



The Port Phillip Bay Coastal Hazard Assessment (PPBCHA) is a project being delivered by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning in partnership with stakeholders.

The project is composed of two components:

1. Scientific assessment, that defines the extent of land expected to be threatened by the coastal processes of inundation and erosion, and groundwater change.
2. Building the capacity of people and groups to use and respond to the findings of the coastal hazard assessment.

### Why do we need a Coastal Hazard Assessment?

The area around the Bay is home to 1.3 million Victorians. The level of population, infrastructure and assets in the area means that it is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

The high social, economic and environmental value that we place on the coastline means that the hazards produced by these processes affect Victorians beyond those just living and working on the coast. It is therefore vital that we complete a detailed assessment of these hazards to ready ourselves for the future.

### Project Aim

The aim of the coastal hazard assessment is to generate information that can be used to plan for and manage current and future natural, cultural and economic assets. The information will also be used to set state, regional and council priorities.



Specifically, the project will:

- build on the existing inundation data for the Bay
- identify and fill any critical information gaps
- model future climate scenarios to define the extent of land expected to be threatened by inundation, erosion and groundwater change
- produce data, maps and documentation that is:
  - appropriate to the needs of stakeholders
  - in formats that are most useful for stakeholders to inform decision-making
  - suitable for a range of applications, including planning decisions and informing on ground management actions
  - easily accessible.

# Port Phillip Bay Coastal Hazard Assessment

## The importance of a partnership approach

The PPBCHA is centred around data collection, modelling and information sharing. We want to work towards a consistent approach to decision-making and management of the coast.

We believe it is essential that stakeholders are included in the design of the initial data collection process and throughout the project to ensure that the end product is relevant, useful and easy to understand.

## The process for developing the PPBCHA

The project team will work with stakeholders to source data and identify data gaps. Technical specialists will fill data gaps and undertake modelling to identify areas subject to inundation, coastal erosion and groundwater change around the Bay. The project team will work with stakeholders to translate the technical data into user friendly information. The information will enable land managers and asset owners to identify assets potentially at risk from coastal hazards and help inform planning decisions and on-ground management actions.

The work builds on experience gained in the delivery of four pilot coastal hazard studies between 2013 and 2017.

## Expected outcomes of the PPBCHA

- Identification of coastal hazards in the Bay and the extent of potential impact.
- Inundation, erosion and groundwater data for the Bay.
- Hazard mapping data for the Bay.
- Stakeholders provided with the most up to date information to inform planning decisions and management of assets.

## How will it help?

The products developed as part of the PPBCHA can be used to:

- inform coastal erosion, inundation and groundwater related controls in council planning schemes
- design coastal erosion, flood and groundwater mitigation works and activities
- develop coastal erosion, flood and groundwater intelligence products and inform emergency response planning
- assist in the preparation of community coastal erosion, flood and groundwater awareness and education products
- identify options for improved coastal erosion, flood and groundwater warning arrangements, and
- inform coastal asset maintenance and renewal schedules.



For further information see the project webpage at

<http://www.marineandcoasts.vic.gov.au/ppbcha>

Or contact Tamara van Polanen Petel at [tamara.vanpolanenpetel@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:tamara.vanpolanenpetel@delwp.vic.gov.au)

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