Introduction

The Tribunal’s Research Unit prepares bibliographies as a ready reference for anyone wanting to locate readily available, published material about Indigenous Australian people within a particular region or locality. The bibliographies are produced for general library use from reports prepared by the Tribunal for parties to native title mediations. The bibliographies are not exhaustive reference lists about any particular Indigenous group, nor is the published material necessarily an accurate or insightful report of Indigenous society. The Research Unit may update bibliographies from time to time, usually because a new research report has been produced.

It should be noted that the contents and production of these reports are governed by time and resource constraints. They are often prepared in four to eight weeks by a single research officer with some input from a research assistant and Tribunal librarian.

Disclaimer: The bibliographies are lists of materials that have been used by the Research Unit of the Tribunal to provide background information for native title mediations. The Tribunal forms no view on the accuracy, completeness, or relevance of the reference material cited in these bibliographies. Most of this material is held at libraries and is available to the public. The Tribunal library may be able to assist in lending or locating items.
Bularnu People Report

The Bularnu People report was prepared by research staff of the National Native Title Tribunal to provide research assistance to the Carpentaria Land Council. This report was based on publicly and readily available information relevant to the location.

Based on the areas most commonly identified by the literature in this report, the general country of the Bularnu appears to have been somewhere in the vicinity of the upper/middle Georgina River, lying well within a general area defined broadly by the following four points:

- West to Argadagada station (around 21º 40' S x 136º 40' E) in the central-east of the Northern Territory;
- East to Mt Isa in western Queensland;
- Camooweal to the north; and
- Urandangi to the south.

Research Method

The content and production of these reports are governed by time and resource constraints. They are usually prepared in six weeks by a single research officer with some input from a research assistant and a Tribunal librarian.

The material used for these reports is derived largely from a search of the AIATSIS online catalogue. A large proportion of this material is available only from the AIATSIS library, which has limited resources available to supply material. Therefore care is taken to request only
that material which appears relevant to the scope of a particular report.

The Tribunal Library also has substantial holdings of reference material which is used where appropriate. In addition, in this report the following general references were used:

- Tindale, 1940, 'Distribution of Australian Aboriginal tribes: a field survey'; and
- Tindale, 1974, *Aboriginal Tribes of Australia*.

This report contains summaries of information that is publicly available and relevant to the location of the Bularnu people and the regions that comprise the areas that may have been their former traditional responsibilities. The general area with which the literature on the Bularnu is concerned involves a large area straddling the lower/middle Georgina River, from Argadagada station in the central-east of the Northern Territory to Mt Isa in western Queensland, and from Camooweal in the north and Urandangi to the south.

A search was made of the AIATSIS library catalogue using the ‘language group’ field. This included Bulanu, Bularnu, Jaroinga, Yaroinga and Ayerrerenge. A catalogue search was also made of several mapsheet locations and of specific locations within the area, such as “Georgina River”, “Urandangi” and “Lake Nash”.

Each record was examined to determine its likely relevance or usefulness. Materials with access restrictions were omitted as were foreign language materials, obvious apparent cataloguing errors, microforms, audio material and material that appeared to deal with technical aspects of language or education curricula. The result of these searches is set out in the table below:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Search term</th>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Raw result</th>
<th>After filtering</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bularnu (note AIATSIS spelling)</td>
<td>Language group</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Many pure linguistics reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Map Reference SF54-01 Yaroinga</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Most Mt Isa/Kalkadunga</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ayerrerenge / Yuruwinga</td>
<td>Language Group</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Many repeated hits and inaccessible works.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urandangi</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>(several repeated hits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgina River</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(covers very wide area – many irrelevant hits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Nash</td>
<td></td>
<td>43</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Large number of non-accessible documents and sound recordings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>214</td>
<td>45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bibliography


Horton, D. 2000, *Aboriginal Australia* (map), Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra.


Tindale, N. B. 1940, 'Distribution of Australian Aboriginal Tribes: A Field Survey', *Royal Society of South Australia*, 64(1).

