BushTel User Guide

www.bushtel.nt.gov.au

NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT

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Welcome to BushTel

BushTel is a central point for information about the remote communities of the Northern Territory, their people and cultural and historical influences. BushTel aims to enhance planning and informed decision making.

It is named after the famous Bush Telegraph, the unofficial chain of communication through which news, information and rumours were spread throughout the country. The term became synonymous with the quick carriage of any tale worth telling.

The BushTel website was launched in 1990 as part of the Northern Territory Government's initiative to provide information on remote communities including social, cultural and statistical information that would assist in achieving outcomes in the bush and allow for informed decision making.

This user guide has been developed to assist users to get the most out of their experience with the reimaged BushTel site. Each section in this guide relates to key pages on the BushTel site and describes the different features and uses of each page.

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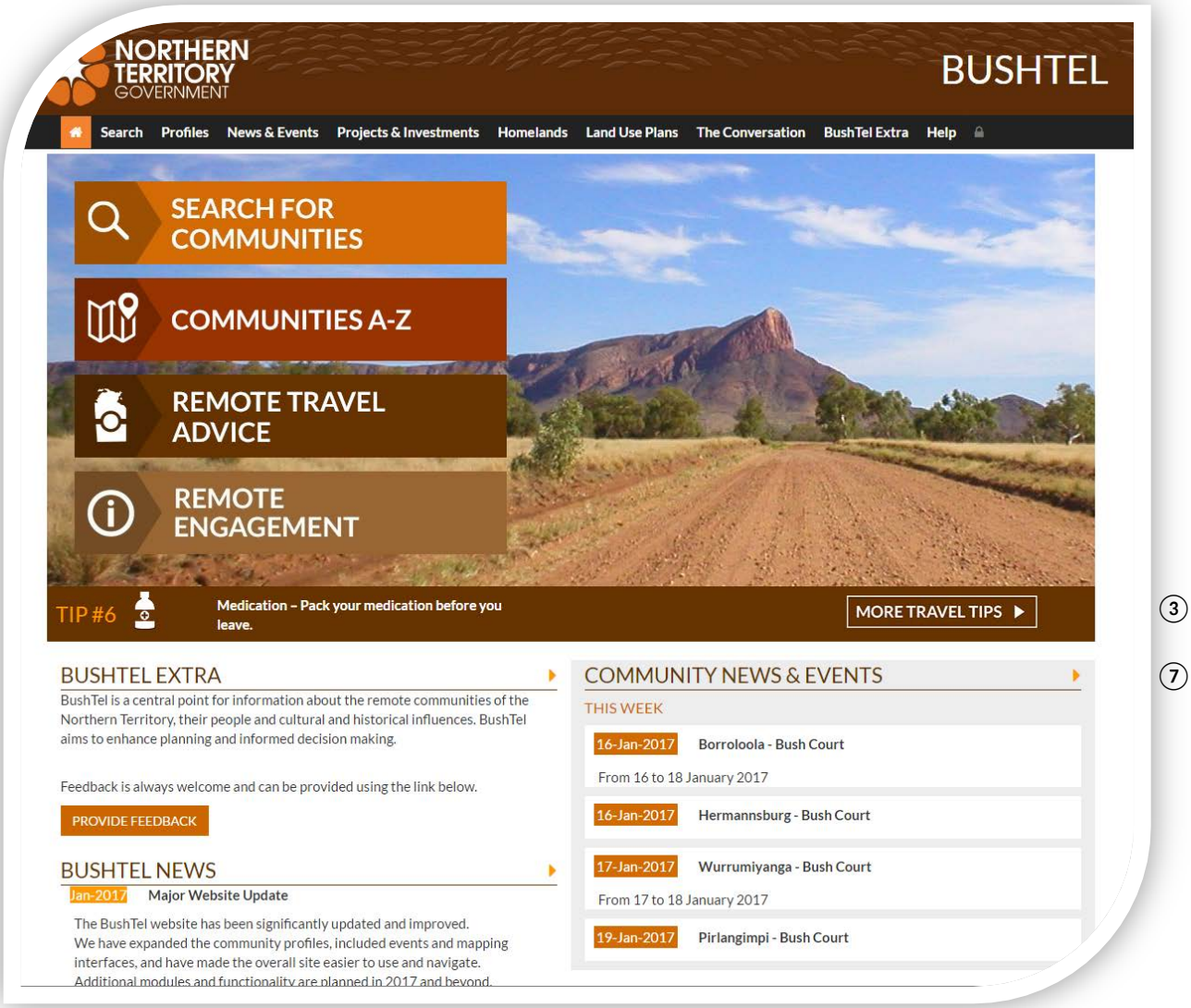
BushTel Home

