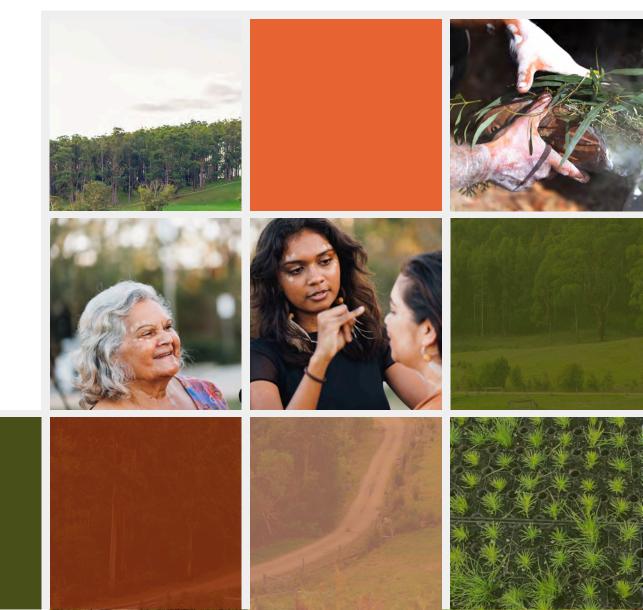


# FIRST NATIONS ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Prepared by KAREN RAABE COMMUNICATIONS



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Australian Government

#### Disclaimer

Karen Raabe Communications has prepared the First Nations Engagement Framework (the framework) based on an agreed scope of work and acts in all professional matters as an advisor to the Client and exercises all reasonable skills and care in the provision of its professional services. The framework is commissioned by and prepared for the exclusive use of the Client.

## Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners

The Gippsland Forestry Hub acknowledges the Bunurong and Gunaikurnai as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which the Hub and the region's forestry industry operates and pays respect to Elders past and present.

## Introduction

Gippsland Forestry Hub (GF Hub) recognises and respects that First Nations people have sustainably cared for and protected their land for thousands of years. We are committed to developing our understanding of the diversity of culture and customs across First Nations communities, particularly in the Gippsland region where we live and conduct our business.

We acknowledge that current and future development of Gippsland's commercial forestry industry is taking place on the unceded lands of the region's First Nations people – the Bunurong people of the South-Eastern Kulin Nation and the Gunaikurnai people.

We want to build strong effective partnerships with Traditional Owners that lead to real community and economic opportunities in Gippsland's forestry sector. We understand that meaningful partnerships develop over time and will require leadership and coordination by the Gippsland Forestry Hub.

It is our intention to invite representation by Traditional Owners on GF Hub's Executive Committee, alongside existing industry and local government representatives to determine strategic direction, future research initiatives and development projects.

We encourage anyone conducting their business in Gippsland to deepen their knowledge of Aboriginal cultural heritage and take the opportunity to learn from and support Bunurong and Gunaikurnai people.

## First Nations Engagement Framework

The GF Hub is committed to collaborating with Traditional Owners to determine how and when engagement occurs, and through the co-design of future projects and partnerships. The first step is the development of the framework and its endorsement by Traditional Owners.

The GF Hub has developed a First Nations Engagement Framework (the framework) that sets the foundation for strong, respectful relationships with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live in Gippsland, by adopting best-practice engagement.

The framework is a living document and progress will be highlighted in the GF Hub's annual reporting from 2024-2025 onwards.

While the framework will guide GF Hub's engagement, it is also intended as an introduction to cultural awareness and practical resource for Gippsland's commercial forestry sector and any companies looking to enter the sector.

The framework aligns with the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, an internationally recognised model developed to help clarify the role and degree of influence the public has in planning and decision making. The spectrum has five levels of consultation: inform; consult; involve; collaborate; and empower.

**Attachment 1** is the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation and **Attachment 2** outlines how it applies to GF Hub's engagement and communications approach.

