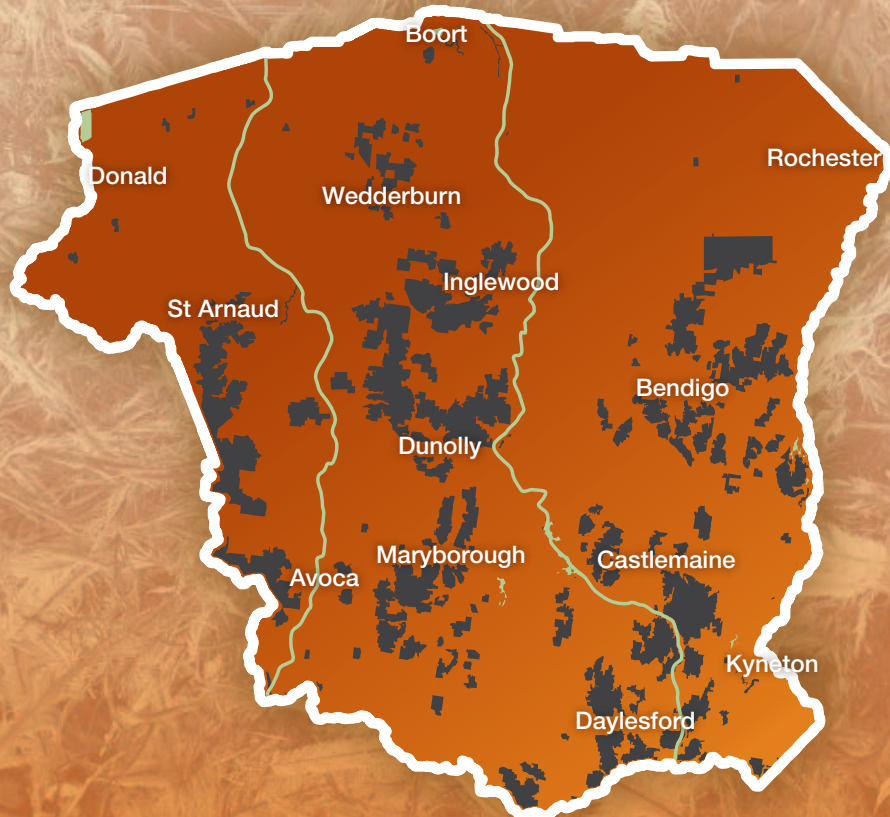


Recognition and Settlement Agreement between the Dja Dja Wurrung People and State of Victoria

1. Scarred tree, Lake Boort, Drew Berick, private collection, 2010
2. Trentham Falls, Ben Wurm, private collection, 2011
3. Emu feathers and eggs, Aunty Linda Ford, Dja Dja Wurrung Elder and photographer, 2011
4. Melville South Rock Shelter, Kooyooora State Park, Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria
5. Dja Dja Wurrung shield and rush basket, Avoca, collected in 1855, Anthony Webster, Imagine Pictures, 2010
6. Tullaroop Creek, near Carisbrook, Ben Wurm, private collection, 2010
7. Segment of stone arrangement, Mount Barker, Gerry Gill, LaTrobe University, 2010

