

# **Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement**

under s 82P of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic)

**Ryan Smith MP, for and on behalf of the State of Victoria**

**and**

**Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation  
Indigenous Corporation Number 4421**

**and**

**The Secretary to the Department of Sustainability and Environment as the body corporate pursuant to section 6 of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic)**

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**Date**

**28 March 2013**

**Ryan Smith MP, for and on behalf of the State of Victoria in his capacity as the responsible Minister for the time being administering the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 (Vic)***

of Level 17, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne Victoria 3002

**(the Minister)**

**and**

**Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation**

**Indigenous Corporation Number 4421**

of 473 Hargreaves St, Bendigo Victoria 3552

**(the Corporation)**

**and**

**Secretary to the Department of Sustainability and Environment as the body corporate pursuant to section 6 of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 (Vic)***

of Level 16, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne Victoria 3002

**(the Secretary)**

## **Background**

- A. The Corporation has entered into a Recognition and Settlement Agreement with the State on 28 March 2013 under the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 (Vic)*.
- B. The State and the Corporation have entered into this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement to enable the establishment of a Traditional Owner Land Management Board and joint management of the Appointed Land. This will give effect to the Recognition and Settlement Agreement and enable the knowledge and culture of the Dja Dja Wurrung, to be recognised in the management of the Appointed Land. The Minister will use best endeavours to establish a Traditional Owner Land Management Board in relation to the Appointed Land.
- C. Both this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement and the Recognition and Settlement Agreement are part of the Settlement Package.

## Agreed terms

### 1. Commencement

This Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement commences on the date that it is executed by the last of the Parties to do so and continues in its present form unless varied in writing by the Parties.

### 2. Establishment of Traditional Owner Land Management Board

#### 2.1 Agreement to facilitate the establishment of the Traditional Owner Land Management Board

- (a) The Minister will use best endeavours to establish a Traditional Owner Land Management Board pursuant to Part 8A of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic) by determination published in the Government Gazette.
- (b) This Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement is an agreement made under Division 5 of Part 8A of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic) which:
  - (i) the Minister must have regard to under s 82B(3), 82F(3), 82G(4) and 82M(4) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic);
  - (ii) the Secretary must have regard to under s 16A(3) of the *National Parks Act 1975* (Vic); s 18B(3) of the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* (Vic); s 28(2) of the *Forests Act 1958* (Vic); s 18A(2) of the *Wildlife Act 1975* (Vic); and s 4B(2) of the *Land Act 1958* (Vic); and
  - (iii) the Minister or the Secretary must take all reasonable steps to give effect to under s 82AB of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic).
- (c) The Board is to be known as Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board.
- (d) The Board will perform the role and have the functions, powers and duties described in the draft determination set out at Schedule 2.

#### 2.2 Appointed Land of the Board

- (a) The following public land will comprise the Appointed Land of the Board being the land known as:
  - (i) Hepburn Regional Park;
  - (ii) Greater Bendigo National Park;
  - (iii) Kooyoora State Park;
  - (iv) Wehla Nature Conservation Reserve;
  - (v) Paddys Ranges State Park; and

- (vi) Kara Kara National Park (to the extent that the park falls within the Indigenous Land Use Agreement area).
- (b) The Appointed Land is more particularly described in the draft determination set out at Appendix 1 of the determination in Schedule 2.

### **2.3 Minister may vary lands with the Corporation's consent**

- (a) Before making any variations to the Appointed Land under s 82F(1)(a) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic), the Minister must notify the Corporation of any proposal to vary the Appointed Land.
- (b) In accordance with s 82FA(a) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic), the Minister must, before varying the Appointed Land, first obtain the consent of the Corporation.
- (c) A proposal to vary the Appointed Land may be made to the Minister by the Corporation or any other party to this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement.
- (d) The Minister must notify the Corporation and the Board of the Minister's decision to make, or refuse to make, any such variation and, if requested by the Corporation, give a statement of reasons for the Minister's decision.

### **2.4 Consultation before other variation**

- (a) Before making any variation to the:
  - (i) role of the Board; or
  - (ii) the functions, powers or duties of the Board,under s 82F(1)(b) or 82F(1)(c) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic), the Minister must notify the Corporation of any such proposed variation.
- (b) A notice given by the Minister under clause 2.4(a) must stipulate the period being no less than 60 days for the Corporation to make any submission under clause 2.4(c).
- (c) The Minister must, before making any variation of the kind referred to in clause 2.4(a), consult the Corporation and consider any submission which the Corporation makes in relation to the proposed variation and obtain the consent of the Corporation to the proposed variation.
- (d) A proposal for a variation of the kind referred to in clause 2.4(a) may be made by the Corporation or any other party to this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement.
- (e) The Minister must notify the Corporation and the Board of the Minister's decision to make or refuse to make any such variation and, if requested by the Corporation, give a statement of reasons for the Minister's decision. If a proposal for a variation under clause 2.4(d) is made by the Corporation the Minister must notify the Corporation and the Board of the Minister's decision within 60 days from the receipt of the proposal (or such longer period as may be agreed).

- (f) The Minister may at any time vary the management functions, powers or duties of the Board pursuant to an agreement made under s 82P(1)(b) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic) made with the Corporation and with the consent of any Relevant Land Minister.

## 2.5 Appointments and removal of members of the Board

- (a) Within six months of the commencement of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement, the Corporation must submit to the Minister a panel of not less than **four** names of persons who the Corporation nominates for appointment to the Board in accordance with s 82M(3)(a) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic).
- (b) For the purposes of clause 2.5(a) the Corporation must have regard to any relevant government guidelines, issued from time to time relating to appointments to boards and statutory bodies.
- (c) If any casual vacancy in the membership of the Board occurs in relation to a person appointed under s 82M(3)(a) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic), the Corporation must as soon as reasonably practicable submit to the Minister a panel of no less than **two** names of persons who the Corporation nominates for appointment to the Board to fill the vacancy.
- (d) The Minister may request further nominations for appointment to the Board from the Corporation.
- (e) If the Minister makes a request pursuant to clause 2.5(d), the Corporation must as soon as reasonably practicable submit to the Minister a further panel of no less than two names.
- (f) After receipt by the Minister of a panel or further panel, as the case may be, of no less than two names under clause 2.5(c) or clause 2.5(d) the Minister shall as soon as reasonably practicable appoint a person to fill the casual vacancy in the membership of the Board.
- (g) The Corporation may at any time request that the Minister dismiss a member of the Board under s 82M(2) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic).
- (h) If the Minister fails to dismiss a member of the Board pursuant to a request made under clause 2.5(g) the Minister shall, if requested by the Corporation, give as soon as reasonably practicable a statement of reasons in relation to that failure.
- (i) If the Minister dismisses a member of the Board under s 82M of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic), and that member had been appointed under s 82M(3)(a), then the Minister must provide reasons for the dismissal.

## 3. Joint Management Plans

### 3.1 Notice to the Board

- (a) The Secretary must as soon as reasonably practicable after the appointment of the first Board members:

- (i) notify the Board of the existing land management arrangements and land managers in relation to the Appointed Land;
  - (ii) notify the Board of a contact officer of the Department for initial communications between the Board and the Department.
- (b) The Secretary must notify the Board from time to time as necessary of any substitute officer of the Department.

### 3.2 Management prior to commencement of Joint Management Plan

- (a) Subject to clause 3.2(b) until the commencement of the first Joint Management Plan the Appointed Land will continue to be managed under all existing land management arrangements and Land Management Plans (if any).
- (b) The Secretary may alter the existing land management arrangements or make or alter a Land Management Plan (if any) at any time prior to the commencement of the first Joint Management Plan.
- (c) Before altering the existing land management arrangements or making or altering a Land Management Plan (if any) in a manner which affects the Appointed Land, the Secretary must:
  - (i) if the Board has not yet been established, notify the Corporation and give the Corporation a reasonable time to make submissions in relation to the proposed alteration or alterations;
  - (ii) if the Board has been established, but the first Joint Management Plan has not yet taken effect, notify the Board and give the Board a reasonable time to make submissions in relation to the proposed alteration or alterations.
- (d) Before altering the existing land management arrangements or making or altering a Land Management Plan (if any), in a manner which affects the Appointed Land, the Secretary must have regard to any submissions made by the Corporation or the Board.
- (e) If the Secretary alters the existing land management arrangements or makes or alters a Land Management Plan in a manner that is inconsistent with any submissions made by the Corporation or the Board, the Secretary shall, if requested by the Corporation, give as soon as reasonably practicable a statement of reasons in relation to such inconsistency.
- (f) For the purposes of this clause 3.2, **Land Management Plan** means a management plan prepared under ss 17(2)(d), 17B, 17D(3)(c), or 18(2)(d) of the *National Parks Act 1975* (Vic) or a management plan prepared for an area of State Forest (as defined in the *Forests Act 1958* (Vic)).
- (g) The Secretary will direct the land manager to consult with the Board regarding the adoption or alteration of management plans related to the Appointed Land, which are not otherwise included within the meaning of clause 3.2(f).

### 3.3 Joint Management Plan

- (a) A Joint Management Plan must provide for the sustainable management of the Appointed Land and may include strategies for:
- (i) the conservation of natural values and cultural values (including heritage protection);
  - (ii) managing threatened species;
  - (iii) the recognition and utilisation of Dja Dja Wurrung knowledge and customs;
  - (iv) attracting and managing visitors;
  - (v) managing authorised and adjacent uses (including third party interests);
  - (vi) community awareness and involvement;
  - (vii) managing public use and access to the land;
  - (viii) plan implementation;
  - (ix) providing operational support to the Board of Management;
  - (x) promoting, encouraging and assisting the Dja Dja Wurrung to take advantage of employment, training and contracting opportunities relating to the land;
  - (xi) managing commercial activities;
  - (xii) managing fire consistently with the Secretary's directions; and
  - (xiii) any additional matters contained in relevant Ministerial guidelines.
- (b) A Joint Management Plan may specify performance measures and targets and strategies, for reviews, monitoring and evaluating performance, operation and implementation of the Joint Management Plan.

### 3.4 Joint land management principles

- (a) A Joint Management Plan must set out a statement of objectives for achieving sustainable management of the Appointed Land in accordance with the following principles:
- (i) recognising, respecting and incorporating Dja Dja Wurrung culture, use, knowledge and decision-making processes;
  - (ii) utilising the combined land, coastal and forest management skills and expertise of both the State and the Dja Dja Wurrung;
  - (iii) providing quality educational, recreational and other experiences for all park visitors, where applicable;
  - (iv) conserving, protecting and enhancing natural and cultural values;

- (v) recognising and addressing the need for institutional support and capacity building of the Dja Dja Wurrung;
  - (vi) building relationships between the Board and land managers including catchment management authorities.
- (b) The objective of joint management is to establish an equitable partnership between the State and the Dja Dja Wurrung to ensure innovation and excellence in joint management, including the following purposes:
- (i) benefiting the Dja Dja Wurrung by recognising, valuing, promoting and incorporating their culture, knowledge, skills and decision-making processes;
  - (ii) benefiting the community needs of all Victorians and visitors for public education and enjoyment through quality experiences, services and information;
  - (iii) conserving, protecting and enhancing natural and cultural values;
  - (iv) enjoying widespread community support; and
  - (v) ensuring the well-being of country and the well-being of people.

### **3.5 Obligation to observe Land Management Acts**

The Joint Management Plan must:

- (a) identify and describe the Appointed Land to which it applies;
- (b) specify the Land Management Act or Acts under which the Appointed Land is managed; and
- (c) be consistent with the Land Management Act or Acts applying to the Appointed Land.

### **3.6 Regional and State policies**

A Joint Management Plan must be prepared consistently with any relevant regional or State management policies for management of public land.

### **3.7 Reviewing, amending and updating the Joint Management Plan**

- (a) The Joint Management Plan continues to have effect until an amended or revised Joint Management Plan is approved by the Minister.
- (b) A Joint Management Plan must specify the manner of the making of subsequent Joint Management Plans, and the timing of the making of them.
- (c) A Joint Management Plan must provide for a review or reviews of the Joint Management Plan at periodic intervals stipulated in the Joint Management Plan, and may specify who will undertake the review and the manner in which the review will be carried out.

- (d) A Joint Management Plan may provide for interim reviews of the Joint Management Plan on the happening of specified events including, but not limited to, a variation to the Appointed Land.
- (e) If the findings of a review recommend proposed amendments to the Joint Management Plan, the Secretary and the Board may submit an amended Joint Management Plan reflecting those findings to the Minister for approval under s 82PH of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic).
- (f) The Board may submit a report to the Secretary following a review of the Joint Management Plan under clause 3.7(c) or 3.7(d) on any matter to which clause 3.7(e) does not apply and the Secretary must as soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of it, consider the report and provide a written response to the Board.

### 3.8 Completion of or agreement to Joint Management Plan

- (a) If, at any time after taking all reasonable steps as required by the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic), the Secretary and the Board disagree on a Completed Joint Management Plan or an Agreed Joint Management Plan, the Secretary may, and if requested by the Board will, refer the matters of difference to an appropriately qualified expert consultant agreed between the Secretary and the Board, to prepare a report and to make recommendations for resolution of those matters of difference.
- (b) The Secretary and the Board agree to be bound by the expert's recommendations and submit the Joint Management Plan to the Minister for approval under s 82PH(1)(c) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic).
- (c) In this clause **Completed Joint Management Plan** means a joint management plan completed for the purposes of s 82PB(1) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic) prior to publication of a notice for public comment and **Agreed Joint Management Plan** means an agreed joint management plan for the purposes of s 82PG(1) of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic).

## 4. Dispute resolution

### 4.1 Parties must follow dispute resolution procedure

- (a) If a Dispute arises between the Parties, the Parties agree to attempt to resolve the Dispute pursuant to this clause before commencing any proceedings in relation to the Dispute in any court or tribunal.
- (b) This clause does not prevent a party to the Dispute from seeking interlocutory injunctive relief.
- (c) The provisions of this clause do not apply to any review of the Settlement Package pursuant to clause 10 of the Recognition And Settlement Agreement.

## 4.2 Notice of Dispute

- (a) If a Dispute between the Parties arises, the Party who alleges the existence of the Dispute must, by notice in writing to the other Parties, refer the Dispute to a dispute resolution panel constituted pursuant to clause 4.2(b). The notice must adequately identify, and provide details of, the Dispute.
- (b) The dispute resolution panel must consist of:
  - (i) two persons nominated by the State; and
  - (ii) two persons nominated by the Corporation.

## 4.3 Meeting of the panel

If the Dispute is referred to the dispute resolution panel, the panel must meet to resolve the Dispute within **10** Business Days of service of the Dispute notice, or such other time as the Parties agree.

