

# BushBroker<sup>®</sup>

## Transferring freehold land to the Crown

Information sheet No. 6

One way for landowners to generate Native Vegetation Credits through BushBroker is to transfer freehold land to the Crown. You must be the owner of the freehold land to be eligible.

### Steps to transferring land to Crown

#### 1. Local DSE considers the proposal

To determine whether your land would be a suitable addition to the Crown's Parks and Reserve System you should contact the Biodiversity Manager at your local Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) office.

The local DSE office will consider whether your land is a suitable candidate for inclusion in the Crown's Parks and Reserve System.

You will need to organise a Habitat Hectare assessment of your land by a suitable assessor to assist in the process. A suitable assessor is one who has undertaken training and is deemed competent by DSE in the Vegetation Quality Assessment methodology using Habitat Hectares.

#### 2. Submission to DSE's Forests and Parks Division

If your local DSE office considers your land to be suitable for transferring to the Crown, they will verify the site assessment information you provide and assist you in completing paperwork to submit to the Forests and Parks Division within DSE.

Local DSE will submit the paperwork to the DSE's Forests and Parks Division, with a recommendation that your land would make a suitable addition to the Crown's Parks and Reserve System.

#### 3. DSE's Forests and Parks Division considers the proposal

DSE Forests and Parks Division will thoroughly assess the land's suitability to add to the Parks and Reserve System. Staff will consider factors such as the type and quality of your vegetation and your land's position in the landscape, relative to existing reserves. They will then examine the land transfer proposal and any supporting information.

They will also liaise with Parks Victoria regarding any potential management implications. In some instances, Parks Victoria may require a financial contribution associated with a land transfer which will help with any actions required to improve the land (e.g. removal of rubbish).

#### 4. Native Vegetation Credits calculated

If DSE's Forests and Parks Division consider your land to be a suitable addition to the Crown's Parks and Reserve System, they will contact BushBroker and ask for the Native Vegetation Credits to be calculated.

BushBroker will calculate the potential Native Vegetation Credits you would generate based on the site assessment information you provide should your land be transferred to the Crown.

#### 5. Land transfer

Once DSE's Forests and Parks Division has made their recommendation and the potential Native Vegetation Credits have been calculated, DSE will prepare a briefing note to the Minister seeking endorsement for the transfer of the land title to the Crown.

#### 6. Native Vegetation Credits

You will need to notify BushBroker in writing of the land transfer. Once BushBroker has received confirmation that the land title reflects Crown ownership and that any outstanding issues have been resolved, the Native Vegetation Credits generated will be registered on the Native Vegetation Credit Register, and a Native Vegetation Credit Extract issued.

### Further information

For further information on BushBroker, please contact the DSE Customer Service Centre on 136 186 or visit the DSE website at: [www.dse.vic.gov.au/nativevegetation](http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/nativevegetation). All BushBroker Information Sheets are available on the website.

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For more information contact the DSE Customer Service Centre 136 186

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