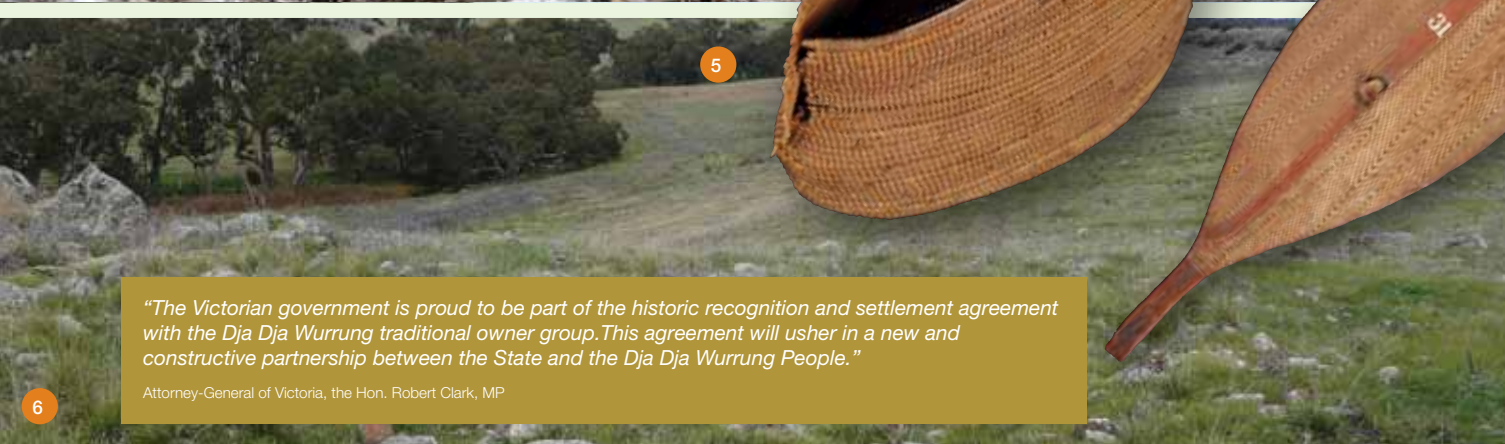




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"The Victorian government is proud to be part of the historic recognition and settlement agreement with the Dja Dja Wurrung traditional owner group. This agreement will usher in a new and constructive partnership between the State and the Dja Dja Wurrung People."
Attorney-General of Victoria, the Hon. Robert Clark, MP

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"We will now be able to fulfil our cultural obligation to look after this country and preserve our culture, not only for future generations of Dja Dja Wurrung people, but for all Victorians."
Chair of the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, Graham Atkinson

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8. Chair of Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation, Graham Atkinson, with Attorney-General of Victoria, the Hon Robert Clark, MP, after the signing of the agreements in Bendigo, 28 March 2013

9. Youranduk rock wells, Crown land, Charlton West, Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria

10. Dja Dja Wurrung traditional owners and NTSV staff, with the Attorney-General of Victoria, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development, after the signing of the agreements in Bendigo, 28 March 2013

Recognition and Settlement Agreement between the Dja Dja Wurrung People and State of Victoria



Recognition and Settlement Agreement

On 28 March 2013, the State of Victoria and the Dja Dja Wurrung People signed a Recognition and Settlement Agreement under the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* (Vic) to settle the Dja Dja Wurrung native title claims.

With the commencement of the agreement, a new and permanent relationship begins between the Dja Dja Wurrung People and the State of Victoria.

Who are the Dja Dja Wurrung People?

The traditional owner group is comprised of the descendants of 18 Dja Dja Wurrung apical ancestors who have a traditional and cultural association with the Agreement area, who have activated rights as Dja Dja Wurrung and are recognised and accepted by other Dja Dja Wurrung people.

The Dja Dja Wurrung struggle for recognition and rights

...The State recognises that the arrival of Europeans in Victoria caused a rupture in the spiritual, environmental, political and economic order of Dja Dja Wurrung People. Unrecorded numbers of Dja Dja Wurrung ancestors had their lives taken in their fight for Djandak and Martinga Kulinga Murrup (Ancestral Spirits)....

(Recognition Statement, RSA)