Featuring a photo from Haasts Bluff nestled within the West MacDonnell Ranges in Central Australia; the BushTel Home page has an easy to navigate menu and links to key site features.



① Main menu
② Helpful links
③ Travel tips
④ BushTel Extra
⑤ Provide feedback
⑥ BushTel News
⑦ Community News and Events

Main menu

Allowing easy navigation to any page within the site, the BushTel main menu runs left to right across the top of every page. The tabs from left to right are:

Home (Symbol)
Search
Profiles
News & Events
Projects & Investments
Homelands
Land Use Plans
The Conversation
BushTel Extra
Help

Helpful links

Directly below the main menu, on the left hand side of the page, are four links which may assist the user in navigating to the BushTel page most suitable for their needs

Search for communities
Communities A - Z
Remote Travel Advice
Remote Engagement

Travel tips

Stretching across the page directly below the feature photo is an animated banner which displays various travel tips. The 'Travel Tips' infographic can be accessed by clicking on the "more travel tips" button.

BushTel Extra

Featuring a brief description of the site's purpose an arrow link is provided to the BushTel Extra page which assists users in becoming more familiar with the site, its history, and its future.

Provide Feedback

This is a direct link to the e-form through which users can provide feedback on the BushTel site.

BushTel News

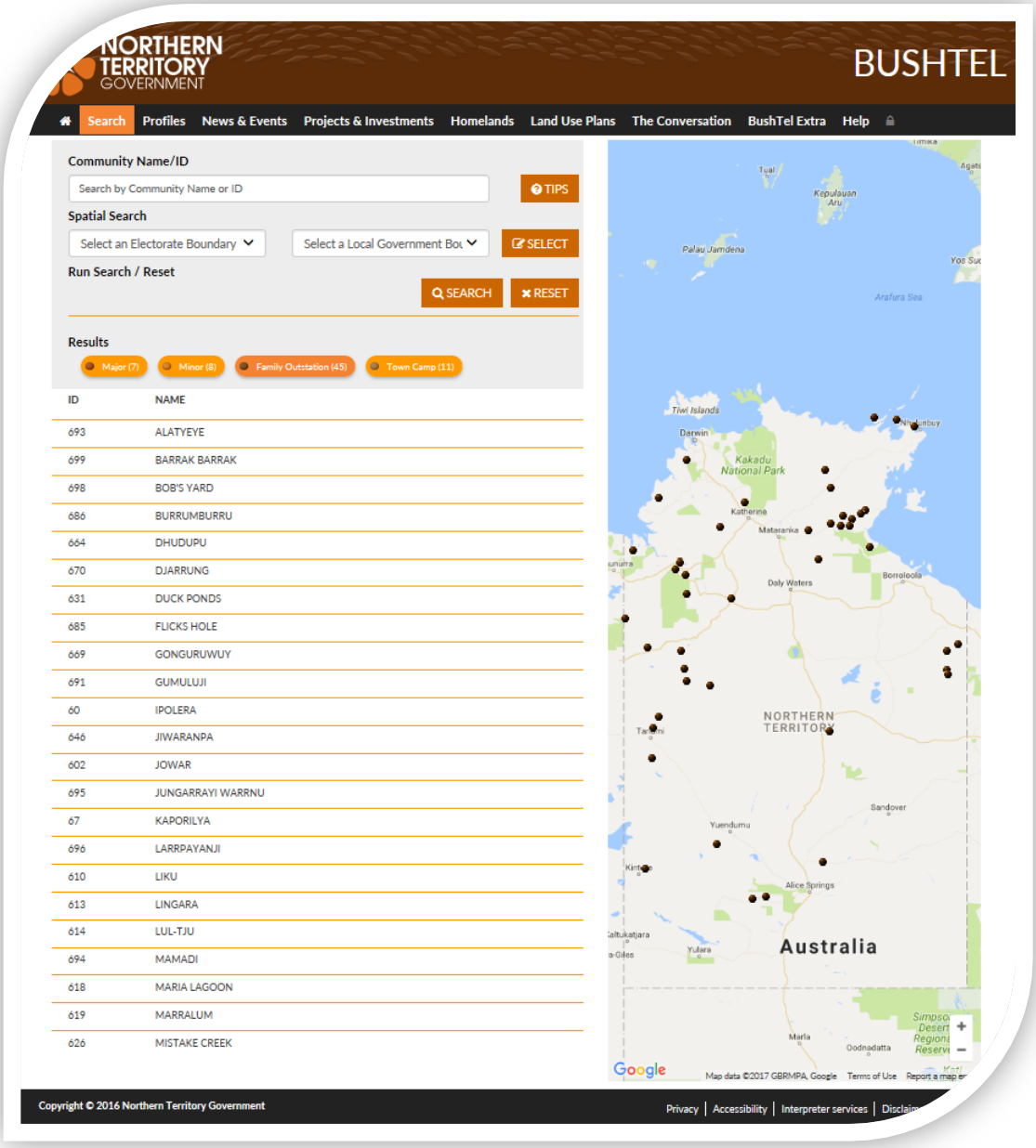
Linked to the BushTel Extra page, this feature provides updates to BushTel users regarding management of the site, its contents, system outages and planned development/enhancements.