## 4.4 Mediation

- (a) If the dispute resolution panel does not resolve the Dispute within 10 Business Days of its first meeting pursuant to clause 4.3 or within such other time as the Parties agree, a Party to the dispute may refer the matter to mediation by giving notice in writing to the other Party.
- (b) If the matter is referred to mediation, the Parties to the Dispute will jointly appoint an appropriately qualified mediator from the Federal Court of Australia's 'List of Native Title Mediators'.
- (c) If the Parties to the dispute do not agree on a mediator pursuant to clause 4.4(b), the Parties agree to jointly request the Chairperson of the Victorian Bar Council to appoint an appropriately qualified mediator from the Federal Court of Australia's List of Native Title Mediators.
- (d) The Parties to the dispute must cooperate fully with the mediator and use their best endeavours to reach agreement within a reasonable time.
- (e) Where the Dispute relates to an issue which by its nature is likely to arise with respect to other Traditional Owner Groups in the State of Victoria, the State must pay the mediator's reasonable fees and expenses. Otherwise, the Parties must pay an equal share of the mediator's reasonable fees and expenses.

## 4.5 Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement continues

The Parties will continue to perform and observe their respective obligations under this Agreement pending resolution of a Dispute under this clause 4.

## 5. Variation

- (a) This Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement may only be varied by the Parties by agreement in writing.

- (b) Without derogating from clause 5(a), the Parties may vary any deadlines in this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement by an exchange of letters.

## 6. Breach

- (a) If, in the reasonable opinion of a Party (in this clause 6, '**first party**'), another Party has breached a condition of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement (in this clause 6, '**other party**'), the first party may serve a notice on that other party (in this clause 6, '**notice**').
- (b) A notice must specify the nature of the breach and nominate a reasonable period within which the other party must rectify the breach.
- (c) If the breach is not remedied in accordance with the notice, the first party may refer the matter for resolution in accordance with clause 4.

## 7. Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement to bind the Corporation's successors

The Corporation will do all things that the State reasonably requires it to do to ensure that any corporation that succeeds the Corporation and is appointed by the Dja Dja Wurrung as the Traditional Owner Group Entity becomes bound by and has the benefit of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement.

## 8. General

### 8.1 Communications

- (a) The Parties will send any correspondence or notices in connection with this Agreement to the relevant Party's representative specified in Schedule 1.
- (b) A Party may change its contact details from time to time by notice in writing to the other Party.
- (c) Any correspondence or notices in connection with this Agreement shall be taken to be delivered or served as follows:
  - (i) in the case of delivery in person or by courier, when delivered;
  - (ii) in the case of delivery by post, two Business Days after the date of posting;
  - (iii) in the case of facsimile transmission, on receipt by the sender of a transmission report from the despatching machine showing: the date of transmission, the relevant number of pages, the correct telephone number of the destination facsimile machine and the result of the transmission as satisfactory; and
  - (iv) in the case of electronic mail, if the message is correctly addressed to and successfully transmitted to that party's electronic mail address (e-mail address), when acknowledgment of receipt is recorded on the sender's computer.

## 8.2 Entire understanding

The Settlement Package contains the entire understanding between the Parties as to its subject matter. There are no other representations, warranties, explanations, arrangements or understandings, (whether written or oral, express or implied, or before or after the signing of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement) between the Parties which qualify or supplement the written terms of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement.

## 8.3 Governing Law

- (a) This Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Victoria.
- (b) The Parties irrevocably and unconditionally submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Victoria and any courts that may hear appeals from those courts and waive any right to object to proceedings being brought in those courts.

## 8.4 Compliance with Laws

Each party must, in performing its obligations under this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement, comply with the Law.

## 8.5 Time to act

If the time for a Party to do something is not specified in this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement, the Party will do what is required within a reasonable time.

## 8.6 Severability

Any part, clause, sub-clause, paragraph or sub-paragraph of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement which is invalid or unenforceable shall be read down, if possible, to be valid and enforceable. Where that part, clause, sub-clause, paragraph or sub-paragraph cannot be read down it shall be severed without affecting the remaining parts of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement.

## 9. Definitions and Interpretation

### 9.1 Definitions

In this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

**Appointed Land** means the public land to which the Board is appointed under the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic) as described in Appendix 1 of Schedule 2;

**Board** and **Board of Management** means the Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board to be established under Part 8A of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic) and provided for under Part 2 of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement;

**Business Day** means any of the days from Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding days that are public holidays in Victoria;

**Corporation** means the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (Indigenous Corporation Number 4421), being a Traditional Owner Group Entity, or successor entity;

**Department** means the Department of Sustainability and Environment;

**Dispute** means a dispute relating to the interpretation or operation of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement, but does not include a dispute relating to the interpretation, operation or implementation of a Joint Management Plan;

**Dja Dja Wurrung** has the same meaning as in the Recognition and Settlement Agreement;

**Indigenous Land Use Agreement** means the indigenous land use agreement under the *Native Title Act 1993* in Attachment 2 of the Recognition and Settlement Agreement;

**Joint Management Plan** means a Joint Management Plan within the meaning of Part 8A of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic);

**Land Management Act** means any of:

- (a) *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* (Vic);
- (b) *National Parks Act 1975* (Vic);
- (c) *Forests Act 1958* (Vic);
- (d) *Land Act 1958* (Vic); or
- (e) *Wildlife Act 1975* (Vic);

**Law** means:

- (a) common law and equity; and
- (b) Commonwealth, Victorian or local government legislation, regulations, by-laws and other subordinate regulations;

**Minister** means the Minister of the Crown for the time being with responsibility for the administration of Part 8A of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic);

**Party** means a Party to this Agreement;

**Relevant Land Minister** has the same meaning as in Part 8A of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic);

**Recognition and Settlement Agreement** means the recognition and settlement agreement entered into by the Corporation and the State under s 4 of the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* (Vic) dated 28 March 2013;

**Secretary** means the body corporate established pursuant to s 6 of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic);

**Settlement Package** means the agreements entered into by the Parties in settlement of the Native Title determination applications in Federal Court proceeding numbers VID6006/1998, VID6001/1999, VID6003/1999 and VID6001/2000, being

the Indigenous Land Use Agreement, the Recognition and Settlement Agreement and this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement;

**State** means the Crown in right of the State of Victoria;

**Traditional Owner Group** has the same meaning as in the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* (Vic);

**Traditional Owner Group Entity** has the same meaning as in the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* (Vic);

**Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement** means this agreement, entered into under s 82P of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic), including any schedules, annexures, and appendices to this agreement.

## 9.2 Interpretation

In this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) a reference to any person includes a reference to that person's personal representatives, successors and transferees (whether by assignment, novation or otherwise pursuant to law);
- (b) a reference to any group includes a reference to the members of that group from time to time;
- (c) a reference to any legislation or legislative provision includes any statutory modification or re-enactment of, or legislative provision substituted for, and any subordinate legislation or instruments of a legislative character issued under, that legislation or legislative provision;
- (d) the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
- (e) a reference to an individual or person includes a company, corporation, partnership, firm, joint venture, association (whether incorporated or not), body, authority, trust, state or government;
- (f) a reference to a part, clause, sub-clause, schedule or attachment is to a part, clause, sub-clause, schedule or attachment of or to this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement;
- (g) the 'Background' paragraphs form part of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement;
- (h) a reference to any agreement, arrangement, understanding, document, deed or protocol is to that agreement, arrangement, understanding, document, deed or protocol (and, where applicable any provisions) as amended, novated, supplemented or replaced from time to time;
- (i) where an expression is defined, another part of speech or grammatical form of that expression has a corresponding meaning;
- (j) headings are included for convenience and do not affect the interpretation of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement;

- (k) an agreement, representation or warranty on the part of or in favour of 2 or more persons binds or is for the benefit of them jointly and severally.

