



**GREAT OCEAN ROAD**  
COAST & PARKS AUTHORITY

17 December 2021

Peter Lawson  
Acting Regional Director  
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Dear Peter,

**Re: Submission of Coastal and Marine Management Plans for Approval.**

In accordance with the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*, the former Great Ocean Road Coast Committee and Otway Coast Committee developed new Coastal and Marine Management Plans (CMMP) for their respective management areas. Each CMMP was developed following a comprehensive consultation process with Traditional Owners, key stakeholders and the broader community.

Both CMMPs were endorsed by the Boards of their respective Committees and provided to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for approval in September 2020. In December 2020, DELWP subsequently recommended that the CMMPs be presented to the new Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (the Authority) board to confirm that the plans will be presented to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change for approval.

*Board meeting, Tuesday 2 February 2021: The recommendation confirms that the plans will be presented to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change for approval. Accordingly, GORCAPA request DELWP continue to progress the assessment and approval process for both CMMPs.*

Each plan reflects initial feedback provided post the 2020 submission, updated terminology and the outcomes of further engagement with Traditional Owners, which was undertaken to refine the strategic intention and associated actions articulated in each plan.

If you require any further information, please contact Leia Howes, Acting Planning Manager, on telephone 0437 939 379.

Regards,

Paul Jane

Acting Director Planning Strategy and Transition

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# Coastal and Marine Management Plan

2020 - 2025



**GREAT OCEAN ROAD**  
COAST & PARKS AUTHORITY

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# Message from the CEO



The following Coastal and Marine Management Plans (CMMP's) were developed by the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee (GORCC) and Otway Coast Committee (OCC) for the 2020-25 period and have been adopted by the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (the Authority).

On 1 December 2020, GORCC and OCC transitioned to the newly created Authority. The establishment of the Authority was a key outcome from the 2018 Great Ocean Road Action Plan (the Action Plan) and subsequent legislation aimed to protect the precious Great Ocean Road environment.

The role of the Authority is to deliver better protection and management of the iconic coast and parks of

## **Jodie Sizer**

CEO, Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority

Victoria's Great Ocean Road, with land management of the Great Ocean Road coastal reserves being progressively transferred to the Authority over several years.

As the newly appointed Committee of Management for the Crown land reserves that these CMMP's apply to under the Marine and Coastal Act 2018, the Authority will deliver the actions set out in these plans.

Both plans align with, and build upon, the objectives and actions in the Action Plan and lay the foundations for the Authority to undertake critical business as usual operations and broader strategic actions.

The CMMP's were developed through close consultation with Traditional Owners, key stakeholders and the community, and the Authority will continue to engage with each of these groups in the delivery of all actions outlined in the plans.

The Authority acknowledges the extensive work that was undertaken by GORCC and OCC to produce these CMMP's and thanks the previous GORCC and OCC Board's and staff for their efforts.

*The Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority acknowledge and respect the separate and distinct Wadawurrung People and Eastern Maar Peoples as the Traditional Owners of the Great Ocean Road's land, waters, seas and skies and acknowledge their cultural knowledge that has led to sustainable practices and has cared for Country over tens of thousands of years.*

*We honour Elders past and present and express gratitude for their sharing of wisdom that has ensured the continuation of Culture and Traditional practices.*

*We are committed to genuinely partner and meaningfully build relationships that reflect self-determination and enable us to work together with our Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities to support the protection of Country, the maintenance of spiritual and cultural practices, and together deliver on their broader aspirations in the 21st century and beyond.*



GREAT OCEAN ROAD  
COAST COMMITTEE

# COASTAL AND MARINE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020-25





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Great Ocean Road Coast Committee proudly acknowledges the Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners of the land that now supports the Great Ocean Road.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors and Elders - past, present and emerging. We embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards self-determination, equity of outcomes and an equal voice for Australia's First People.

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## EASTERN MAAR

The Eastern Maar are the Traditional Owners of south-western Victoria.

The Eastern Maar People have looked after these places for tens of thousands of years.

It is our hope that Eastern Maar People continue to guide the protection, restoration and culturally sensitive development of this important tract of our Country.

