



Victorian Bushfires Surveying Taskforce Information Sheet

March/April 2009

Dear Resident

The Victorian Bushfires Surveying Taskforce has been established to coordinate the land surveying component of the bushfire response. The taskforce is working with the Victorian Bushfire Recovery and Reconstruction Authority (VBRRA) to assist with the rebuilding of communities affected by the fires.

Members of the surveying profession have been generous with offers of volunteer work and a program has been established to best utilise these services. Volunteer surveyors have been assigned the task of locating and referencing surviving survey marks and monuments that will assist with re-instating property boundaries at a later stage. The survey marks are mainly within the road reserves and will be marked with wooden stakes and blue flagging tape once they have been found by the volunteers. It is critical that these marks be preserved during the clean-up works as they are important to the process of accurately and efficiently re-instating property boundaries.

At this time, neither the taskforce nor the volunteers will be dealing with individual requests to have property boundaries marked on the ground. It is envisaged that these surveys will be provided on a fee-for-service basis at a later date. However, if residents need advice on whether a survey is necessary for their property and require information on how to arrange it, a free professional advisory service has been established by the taskforce for this purpose. This service can be accessed by contacting the Association of Consulting Surveyors Victoria (ACSV) on (03) 9326 9700 or speaking to a professional surveyor who will be on-site at the Recovery Centre on the days the volunteers will be performing their work. Some frequently asked questions and answers are provided below that may be of some assistance at this stage.

Further information on the project and the work of the volunteer surveyors can be found at www.dse.vic.gov.au/vbst. Alternatively, this information can be obtained from the Taskforce Area Manager at the Recovery Centre or by contacting the Office of Surveyor-General Victoria on (03) 8636 2525.

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Frequently asked questions

How do I find out where my property boundaries are?

In most circumstances, the fencing or remains of fencing are the best indication of where property boundaries are. However, it is not uncommon for fences to be significantly out of position and therefore your particular circumstances should be discussed with a professional surveyor to determine whether a survey of your boundaries and their marking on the ground is necessary.

Who can survey my property boundaries?

A licensed surveyor is the only person legally entitled to do a survey to determine and mark property boundaries on the ground.

Where do I find a licensed surveyor?

The Yellow Pages Directory provides a listing of surveyors and survey firms under the heading Surveyors – Land. Keep in mind that when selecting a survey firm to perform a property boundary survey, you must confirm that they have a licensed surveyor on staff who is authorised to perform such surveys.



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