**Executed as a Deed**

Signed, sealed and delivered by Ryan Smith, MP, for and on behalf of the State of Victoria in the presence of:



---

E. J. Powell  
Witness (Signature)

Elizabeth Jeanette Powell  
Name of Witness (Printed)

Date 28 March 2013

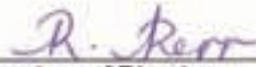
Signed, sealed and delivered for and on behalf of Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 4421) in accordance with section 99-5 of the Corporations (Aboriginal And Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (Cth)



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Signature of Director

Graham Atkinson  
Full Name of Director (Printed)



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Signature of Director

RONALD THOMAS KERR  
Full Name of Director (Printed)

Date 28 March 2013

Date 28 March 2013

The Official Seal of the Secretary to the Department of Sustainability and Environment, a body corporate established under the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 (Vic) was affixed on  
by



Adam Fennessy  
Name of Signatory



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Kanya Hotschilt  
Witness (Signature)

Kanya Hotschilt.  
Name of Witness (Printed)

Date 28 March 2013

## Schedule 1 Parties' Representatives

### State Representative (as at the execution date of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement)

Name/Position	Contact Details
Director Strategy Land Division	Department of Sustainability and Environment 8 Nicholson Street East Melbourne VIC 3002  Phone: 03 9637 8164  Fax: 03 9637 8408

### Corporation Representative (as at the execution date of this Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement)

Name/Position	Contact Details
Chief Executive Officer Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 4421)	Address: 473 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo, VIC, 3552  Ph 03 5444-2888 Fax 03 5441-6472  Email <a href="mailto:barbara@ddwcac.com.au">barbara@ddwcac.com.au</a>

## **Schedule 2 Determination to establish the Traditional Owners Land Management Board pursuant to s 82B of the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 (Vic)**

### **CONSERVATION, FORESTS AND LANDS ACT 1987**

#### **DETERMINATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 82B TO ESTABLISH A TRADITIONAL OWNER LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD TO BE KNOWN AS THE DHELKUNYA DJA LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD**

#### **Preamble**

- A. Under section 82B(1) of the Act, the Minister may by determination published in the Government Gazette establish a Traditional Owner Land Management Board.
- B. The Dja Dja Wurrung are the Traditional Owner Group for the Appointed Land.
- C. The Dja Dja Wurrung have appointed the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation as their Traditional Owner Group Entity.
- D. The Minister has entered into an agreement under Division 5 of Part 8A of the Act with the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation dated 28 March 2013 to facilitate the establishment of the Board.
- E. Under section 82B(3) of the Act, the Minister is required in making this determination to have regard to the agreement under Division 5 of Part 8A of the Act. The Minister has done so and the Minister now establishes the Board.

#### **The Minister therefore determines—**

#### **1. Definitions and Interpretation**

##### **1.1 Definitions**

In this determination, unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter—

**Act** means the **Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987** as amended from time to time, or any other re-enactment or consolidation thereof;

**Appointed Land** means the area described in Part 3 of this determination;

**Board** means the Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board established by this determination;

**Corporation** means the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation:

**Indigenous Land Use Agreement** or **ILUA** means the indigenous land use agreement under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) entered into between the Applicants, the Corporation and the State dated [insert].

**Minister** means the Minister for the time being with responsibility for the administration of Part 8A and where required includes the relevant land Minister within the meaning of that Part;

**Part 8A** means Part 8A of the Act;

**Prescribed** means prescribed by this Determination;

**Secretary** means the Secretary to the Department of Sustainability and Environment within the meaning of Part 2 of the Act;

**Traditional Owner Group Entity** means the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 4421) registered under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006* (Cth);

**Traditional Owner Land Management Board** has the same meaning as in section 82P of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987* (Vic).

## 2. Establishment of Board

2.1 Effective from the date of publication of this determination in the Victoria Government Gazette, there is established a Traditional Owner Land Management Board known as the Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board.

**Note:** Under section 82C of the Act, the Board is a body corporate with perpetual succession and has an official seal. The Board may—

- sue and be sued;
- acquire, hold and dispose of personal property;
- acquire, hold and dispose of leases or sub-leases in real property;
- do and suffer all acts and things that a body corporate may, by law, do and suffer.

**Note:** Under section 82D of the Act, the **Public Administration Act 2004** applies to the Board as if the Board were a public entity (but not a small entity) within the meaning of that Act.

## 3. Appointed Land

3.1 The following land is the land in relation to which the Board is appointed—

The Appointed land of the Board is set out and described in Appendix 1 and comprises public land known as:

- (a) Hepburn Regional Park
- (b) Greater Bendigo National Park;
- (c) Kooyoora State Park;

- (d) Wehla Nature Conservation Reserve;
- (e) Paddys Ranges State Park; and
- (f) Kara Kara National Park (to the extent that the park falls within the Dja Dja Wurrung Indigenous Land Use Agreement area).

#### **4. Role of the Board in relation to the Appointed Land**

4.1 The Role of the Board is to enable the knowledge and culture of the Dja Dja Wurrung to be recognised and incorporated into the management of the Appointed Land, through the carrying out by the Board of its functions, powers and duties as set out in this determination.

#### **5. Manner and timing of the making of joint management plans**

5.1 For the purposes of sections 82B(5)(ba) and 82PA(2)(b) of the Act, preparation of joint management plans subsequent to the first joint management plan of the Board—

- (a) may commence at any time within 3 years before the relevant date; and
- (b) must be completed, and agreement to the plan must take place, within 3 months before the relevant date.

5.2 In paragraph 5.1, *relevant date* means:

- (a) the expiry date of the previous joint management plan; or
- (b) if there is no expiry date in the previous joint management plan, the date that is 10 years after the commencement of the previous joint management plan.

**Note:** Under section 82PA(2)(a) of the Act, preparation of the first joint management plan of the Board must occur within 3 years of the appointment of the Board, unless a later date is determined by the Minister. Section 82PA(2)(b) of the Act requires the Minister to specify in this determination the timing and manner of preparation of subsequent joint management plans.

**Note:** Under Division 5A of Part 8A:

- once a joint management plan is complete, it is required to undergo a public consultation process under sections 82PE, 82PF and 82PG;
- once the public consultation process is complete and any modifications have been made to the joint management plan as a result of that process, the Secretary and the Board must agree on the final plan under section 82PH;
- once the plan is agreed under section 82PH, the Minister may approve the plan under section 82PH and the plan then takes effect under section 82PI.

#### **6. Functions Powers and Duties of the Board**

##### **6.1 Functions of the Board**

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The functions of the Board are—

- (a) to prepare joint management plans under Division 5A of Part 8A;
- (b) to comment or make submissions to any person or body on matters affecting or concerning the use or management of the Appointed Land;
- (c) to prepare policies about the Board and its operation and engagement with external parties;
- (d) to provide advice and make recommendations to the Minister and the Secretary in relation to the management of the Appointed Land, including in relation to policies that affect the management of the Appointed Land;
- (e) any other functions pursuant to section 82H of the Act in relation to the management functions conferred by management agreement or delegation to the Board; and
- (f) to monitor and encourage compliance with and performance of the Joint Management Plan.

