



Northern Land Council

MEDIA RELEASE

Intertidal Zone Court case

23 February 2001

The Northern Land Council is examining the judgement and considering its options following today's Federal Court decision in the unique and complex case relating to intertidal zones.

The action on behalf of the landowners in Arnhem Land was an effort to improve the protection of marine resources in the Top End and allow Aboriginal people to play a greater role in the management of the fishing industry occurring on their land.

The NLC had launched the Court action to try and clarify the rights of Aboriginal landowners over land they have regained under the Land Rights Act, and was limited only to the waters which lie on top of Aboriginal land. This case was not a claim by Aboriginal people for 'extra' rights.