The State of Victoria introduced an alternative settlement framework to the claims system under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) in 2010. The new framework is enabled by the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 (Vic) (the TOS Act). The alternative framework does not require recognition or extinguishment of native title under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth), but provides for the State’s recognition of a group of people as the traditional owners for a particular area together with other benefits. A recognition and settlement agreement under the TOS Act is underpinned by the registration of an indigenous land use agreement in the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

The map depicts the boundaries of claimant areas as they have been recognised by the Federal Court process. As part of the transitional provisions of the amended Native Title Act in 1998, all applications were taken to have been filed in the Federal Court. Any changes to these applications and the filing of new applications happen through the Federal Court. The map shows this boundary rather than the boundary as per the Federal Court judgment and carefully evaluate the information provided for accuracy, currency, completeness and relevance for the purposes intended.

Note: As per the Federal Court (30 June 2020) the State of Victoria introduced an alternative settlement framework to the claims system under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) in 2010. The new framework is enabled by the Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 (Vic) (the TOS Act). The alternative framework does not require recognition or extinguishment of native title under the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth), but provides for the State’s recognition of a group of people as the traditional owners for a particular area together with other benefits. A recognition and settlement agreement under the TOS Act is underpinned by the registration of an indigenous land use agreement in the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements.