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Parks Victoria
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Melbourne VIC 3000
Telephone 13 19 63
parks.vic.gov.au
ABN 95 337 637 697

5 October 2026

Chairperson
Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation
27 Scriveners Road
KALIMNA WEST VIC 3909
Email: notifications@glawac.com.au

Dear Chairperson

RE: NOTICE CONCERNING WORKS ON NATIVE TITLE LANDS (RIGHT TO COMMENT)
BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION – WONNANGATTA RIVER, EAGLEVALE, ALPINE NATIONAL PARK

The Proposal

Construction of a pedestrian bridge over the Wonnangatta River at Eaglevale, in the Alpine National Park.
Replacement of the bridge destroyed in January 2026 bushfires.

Works include:

- Construction of a metal pedestrian bridge within the similar footprint as the destroyed bridge.

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

- Attachment 1 - Locality map and aerial photo

Description of The Native Title Land and Waters Affected

Address: Wonnangatta Road, Crooked River

Parcel: Allot. 28B Sec. 15 Parish of Wonnangatta (28B~15\PP3865)

Parcel: Allot. 6A Sec. 15 Parish of Wonnangatta (6A~15\PP3865)

The allotment is Crown land, being part of the Alpine National Park which was originally reserved in 1989 for recreation, education and protection of natural ecosystems.

Alpine National Park is joint managed under the Gunaikurnai Recognition and Settlement Agreement 2010.



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Seeking Your Comments

The *Native Title Act 1993* (NTA) requires Parks Victoria 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.

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.

Parks Victoria intends to advise the proponent that the project can proceed after 40 days from the date of this notification have elapsed. Should you wish to discuss this proposal please contact:

Sharna Foon

Senior Land Use and Statutory Planning Officer – Gippsland

Parks Victoria

Email: sharna.foon@parks.vic.gov.au

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Legislative Basis for this Notice

The proposed activity is a valid future act pursuant to Section 24JA 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 December 1996. The future act is in accordance with the purpose of the reservation.

The proposed works of bridge construction are considered “a structure” which constitutes the establishment of a public work under Part 15, Division 4, Section 253 of the *Native Title Act 1993*.

The non-extinguishment principle applies.



Sharna Foon
Senior Land Use and Statutory Planning Officer – Gippsland
Parks Victoria

Date of Notice: 5 October 2026

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ATTACHMENT 1 – LOCATION OF EAGLEVALE BRIDGE

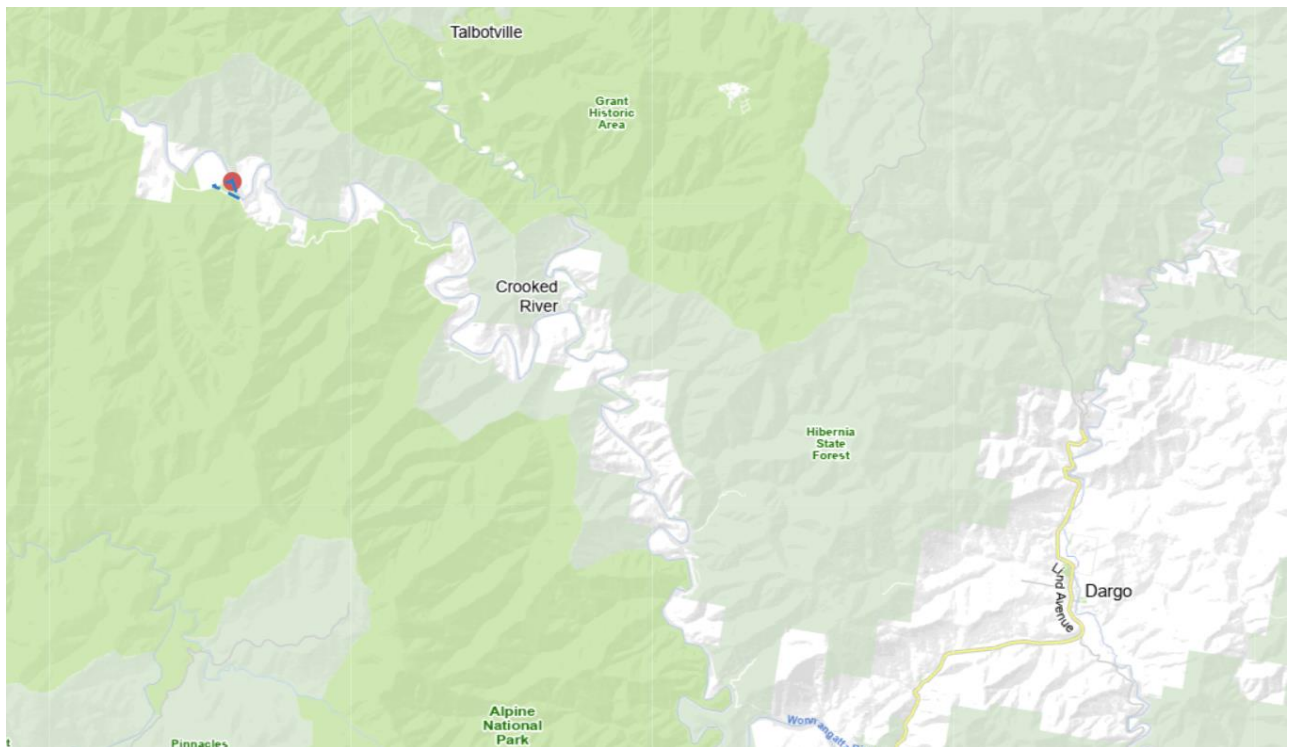


Figure 1: Location of site – VicPlan



Figure 2: Aerial photo of bridge before January 2026 bushfire - Google