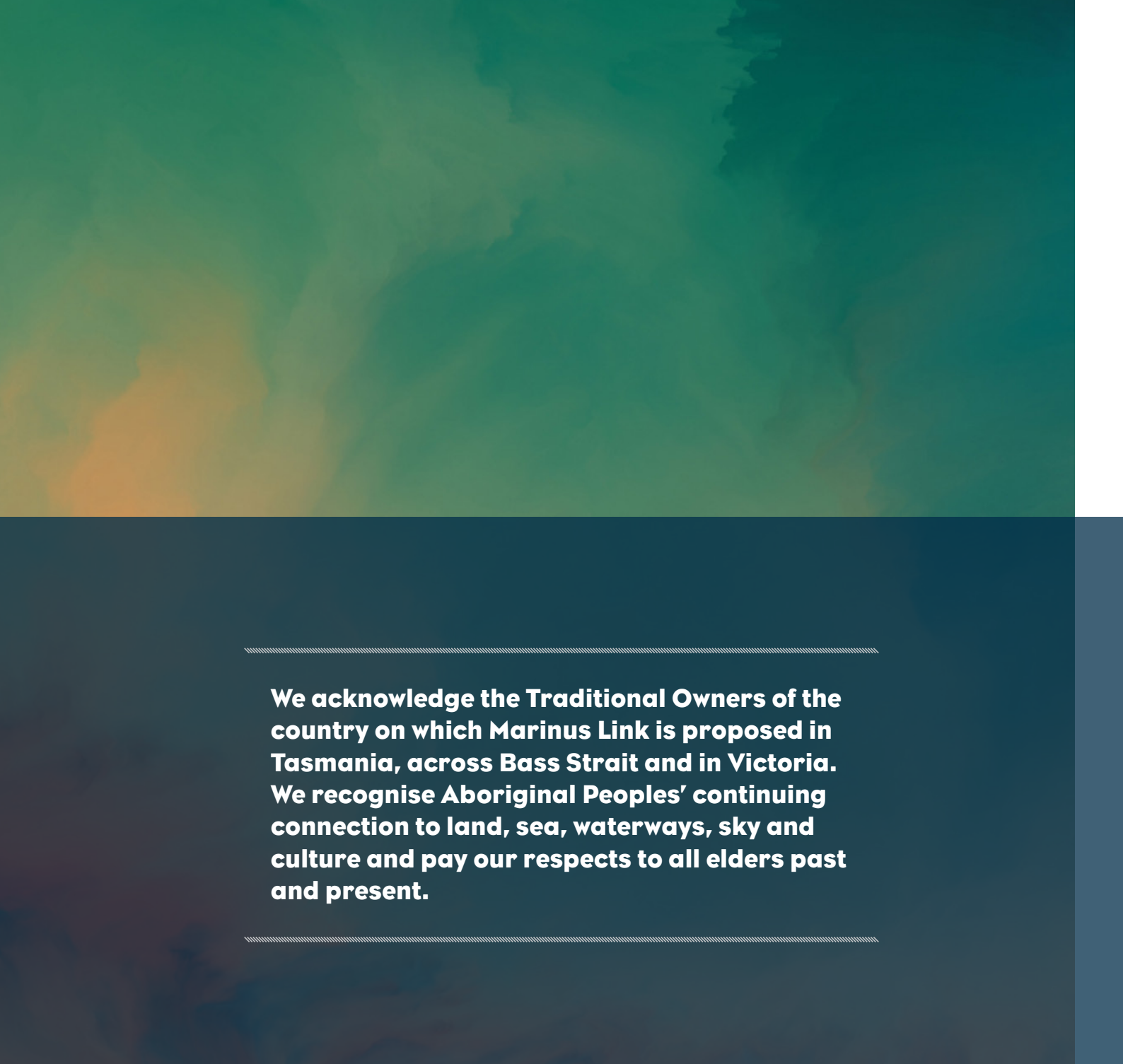


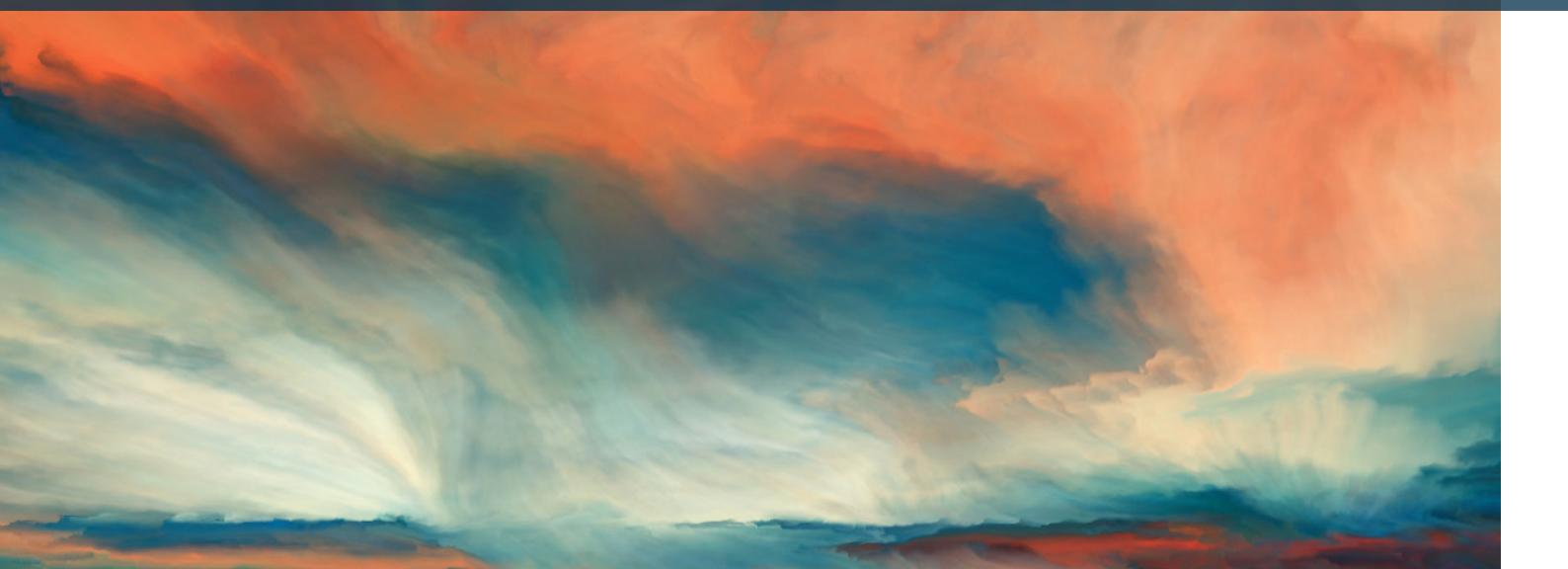


GIPPSLAND'S CULTURAL HERITAGE

MARINUS
LINK



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the country on which Marinus Link is proposed in Tasmania, across Bass Strait and in Victoria. We recognise Aboriginal Peoples' continuing connection to land, sea, waterways, sky and culture and pay our respects to all elders past and present.



As part of the development and approvals phase of Marinus Link, we're undertaking activities to understand whether the areas we are working in have cultural heritage value and how to protect this.

Activities for these surveys include, but are not limited to, non-invasive walkovers, ground-penetrating radar surveys, and geotechnical and archaeological investigations.

In Victoria, Marinus Link has engaged highly qualified and experienced heritage specialists to conduct the cultural heritage surveys. Throughout all survey work, Marinus Link works with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs), Traditional Owners and Community.

ABOUT MARINUS LINK

Marinus Link is a proposed undersea and underground electricity and telecommunications interconnector between Tasmania and Victoria.

It will further connect Tasmania to the National Electricity Market, which comprises Queensland, New South Wales, ACT, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia.

Marinus Link will comprise high-voltage direct current (HVDC) cables, fibre-optic cables, and converter stations in both Tasmania and Victoria. Marinus Link will be about 345 kilometres long – 255 kilometres of undersea cables and 90 kilometres of underground cables.

It will have a 1500 megawatt (MW) capacity, equal to the power supply for 1.5 million Australian homes.

COUNTRY AND CULTURE

At Marinus Link we recognise and respect the history, culture and stories that Aboriginal Peoples bring to our communities, and acknowledge that they have a profound spiritual connection to the lands and waters on which the project is proposed to be built.

In the Cippisland region, Marinus Link is working closely with Traditional Owners to ensure the project meets its cultural heritage responsibilities.

CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTIONS

Within Victoria, there are protections for Aboriginal cultural heritage under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.

The purpose of the Aboriginal Heritage Act is to:

- ◇ **Protect Aboriginal cultural heritage and Aboriginal intangible heritage in Victoria;**
- ◇ **Empower Traditional Owners as protectors of their cultural heritage on behalf of Aboriginal Peoples and all other people.**

Find more information about the Aboriginal Heritage Act go to <https://www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-heritage-legislation>.

MANAGING PROJECT IMPACTS

We're still completing our site walkovers with Traditional Owners to understand if the project will impact Aboriginal cultural heritage.

The findings from these walkovers will be used to develop a cultural heritage Management Plan (CHMP). The CHMP details measures the project will put in place, before, during and after works to manage and protect Aboriginal cultural heritage.

TRADITIONAL OWNERS

There are three Traditional Owner groups Marinus Link is working with throughout the project.

- ◇ Cunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (CLaWAC) Registered Aboriginal Party;
- ◇ Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC) Registered Aboriginal Party;
- ◇ The Boonwurrung Land and Sea Council (BLSC).

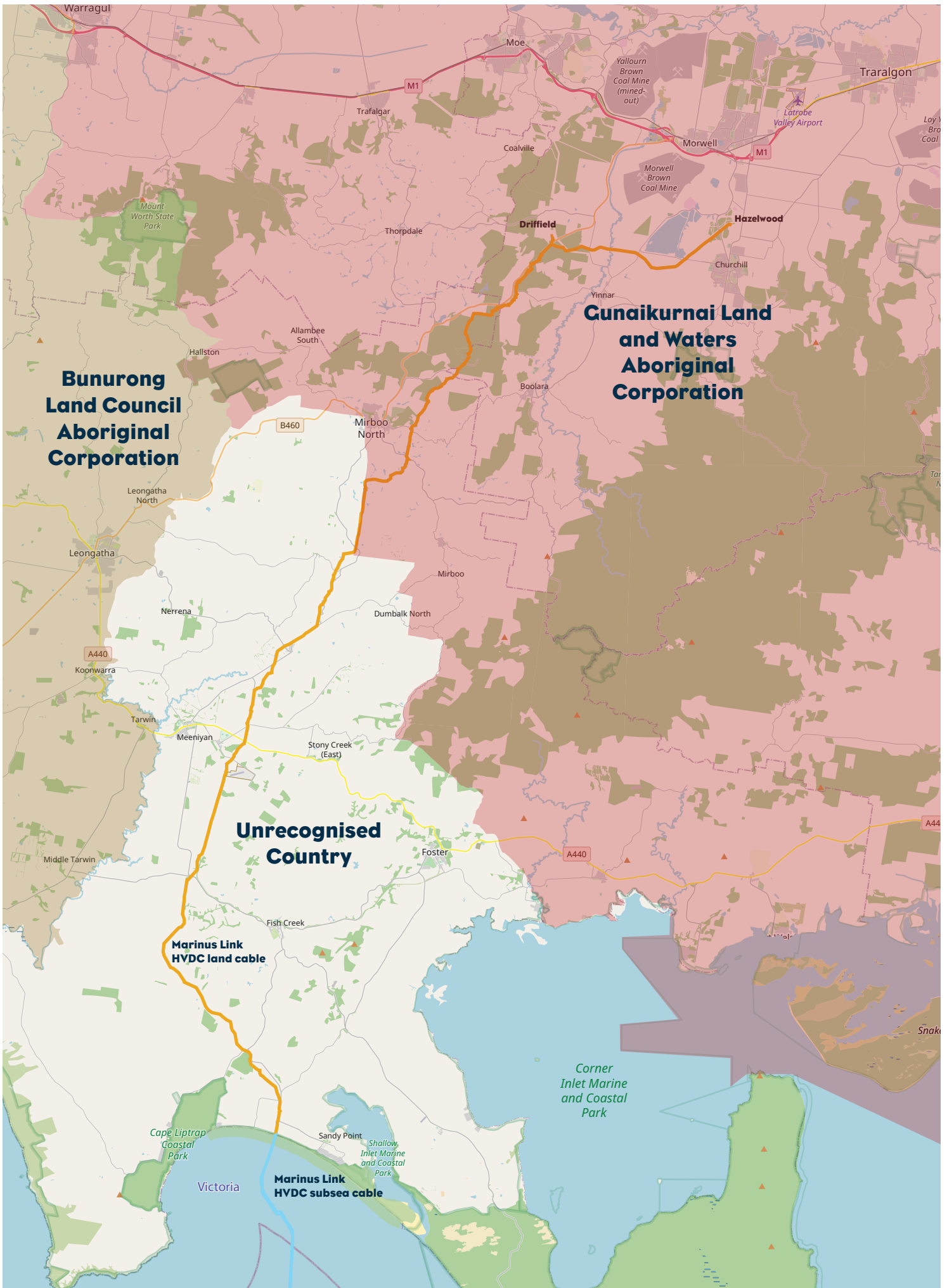
The proposed alignment takes in areas of South Cippisland and the Latrobe Valley. This includes the northern part of South Cippisland and the Latrobe Valley, which is recognised as Cunaikurnai Country.

