

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

13 November 2014

**GOLDFIELDS LAND & SEA COUNCIL**  
**Aboriginal Corporation (Representative Body)**  
14 Throssell Street ICN: 364  
PO Box 10006, Kalgoorlie WA 6430  
Telephone: (08) 9091 1661 Fax: (08) 9091 1662  
reception@glsc.com.au <http://www.glsc.com.au>



### **World Parks Conference**

On 12 November 2014, the Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Nigel Scullion announced that funding of up to \$77,000 had been provided to ensure that Indigenous rangers and managers were part of setting the agenda for protected area conservation for the next ten years, at the World Parks Congress in Sydney.

Minister Scullion noted that “Indigenous Protected Areas (‘IPAs’) play a vital role in implementing the Australian Government’s commitment under the International Convention on Biological Diversity to protect 17 per cent of Australia’s terrestrial and inland waters by 2020, and that IPAs are established by Indigenous organisations on Indigenous-owned or jointly managed land or sea that can be used sustainably to generate economic and social benefits while protecting natural and cultural values.”

The CEO of the Goldfields Land and Sea Council (‘GLSC’), Mr Hans Bokelund, said unfortunately, not one IPA has been agreed to by the federal government in the region. Traditional owners from the Goldfields are once again missing out on an opportunity for, what Minister Scullion terms “taking a place-based approach to community ownership and decision making at the local level to address local issues.” The GLSC, and traditional owners from the Goldfields, would welcome a commitment from Minister Scullion on investigating an IPA in an area that has the last undisturbed Mediterranean woodland in the world.

**Media Contact: GLSC Chief Executive Officer – (08) 90 911661**