

- The Minister will continue to dedicate land for public purposes, placing it under the management of a person or body. A new provision will require the Minister's written consent to assign dedicated land.
- Crown land must be sold by public auction, public tender or open competitive process. Certain exceptions are outlined in the draft Bill but must be reported.
- Crown land may be sold with a conditional title. If the conditions are breached the title may be cancelled.
- Licences to occupy Crown land may be issued for up to 10 years instead of the present annual renewal.
- While offences relating to Crown land have already been widened and penalties strengthened, new provisions relating to camping and use of motor vehicles off-road are proposed. The power to proclaim other offences and their expiation fees are proposed.
- Lessees or other persons may apply for a review or appeal against decisions made by the Minister. Certain actions or decisions may be reviewed or appealed to a court.

We invite your comments and feedback

The draft Bill has been presented for public comment. The format should not be interpreted as a settled precursor to legislation. So if you would like to comment, contact Andrew Stone (details below) for the Comments Pro-Forma and return it to him by 27 October, 2006.

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More information?

For a copy of the draft Bill, Information leaflet, or background and explanatory document please contact Andrew Stone (details above) or any Regional Office of the Department for Environment and Heritage at Berri, Kadina, Mount Gambier, Port Augusta and Port Lincoln. You can also view them on the website at <http://www.crownlands.sa.gov.au>

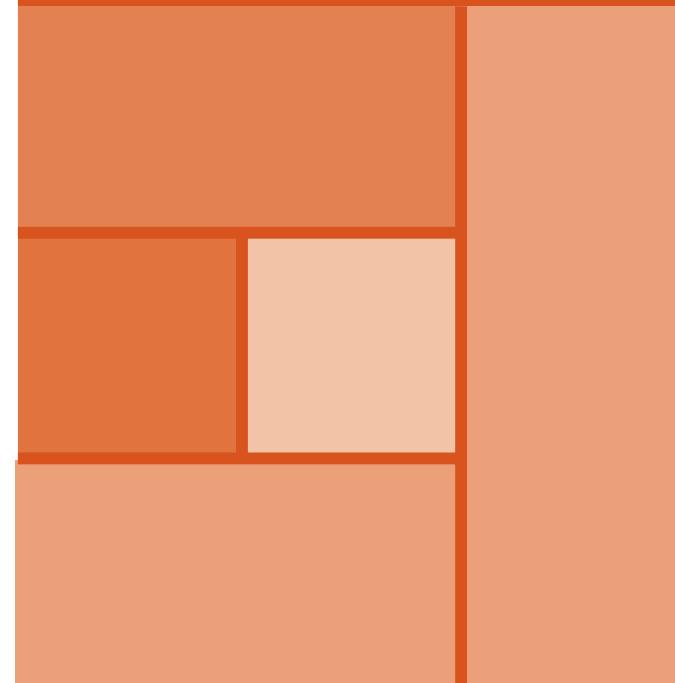
If you have a question about Crown land legislation call Doug Faehrmann at our Land Administration Branch on (08) 8595 2122 or 8124 4992 or email him: faehrmann.doug@saugov.sa.gov.au

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Draft Crown Lands Management Bill 2006



Public consultation
information sheet



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What is Crown land legislation and why change it?

Crown land legislation in South Australia encouraged settlement and development in the early days of the State and now manages the public's interest in Crown land.

In line with the South Australian Strategic Plan to improve public sector performance, the new draft Crown Land Management Bill aims to streamline processes, reduce red tape, and remove duplication and overlapping responsibilities. It also encourages fair and transparent decision-making and management of Crown land while maintaining the balance between the social, economic and environmental needs of the community.

What does the draft Bill propose?

The draft Crown Land Management Bill proposes the repeal of the following acts by consolidating them into one Act:

- Crown Lands Act 1929
- Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act 1934
- Irrigation (Land Tenure) Act 1930
- Marginal Lands Act 1940
- War Service Land Settlement Agreement Act 1945
- Monarto Legislation Repeal Act 1980

The draft Bill also proposes to make related amendments to:

- Harbors and Navigation Act 1993
- Rates and Land Tax Remission Act 1986.

Proposed amendments to the Harbors and Navigation Act 1993 will revert the seabed to the status of unalienated Crown land, where title has not already been issued. The responsibility for the allocation of all unalienated Crown land will be given to the Minister for Environment and Conservation.

The draft Bill will have no impact on leases issued under the Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act 1989.

What are the draft Bill's new provisions?

- The power to grant land on behalf of the Crown will transfer from the Governor to the Minister.
- The Land Board will be abolished and its role as valuer, appeal court and independent adviser taken over by the Valuer-General, established appeal courts and specifically appointed advisory committees.
- The draft Bill promotes the sustainable use of Crown land while protecting it from environmental damage. The Minister may serve a notice to the lessee, licensee or custodian if damage to the land has been caused. If the notice is not complied with, the Minister can carry out the remediation then recover costs and a court can impose penalties. The Minister can ask for payment of a financial assurance as a condition of the lease if there is a risk of environmental damage and can use that assurance to remediate the land if damage occurs.
- The Bill promotes plans that integrate ecologically sustainable land management and the Minister can appoint members of the local community to give advice on specific areas or issues.