*'Watnanda koong meerreeng, tyama-ngan malayeetoo'*

*Ngatanwarr*

*Ngeerang meerreeng-an*

*Peepay meerreeng-an*

*Kakayee meerreeng-an*

*Wartee meerreeng-an*

*Maara-wanoong, laka. Wanga-kee-ngeeye*

*Meerreeng-ngeeye, pareeyt, nganpeeyan, weeyn, wooroot, poondeeya-teeyt*

*Meerreeng-ngeeye, nhakateeyt, woorroong, leehnan, moorooop, keerray*

*Meerreeng-ngeeye, thookay-ngeeye, pareeyt pareeyt ba waran waran-ngeeye, wangeeyarr ba wangeet - ngeeye, maar ba thanampool-ngeeye, Ngalam Meen-ngeeye, moorooop-ngeeye*

*Meerreeng-ngeeye Maar, Maar meerreeng*

*Wamba-wanoong yaapteeyt-oo, leerpeeneeytnggeeye, kooweekoowee-ngeeye nhakapooreepooree-ngeeye, keeyan-ngeeye*

*Wamba-wanoong nhoonpee yaapteeyt-oo, tyama-takoort meerreeng*

*Peetyawan weeyn Meerreeng, nhaka Meerreeng, keeyan Meerreeng, nganto-pay ngootyoonayt meerreeng*

*Kooweeya-wanoong takoort meerreeng-ee ba watanoo Meerreng-ngeeye, yana-thalap-ee ba wanga-kee Meerreeng laka*

*Ngeetoong keeyan-ngeen Meerreeng, Meerreeng keeyan ngooteen*

Together body and Country, we know long time.

[We see all of you], greeting.

Mother my Country.

Father my Country.

Sister my Country.

Brother my Country.

We are the Maar speaking Peoples. Hear us.

Our Country is water, air, fire, trees, life.

Our Country is thought, language, heart, soul, blood.

Our Country is our Children, our youth, our Elders, our men and women, our Ancestors, our spirit.

Our Country is Maar, Maar is Country.

We bring to the light our songs, our stories, our vision, our love.

We bring these things to the light so All can know Country.

To care for Country. To think about Country. To love Country. To protect Country

We invite all that choose to live on or visit our Country to slow down. To tread softly and listen to Country speak.

If you love Country, Country will love you.



# WADAWURRUNG

The Wadawurrung People are the Traditional Owners of the land and waters that run from the Great Dividing Range in the north to the coast in the south, from Werribee River in the east to along the Surf Coast.

For thousands of generations, Wadawurrung have cared for and protected the land and waters of this Country.

*Comugeen budjo thalikiyu kin bil bengordi ngadak.  
Ngarrwabil, boron, guli, bagurk. Comugeen budjo  
bengadak ngarruk dja, ngubiyt, weagoon gobata  
gupma wurring baap bengordi nganak, djarrima  
murrupnhuk bengadak.*

*Gobata Wadawurrung balug jumbuk dirdalbil  
murrupnhuk bundjil monomeet beeko weagoon.  
Mutjakak noogie wada durrallully.*

*Wangarrak Wadawurrung balug bengadak mirriyu  
birraleedja gobata kia ying, ngarrimilli, wahak,  
karrung, kuya, nyanayit yanunit, djilenawurr, baap  
willam bengordi ngadak.*

*Nyurrinana ngal bengordi ngadak.*

*Willam wurdwarri Wadawurrung Balug dja bengordi  
ngadak, bullarto nerrigirr baap monomeeth  
worroring warree, gelanyi bulboluk.*

*Koaka dorla, Godomut, Koornoo, Jan Juc,  
Mangowak.*

*Willamo weeagoon monomeetwa yonbarra baap  
wirrapiyn, buniya, tarka binyak ngal. Waweagoon  
nerrigirro kit baap bullarto gurrin kia wahak,  
karrung, yanikan werrity. Corroborree Bullarto waik  
ngitj balugwa bengordi ngadak.*

*Beek budj kanamo ngitj.*

*Mirr wurru ngarra dja bengadak.*

*Mirritonton dja Wadawurrung balug, gobata  
beak yerraak murrup yanimirriyu ngarrwauk  
bengordi ngadak.*

We deeply respect our people of the past. Elders, children, men, women. We deeply respect their knowledge of country, water, life, their care of the traditions and of each other, we stand with their spirit.