## What the framework includes

- ⇒ The **Traditional Owners** section explains the legislative status of the Traditional Owner groups in Victoria and how this relates to the Bunurong and Gunaikurnai people.
- $\Rightarrow$  The **Purpose of engagement** section explains why engagement with Traditional Owners is important.
- ⇒ The **Principles of engagement** section explains how engagement works and provides broad guidelines.
- $\Rightarrow$  The **Tips for engagement** section offers practical advice on what to do in preparing for and during engagement.
- ⇒ The **Engagement opportunities** section outlines how and when GF Hub and Gippsland's forestry industry should engage. This section will be reported by GF Hub annually and highlight opportunities arising from ongoing engagement with Traditional Owners and the potential development of longer-term partnerships.

## Traditional Owners

Aboriginal people are part of their Country, and they have a deep spiritual connection and responsibility to care for Country.

Gippsland Forestry Hub operates in a region that is the traditional lands and waters of the Bunurong and Gunakurnai people. Bunurong Country extends from outer Melbourne to the Mornington Peninsula, and all of Bass Coast including Phillip Island and part of South Gippsland. Gunaikurnai Country extends from West Gippsland near Warragul to the Snowy River in East Gippsland and north to the Great Dividing Range. Their respective boundaries also extend 200 metres offshore.

In Victoria, there are three different processes for groups to become formally recognised as Traditional Owners of Country (detailed below). Traditional Owners can seek formal recognition via any or all the processes.

#### Registered Aboriginal Parties – Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) are representative corporations, inclusive of all Traditional Owners of an identified Country. RAPs have important roles and functions as the decision makers for their Cultural Heritage over their appointed boundaries.

The two RAPs in Gippsland are:

- ⇒ Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (Bunurong Land Council) and
- $\Rightarrow$  <u>Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation</u> (GLaWAC).

RAPs core functions include:

- evaluating Cultural Heritage Management Plans
- assessing Cultural Heritage Permit applications
- making decisions about Cultural Heritage Agreements
- providing advice on applications for interim or ongoing Protection Declarations
- entering into Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Management Agreements with public land managers
- nominating Aboriginal intangible heritage to the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register and managing Intangible Heritage Agreements.

**Attachments 3 - 5** show the boundaries of Registered Aboriginal Parties in Victoria, and the boundaries of Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC.

The **Engagement opportunities** section has been included to help the forestry sector understand what they can engage about and how to go about engaging.

It is important to note that the two RAPs within the Gippsland region are at different stages of economic maturity and readiness to take up opportunities offered by Gippsland's forestry industry. Any engagement must be led by the aspirations and capacity of the RAPs.

## Native Title Determination – Native Title Act 1993

Native title is recognised by a determination made by the Federal Court of Australia and acknowledges that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait people have observed laws and customs in a 'substantially uninterrupted' way from the time of colonial settlement until now. Native title applies to public land and waters, except where native title has been 'extinguished' i.e., privately owned land, on residential, commercial, and certain other leases and in areas where government has built roads or other public works.

In October 2010, the Federal Court recognised that the Gunaikurnai people hold native title over much of Gippsland.

#### Recognition and Settlement Agreement – Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010

The *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* provides a framework for the recognition of Traditional Owner rights and settlement of native title claims in Victoria. Recognition and Settlement Agreements (RSA) apply to public land and waters with some exceptions. A Recognition and Settlement Agreement is negotiated by Traditional Owners with the Victorian Government and provides recognition and a financial and land management package.

GLaWAC has an RSA with the Victorian Government. Under the agreement, Gunaikurnai people can undertake traditional activities such as hunting, fishing, and gathering for non-commercial, domestic, or communal purposes on public land. The RSA also transferred 14 national parks and reserves and one marine and coastal park to Aboriginal title, and they are jointly managed between Gunaikurnai people and the State.

