to be driven by TO's (drivers)
- Intellectual Property – policy through NAILSMA to be developed, this could include the CRC-TSM  
Needs to be an agreement between CRC-TSM and NAILSMA on this issue
- What is the role that NAILSMA plays in IP, particularly with access to storage of information
- Research to be driven by TO's
- TO's want to be able to pick their own researchers (develop a database)
- Protocols for appropriate behaviour to be included in the research protocols
- Land Council have to make NAILSMA work – 2-way approach
- In sharing information, NAILSMA should use existing publications
- Concerns about the increasing load on existing staff, both within Land Councils as well as NAILSMA
- Leadership development has to include employment outcomes
- Leadership should include exchanges between mobs across north Australia
- Use existing land and sea networks
- NAILSMA should look at a nationally accredited course that suits north Australia people on country to deal with issues surrounding TO's communities
- NAILSMA should seek recognition of old people's skills, language and knowledge in the management of country.

## **Ari Goring**

- Rangers enforcement powers & agency employment strategies
- Respect people on the land
- The need to get proper wages for doing land & sea management work
- There is a need to get feedback on good projects (what has worked and what hasn't)
- A need to have young people travelling across the north through exchange programs
- Rangers can provide the presence on country but also the education and awareness for visitors to country. This could lead to long-term employment opportunities.
- There is a need to get some of our people from the prisons to be engaged back on country by coming and doing work with us where applicable

- Need to work with CALM, Fisheries, AgWA, Customs, State and Commonwealth agencies to increase employment opportunities for people on country.

### **Grace Daniels**

- Need to have men and women on NAILSMA governance structures
- Will turtle and dugong research stop us from eating them as has happened in other places?
- Is NAILSMA going to be a strong body to argue for our rights?
- We want NAILSMA to assist with developing Indigenous lead business plans

### **Paul Josif**

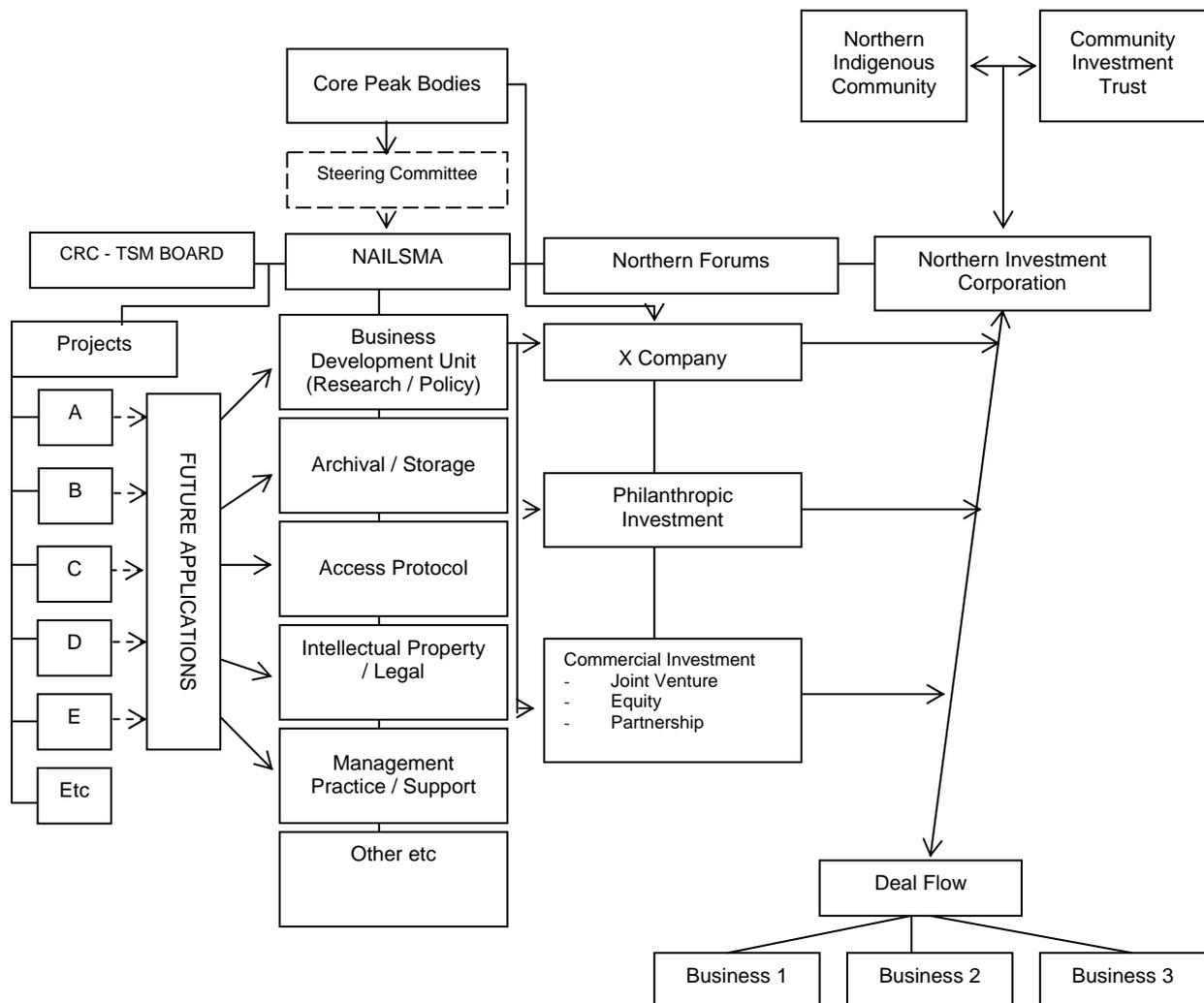
- Concerns about the use of the terms 'rangers' or 'Traditional Owners' that this doesn't exclude other people
- Need to have a good balance of men/women on steering group
- Plans were not necessarily representing what people were thinking about on country
- TO's want to train up as researchers to do research on their country (i.e. Turtle/Dugong where TO's have concerns about dying dugongs)