Great spirit Bundjil told us to take care of the great life within the land. To only take what you need without selfishness.

Wadawurrung shared their knowledge of singing, dance, trade, camps, fishing, hunting, paintings, and homes with us to protect for our future generations.

We all need to help.

Our Wadawurrung family group lived within the great sea, with a large land of forested areas and wonderful banks of the ocean, near many water bodies.

Anglesea, Point Addis, Barwon Heads, Jan Juc, Aireys Inlet.

These homes all provide ideal life to birds and fish, eels. Reeds turned into our baskets. Life in the forest gave resources like food and lots of tools to use for trade, building, journeys.

If there was lots to trade, we would share with our families and celebrate.

We love this earth with all our feeling.

We would name our country, by what we could see.

Our country is remembered by Wadawurrung, our proud spirit walks to tomorrow to teach others the care of our earth.





## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I am very pleased to present the Coastal and Marine Management Plan 2020-25 (CMMP) on behalf of the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee (GORCC).

Reflecting the key challenges and major priorities facing coastal Crown land, this CMMP provides a dynamic response to State Government policy and to directions encompassed in the Marine and Coastal Act 2018. It also sets the strategic directions, associated actions, and resource requirements for this section of coast for the next five years.

The Plan establishes an integrated and coordinated approach to protecting and managing coastal Crown land and the adjacent marine environment. It has been developed through close consultation with Traditional Owners, key stakeholders, and the community; and it reflects this involvement.

The CMMP is informed by major coastal challenges including climate change, ageing infrastructure, and increased visitation and population growth, and provides a strategic response to these over both the immediate and longer term.

A new authority, the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA), is due to commence in 2020, replacing GORCC and other land managers along the Great Ocean Road. This CMMP aligns directly with, and builds upon, the objectives and actions in the 2018 Great Ocean Road Action Plan. It lays the foundations for the next five years to allow GORCAPA to undertake critical business-as-usual operations, and broader strategic actions during the transition.

I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the development of this CMMP and look forward to close engagement and cooperation with communities as it is implemented.

**Ken Northwood, FAICD**  
Chairman  
Great Ocean Road Coast Committee







An aerial photograph of a coastal town and beach. The top half shows a residential area with houses, trees, and a large parking lot filled with cars. The bottom half shows a sandy beach with many people, colorful umbrellas, and surfers in the water. The ocean is visible at the bottom with waves breaking. The text 'THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD COAST COMMITTEE' is overlaid in large white letters across the middle of the image.

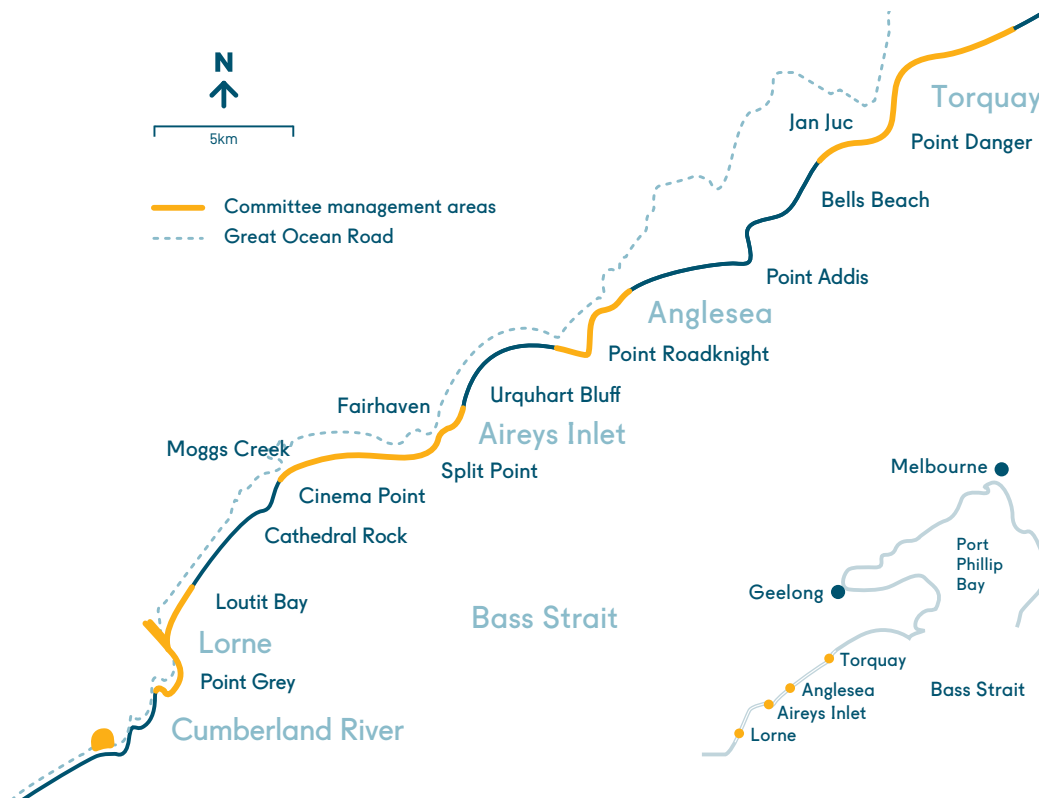
# THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD COAST COMMITTEE