**Note:** In addition to the functions specified above, the Board has the following management functions under section 82H of the Act—

- those management functions conferred on the Board by agreement under the Act under which the appointed land is managed;
- those management functions that are delegated to the Board by a person or body who has those management functions in relation to the appointed land;
- those functions in relation to joint management plans conferred under Division 5A of the Act.

## 6.2 Powers of the Board

Subject to this determination and the Act, the Board may exercise such powers as are necessary or convenient to perform its functions and duties, including the power to—

- (a) employ staff, including an executive officer to be responsible to the Board for implementing the decisions of the Board and carrying out its functions and duties;
- (b) enter into arrangements or agreements with any other person or body for the carrying out of its functions and duties;
- (c) carry out works on the Appointed Land if required by one of the functions of the Board;
- (d) delegate any of its functions, powers or duties to a member of the Board or an employee of the Board; and

- (e) act as delegate or agent of a person or body who has management functions, powers or duties in relation to the Appointed Land when so appointed by that person or body.

### 6.3 Duties of the Board

The duties of the Board are to—

- (a) diligently carry out its functions in accordance with—
  - (i) the Act and this determination;
  - (ii) the Board's powers; and
  - (iii) any management agreement in force with the Secretary;
- (b) keep full and proper records of its proceedings.

**Note:** Under section 82J of the Act, any function, power or duty conferred or imposed upon the Board is subject to the provisions of the Act under which the Appointed Land is managed.

## 7. Membership of the Board

### 7.1 Number of positions

The Board has **seven** members appointed by the Minister by further determination published in the Government Gazette.

### 7.2 Method of appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair

The Chairperson and deputy Chairperson of the Board are to be appointed from among the members of the Board by the Minister. The Chairperson of the Board shall be a member of the Board nominated by the Corporation and appointed to it under s 82M(3)(a) of the Act. The Deputy Chairperson shall be a member of the Board of the Minister's choosing.

**Note:** Under section 82M(3)(a) of the Act, the Minister is required to ensure that a majority of the positions on the Board are occupied by persons nominated by the Traditional Owner Group Entity.

**Note:** Under section 82M(3)(b) of the Act, the Minister is required to ensure that all members of the Board have the qualifications, attributes, skills and experience that are relevant to the role, functions and operation of the Board.

**Note:** Under section 82M(3)(c) of the Act, the Minister is required to ensure that one member of the Board is appointed on the nomination of the Secretary.

### 7.3 Terms and conditions for individual members

- (a) A member of the Board—

- (i) is subject to the Act, entitled to hold office for such term not exceeding 3 years as is specified in the instrument of appointment and is eligible for re-appointment;
  - (ii) is entitled to be paid such remuneration and travelling and other expenses, if any, as fixed by order made by the Minister; and
  - (iii) is subject to the **Public Administration Act 2004** (other than Part 3 of that Act) in respect of the office of the member.
- (b) A member of the Board is not liable for any loss or damage arising from any bona fide exercise or non exercise of a power or duty or authority or discretion conferred or imposed upon him or her under the Act, or any other Act, or this determination save and except loss and damage resulting from a wilful act, default, negligence or fraud.

**Note:** Under section 82M(2) of the Act, the Minister may at any time dismiss a member of the Board but in doing so the Minister must have regard under section 82M(4) to any traditional owner land management agreement.

**Note:** Under section 82N of the Act, a person who is a member of the Board ceases to hold the office of a member of the Board if the person—

- resigns in writing addressed to the Minister; or
- dies; or
- is dismissed by the Minister under section 82M of the Act; or
- is absent from three consecutive meetings without approval of the Board to be so absent; or
- becomes an insolvent under administration; or
- is convicted of an indictable offence.

## 8. General proceedings of the Board

- 8.1 Meetings of the Board must be presided over by the Chairperson, or if the Chairperson is absent by the Deputy Chairperson of the Board.
- 8.2 If at any time fixed for the commencement of any meetings of the Board the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson is not present, the members present must elect one of their number to preside at the meeting.
- 8.3 The number of members required to constitute a quorum of the Board is four provided always that the majority of members of a quorum shall be members appointed under section 82M(3)(a) of the Act.
- 8.4 Subject to the presence of a quorum the Board may act notwithstanding a vacancy in its membership.

- 8.5 The Board members will strive to reach a consensual position in their deliberations.
- 8.6 If matters cannot be resolved by consensus they are to be determined by a majority of votes.
- 8.7 In the event of an equality of votes being cast on any question for decision of the Board, the Chairperson, or presiding member shall have a second or casting vote.
- 8.8 Any member of the Board having a pecuniary interest whether directly or indirectly in any business of the Board shall declare the interest on every occasion where any business in which he or she has a pecuniary interest is being considered at a meeting at which he or she is present and shall not be entitled to vote on any subject in which he or she has such a pecuniary interest.
- 8.9 The official seal of the Board must be kept in the custody that the Board directs and must not be used except as authorised by the Board.
- 8.10 The Board shall meet as often as is required to perform the duties of the Board and in any case at least 4 times each year.
- 8.11 Subject to the Act and this determination the Board may regulate its own procedures.

THIS DETERMINATION MADE THE \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ BY

RYAN SMITH MP  
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

[\*The relevant Minister is the Minister for the time being with responsibility for the administration of Part 8A of the *Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987*. If the Minister is not also the Minister administering the *National Parks Act 1975* then the Minister will require the consent of that Minister before making this determination.]

## Appendix 1 to Determination

### 1. Appointed Land

The Appointed Land in relation to the Board is the public land set out and described as follows