### **Joe Morrison – Response to some issues raised by meeting**

- NAILSMA governance structure has to be reflective of people and their actions on country, made up of men and women, young and old people.
- Just because its being set up by the land councils, doesn't exclude membership coming from other Indigenous groups engaged in land and sea management. However the membership of the alliance has to be endorsed by all parties currently paying membership fees to the alliance.
- NAILSMA will advocate along with other groups to support the continuation of customary resource use activities such as hunting dugong, turtle and other species.
- NAILSMA will advocate through its membership advocate for Indigenous rights where the Indigenous community is behind the issue that NAILSMA is engaged in.
- There is a movement to shift how research is done, and how TO's get full benefit from research outcomes.
- We need to ensure that NAILSMA is a reflection of people's situation on country and that the governance structure includes people who can represent the community as well as the major Land Council's and Authority's. It can't be something that can be pulled apart like what has happened with ATSIC.



*Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation Staff*



*Figure 1. A proposed model structure for the future of NAILSMA*

## **Peter Yu**

- There are needs to develop a strong governance structure that reflects the broad view of its constituency.
- NAILSMA needs to have the CEO or the Chair of the Land Council to bring with them the authority required to effect change within organisations.
- There is a need to also have community reps on the Board and Steering Committee.
- There is a need for the NAILSMA Chair (currently myself) to have a close working relationship with CRC CEO Gordon Duff.
- Don't want to complicate it, keep it simple
- Keep the costs of governance to a minimal
- It is currently based on trust.

## **Some historical significance of this meeting and the natural progression of NAILSMA:**

1946 – Pastoral strike that started in the Pilbara that spread across Australia for equal wages

1961 – Bark petition

1966 - Vincent Lingiari leads walk off Wave Hill

1967 – Referendum

1968 – Pastoral Award Wages

1976 – NT Land Rights Act

1992 – Mabo 2 Decision

1994 – Native Title Act

2004 – First NAILSMA Forum

We are now in a situation where those struggles has lead to vast tracts of country have been returned, so now we are talking about getting on with the business of caring for our country. It doesn't matter where you go what tenure is being held it is all Indigenous land and it's timely for NAILSMA to come along and get on with management and future development of the Indigenous estate.

## **MEETING STATEMENT**

THE MEETING CALLS UPON NAILSMA PARTNER ORGANISATIONS (KLC, NLC, BALKANU, CARPENTARIA LAND COUNCILS)

- TO REAFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NAILSMA STRATEGY AND OBJECTIVES AS STATED IN THE NAILSMA HEADS OF AGREEMENT.
- TO FORMALLY ENDORSE THIS COMMITMENT WITH THE MEMBERSHIP OF EACH PARTNER ORGANISATION.
- TO INTEGRATE FULLY THE LAND & SEA UNITS OF THE PARTNER ORGANISATIONS WITHIN THE NAILSMA STRATEGY
- TO NOMINATE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE NAILSMA BOARD AND NAILSMA STEERING COMMITTEE.

