

Recognition and Settlement Agreement (RSA)



The Taungurung First Nation and the State of Victoria have entered into a Recognition and Settlement Agreement (RSA), which recognises the Taungurung Traditional Owner rights under the Traditional Owner Settlement Act (2010). It is a means through which Taungurung people can provide a strong future for their children and is a legal obligation for the State of Victoria to ensure Taungurungs' culture and relationship to Country continues to be formally recognised, supported, safeguarded and promoted.

The Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) manages the benefits and exercises the rights and responsibilities set out in the RSA on behalf of the Taungurung people.

Benefits of the RSA for Taungurung people

- Improving the cultural and economic wellbeing of Taungurung people
- Providing resources for land management and joint management within the agreement area
- Confirming access rights for Taungurung people on Country
- Confirming Taungurung's legal rights on Crown land, planning rights for some parks and reserves, and procurement rights
- Confirming Taungurung's take and use rights for flora and fauna



Formal Recognition

The settlement package formally recognises the Taungurung people as the Traditional Owners for a large part of central Victoria.

The package includes:

- Funding to support TLaWC to manage the settlement's benefits and obligations, and undertake economic development
- Measures to strengthen Taungurung culture
- Grants of nine parks and reserves as Aboriginal title, and up to five surplus public land parcels as freehold title
- A regime for managing activity on public land
- Resourcing and strategies for the Taungurung people to access, use, and manage natural resources.

TLaWC, as nominated by the Taungurung people, is the Traditional Owner Group Entity (TOGE) who accepted carriage of the RSA.

Agreements such as the Land Use Activity Agreement (LUAA) and the Natural Resource Agreement (NRA) flow out of the RSA (see table representation on next page).



Agreement Details

Freehold title rights

The agreement will not affect freehold title rights. It includes public lands and waters only within the agreement area.

Existing rights and interests on public land

Existing leases, licences and other rights and interests will be protected for their full term. Examples include farming, fishing, grazing and forestry. Recreational activities like hunting and fishing will not be affected.

Rights for Traditional Owners to natural resources

The agreement recognises Taungurung people's rights to access public land within the agreement area to hunt, fish, camp, and gather natural resources.

Business on public land

The Taungurung settlement includes a Land Use Activity Agreement (LUAA), which provides a regime for managing activities on public land that may have an impact on the legal rights of the Taungurung. The LUAA replaces the future act regime of the Native Title Act 1993.

The Taungurung will have an opportunity to have a say or consent to certain activities on public land, and in some cases, community benefits- an economic, cultural or social benefit provided to a Traditional Owner Group Entity (TOGE) - are payable to the TLaWC.

Parks and reserves granted to the Taungurung

- Alpine National Park (the part of the Park situated within the Taungurung Agreement Area)
- Heathcote-Graytown National Park
- Kinglake National Park (the part of the Park situated within the Taungurung Agreement Area)
- Lake Eildon National Park
- Mt Buffalo National Park
- Mt Samira State Park
- Cathedral Range State Park
- Wandong Regional Park
- Mount Wombat-Garden Range Flora and Fauna Reserve

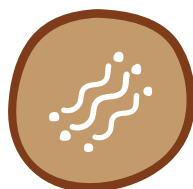
Joint management

The Aboriginal title lands will be jointly managed by Taungurung and the state through a Traditional Owner Land Management Board (TOLMB).

Joint management will benefit both Taungurung people and the wider community by recognising Taungurung culture and knowledge, providing quality visitor and tourism experiences, improving public education and conserving, protecting and enhancing natural and cultural values.

More information: <https://www.justice.vic.gov.au/your-rights/native-title/taungurung-recognition-and-settlement-agreement-document>

Table Representation



Indigenous Land Use Agreement
Native Title Act Compliance



Recognition and Settlement Agreement between
the State and Traditional Owner Group Entity

Funding Agreement	Land Agreement	Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement	Land Use Activity Agreement	Natural Resource Agreement
<p>Minister may enter into funding agreements with the Traditional Owner Group Entity (TOGE).</p> <p>Provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding for core operations• Economic development funding	<p>Minister may enter into agreement for the transfer of Crown land to the TOGE as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Freehold title• Aboriginal title	<p>Provides for joint management of parks and reserves (held by TOGE as Aboriginal title).</p> <p>Requires the establishment of a traditional owner land management board (majority directors are traditional owners).</p>	<p>Minister may enter into LUAA with the TOGE:</p> <p>LUAA applies to all public land unless excluded. LUAA provides for four categories:</p> <p>Routine, Advisory, Negotiation A & B, Agreement.</p>	<p>Minister may enter into an NRA that:</p> <p>Grants to traditional owners access to natural resources on public land.</p> <p>Contains strategies for increased participants of traditional owners in natural resource management.</p>