# WHO WE ARE



## Who we are and what we do

We are a State Government body responsible for protecting, enhancing and developing coastal Crown land from Point Impossible to Cumberland River.

Formed by the Victorian Government in 2004, we are the largest of the Crown land committees of management along the Great Ocean Road, managing many of the highest visitation areas centred around major towns.

Our role is to manage marine and coastal Crown land on behalf of the State. In fulfilling this role, we hold a variety of responsibilities and powers under Part 3 of the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*.

## Our people

Our committee is made up of 12 community members who are appointed under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* for a term of three years by the Minister for Environment, Energy and Climate Change. Committee members are appointed through a public, skills-based expression of interest.

We have a team of approximately 60 full time equivalent staff, which increases over summer with the addition of seasonal staff. Our diversified and specialised staff provide a range of skills and expertise from caravan park management and business administration, through to biodiversity conservation and coastal infrastructure project management.

## Our funding model

We currently generate over \$14.4 million annually in direct revenue, all of which is reinvested back into the coast and marine environment. The majority of our revenue comes from the three caravan parks we manage in Torquay, Anglesea and Lorne. The remaining revenue come from a range of sources including leases such as the Cumberland River Caravan Park, licence and permit fees, and fee-for-service delivery.

## The reserve we manage

The Great Ocean Road region is Australia's most popular visitor destination, attracting more visitors than Uluru and the Great Barrier Reef combined.

The region is home to the heritage listed Great Ocean Road that meanders from Torquay to Warrnambool, world famous surf beaches, rugged coastal landscapes, popular townships, kilometres of walking and biking trails, and significant cultural heritage – both tangible and intangible.

This plan applies to the 560 hectares of Crown land foreshore reserve managed by GORCC. While the plan applies to coastal Crown land reserves, decision-making must consider the wider marine and coastal environment.

# OUR VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

## Our Vision

**World-leading environmental protection and coastal experiences for all.**

## Our Guiding Principles

1. Protecting and enhancing our natural environment and cultural heritage is our highest priority.
2. Our coastal reserves provide strong health, wellbeing, community, economic, and heritage benefits which support recreational and community enjoyment.
3. We provide the opportunity to enjoy world-leading coastal experiences that are affordable, inclusive and welcoming.
4. We foster partnerships and volunteerism by improving access and understanding, education and engagement.
5. Our activities and partnerships are built on mutual trust, open communication, collaboration and transparency.
6. We use information and data and make evidence-based decisions.
7. We engage and consult with our communities and stakeholders to inform our planning.
8. We think long term, use strategic business planning tools and innovation to make the best use of our financial, human and physical resources.
9. Good governance is core to everything we do and who we are.

Our Vision and Guiding Principles were developed by the GORCC Board and reflect the combined aspirations of our organisation.



# A NEW AUTHORITY

The 2018 Great Ocean Road Action Plan commits the Victorian Government to creating a standalone Act of Parliament that recognises the Great Ocean Road region as a single, integrated and living entity.

The Action Plan also commits to establishing a statutory management authority, and for the authority to adopt the following five objectives:

1. Protect the ecological and landscape integrity of coastal and marine environments
2. Increase Traditional Owner inclusion
3. Protect distinctive areas and landscapes
4. Grow the local, State and National visitation economy
5. Modernise governance.

The Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA) is due to commence in 2020, replacing GORCC and other land managers along the Great Ocean Road.

This CMMP aligns directly with, and builds upon, the objectives and 18 actions in the 2018 Great Ocean Road Action Plan. It lays the foundations for the next five years to allow critical business-as-usual operations and strategic actions to continue during a state of transition.

## Transition

With the primary purpose of managing and protecting the land and seascapes of the Great Ocean Road, to manage visitation and to coordinate delivery of associated government investment projects, GORCAPA will become the land manager and therefore be responsible for the delivery of this CMMP.

## GORCAPA Reforms and actions

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### Legislation for protection

- 1 Legislate the policy
  - 2 Legislate the planning framework
  - 3 Legislate the environment-economic accounts
- 

### A new dedicated parks authority

- 4 A Great Ocean Road Coasts and Parks Authority
  - 5 Work closely with local communities
  - 6 Traditional Owner capacity
  - 7 Sustainable funding
- 

### A new overarching planning framework

- 8 Community involvement
  - 9 A Great Ocean Road Strategic Framework Plan
  - 10 Monitor Implementation
- 

### A better planning approval process

- 11 A Standing Advisory Committee
  - 12 Planning Guidelines
  - 13 Planning services support for Councils
- 

### Supporting initiatives

- 14 Sustainable Tourism
  - 15 Improved road access and safety
  - 16 Crown land administrative arrangements
  - 17 Shared delivery of municipal-like services
  - 18 Commercial tour operator licences
-

## OUR COMMUNITIES

We engage and partner with a wide range of coastal users and stakeholders to achieve the best possible outcomes for the coast and the community.

We work with local communities, volunteers, Traditional Owner groups and partner agencies to protect the natural and cultural values of the coast and communicate shared stories, goals and priorities.

The knowledge and aspirations of residents, visitors, community organisations, local business operators and agency stakeholders are central to the preparation of this plan.

A robust consultation process has ensured the aspirations and feedback of these groups has been captured and included.

Nine community consultation sessions were held across Lorne, Aireys Inlet, Anglesea and Torquay throughout January and February 2019 to gain feedback on the initial implementation plan, in addition to Community and Stakeholder Reference Group meetings.

In January and February 2020, we gathered community and stakeholder feedback on the draft Coastal and Marine Management Plan 2020-25.

Feedback was sought through multiple channels, including four community consultation sessions, an online survey, meetings with community and agency groups and Traditional Owners, and significant digital and media promotion.

### WHAT WE HEARD

#### What do you love most about the coastline managed by GORCC?

- Natural environment
- Native vegetation
- Open space
- Accessibility
- Hasn't been overdeveloped
- Cleanliness
- Walking tracks

#### What are the most important challenges you think need to be addressed in the next 5 years?

- Litter
- Climate change
- Over-population
- Over-development
- Visitation pressure
- Erosion
- Dog laws
- Vegetation and dune protection
- Invasive animals and plants
- Parking

#### Where would you like us to focus our efforts (both strategic and operational) in the next 5 years?

- Keep it natural
- Erosion
- Litter
- Plastic bag free
- Patrols on beach
- Education
- Dogs
- Weed control
- Public facilities



## WHAT WE HEARD

Consultation undertaken in recent years, including by the Great Ocean Road Taskforce, reiterates the importance of recreational opportunities, protection of our natural and relatively undeveloped landscapes, and the function of the coastal and marine environment as a place to meet, interact and socialise.

Our community wants a simple plan with achievable actions, clear timeframes and outcomes addressing the following priorities:

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### Protect the natural environment

Continuously identified as the number one priority for GORCC. Strong support to increase weed control, protect wildlife, cross-tenure management and maintain undeveloped, natural areas.

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### Increase education

Increase awareness of Aboriginal, cultural and environmental values of the coast, and increase education and enforcement of anti-social behaviour associated with dogs, litter and nude beaches.

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### Address climate change

Improve monitoring and adaptation measures including revegetation and avoiding development and use in priority areas.

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### Support sustainable visitation

Work with partner agencies and authorities to strategically plan and manage impacts from population and tourism growth.