*The above statement was accepted by the meeting on the Menngen Aboriginal Land Trust on the 2nd September 2004.*

## **Summary of meeting**

- There are lots of action and activities that are occurring at the regional and sub-regional level.
- Many of what the individual land council's and other bodies are doing is similar, regardless of the locations.
- There is a need to support communication across state and territory boundaries, this can be somewhat achieved through exchanges across borders
- NAILSMA governance structure has to be representative of Indigenous people across north Australia
- There is a need to support and strengthen customary rights held by Indigenous people
- Traditional Owners desire to drive the research agenda on their terms on their country
- There is a need to ensure that resources are not taken away from communities who need it at the local level
- How will investment created by NAILSMA be distributed across north Australia?
- How will NAILSMA ensure that Intellectual Property is protected for future generations of Indigenous people?
- There is a real need to develop leadership across north Australia as the Indigenous estate will rely heavily on up and coming leaders

- There is a need to develop strong community networks and alliances at the local and regional levels as well as NAILSMA level
- How do we enforce research and visitation protocols?
- How do other organisations get involved with NAILSMA?

## Where to next?

Joe Morrison, Coordinator of the alliance is to seek nomination of the proposed board and expansion of the Steering Committee by visiting the current members and potential new members hopefully with the current Chair Mr Peter Yu. Letters to the organisations will be sent and a follow up visit undertaken.

The Board and Steering Committee will begin working on the issues raised in early 2005. This could be undertaken in a workshop in early 2005.

## Tasks:

1. Joe Morrison and Peter Yu to consolidate existing membership with existing partners
2. Joe Morrison and Peter Yu to extend formal membership to include CLCAC & TSRA
3. Joe Morrison to seek invitations for community representatives to engage at the Board and Steering Committee level
4. Work towards hosting these forums as annual events across north Australia
5. The alliance partnership to commence looking at the issues raised throughout the workshop, develop partnerships to address them and report back to next meeting and through Kantri Laif on progress.
6. A discussion paper to examine the issues that have arisen from the 2004 Forum be developed and put forth amongst partners and interested groups ASAP.



### *Workshops*



*Leah, Jean, Ari and Brian*



*Community Rangers from Raminginning*



*Lunch*

## APPENDIX 1

### North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA) FORUM 2004

**Date:** 1-3rd September (2 ½ days)

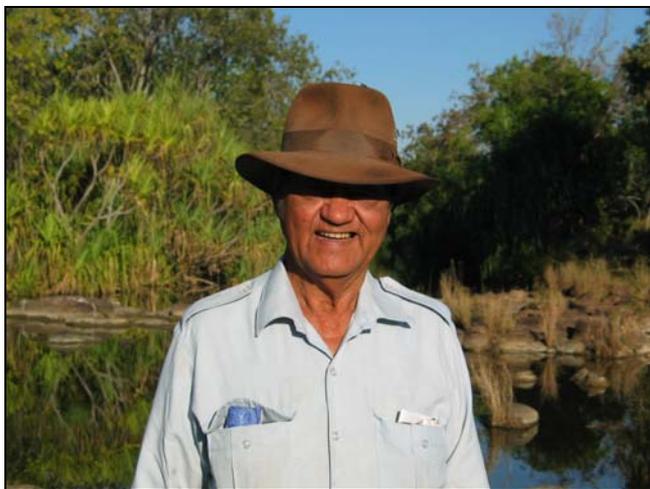
**Background:** NAILSMA was formed 2 years ago to facilitate Indigenous Land & Sea Management activities across north Australia. This meeting aims to develop the alliance through feedback from Traditional Owners of land and sea to drive the alliance and its activities into the future.

**Please note that this forum will not be a ranger conference.** It will focus on the development of the alliance across north Australia, but there will be plenty of time for ranger groups and organisations to catch up informally between sessions. There will be a workshop session on the agenda at the beginning of the gathering.