Community News and Events

Located on the right hand side of the main page, directly under the Haasts Bluff image is the current week's identified Community News and Events that are displayed in date order.

BushTel Search

The BushTel Search page features a Google map which enables the user to display communities, locations across the Northern Territory, based on the criteria users search by



1. Search Fields
2. Results
3. Map Locator

Search Fields

Directly below the main menu on the top left hand side of the page are the search fields. Once search fields have been entered, click on the magnifying glass icon to start the search. Users can search by community name, community ID, electorate boundary; local government boundary, undertake a combination search and have the ability to draw your own location on the map.

Results

All search results are displayed in a dual aspect. A list of communities which meet your search criteria will appear on the left column below the search fields. Search results will simultaneously display as ball markers on the map. Click on the name of the community or ball marker to access more information

Map Index

Running down the right hand side of the page is an interactive community map index. This provides the user with the ability to zoom into a local area around a community or to zoom out to see the location of the community in a wider geographical context.

All search results which populate on the map are marked by small coloured ball markers which animate when the mouse rolls over them or their match in the search listings.

How to run a search – step by step guide

1. Decide how the search will be made; determine your search criteria or key words.
   If the name or correct spelling for a community name is not known a spatial search is recommended.

2. Type the name of the community into the appropriate search field.

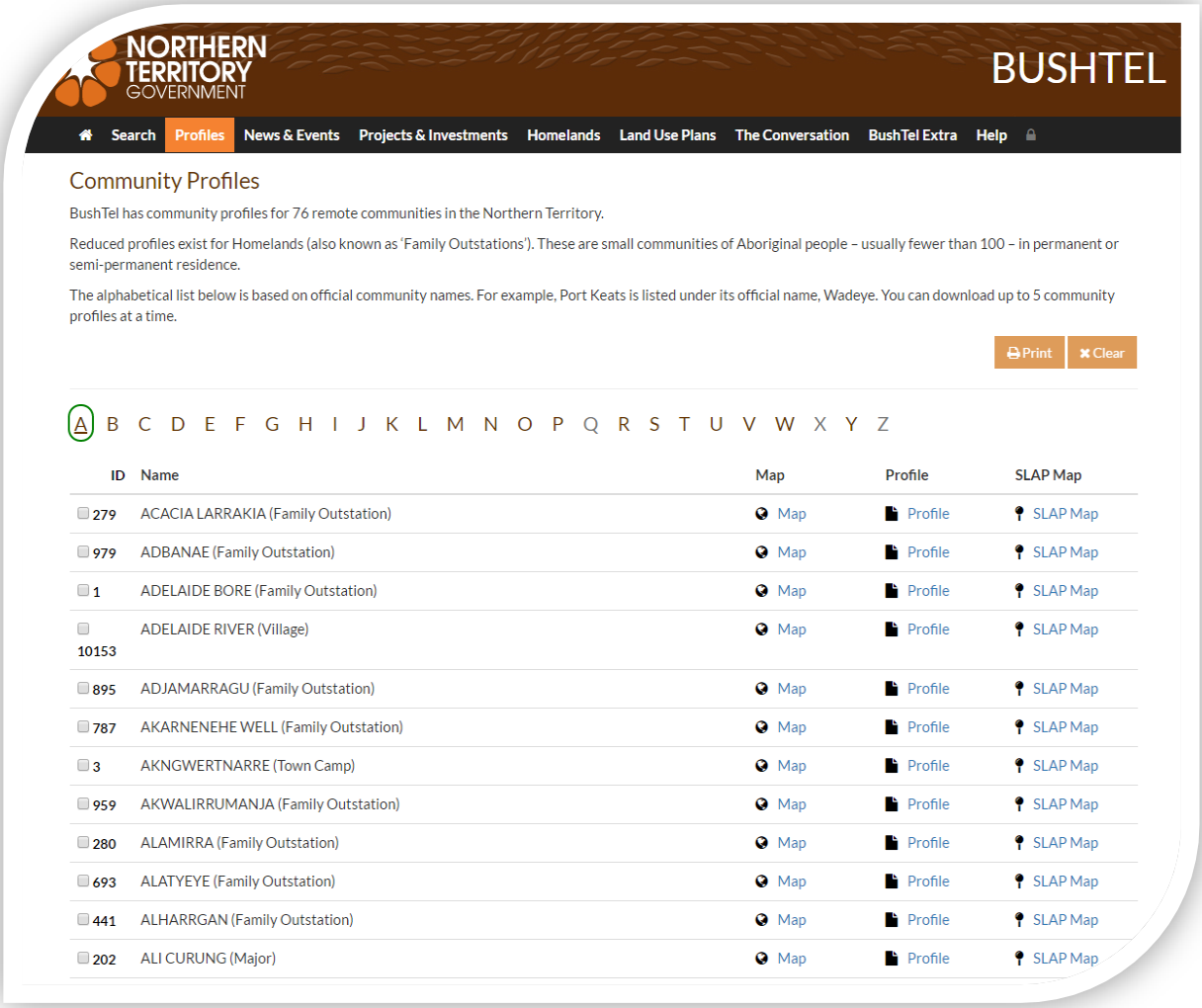
   Or, if using a spatial search:
   Click on one of the search fields to select from the options provided in the drop down menu.

3. Confirm the search by clicking on the magnifying glass icon.
   The search results will display in list form on the left and by ball marker on the map locator.

4. Assess search results from the displayed listing or on the map locator display.

BushTel Profiles

The BushTel Profiles page offers a comprehensive, alphabetical listing of over 600 community profiles with the ability to download multiple search results.



① Community Profile

② Profile Listings

③ Profile Print Function

④ SLAP Maps

Community Profile

The community profiles are made up of key information about the community and its people. Profile information includes:

Community name
Aliases
Languages used
Population
Land Council
Local Government Municipality
Electorate
Features and Accessibility
Location
History
Essential Services
Satellite map

Profile Listings

The library of profiles is arranged by community name in alphabetical order and can be accessed using the alphabet navigator.

Click on a letter of the alphabet to display all communities whose name start with that letter. Immediately below the alphabet navigator the list of community profiles will populate, the listings will show the community identification number, name, google map reference, profile and SLAP map.