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### Maintain and improve infrastructure

Improve existing infrastructure, including amenity blocks and playgrounds, to meet the demands of increased visitation and use.

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### Consultation

The conversation with our community, stakeholder and partner agencies will continue through the development of all major infrastructure projects and master plans. We will continue to engage and consult with these groups to inform our planning and decision-making.

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# OUR PRIORITIES, CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIC RESPONSES

## NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

We manage a diverse range of coastal environments and habitat ranging from soft sandy beaches and rocky intertidal shelves to dry eucalypt forests.

Towering ochre cliffs offer magnificent coastal views above the coast and across the ocean into the Otways.

Several different vegetation communities such as Moonah Woodland, dune and headland scrub and eucalypt forests provide habitat for 68 plants of national and state significance, including 110 orchid species. More than 60 fauna species have been recorded from this important coastal habitat.

We partner with the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA), Surf Coast Shire and the City of Greater Geelong to protect and manage several freshwater and brackish waterways including:

- Creeks and Estuaries: Thompsons, Deep, Spring, Jan Juc, Painkalac, Moggs, Coalmine, Spout, and Stony
- Rivers: Cumberland, St George, Anglesea, and Erskine

Our marine sanctuaries and environments are managed by Parks Victoria. We partner with Parks Victoria to consider and manage impacts to the marine environment, and to protect the many species of flora and fauna that depend on it.

Our marine environment is known for southern right whales, bottle-nose dolphins, and Australian fur seals. Occasionally, killer and long-finned pilot whales and leopard seals also visit.

The 49,009-hectare Surf Coast region provides high-energy, wave-dominated marine and intertidal habitat including rocky headlands, sublittoral reef and sediments, rhodolith beds, coastal lagoons, and several creeks and estuaries.

The Point Danger and Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuaries consist of small, accessible reefs that are ideal places for snorkelling and searching for marine life at low-tide. The intertidal platforms, pools and fissures support colourful sponges, impressive kelp forests and encrustations of invertebrates.

Our reefs support leafy sea dragons, molluscs, sea stars, sea urchins, crabs, and more than 144 species of algae and 96 species of opisthobranchs [sea slugs, cucumbers, hares and nudibranchs].

Shorebirds and seabirds such as the hooded plover, Caspian terns and shy albatross also live, breed and feed on our beaches and intertidal platforms.

## Our challenge

In August 2018, Victoria's key legislation managing and protecting the coast was amended to include the marine environment. The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* now requires an integrated approach to planning and managing the marine and coastal environment by considering:

- The entire coastal system: terrestrial coast, marine and associated catchments.
- The water cycle where it affects marine and coastal water quality.
- All industries and users of the marine and coastal environment.
- Land tenure where they affect the marine and coastal environment.

While an integrated approach to managing the 'coastal zone' is a welcome and logical inclusion, primary management of the marine environment was previously the responsibility of the Victorian Government. Resourcing the expertise within this new management area will be a key challenge for us over the next five years.

The new Act also establishes clear objectives and principles for ecologically sustainable planning, management and decision-making.

## Our strategic response

We can actively influence and mitigate key threats to the marine environment by managing inappropriate shore-based development, minimising coastal modification and trampling on sensitive intertidal habitat, reducing litter and debris entering the marine environment, and controlling pest animals to reduce mammal prey on shorebirds and disturbance to nesting birds.

We are committed to integrating a whole-of-coast management approach to protect our marine environment over the short, medium and long term by:

- Implementing our current Native Vegetation and Weed Action Plan (NVWAP) and developing a new plan for post 2020 (Strategic Action 1).
- Developing a process to strengthen consideration of the marine and intertidal environment (Strategic Action 2).
- Developing operational environmental management plans for our caravan parks and lease/licence holders (Strategic Action 4).

## TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

Aboriginal people have used the marine and coastal environment for tens of thousands of years and it remains an important part of their culture, including landscape creation stories.

The Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung people are the Traditional Owners of the Great Ocean Road region.

### Eastern Maar

Eastern Maar is the name adopted by the people who identify as Maar, Eastern Gunditjmara, Tjap Wurrung, Peek Whurrong, Kirrae Whurrung, Kuurn Kopan Noot and/or Yarro waetch (Tooram Tribe).