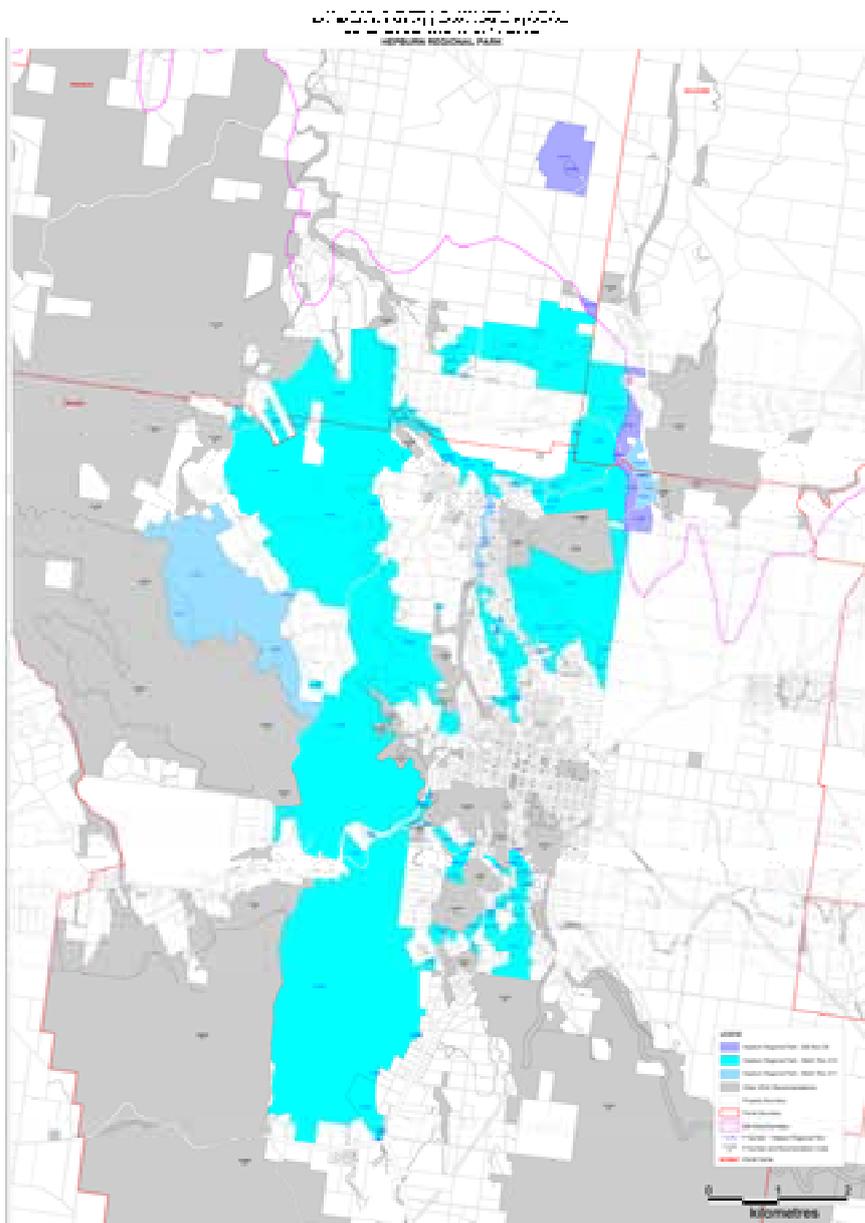
## 1.1 Hepburn Regional Park

### Land Description

The pieces or parcels of land containing 3 733 hectares, more or less, and being referred to in final recommendations A10 and A11 of the Melbourne Area District 1- Review Final Recommendations, dated June 1987, by the Land Conservation Council.

### Map

See Map 1. This is an indicative map only because many areas have not been precisely surveyed. The exact description of the park will be subject to final survey by the Surveyor-General and any variations, road excisions, easements and other adjustments that may be necessary for the purposes of creating the park.



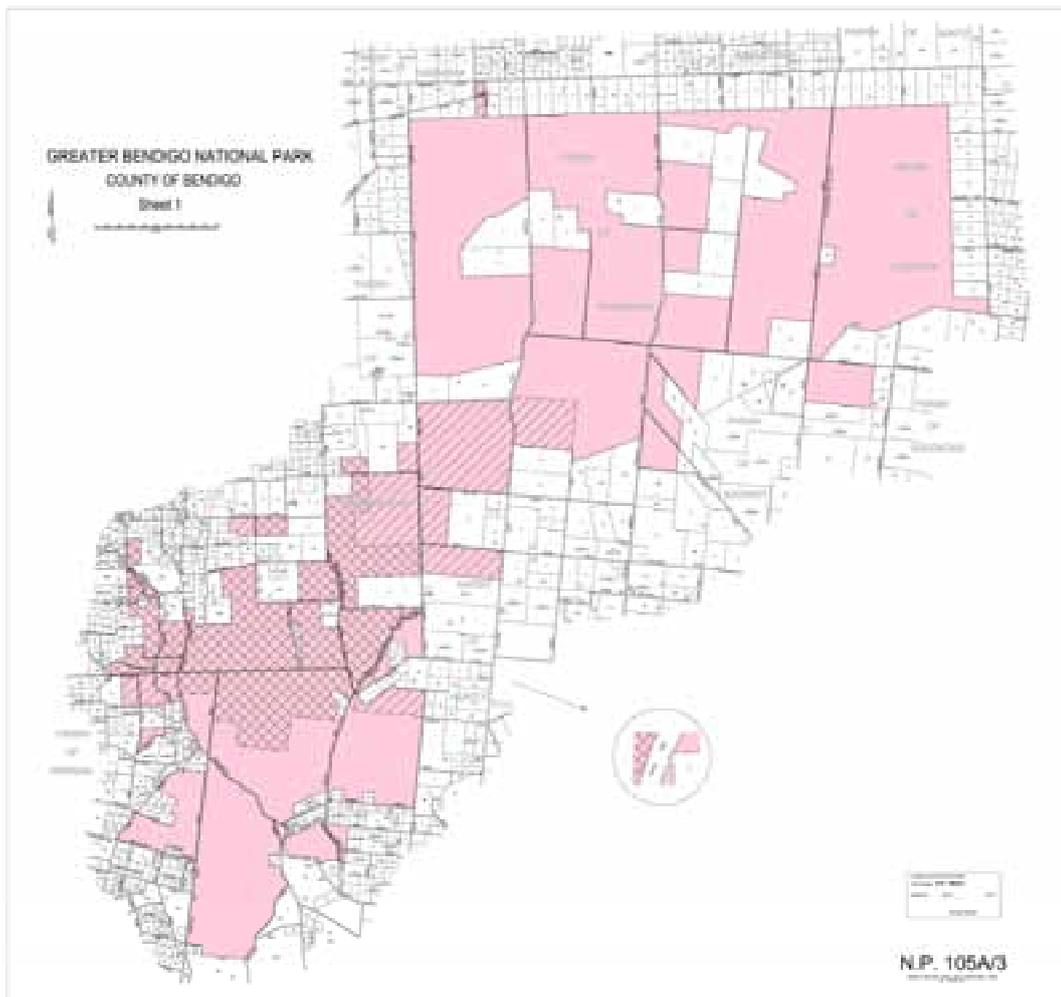
## 1.2 Greater Bendigo National Park

### Land Description

All those pieces and parcels of land containing 17 340 hectares, more or less, situate in the Parishes of Bagshot, Egerton, Huntly, Lockwood, Mandurang, Neilborough, Nerring, Sandhurst, Strathfieldsaye and Whirrakee, County of Bendigo, being the land delineated and coloured pink or coloured yellow or coloured blue in plans lodged in the Central Plan Office and numbered N.P. 105A/3 and N.P. 105B/1 and, in the case of the land shown by hatching or cross-hatching on those plans, that is at or above a depth of 100 metres below the land surface and, in the case of that part of Crown Allotments 260K and 260U, Section H, Parish of Sandhurst that is included in the park, that is at or above a depth of 100 metres below the land surface.

