



The South West Native Title Settlement

Noongar Heritage Partnership Agreements

The South West Native Title Settlement (Settlement) is a landmark native title agreement negotiated between the Noongar people and the Western Australian Government (WA Government). The Settlement commenced on 25 February 2021.

The Settlement, involving six Noongar Native Title Agreement Groups, and covering 200,000 square kilometres of land, represents significant social and economic investment in the Noongar community and the shared future of Western Australia.

For the latest Settlement information visit wa.gov.au (the WA Government website)

Noongar Heritage Partnership Agreements

The Noongar Heritage Partnership Agreements (NHPA), created as a part of the South West Native Title Settlement, provide a framework for the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) and each of the six Noongar Regional Corporations to work in partnership to improve the recording, protection and preservation of Aboriginal sites within the South West Native Title Settlement Area.



Map of the Settlement Area showing the six Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) ('Settlement Agreement') area boundaries

What are the key objectives of the Noongar Heritage Partnership Agreements?

Key NHPA objectives are to improve:

- Aboriginal site preservation and management;
- Data on the Aboriginal Heritage Inquiry System (AHIS); and
- The exchange of information with regard to Aboriginal sites between DPLH and Noongar people, as facilitated by the six Noongar Regional Corporations.

The NHPAs foster a commitment of partnership between DPLH and the Noongar Regional Corporations that will ultimately ensure that information and understanding about Noongar heritage is improved.

What is the role of the Noongar Regional Corporations in relation to the Noongar Heritage Partnership Agreements?

The six Noongar Regional Corporations, via the six

Steering Groups established for each of the six NHPAs, will:

- Advise DPLH on Aboriginal heritage matters within their ILUA region;
- Create and amend local and regional Heritage Management Plans within their ILUA region;
- Make recommendations and give advice to DPLH to inform decisions on the application of Sections 16 and 18 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972 (WA)*;
- Work with DPLH in the preparation of policies, programs and other heritage management documents for the six ILUA areas; and
- Provide advice and work with DPLH on the development of Aboriginal heritage training and employment initiatives within the six ILUA areas.

Aboriginal Heritage and NHPAs Enquiries

Contact the Department for Planning,
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Further Information please visit the DPLH
website:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-planning-lands-and-heritage/noongar-heritage-partnership-agreements-south-west-native-title-settlement>

Further information

Further information about the Settlement, including the six ILUAs made in compliance with the Commonwealth *Native Title Act* 1993, can be found on the website of the WA Government

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/south-west-native-title-settlement>