



Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Level 3
8-12 Seymour Street
Traralgon, Victoria 3844
Telephone: 03 5172 2111
deeca.vic.gov.au

Chairperson
Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation
27 Scriveners Road
Kalimna West Victoria 3909

By email: notifications@glawac.com.au

Date: 22 July 2026
Our Reference: 2023766/ SP490931

Dear Chairperson

RE: NOTICE CONCERNING WORKS ON NATIVE TITLE LANDS (RIGHT TO COMMENT) PROPOSED ROCK REVETMENT REPLACEMENT – BULLOCK ISLAND

The Proposal

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) proposes to undertake the demolition of an existing degraded rock revetment and the construction of a 50-metre rock revetment along the southern shoreline of Bullock Island, adjacent to the TAFE Gippsland - Lakes Entrance (Seamec Campus) facility.

The works will involve foundation preparation, installation of geotextile and filter layers, and placement of graded rock armour to create a stable sloping revetment. The new structure will be tied into adjacent coastal protection infrastructure to provide a continuous and resilient shoreline defence.

The project is required to address public safety and asset protection risks associated with the existing revetment, which is in poor to failed condition. Ongoing tidal currents have resulted in scour and further deterioration of the structure, increasing the risk of failure. If left unaddressed, continued erosion may threaten nearby infrastructure, including the TAFE Gippsland facility, maritime operations, and access along Bullock Island Road. The works will restore shoreline stability, reduce coastal hazard risks, and protect adjacent assets.

The proposed works are located within Crown Allotments 2051 and 2056, Parish of Colquhoun, and freehold land.

The location of the area subject to proposal is outlined in the following attachments:

- Cadastral plan showing Crown allotment descriptions.
- Aerial Photo
- Site Plan

Privacy Statement

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be protected under the provisions of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. It will only be used or disclosed to appropriate Ministerial, Statutory Authority, or departmental staff in regard to the purpose for which it was provided, unless required or authorized by law. Enquiries about access to information about you held by the Department should be directed to foi.unit@deeca.vic.gov.au or FOI Unit, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, PO Box 500, East Melbourne, Victoria 8002.



OFFICIAL

Description of The Native Title Land and Waters Affected

Crown allotment 2051, in the Parish of Colquhoun, being Crown land temporarily reserved for Public Purposes (Port purposes) by Order in Council 25 July 2017 vide *Victoria Government Gazette* year 2017 on page 1633.

Crown allotment 2056, in the Parish of Colquhoun, being Crown land permanently reserved for Public Purposes by notice published in the *Victoria Government Gazette* in year 1881 on page 1389.

The above areas were considered as part of the *Gippsland Lakes Hinterland Area Study (1980-1983)*, undertaken by the Land Conservation Council, as predecessor to the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC). The study did not make any specific recommendations relating to the proposed revetment redevelopment site, and the proposed works are not inconsistent with its Final Recommendations.

Seeking Your Comments

The *Native Title Act 1993* (NTA) requires DEECA to consult and seek comments from the Traditional Owners of Native Title lands and incorporate appropriate conditions into consent to use and develop the land.

We understand that the proponent may also be obliged under Cultural Heritage legislation to contact the Gunaikurnai RAP body concerning this project and we will advise them of those responsibilities as a matter of standard process. However, if you would also like DEECA to raise some specific conditions on cultural heritage protection matters in the exercise of your native title right to protect cultural heritage as part of this formal commentary and approvals process, we will be happy to do so at your direction.

Further, your comments on how this proposal might affect your other native title rights and interests, and how that can be managed or addressed as part of this approvals process are also keenly sought.

These recognised rights and interests include the:

- right to have access to or enter and remain on the land and waters;
- right to use and enjoy the land and waters;
- right to take the resources of the land and waters for the purposes of satisfying personal, domestic or communal needs, but not for any commercial purposes;
- right to protect and maintain places and areas on the land and waters which are of importance according to Gunaikurnai traditional laws and customs;
- right to camp
- right to engage in cultural activities;
- right to engage in rituals and ceremonies;
- right to hold meetings and gatherings;
- right to teaching and learning about the physical, spiritual and cultural attributes of places and areas of importance.

Please note that the 'non-extinguishment' principle applies to these works and your native title rights will continue to exist over the site.

The Department intends to advise the proponent that the project can proceed after 40 days from the date of this notification have elapsed. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this proposal however in the meantime please contact Matt Kelly at the following details.

Carly Kee
Program Officer – Public Land Services, Gippsland
Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
Level 3, 8-12 Seymour Street
Traralgon, Victoria, 3844

Email: carly.kee@delwp.vic.gov.au
Phone: 0407 670 999

Legislative Basis for this Notice
--

The proposed activity is a valid future act pursuant to Section 24 JA of the *Native Title Act 1993*.

Subdivision J of the *Native Title Act 1993* (NTA) allows for acts to be carried out on reserves provided that the act is in good faith with the purpose of the reservation. Where the act involves the construction of a public work, it is necessary that formal procedural notice be given to any Body Corporate and to any registered Representative Body.