**Please note the purpose of the Forum will be to:**

- Provide information to people about what NAILSMA is about
- Discuss a possible structure for the future of NAILSMA
- Discuss current NAILSMA initiatives
- Bring Indigenous people together to assist in planning for the future,
- Develop one voice on land and sea management,
- Handing the management of the alliance back to Traditional Owners,
- To hold workshop groups (informal and formal discussions) regarding the alliance and North Australian land and sea management activities,
- To promote and support Indigenous leadership and culture,
- Provide a forum for Traditional Owners to come together to talk about North Australian Indigenous land and sea management issues
- Present and workshop the outcomes of the Lingiari Paper.

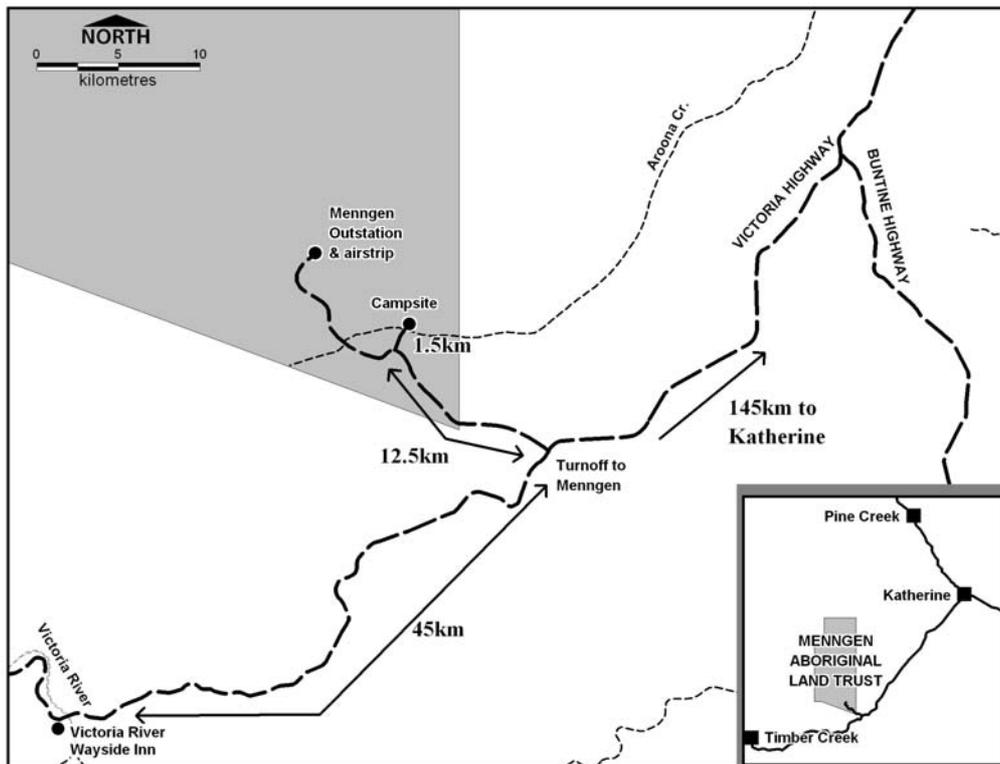
**Hosted by: Wardaman Aboriginal Corporation**



*Chair of Wardaman Aboriginal Corporation – Senior Traditional Owner Bill Harney.*

## Directions:

- If you are driving from the east, it is approx 145km west of Katherine on the Victoria Highway to the Menggen turn off on the right. Then 12.5km on the Menggen service road, turn right and in 1km to meeting site.
- If you are driving from Western Australia, it is approx 45km east of the Victoria River Wayside Inn to the Menggen turn off on the left. Then 12.5km on the Menggen service road, turn right and in 1km to meeting site.
- An airstrip is available at Menggen outstation for those that wish to fly. Travel to the meeting site can be arranged from there. Please arrange **before the 28th for this.**



## NAILSMA FORUM AGENDA - 2004

### Day 1 – Current Setting

Breakfast	
Welcome to country	Bill Harney and other Wardaman Traditional Owners
Housekeeping	
Introduction of NAILSMA	
Purpose of meeting <sup>1</sup>	
Discussion on agenda for meeting	
SMOKO	
Feedback and review from TO's	
Summary of current projects	
LUNCH	
Discussion and decisions on current projects –breakaway groups (incl. women's group & possible project areas)	
Indigenous Knowledge interpretation with Bill Harney	
DINNER	
Bunngal around campfire	