Since its establishment in 2007, GLaWAC has commenced several commercial operations to create employment opportunities and generate revenue. GLaWAC currently operates a natural resource management business, provides landscaping services, delivers cultural heritage management plans, offers cultural services including traditional ceremonies and cultural education, and has its own emerging commercial business enterprises including the Bush Café and Aboriginal Art Gallery.

In 2021 GLaWAC purchased a 103-hectare parcel of freehold land on the Yanakie Isthmus in South Gippsland and in early 2024 opened a new work centre. GLaWAC has two hubs – a work centre in Morwell in the Latrobe Valley and its headquarters at Kalimna West in East Gippsland.

While Bunurong Land Council is a Registered Aboriginal Party and represents the interests of Bunurong people, it has not negotiated a Recognition and Settlement Agreement with the Victorian Government and does not hold native title. The Bunurong Land Council assesses Cultural Heritage Management Plans and Permits and offers cultural services including assessments of cultural values on Country, traditional ceremonies, and cultural education.

Visit www.bunuronglc.org and www.gunaikurnai.org to learn more.

## Purpose of engagement

Any engagement undertaken by GF Hub and Gippsland's forestry industry should always begin with the Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC. If the RAPs recommend that engagement is also required with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who live in the region, their advice should be followed.

The First Nations Engagement Framework is an important part of Gippsland Forestry Hub's focus, outlined in the <u>30 Year Strategy</u> to contribute meaningfully to Gippsland's community and economy. One of four strategic themes developed to guide the Hub's work, the vision is that:

The forestry and forest products industry are recognised and acknowledged as an integral, value-adding part of the entire Gippsland community and economy. Gippsland is a preferred employment location for forestry and forest products industry employees, and forestry education, training and skills development.

To identify opportunities for greater participation of Traditional Owners in Gippsland's forestry industry, GF Hub wants to develop meaningful and responsive relationships with the Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC.

Any company or business operating in Gippsland's commercial forestry sector should be aware that Traditional Owners have legal rights and interests across their Country and learn when and how to engage.

GF Hub wants to make sure that forestry activities in the region take into consideration culturally important areas and practices, and legal obligations under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* are met, particularly in relation to the Victorian planning process.

This framework is designed to be an introduction to cultural awareness and practical resource for the region's commercial forestry industry on best-practice engagement principles. It is intended to be a living document and will be reported on annually as relationships with Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC deepen.

## Principles of engagement

GF Hub has adopted a set of engagement principles that are of equal importance and underpin all our engagement with First Nations people. How we will go about achieving these principles is outlined below.

Meaningful engagement

Respectful of Traditional Owner decision-making processes

Protect and care for Country

Protect and preserve cultural heritage

Promote cultural awareness

## Principle 1 - Meaningful engagement

GF Hub understands that meaningful engagement must occur from the initial planning stage of any plantation development or expansion, acknowledging that the RAPs are the primary source of advice and knowledge on matters of Aboriginal places or Aboriginal objects in the region.

The **Engagement opportunities** section has been included to help the forestry sector understand what they can engage about and how to go about engaging.

## Principle 2 – Respectful of Traditional Owner decision-making processes

GF Hub understands that Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC have their own governance structures and ways of making decisions. It is important that any engagement allows time for the RAPs to consult with their Elders and members on matters of importance to them.

## Principle 3 – Protect and care for Country

GF Hub acknowledges that the Bunurong and Gunaikurnai people have cared for their land for thousands of years. We wish to work more closely with the Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC to learn from their knowledge of natural systems and fire behaviour and encourages the forestry sector to actively seek out this knowledge.

In Victoria, plantation development and harvest are regulated under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. All timber production activities must comply with the *Code of Practice for Timber Production 2014* to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, generally the local government authority (e.g. council) responsible for administering the local planning scheme. The Code requires developers and harvesters to address key issues such as how they will protect relevant environmental and cultural heritage values, and methods to minimise impacts on water quality and river health.