Profile Download Functions

Up to five community profiles may be downloaded directly from this page. The print button is located on the right of the page above the alphabet navigator.

To utilise this functions click the matching toggle box to the far left of the community profile listing(s), then click on the print button.

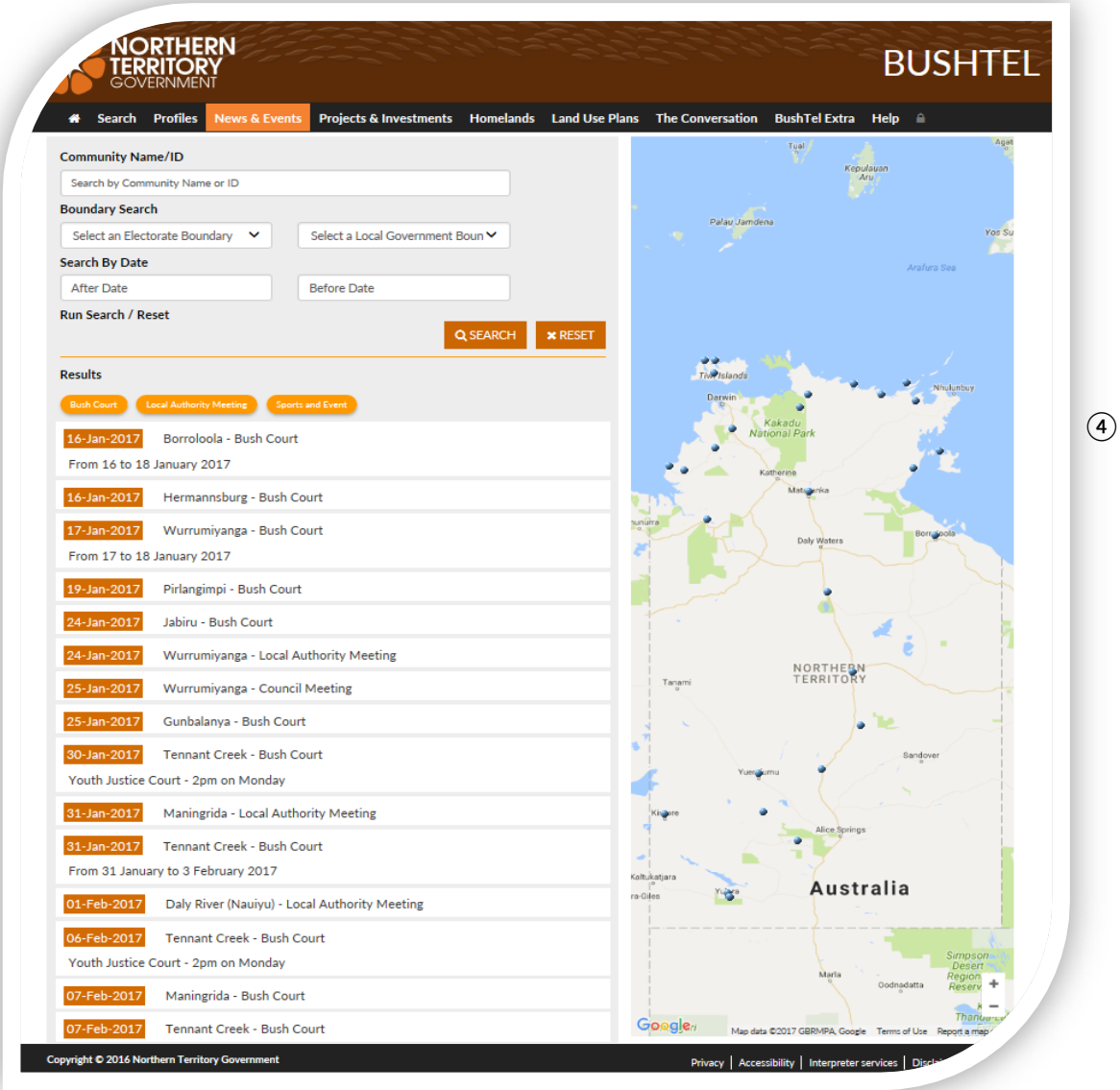
SLAP Maps

Serviced Land Availability Program (SLAP) maps are available for most communities in BushTel and can be accessed using the link on the far right of the profiles listing. SLAP maps display information for;

Topographical features
Cadastre planning
Utility services
Land use planning

BushTel News and Events

News and Events items specifically relating to NT communities can be accessed through this page for the current month or future dates.