## Day 2 – Future Direction

Follow-up on feedback and report back from elders from previous day	
Proposed new project areas discussed yesterday.	
SMOKO	
NAILSMA futures – present information from Lingiari and NAILSMA workshop for future direction – Board/Steering Committee	
LUNCH	
Discussion through facilitated workshops/breakaway groups	Facilitators
Indigenous Knowledge interpretation with Bill Harney - OPTIONAL	
DINNER	
Bungal	

## Day 3 - Consolidation

Feedback/gaps	
NAILSMA consolidation on future	
Endorsement	
Next forum	
LUNCH	
Depart for home.	

## APPENDIX 2

### ***Objectives of the North Australian Land and Sea Management Alliance, as stated in the Heads of Agreement Document***

The Alliance will:

- Create opportunities for indigenous land owners and managers to share experience and knowledge and to facilitate collective action in support of shared objectives;
- Facilitate development of appropriate collaborative working arrangements between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal land management agencies and research bodies;
- Promote wider understanding of the land management needs of Aboriginal landowners;
- Support indigenous land managers in utilizing both indigenous and non-indigenous knowledge in development and implementation of land management programs;
- Recognize the many levels of leadership and knowledge in indigenous communities and to support and promote that leadership;
- Assist indigenous leaders to create opportunities for the transfer of knowledge and development of leadership across generations (for example family based “back to country” camps);
- Identify the requirements for the sustainable management of indigenous natural and cultural resources in the wet-dry tropics and promote broad understanding in government and private sectors of those requirements;
- Seek resources to address Alliance objectives, ensuring that these are additional resources and do not divert funds from on-ground land and sea managers;
- Improve communication and information exchange between indigenous owners and managers of land and sea;
- Advocate the issues, needs and concerns of indigenous owners and managers of land and sea and to investigate culturally and commercially appropriate ways to protect indigenous knowledge;
- Represent indigenous interests at all levels in institutions to further the aims of the alliance (in the first instance on the board of the CRC for Tropical Savannas Management);
- Explore innovative ways to address the broad spread of indigenous interests in plants and animals across the wet-dry tropics and their relationship with commercial interests;
- Forge mutually beneficial partnerships with organizations that support the aims of the Alliance;
- Ensure that Indigenous people who have completed, are undertaking, or are about to commence training in environmental management at TAFE and tertiary institutions are included in the NAILMSA network.

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<sup>i</sup> **Purpose of meeting:** This is the inaugural NAILSMA Forum, hence the need to report back to Traditional Owners the ideas behind NAILSMA and the need to seek endorsement/support from TO's as to the establishment of a structure that will take NAILSMA into the future (as per May workshop).

There may be some need to change this, please let me know and send back to me ASAP. There is a need to have an idea of what we are up against with this gathering.

## Appendix 3

### *List of attendance at NAILSMA Forum*

WA	NT	QLD	OTHER
Yiriman Youth Project	Charles Darwin University Maritime Institute	Australian Conservation Foundation - Cape York	University Of Melbourne
Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre			ABC Radio National Sydney
Kimberly Regional Fire Management Project	Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation (LNAC) - Darwin	North Australian Environmental Alliance (NAEA)	
WWF	Bulman Representatives	Balkanu Cape York Development Corporation Representatives	
Lingiari Foundation			
Kimberley Land Council – Broome & Derby Offices	Australian Marine Conservation Society, AMCS	Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation- Burketown QLD	
Peter Yu – representing NAILSMA	Menzies School of Health Research	Kuku Thypan	
	Minyerri Representatives	Coen representatives	
	ABC Katherine		
	Northern Land Council (Darwin & Katherine Regional)		
	Greening Australia – ALEP		
	AQIS		
	Yugul Mangi Rangers - Ngukurr		
	Dept Fisheries NT Government		
	Wangajakamirr Rangers - Raminginning		
	Djelk Rangers - Maningrida		
	Lianthawirriyarra Sea Rangers - Borrooloola		
	Key Centre for Tropical Wildlife Management		
	Parks Australia North		
	National Oceans Office		

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	Daly River Wangamaty Landcare Wagiman representative Dhimurru Land Management Yarralin rangers CSIRO SE Marthakal Rangers Waruwi Rangers WWF –Darwin Timber Creek Rangers		
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