This notice is also prepared and issued cognisant of the agreed terms outlined in Section 7.3 of the Indigenous Land Use Agreement between the State of Victoria and the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation dated 22 October 2010 and registered with the National Native Title Tribunal on 8 February 2011.

The proposed works are to be carried out over land that was validly reserved prior to 23/12/96. The future act is in accordance with the purpose of the reservation (Public Purposes).

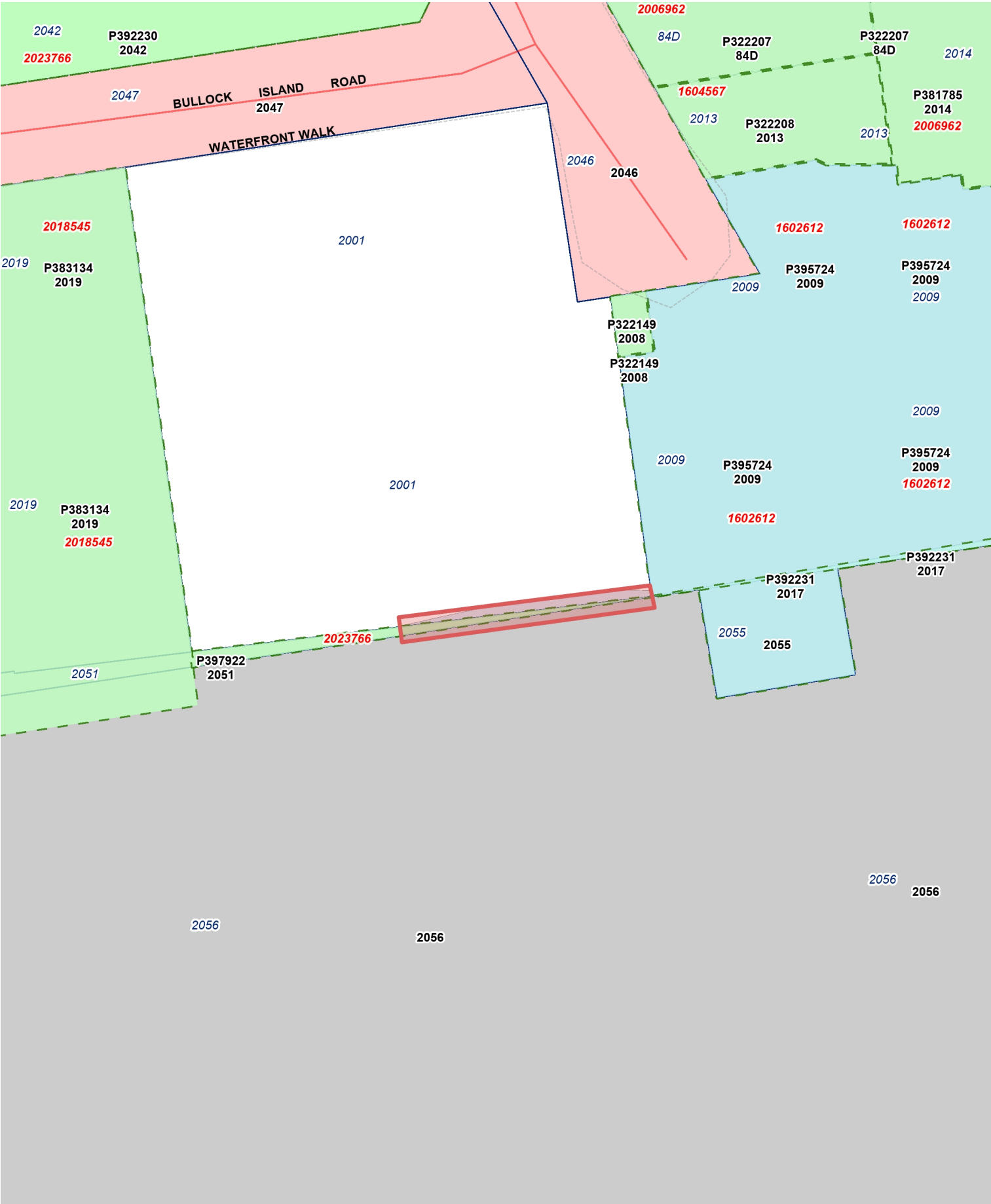
The proposed works are considered "major earthworks" which constitutes the establishment of public works under Part 15, Division 4, Section 253 of the *Native Title Act 1993*.

The non-extinguishment principle applies.



Carly Kee
Program Officer – Public Land Services, Gippsland
Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

Date of Notice: 22 July 2026





1: 1,977

Map Created on 22-Jul-2026

Disclaimer: This map is a snapshot generated from Victorian Government data. This material may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria does not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for error, loss or damage which may arise from reliance upon it. All persons accessing this information should make appropriate enquiries to assess the currency of the data.

SITE PLAN:

Bullock Island, Lakes Entrance – Rock Revetment Replacement