① News and Events

② Search Fields

③ Results

④ Map Locator

News and Events

Key dates and cultural events including festivals and events, Bush Court, Local Authority and Council meetings, which have an impact on community engagement. Check this page to see if there are key dates to participate in or reschedule for travel and engagement.

Search Fields

Searches for News and Events items can be made by community name, local government or electoral boundary or by date. A list of links for search by topic is also available for

Bush Court
Local Authority Meeting
Sports and Events

Results

The News and Events items will display in list form on the left of the page beneath the search criteria. Search results will also display on the map locator.

Map Index

Running down the right hand side of the page is an interactive map locator. This provides the user with the ability to zoom into a local area around a community or to zoom out to see the location of the community in a wider geographical context.

Locations related to News and Event items are marked by icons which animate when the mouse rolls over them or their match in the News and Events listings.

How to run a search – step by step guide

1. Decide how the search will be made; determine your search criteria or key words
   If the name or correct spelling for a community name is not known a search by boundary or date is recommended.

2. Type the name of the community into the appropriate search field

   Or, if using a boundary search:
   Click on the search field and select from the options available in the drop down menu

   Or if using a date search:
   Select a 'before' and 'after' date to set the search boundaries

3. Confirm the search by clicking on the magnifying glass icon
   The search results will display in list form on the left and by ball marker on the map locator.

BushTel 'The Conversation'

Travel in the remote Northern Territory has many challenges and multiple risks to health and wellbeing exist from climate, the environmental conditions and wildlife. This page provides travel tips and essential resources for safe, productive and enjoyable travel.

① Passport to the Remote NT

② Essential Resources

③ Feedback and Comments

Passport to the remote Territory

Providing key information on safety, and travel tips in the remote Northern Territory; click on the image on the right of the page for a travel tips pamphlet which may be downloaded or printed.