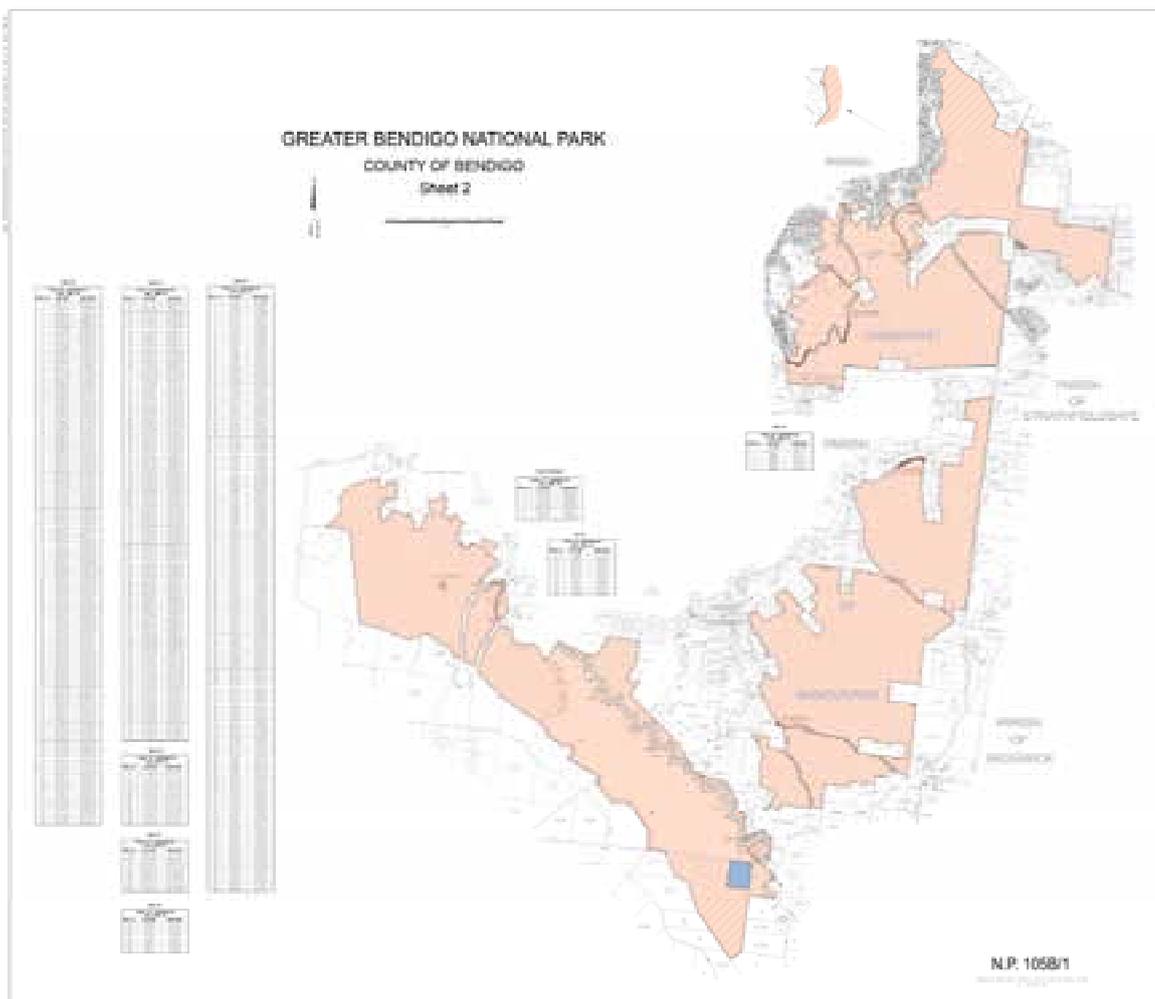
### Maps

See Map 2A and Map 2B



Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement  
for the recognition of the **Dja Dja Wurrung** and settlement of Native Title claims

Schedule 2 Determination to establish the Traditional Owners Land Management Board pursuant to s 82B of the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 (Vic)



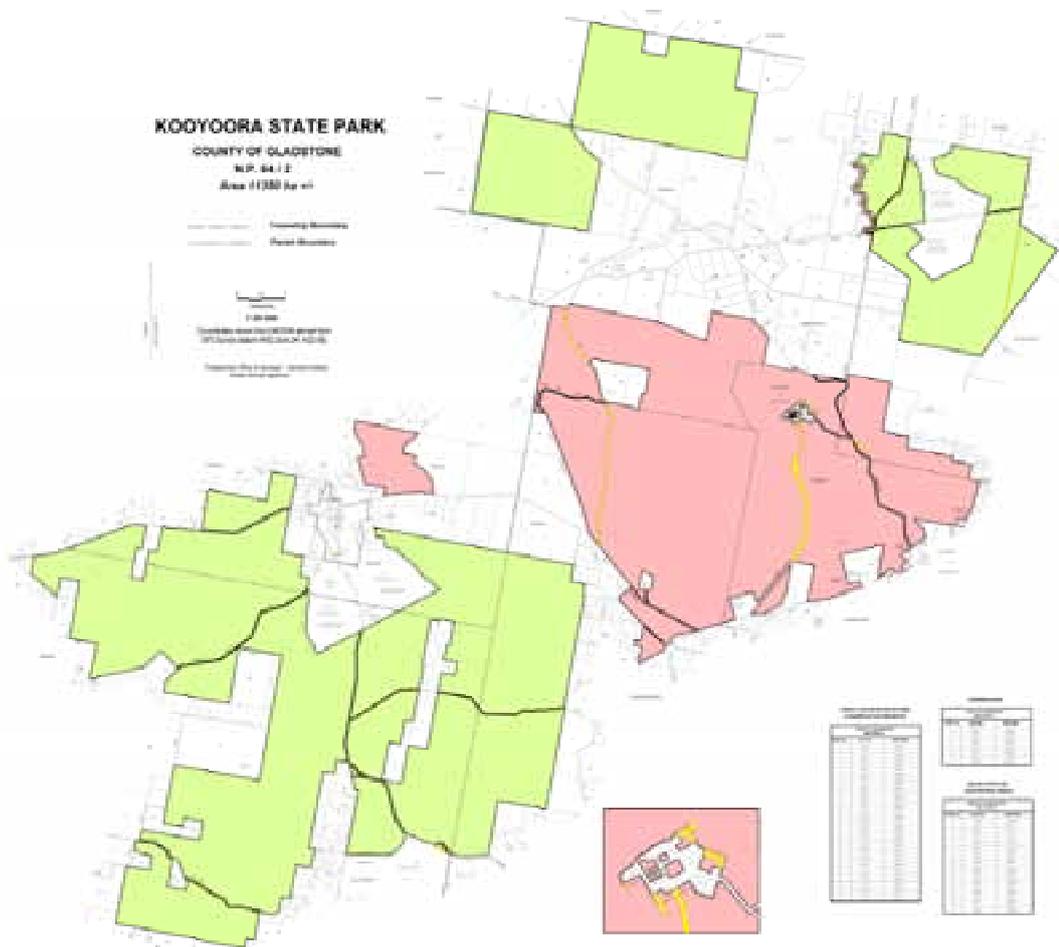
### 1.3 Kooyoora State Park

#### Land Description

All those pieces and parcels of land containing 11 350 hectares, more or less, situate in the Township of Kooyoora and the Parishes of Brenanah, Glanalybyn, Kangderaar, Kingower, Tchuterr and Wehla, County of Gladstone, being the land delineated and coloured pink or coloured green or coloured yellow in a plan lodged in the Central Plan Office and numbered N.P. 64/2