The Eastern Maar People were recognised as the Registered Aboriginal Party under the *Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* in February 2020. At the time of preparing this plan, the Eastern Maar People are negotiating a Recognition and Settlement Agreement under the *Victorian Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010*.

### Wadawurrung

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners are the known and accepted descendants of apical ancestor John Robinson (Robertson), and his immediate descendants who are Wadawurrung according to Wadawurrung Lore and tradition.

The Wadawurrung or Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) is the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) for this area. They have statutory authority for the management of Aboriginal heritage values and culture, under the *Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

## Our challenge

Our coastal and marine environment contains a high concentration of significant Aboriginal cultural heritage, including middens, artefact scatters and ancestral remains, and important intangible cultural heritage linked to Country.

Aboriginal artefacts provide important information about our history as a country and help us to understand Aboriginal occupation and land use patterns across time. More importantly, artefacts provide Aboriginal people today with a vital link to their culture and their past.

A key challenge for us is protecting and conserving Aboriginal cultural heritage and ensuring cultural sensitivity is maintained while managing, developing and using coastal Crown land in line with community expectations.

## Our strategic response

We want to ensure a greater role for Traditional Owners in the formal management and planning of the marine and coastal environment by:

- Acknowledging our Traditional Owners knowledge, rights and aspirations for land and sea country.
- Partnering with Traditional Owners to enhance our relationship and incorporate culture, values and knowledge in our business.

We are committed to collaborating with our Traditional Owners over the short, medium and long term by:

- Improving our knowledge and implementing strategies to protect and conserve Aboriginal cultural heritage, including Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Management Agreements [Strategic Action 14].
- Promoting suitable cultural heritage sites in our education programs [Strategic Actions 8-10].
- Adopting elements of DELWP's Munganin – Gadhaba Aboriginal Inclusion Plan during our transition to the new authority [Strategic Action 25].
- Achieve aspirations of Wadawurrung's Healthy Country Plan [Paleert Tjaara Dja] and Eastern Maar's Country Plan [Meerreengeeye Ngakeepoorryeey]. Ensure we understand threats to Country and partner with Traditional Owners to strengthen the health of country, people and culture [Strategic Action 14].

# OUR PRIORITIES, CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIC RESPONSES

## CLIMATE CHANGE

While there is an incomplete understanding of how climate change will impact our natural and built assets, there are several recognised rules of thumb in climate science which can help us to plan:

- Our global climate has warmed by about 0.85 degrees Celsius since pre-industrial times and is expected to warm by as much as 4.8 degrees Celsius over the 21st century.
- Rainfall intensity is expected to increase by 5% per degree Celsius of global warming.
- In Australia, a 0.8 m sea-level rise by 2100 or earlier is the current planning benchmark. However, this rule of thumb does not consider storm surge, wave height, or flooding in estuaries and bays.
- A one centimetre rise in sea level will lead to a one metre retreat of the coastline (this is known as the Bruun Rule).

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* establishes an integrated approach to planning and managing risks from climate change by:

- Retaining the current planning benchmark, to plan for not less than 0.8m sea level rise by 2100.
- Respecting natural processes in planning for and managing current and future risks to people and assets.
- Improving understanding of the vulnerabilities of the marine and coastal environment to climate change.
- Developing high-resolution projections for the whole of the Victorian coastline to understand localised impacts.
- Developing policy and guidance for adapting to climate change.
- Providing strong direction on climate change including a focus on embedding adaptation in all planning processes and decision-making and building the resilience of people and communities and the natural environment to climate impacts.

## Our challenge

In 2012, we undertook a study (Coastal Processes Study, Coastal Engineering Solutions, 2012) to better understand how vulnerable our local built and natural assets are to a 0.8m sea level rise scenario.

- 82% of our built assets are at risk from receding coastline.
- 13 kilometres of the Great Ocean Road and 30 kilometres of other roads are exposed to coastal erosion.
- 700 hectares of native vegetation is subject to erosion and 380 hectares to inundation.

When planning for climate change, we need to also consider the long lead times and significant funding required to deliver appropriate responses to future risk. It often takes several years to inform and engage communities, to identify equitable and time appropriate adaptation actions, and to develop the relevant policies and tools.