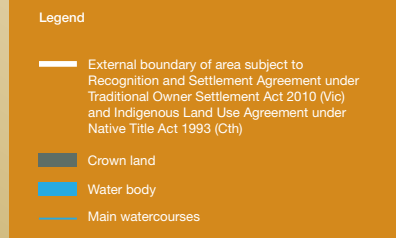
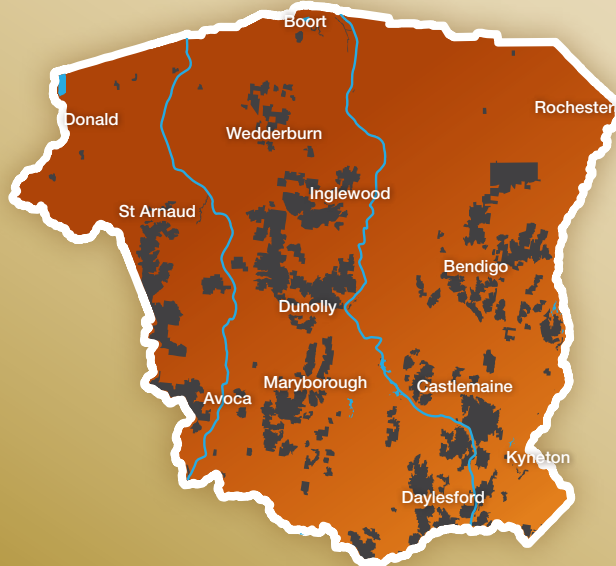
- 1837** Formal British colonisation of Dja Dja Wurrung country began.
- 1841** The Crown established the Loddon Aboriginal Protectorate at Franklindford.
- 1851** The discovery of gold at Bendigo Creek triggered a massive influx of settlers into Dja Dja Wurrung country and Victoria more broadly.
- 1993** The passage of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) created for the first time a statutory land claims process for Victorian traditional owners.
- 1998** The Dja Dja Wurrung lodged their first native title determination application.
- 2010** Victorian Parliament passed the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* (Vic). This enabled the State of Victoria and the Dja Dja Wurrung to enter into the agreement.

The Agreement Area (Djandak)

.....In the Dja Dja Wurrung worldview, dreaming stories of Djandak (country) and Dja Dja Wurrung date back to the creation of these lands and all within them. Djandak has been shaped and nurtured by the traditional way of life of the Dja Dja Wurrung People and their ancestors, reflecting principles embedded in kinship, language, spirituality and Bunjil's Law

(Recognition Statement, RSA)

The Agreement applies to all Crown land (shaded black) within the boundaries shown on the map on the left (about 266,500 hectares).



Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria, accession no H84.167/25, "Aboriginals' farm near Mount Franklin", Fauchery-Daintree collection, ca 1858.

... The State acknowledges that over time, the policies and practices of successive governments, their agencies, other organisations and individuals substantially obstructed the ability of Dja Dja Wurrung ancestors to practice their traditional law and customs and to access their country and its resources. The dispossession of the Dja Dja Wurrung People and their ancestors from their traditional country prevented Dja Dja Wurrung People from maintaining well-being and from generating and passing down wealth from that country across the generations.....

(Recognition Statement, RSA)

What is the settlement package?

The settlement package comprises:

Dja Dja Wurrung undertakings to the State

- withdrawal of existing native title claims
- agreement not to make further claims under the Native Title Act
- that the settlement package is full and final settlement of the State's compensation liabilities under the Native Title Act
- validation of all activities on Crown land, including under the Land Use Activity Agreement

Cultural recognition measures

- a 'Recognition Statement' acknowledging past injustices and looking to the future partnership
- legal recognition of the Dja Dja Wurrung People as the "traditional owner group" for the agreement area, their country
- recognition of traditional owner rights
- a protocol on acknowledgements and welcomes to country
- a Local Government Engagement Strategy
- a protocol on interpretative information relating to the Dja Dja Wurrung People

Transfer of land

- historically and culturally-significant land at Franklinford and Carisbrook to be transferred
- six parks and reserves (approximately 47,000 hectares) to be transferred as "Aboriginal title" and jointly managed in perpetuity

Joint management of parks and reserves

- creation of the Dja Dja Wurrung-majority Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board to jointly manage the following parks and reserves:
 - o Hepburn Regional Park
 - o Greater Bendigo National Park
 - o Kooyoora State Park
 - o Wehla Nature Conservation Reserve
 - o Paddy's Ranges State Park
 - o Kara Kara National Park (the part that falls within the Agreement Area)
- ongoing employment in joint management for three Dja Dja Wurrung persons

