

5 April 2013

### **Upper Finnis River**

Following extensive negotiations, the Traditional Owners have made a decision to not allow permit free access to the upper tidal parts of the Finnis River, within the Delissaville, Wagait, Larrakia Aboriginal Land Trust.

The area affected begins approximately 13.5 kilometres (by river) upstream from the mouth of the Finnis River. The Northern Land Council has provided approximate GPS coordinates to help identify the area on the northern side of the river it is 12.903s and 130.410e, and 12.904s and 130.410e on the southern side.

Territorians are asked to respect the decision and not enter the affected area, unless permitted.

Areas of the Finnis River from the mouth to the above GPS points remain open under the interim arrangements, while negotiations continue.

The Northern Territory Government has negotiated in good faith in respect of reaching an amicable solution and will continue to do so.

For other Northern Territory waters in the Northern Land Council region, constructive negotiations are continuing, and access continues to be allowed under interim arrangements that don't expire until 1 July this year.

*This statement is for background or can be attributed to Alastair Shields, leader of the Northern Territory Government negotiating team.*

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