



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Council Funded Report Reveals the Cultural Heritage of the Tarkine**

'North West Councils have banded together to produce an account of the European cultural heritage of the Tarkine in order to correct popular views that the area is a remote and fragile wilderness,' the Mayor of Circular Head, Ross Hine, said today.

'A Peopled Frontier: A European Cultural Heritage of the Tarkine' was written by historian Dr Nic Haygarth and outlines major historic and current land uses of the Tarkine.

"'A Peopled Frontier' presents a very different view of the Tarkine than what is presented in the popular literature", Mayor Hine said.

"Rather than being a very fragile place that is easily disturbed by human activity, the Tarkine is in fact a robust place that has supported a wide range of social and economic activity for generations."

"Communities, for example, live in and around the Tarkine," Mr Hine said.

In European terms alone the area has supported an active mining, forestry, grazing, and fishing and tourism industry. Many of these industries continue today in some parts of the Tarkine.

"'A Peopled Frontier' comes at a very opportune time," Mr Hine said. "The Commonwealth is about to assess an area of some 440,000 hectares, called the Tarkine Wilderness Area that has been nominated for the National Heritage List."

"This nomination describes the Tarkine almost entirely in terms of its natural values, such as its plants, its animals and its landforms.

"It is important in its assessment process that the Commonwealth Government properly understands all the values of the Tarkine and not just the natural ones".

"Tomorrow, on behalf of the North West Councils, I will be travelling to Canberra to present 'A Peopled Frontier' to Commonwealth officials in order to encourage them to undertake a full and comprehensive cultural values assessment of the Tarkine."

Currently in report form, it is anticipated that 'A Peopled Frontier' will be published in early 2008 and made available to the public for purchase.

**COPY ENDS**

***Authorised for general media distribution by Greg Winton, General Manager,  
Circular Head Council on Monday 22 October 2007.***

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