Natural resource management and access

- access by the Dja Dja Wurrung People to flora and fauna, game, forest products, water, inland fisheries and camping on Crown land
- strategies to promote greater Dja Dja Wurrung participation in natural resource management

Land Use Activity Agreement

- the Dja Dja Wurrung People have a say when the State considers proposed activities on Crown land in the agreement area. For more information visit the Register of Land Use Activity Agreements on the Department of Justice website

Funding and economic development

- grant-funding of \$900,000 over four years to assist the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation's operations and the implementation of their settlement obligations
- deposit of \$5 million in the Victorian Traditional Owners Trust to generate a minimum \$250,000 annuity over at least 20 years for the Corporation
- funding of \$3.25 million for investment in economic development initiatives of the Dja Dja Wurrung People
- State purchase of environmental services (such as natural resource management) to the value of \$500,000 over three years from Dja Dja Wurrung Enterprises Pty Ltd

Indigenous Land Corporation contribution

In July 2012, the ILC released its new policy for providing land acquisition and/or land management assistance where a proposed native title settlement will facilitate a full and final resolution of claims and improve the quality outcomes for Indigenous parties.

Under its policy, the ILC agreed to fund the purchase of culturally-significant land at Mount Barker, contribute funding to acquisition of a works depot for Dja Dja Wurrung Enterprises and to provide land management assistance for activities on land owned by the Dja Dja Wurrung People.



Tullaroop Creek, near Carisbrook, Ben Wurm, private collection, 2010

Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation

In 2004, the Dja Dja Wurrung People set up the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation.

In 2010, the Victorian Government provided funding for the corporation's core operations for three years. The Dja Dja Wurrung People nominated the corporation as the 'traditional owner group entity' for the 2013 agreement. The corporation is now the official office for all dealings with the Dja Dja Wurrung traditional owner group.

Dja Dja Wurrung Enterprises is the corporation's commercial arm. It is developing a business strategy that includes the delivery of land and natural resource management services in the agreement area.

No impact on the rights of the general public

The agreement applies only to Crown land. There will be no impact on private (freehold) land. All existing interests in Crown land are unaffected. Public access to existing parks and reserves will continue in accordance with applicable legislation.



Bunjil symbolizes power, wisdom and knowledge. In our mythology, Bunjil is the creator spirit of the Dja Dja Wurrung People. Bunjil lives in the sky and his name is given to the planet Jupiter which our people believe is Bunjil's campfire. *Corporate logo designed by Uncle Clive Atkinson, Dja Dja Wurrung elder and artist.*

.... This Recognition and Settlement Agreement binds the State of Victoria and the Dja Dja Wurrung People to a meaningful partnership founded on mutual respect. It is a means by which Dja Dja Wurrung culture and traditional practices and the unique relationship of Dja Dja Wurrung People to their traditional country are recognised, strengthened, protected and promoted, for the benefit of all Victorians, now and into the future.

(Recognition Statement, RSA)

Do you need more information?

For matters concerning the Dja Dja Wurrung People

Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation
PO Box 1026
Bendigo VIC 3552
Ph: (03) 5444 2888
www.djadjawurrung.com.au

For information relating to, and to view, the Agreement

Department of Justice (Native Title Unit)
GPO Box 4356
Melbourne VIC 3001
Ph: (03) 8684 7522
nativetitle@justice.vic.gov.au
www.justice.vic.gov.au

For matters relating to Crown land administration, joint management or natural resources in the Agreement area

Department of Environment and Primary Industries
Corner Midland Highway and Taylor Street
Epsom VIC 3551
Ph: 136 186 or (03) 5430 4445
Email: customer.service@dse.vic.gov.au
www.depi.vic.gov.au/forestry-and-land-use/managing-land/indigenous-land-management

For general information relating to native title matters in Victoria

Native Title Services Victoria Limited
PO Box 431
North Melbourne VIC 3051
Toll Free: 1800 791 779
www.nts.vic.gov.au