#### Principle 4 – Protect and preserve cultural heritage

GF Hub's mandate is to guide the sustainable growth of Gippsland's forestry sector as an important contributor to the region's economy and community. GF Hub recognises that the cultural heritage protection and preservation of the region is paramount. GF Hub will continue to inform and actively encourage the forestry sector to meet their legal obligations under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* as it relates to the planning permit process in Victoria.

## Principle 5 – Promote cultural awareness

GF Hub commits to promoting the importance of cultural awareness training across the forestry sector. The First Nations Engagement Framework is a starting point for this work and the GF Hub strongly encourages all companies and businesses to attend cultural awareness training offered by Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC. Details of how to book this training are in the **Engagement Opportunities** section.

## Tips for engagement

GF Hub engages with a range of communities and stakeholders in its work. The success of our engagement lies in understanding shared goals and developing lasting, genuine relationships. This is especially important when engaging with First Nations people understanding their aspirations and cultural responsibilities is essential to building trust and mutually beneficial long-term partnerships.

## Preparing for engagement

Understand the Traditional Owner Group's legal status and rights under the relevant legislation

• The first point for any engagement with Traditional Owners is through the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs). Familiarise yourself with their rights. Refer to the **Traditional Owners** section.

Invite engagement

- If you think that the Traditional Owners may be interested or concerned by any aspect of your commercial operations, talk to them. Be clear about the purpose of the engagement and any decisions that need to be made. You should not seek out, or rely on, the views or approval of an individual. Plan for and undertake any next steps based on advice received from the RAPs about whether or how they wish to be engaged.
- Learn about Bunurong and Gunaikurnai community aspirations before you initiate engagement and where possible link your engagement to these aspirations.
- Visit the websites of the two RAPs <u>www.bunuronglc.org</u> and <u>www.gunaikurnai.org</u>.
- Keep in mind that the RAPs are at different stages of corporate maturity. GLaWAC has been established longer and has a range of strategies and plans that are publicly available on its website as well as community newsletters that highlight its work and achievements.

#### Meet on Country

 It is courtesy to meet on Bunurong or Gunaikurnai Country. Bunurong Land Council's offices are in Frankston and GLaWAC's headquarters are in Kalimna West and a work centre hub in Morwell.
 Attachments 4 and 5 show the RAP boundaries.

#### Respect Aboriginal Community decision-making processes

 Good engagement takes time. Be aware that RAPs have many competing priorities and may not always be able to respond to your enquiries within your preferred timelines. Like any organisation, RAPs have their own approval processes and governance structures. Account for some flexibility within your timelines.

#### Be in it for the long haul

- Engagement is a long-term relationship based on trust, respect, and honesty. Go beyond your statutory planning obligations in relation to protecting and preserving cultural heritage.
- Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC offer a range of cultural services including cultural awareness training and cultural consultation. Take up the opportunity to listen and learn about Bunurong and Gunaikurnai Country and culture from community representatives. Make cultural awareness training an integral part of your businesses, staff training and professional development programs.

#### During engagement

#### Acknowledge Traditional Owners

- An Acknowledgement of Country can be done by anyone. It is a way of showing awareness of, and respect for, the Aboriginal Traditional Owners of land on which a meeting or event is held. There is no specific wording for an Acknowledgment of Country, just be sincere and include the name of the Country you are acknowledging.
- Suggested wording to use when meeting with Bunurong Land Council or GLaWAC:

*"I'd like to begin by acknowledging the Bunurong and/or Gunaikurnai as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we meet and pay my respects to Elders past and present."* 

• In areas where Traditional Owners have not been formally recognised, it is important to acknowledge Traditional Owners of the land generally. This applies to a small section of Bass Coast and part of South Gippsland. Attachments 4 and 5 show the RAP boundaries. Suggested acknowledgement:

"I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting. I pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Aboriginal Elders of other communities who may be here today."

Use plain English

• Avoid jargon and acronyms. Be direct.