Essential Resources

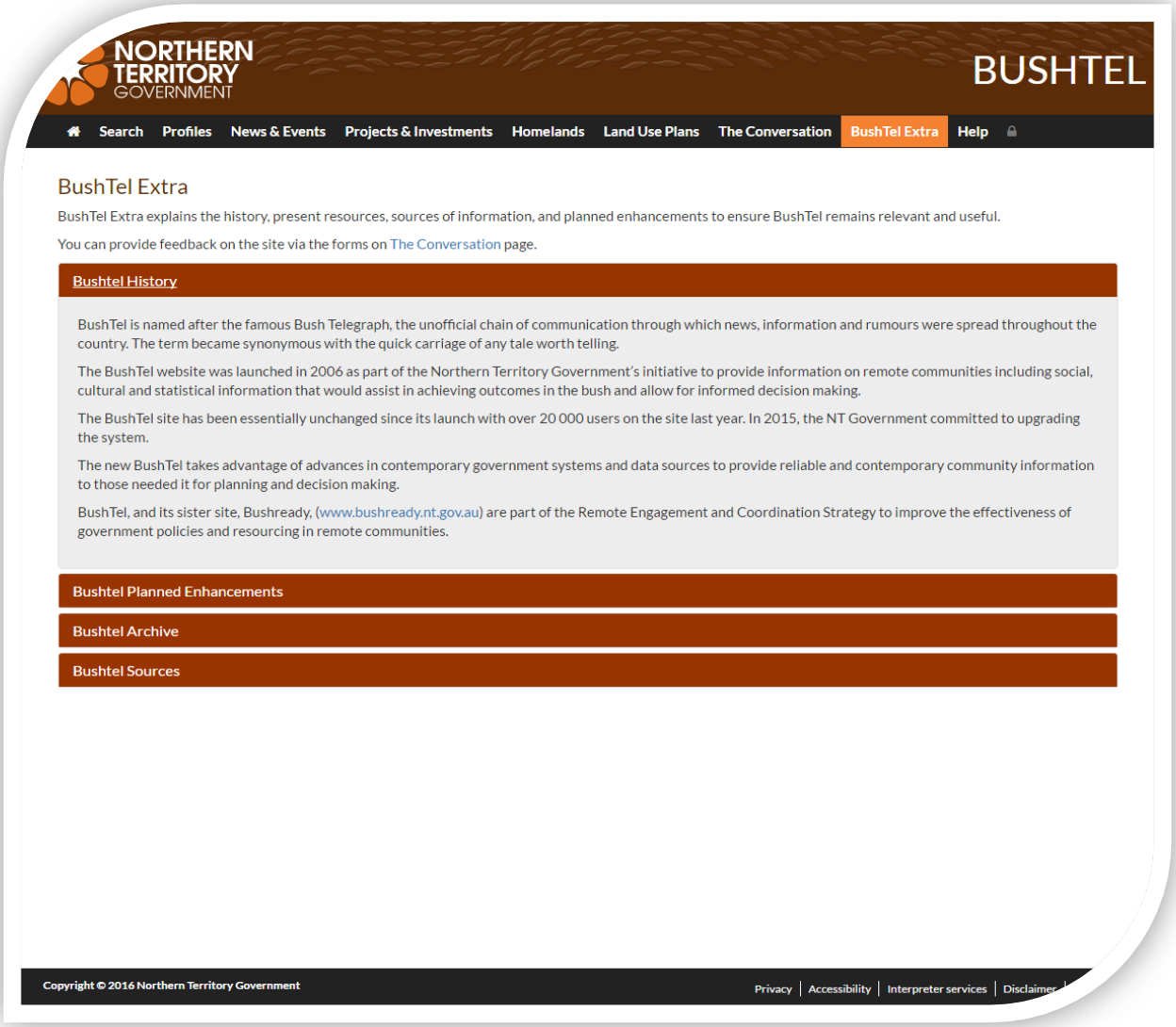
Links to essential resources and contacts provided by Regional Councils, Land Councils, Safety and Emergency services and other important resources or services for safe travel in the Northern Territory.

Feedback and Comments

Provide constructive feedback on the BushTel site through this e-form.

BushTel Extra

BushTel Extra explains the history, present resources, sources of information, and planned enhancements to ensure BushTel remains relevant and useful.



① BushTel History

② BushTel Planned Enhancements

③ BushTel Archive

④ BushTel Sources

BushTel History

A brief history of the BushTel site from its conception to today including the sister site www.bushready.nt.gov.au.

BushTel Planned Enhancements

Planned enhancements and changes to BushTel are listed for reference.

BushTel Archive

An archive of old BushTel news, items in this library is listed by date / date of publication / subject.

BushTel Sources

BushTel is designed to be a one stop shop for remote community information and assist with planning travel to remote communities. This link provides a listing of all key suppliers of information which contribute to the information on BushTel.

BushTel Glossary

Major

A large community of mostly Aboriginal people (usually over 500) which has facilities generally expected in a town of similar size (e.g. school, health centre, store etcetera) and provides resources to nearby smaller communities and homeland centres / outstations.

Minor

A community of mostly Aboriginal people (usually over 100) which may have a school, health centre and store and provides resources to nearby outstations.

Family Outstation

A small community of mostly aboriginal people, usually less than 100, in permanent or semi-permanent residence with a water supply and permanent accommodation.

Town Camp

A community of mostly Aboriginal people situated within or adjacent to an urban area.

City

A centre of population, commerce, and culture with all essential services; a town of significant size and importance, generally accorded the legal right to call itself a city under either the Local Government Act, the Crown Lands Act, or other instruments put in place by Government.

Town

An area constituted and defined under the Crown Lands Act for urban development.

Village

A population centre / urban area offering services to the surrounding area and population; smaller than a Town.