#### Map

See Map 3



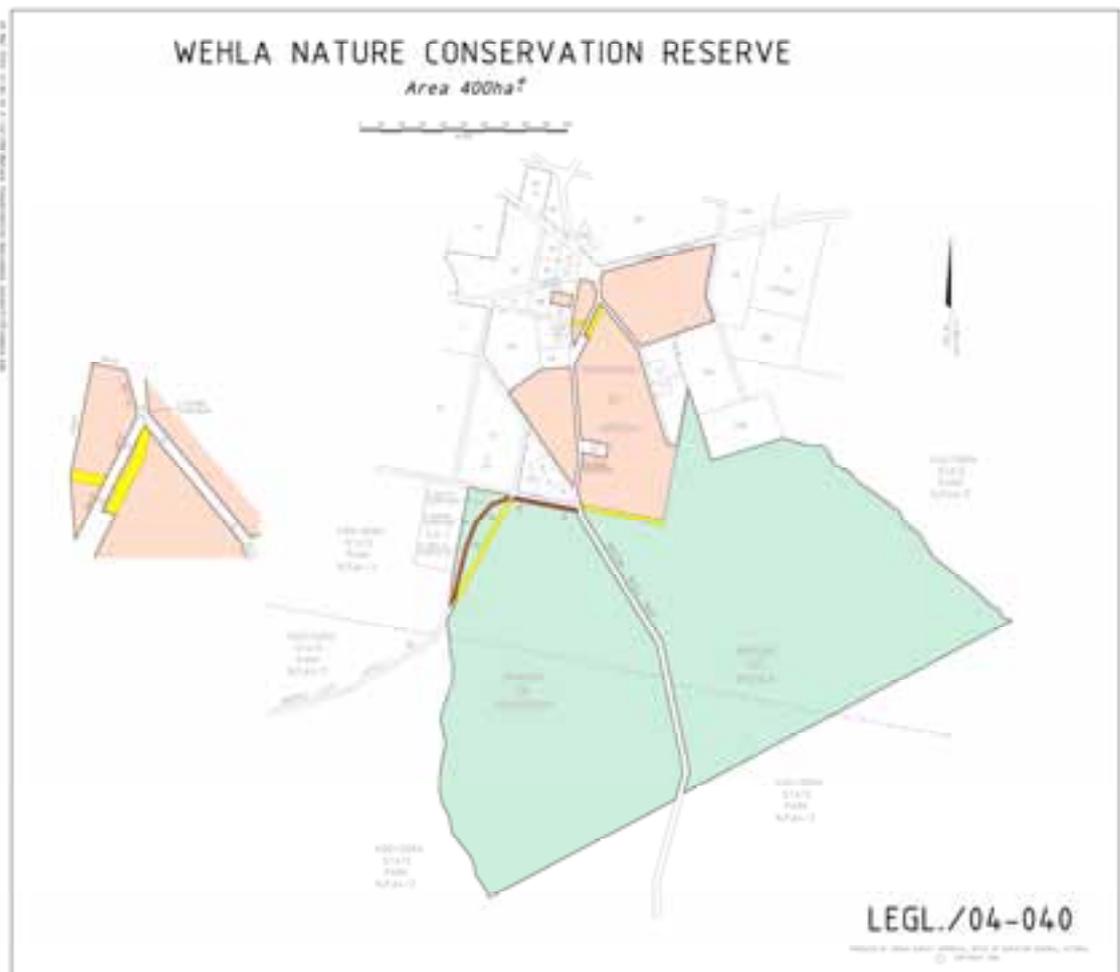
## 1.4 Wehla Nature Conservation Reserve

### Land Description

The land containing 400 hectares, more or less, delineated and coloured pink or coloured green or coloured yellow on the plan lodged in the Central Plan Office and numbered LEGL./04-040.

### Map

See Map 4



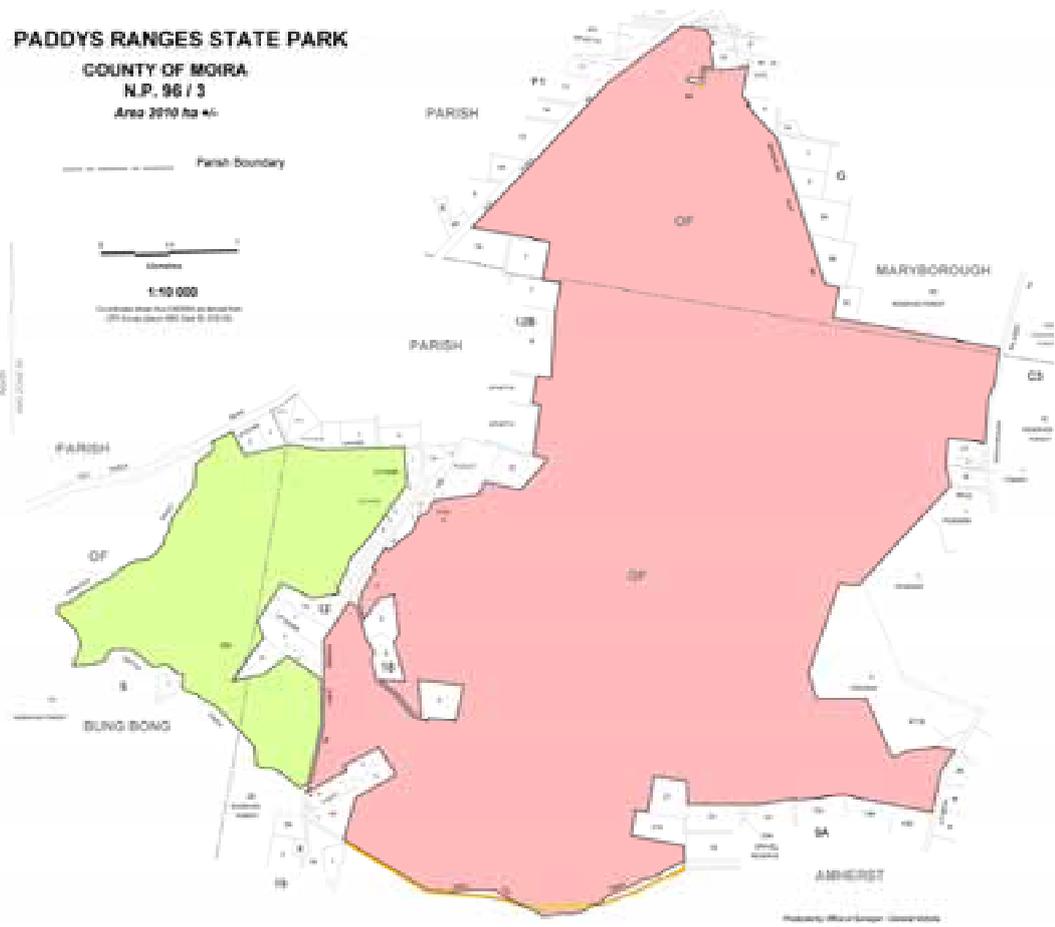
## 1.5 Paddys Ranges State Park

### Land Description

All those pieces or parcels of land containing 2 010 hectares, more or less, situate in the Parishes of Amherst, Bung Bong and Maryborough, County of Talbot, being the land delineated and coloured pink or coloured green or coloured yellow in a plan lodged in the Central Plan Office and numbered N.P. 96/3

### Map

See Map 5



## 1.6 Kara Kara National Park

### Land Description

All those pieces and parcels of land within the Agreement Area comprising Kara Kara National Park containing 13 990 hectares, more or less, situate in the Parishes of Barkly, Boola Boloke, Carapooee West and Redbank, County of Kara Kara, being the land delineated and coloured pink in a plan lodged in the Central Plan Office and numbered N.P. 107/2 *excluding* those parts of the land in the following parcels and Crown allotments as described below:

P370830 (part)	Crown allotment 2002, Parish of Boola Boloke that falls outside of the area subject to the ILUA
P120780 (part)	Crown allotment 1B, Section E, Parish of Boola Boloke that falls outside of the area subject to the ILUA
P123975 (part)	Crown allotment 54B, Section E, Parish of Barkly that falls outside of the area subject to the ILUA
P123586 (part)	Crown allotment 3B, Section K, Parish of Redbank that falls outside of the area subject to the ILUA
P123976 (part)	Crown allotment 54C, Section E, Parish of Barkly that falls outside of the area subject to the ILUA
P370862 (part)	Crown allotment, 2001, Parish of Redbank that falls outside of the area subject to the ILUA
P108126 (whole)	Crown allotment 4A, Section K, Parish of Redbank.

Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement  
for the recognition of the **Dja Dja Wurrung** and settlement of Native Title claims

Schedule 2 Determination to establish the Traditional Owners Land Management Board pursuant to s 82B of the Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987 (Vic)

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**Map**

Map 6 (indicative map only – subject to final survey by the Surveyor-General and any necessary variations, road excisions, easements and other adjustments)