#### Don't make assumptions

 In your initial engagement meeting, ask how the RAP prefers to make decisions and find out about their governance structures. Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC have a Board of Directors and the CEO reports through to the Board with a management structure underneath. GLaWAC also has Board sub-committees that provide advice on key areas. Depending on the issue, the RAPs may also want to involve their Elders and members in decision-making processes.

## **Engagement Opportunities**

It is intended that the First Nations Framework is a living document. As engagement with Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC deepens and mutually beneficial projects are identified, GF Hub will report annually on potential or new engagement opportunities. GF Hub aims to have the framework endorsed by Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC in 2024-2025.

There are many existing opportunities for GF Hub and the forestry sector to engage and increase their cultural awareness.

Current opportunities	What does this involve?	Further information
Acknowledging	A simple, genuine acknowledgment of Traditional Owners at	In Victoria, First Peoples - State Relations, has detailed
Traditional Owners	any major official event held within Bunurong or Gunaikurnai	information on why acknowledgments are important.
	Country.	www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au
	If you are formally meeting with the RAPs, it is a sign of	There is also a decision tree that clarifies when you
	respect to acknowledge the Traditional Owners. Suggested	should Acknowledge the Traditional Owners or request a
	acknowledgement:	Welcome to Country.
	<i>"I'd like to begin by acknowledging the Bunurong and/or</i>	www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/welcome-country-
	Gunaikurnai as the Traditional Owners of the lands on which	and-acknowledgement-traditional-owners
	we meet and pay my respects to Elders past and present."	
		Note: A specific Acknowledgement, or request for a
	In areas where Traditional Owners have not been formally	Welcome to Country, is not recommended in areas
	recognised, it is important to acknowledge Traditional Owners	where formal recognition of the Traditional Owners has
	of the land generally. This applies to a small section of Bass	not occurred.
	Coast and part of South Gippsland. Suggested acknowledgement:	If you are unsure, check Attachment 3 that shows the
		boundaries of the Registered Aboriginal Parties in
	<i>"I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which</i>	Victoria (formally recognised Traditional Owners).
	we are meeting. I pay my respects to their Elders, past and	
	present, and the Aboriginal Elders of other communities who	
	may be here today."	

Welcome to Country or Smoking CeremonyA Welcome to Country should be conducted for all major official events occurring within Bunurong or Gunaikurnai Country. The Welcomes are conducted by the Traditional Owners at their discretion, and they will determine if a Smoking Ceremony is appropriate.		Detailed information about the cultural services offered and bookings can be made online Bunurong Land Council – <u>www.bunuronglc.org</u> under the <u>Bookings</u> page.	
	Note: Fees apply for any Welcome to Country or Smoking Ceremony. Allow a minimum of two weeks for a request for Traditional Ceremonies, longer if your event is being held during NAIDOC Week (July) or Reconciliation Week (27 May – 3 June).	GLaWAC – <u>www.gunaikurnai.org</u> under <u>Our</u> <u>Culture/Cultural Services</u> page.	
Cultural awareness sessions and cultural consultation	Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC offer cultural awareness sessions. The sessions usually include a presentation and a field trip to a place of significance on-Country.	Detailed information about the cultural services offered by each RAP and bookings can be online.	
	It is considered respectful protocol to engage with Traditional Owners to seek permission for the use of their Indigenous Cultural Intellectual Property.	Bunurong Land Council – <u>www.bunuronglc.org</u> under the Bookings page. If you are unsure about any aspect of cultural awareness sessions or cultural consultation, contact first.	
	<ul> <li>Note:</li> <li>Fees apply for cultural awareness sessions and cultural consultations.</li> <li>Cultural awareness sessions are held at locations convenient to the RAPs. Travel costs will be incurred if sessions are requested at another location.</li> <li>Cultural consultations may involve the consideration of Elders and community and as such, longer lead times are involved.</li> </ul>	General enquiries for Bunurong Land Council P: (03) 9770 1273 E: admin@bunronglc.org.au GLaWAC – <u>www.gunaikurnai.org</u> under Our Culture/Cultural Services page. General enquiries for GLaWAC P: (03) 5152 5100 E: admin@glawac.com.au	
Notifying, consulting or negotiating to meet legal	The <u>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</u> provides for the protection and management of Victoria's Aboriginal cultural heritage	The Victorian Government's Planning website has comprehensive information about Planning schemes,	
obligations, such as land use activities under the	including processes linked to the Victorian planning system.	approvals, environmental assessments and guides and resource.	
Traditional Owner,	Provisions of the Act that affect the planning process include:		