For areas where Traditional Ownership has not yet been formally recognised, we will engage with local Traditional Owners and First Peoples State Relations.

For land along the proposed alignment deemed unrecognised, we will engage Traditional Owners equally. See over page the Marinus Link proposed cable alignment map, identifying traditional owners.

Traditional Owners conducting walkovers of the Waratah Beach area as part of the Cultural Heritage Management Plan process





**Bunurong
Land Council
Aboriginal
Corporation**

**Cunaikurnai Land
and Waters
Aboriginal
Corporation**

**Unrecognised
Country**

**Marinus Link
HVDC land cable**

**Marinus Link
HVDC subsea cable**

ABORIGINAL HISTORICAL PLACES

An Aboriginal historical place is a location that is important because of its associations with, and cultural significance to, Aboriginal Peoples. Such places may or may not contain archaeological remains. It is critical to investigate these places through cultural heritage survey works.

Aboriginal historical places are identified through a range of sources including oral history provided by Aboriginal Peoples, references in historical records and information arising from archaeological investigations. Such places can include:

- ◇ Locations where Aboriginal Peoples have lived and worked;
- ◇ Land reserved for Aboriginal Peoples;
- ◇ Mission and protectorate stations;
- ◇ Burials within cemeteries;
- ◇ Locations relating to Aboriginal self-determination;
- ◇ Places of conflict;
- ◇ Places linked with significant individuals.

IDENTIFYING CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES

Our surveys aim to identify Aboriginal and cultural heritage sites and areas of potential archaeological sensitivity along the project alignment.

These surveys may identify:

- ◇ Artefact scatters - more than 10 items of cultural material (usually flaked stone artefacts) within an area of 100 square metres;

- ◇ Isolated or low-density artefacts - up to 10 items of cultural material within an area of 100 metres. This may be evidence of a brief (or one-off) activity location;
- ◇ Stone quarries - stone used by Aboriginal Peoples in hunting and gathering food and in food preparation and processing;
- ◇ Rock shelters - sites located within a rock shelter/overhang or cave;
- ◇ Culturally modified trees - scars on trees that may be the result of removal of strips of bark by Aboriginal Peoples for the manufacture of utensils, canoes or for shelter.

WHAT HAPPENS IF SOMETHING OF HERITAGE VALUE IS FOUND ON MY LAND?

Freehold land, which is almost all private property, is not subject to Native Title claims, even if Aboriginal places are present. In general, having Aboriginal cultural places on your land will not affect ownership, or stop existing land use from continuing. For more information about Native Title, visit the Department of Justice and Community Safety <https://www.justice.vic.gov.au/your-rights/native-title>.

Where historical artefacts such as scarred trees, ground edge axes and axe grinding grooves, middens, grinding stones and land scatters have been identified, the items will firstly be protected in consultation with the land owner. Following this, an agreed plan between the landowner, Traditional Owners and Marinus Link will ensure their ongoing protection and possible relocation.

SURVEY ACTIVITIES

At each stage of the cultural heritage process, the project will have Traditional Owners on site. This is an important and respectful process and an opportunity to share and connect through our region's rich cultural history.

Marinus Link's cultural heritage assessment involves:

- ◇ An initial desktop study to determine where and how 'on-ground' investigations and field surveys will take place;
- ◇ A walkover by the survey team and Traditional Owners to identify any exposed cultural heritage and to assess the overall archaeological potential of the survey area;
- ◇ A formal assessment to decide whether further cultural heritage investigations are required;
- ◇ If further investigations are required, they may involve excavating test pits to determine the extent and significance of any Aboriginal places or historic archaeological sites. This will be conducted by specialists and Traditional Owners;
- ◇ The results of these surveys will inform Marinus Link's final route design and construction methods. They will also help us to identify and mitigate potential project impacts.



Aboriginal canoe scar tree



MORE INFORMATION

Cultural heritage: First Peoples - State Relations
www.firstpeoplesrelations.vic.gov.au

Email: team@marinuslink.com.au

Call: **1300 765 275**

Web: marinuslink.com.au