Native Title or cultural heritage laws and agreements	<ul> <li>Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMPs)</li> <li>The role of Registered Aboriginal Parties and the role of local government</li> <li>The effect of CHMPs on planning permit applications</li> <li>Enforcing CHMPs.</li> </ul> Note: GF Hub is not responsible for facilitating any aspect of the planning permit process and recommends that any existing or prospective commercial forestry business learns about their legal obligations visit the websites listed in this table.	www.planning.vic.gov.auSpecific information about the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and the planning permit process is available.www.planning.vic.gov.au/guides-and- resources/guides/planning-practice-notes/aboriginal- heritage-act-2006-and-the-planning-permit-processInformation about Cultural Heritage Plans and resources for preparing one, including tools, forms and practice notes are available on the First Peoples-State Relations website.www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/cultural-heritage- 
Pursue procurement opportunities	<ul> <li>GLaWAC offers a range of services including:</li> <li>Revegetation and restoration projects</li> <li>Pest plan and animal management</li> <li>Biodiversity monitoring and weed control</li> <li>Civil services</li> <li>Roadside management</li> <li>Machinery works</li> <li>Landscaping</li> <li>Site surveys.</li> </ul>	GLaWAC's Contract Services Team can be contacted via: P: (03) 51552 5100 E: admin@glawac.com.au
Pursuing Aboriginal employment opportunities and business partnerships	<ul> <li>GF Hub on behalf of Gippsland's forestry industry will engage with Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC and keep the industry informed of developments through its usual communication channels.</li> <li>Note: GF Hub is aware that the larger plantation businesses operating in the region may have their own employment priorities and partnerships.</li> </ul>	

Reconciliation Action Plan	GF Hub encourages the forestry sector to incorporate the First Nations Engagement Framework and engagement principles	Reconciliation Australia has comprehensive information, templates, and resources. You can also submit a draft
	into its business practices and policies.	Plan to receive a review of your commitments.
	Another way of demonstrating commitment to advancing	www.reconciliation.org.au under the Reconciliation
	reconciliation and increasing cultural safety in the workplace, is developing a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). A RAP is	Action Plan page.
	specifically designed for workplaces with employees and operations in Australia. There are four different types of RAPs	www.reconciliation.org.au/the-rap-framework - details
	designed to suit an organisation at different stages of their	about the four different types of Reconciliation Action Plans: Reflect, Innovate, Stretch and Elevate.
	reconciliation journey: Reflect; Innovate; Stretch and Elevate.	
	<b>Note:</b> the First Nations Engagement Framework aligns with the	
	intentions of a Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan.	

## Attachments

Attachment 1 – IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation

## IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation was designed to assist with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public's role in any public participation process. The Spectrum is used internationally, and it is found in public participation plans around the world.

	INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION				
	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
<b>PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC</b>	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.
	© IAP2 International Federation 2018. All rights reserved. 20181112_v1				

GF Hub acknowledges the International Association for Public Participation as the source of the IAP2 Spectrum.

## Attachment 2 – Applying the IAP2 Spectrum

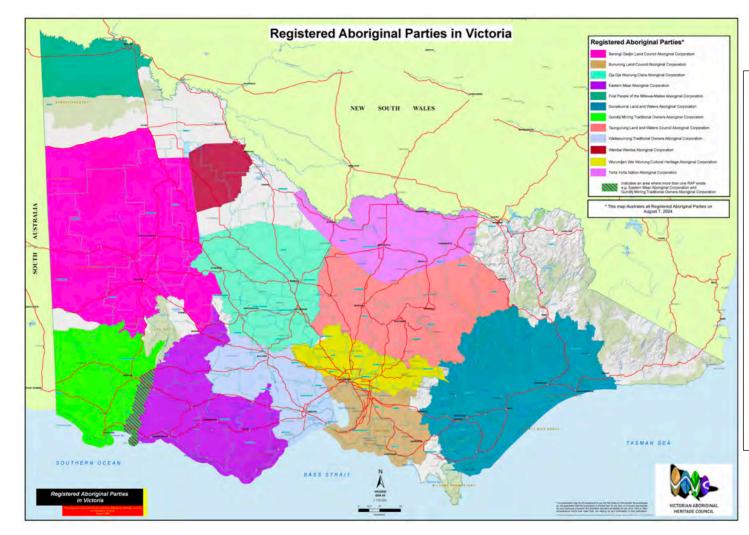
Since its inception, GF Hub has consulted with GLaWAC through the development of the 30 Year Strategy and other key industry reports. The First Nations Engagement Framework formalises GF Hub's commitment to a set of engagement principles and is intended to be the starting point for a meaningful and long-lasting relationship with the Bunurong and Gunaikurnai people.

This diagram shows how the First Nations Engagement Framework applies to the IAP2 Spectrum. GF Hub's intention is to **collaborat**e with the RAPs as a minimum.

## **INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION**

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
ENGAGEMENT GOAL	Provide information to Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC about the work of the GF Hub and the First Nations Engagement Framework.	Seek feedback on the draft First Nations Engagement Framework.	Work directly with the RAPs to understand their aspirations and priorities.	Partner with the RAPs to explore potential initiatives and projects in the commercial forestry sector.	Enable the RAPs to determine the scope of any future initiatives and projects.
OUR COMMITMENT	We will contact the Bunurong Land Council and GLaWAC to determine how they wish to engage and identify further engagement opportunities on behalf of the region's commercial forestry industry.	We will incorporate any preliminary feedback provided by the RAPs into the draft framework. We will seek endorsement of the framework by the RAPs in 2024- 2025.	We will make sure that the GF Hub considers the aspirations and priorities of the RAPs in its future work, industry and stakeholder engagement. We will keep the RAPs informed of potential opportunities that may be of interest to them.	We will invite the RAPs to be part of the GF Hub's Executive Committee and provide strategic advice and guidance on matters of importance to the RAPs. We will work with the RAPs to co- design future projects and partnerships.	The GF Hub will support and fund these initiatives and projects.





Further information about Registered Aboriginal Parties and downloadable maps are available at www.aboriginalheritagecouncil.vic.gov.au.

The <u>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Register</u> <u>and Information System</u> (ACHRIS) is an online map that shows the boundaries of all Victorian RAPs.

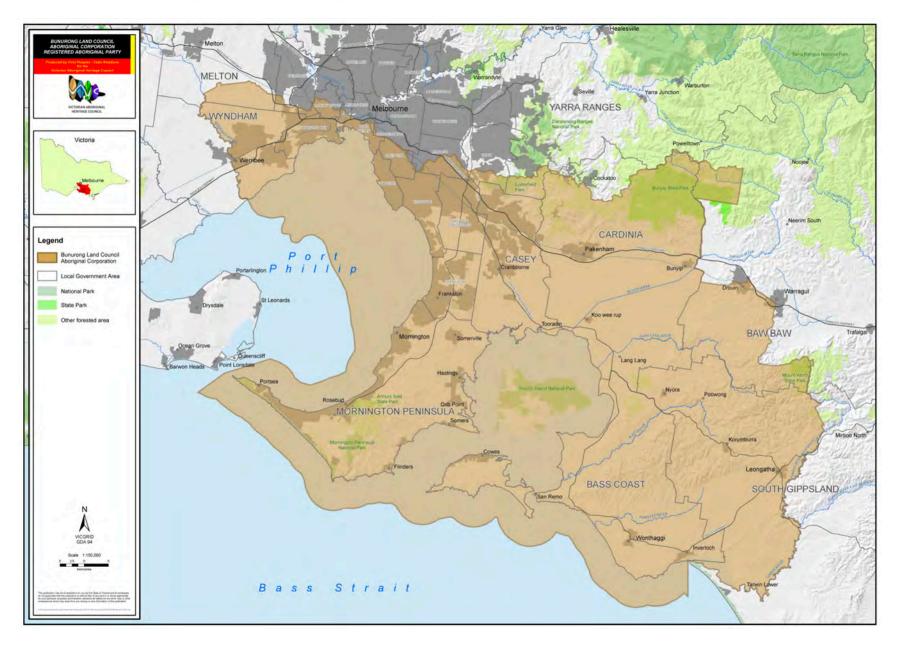
The map works best in Chrome.

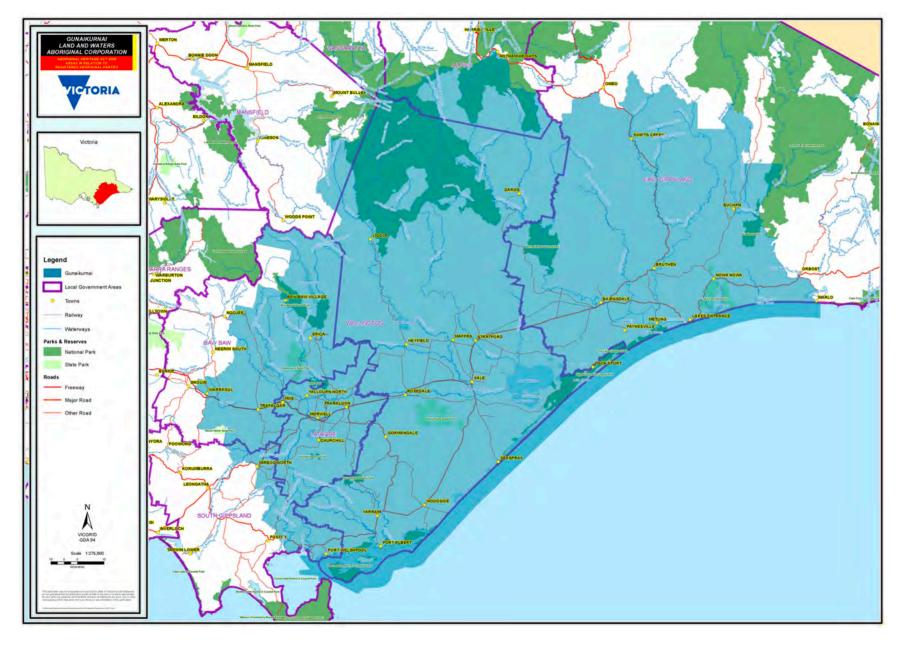
Once the online map is displayed:

• Click the Layers icon on the toolbar above the map and select the Appointed RAPs checkbox.

Other checkbox options include areas of cultural heritage sensitivity and Local Government Areas and Catchment Area Boundaries.

## Attachment 4 – Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation boundaries





## Key references

<u>30 Year Strategy for a growing, sustainable industry supporting communities to thrive</u>, Gippsland Forestry Hub,2021

Gunaikurnai Whole-of-Country Plan, Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, July 2015

<u>GLaWAC Economic Development Strategy 2017-2022</u>, Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation

Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy Gippsland, Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, August 2021

Pupangarli Marnmarnepu 'Owning our Future', Aboriginal Self-Determination Reform Strategy 2020-2025, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Victorian Government, 2019

Report prepared by KAREN RAABE COMMUNICATIONS for the Gippsland Forestry Hub.

www.gippslandforestryhub.com.au