## Our strategic response

We are committed to planning for, and responding to, climate change and coastal hazards over the short, medium and long term by:

- Implementing a risk-based adaptation framework to respond to climate change impacts, which aligns with the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) decision-making tool and utilises the six categories of adaptation actions from the *Marine and Coastal Policy 2020*: Non-intervention, Avoid, Nature-based protection, Accommodate, Retreat and Protect.
- Developing and implementing the Climate Change Management Framework, including a climate change policy, identification of natural and built assets vulnerable to climate change and priority risk sites, and implementation of preferred adaption response (Strategic Action 12).
- Developing and implementing a monitoring program, including the use of citizen science (Strategic Action 13).
- Continuing to fund and implement the Native Vegetation and Weed Action Plan (NVWAP), including integrated pest animal management and control to ensure coastal biodiversity remains resilient (Strategic Action 1).
- Holding an annual community forum to raise awareness and communicate challenges such as coastal risk/hazards and adaptation planning (Strategic Action 9).

## INCREASED USE AND VISITATION

The Great Ocean Road region is closely integrated with Melbourne and neighbouring regional economies. Our proximity to Melbourne and transport connections means we are now within easy commuter distance to Victoria's capital city.

### Visitors

Visitation to the Great Ocean Road region is forecast to grow by an average 4.0% per annum to reach 8.6 million travellers by 2026-27.

By this time, an additional 1,432 hotel rooms and 557 holiday park sites will be required to meet forecasted demand.

### Residents

Victoria is estimated to reach a population of 10.1 million by 2051 – 8 million people living within greater Melbourne, and 2.1 million people living in Victoria's regions.

Increasingly more people are choosing the lifestyle advantages of living in the Great Ocean Road region while regularly visiting Melbourne for business and pleasure.

Our region currently has a population of over 320,000, which is projected to increase to approximately 500,000 by 2050.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused world-wide disruptions and changes to many elements of our daily lives. While the full extent of its impacts cannot be quantified, from March 2020, our stretch of managed coastline has experienced a significant decline in international visitation, and visitation in general, as regional, interstate and international lockdown laws were implemented. While international travel may not be possible in the short term, we may experience a compensation in travel by local and interstate travellers. The financial implications of this significant change will be closely monitored, and financial planning adapted accordingly.

## Our challenge

As resident and visitor numbers increase and diversify, so too does the way we use our coast and the potential for conflict through contested spaces and use. Understanding current demands for access and use and future conflicts will assist the delivery of equitable access to, and enjoyment of, our coast.

As a Crown land manager, we must strike a balance between maintaining healthy and functioning ecosystems with the economic and social benefits of coastal use and development. Our highest priority is protecting and enhancing our natural environment and cultural heritage. Any opportunities for quality visitor and tourist development must balance safety, future use and the long-term health and values of the coast.

We also acknowledge the opportunity to harness the power of our new residents to extend the capacity of our organisation to protect and enhance our environment through volunteerism and the creation of future environmental stewards.

We commit to working alongside our volunteers, ensuring they remain engaged and their work valued.

## Our strategic response

While we can influence the number and diversification of marine and coastal users to an extent through our permits, licences, and events policy and strategy, we are unable to wholly influence this. We are committed to understanding current and future demands to proactively manage conflict.

We will continue to facilitate equitable access to, and enjoyment of, our coast by:

- Continuing to use and develop master plans to manage use and development of the reserve (Strategic Action 11).
- Supporting GORCAPA to deliver Actions 14 and 15 from the 2018 Great Ocean Road Action Plan to develop a sustainable visitation and transport strategy (Strategic Action 28).
- Implementing a variety of communication strategies such as event calendars and digital applications to identify suitable areas for different beach users (Strategic Action 16).
- Implementing universal access for people with limited physical mobility at priority locations (Strategic Action 17).
- Encouraging our communities to utilise active transport options rather than rely on vehicles (Strategic Action 18).
- Sustainable and innovative policy and strategic planning for events, permits and licences.

# OUR PRIORITIES, CHALLENGES AND STRATEGIC RESPONSES

## BUILT INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS

Regular use of the Great Ocean Road coast by non-Indigenous people began in the early 1800s.

Travel to coastal townships such as Lorne and Anglesea from Geelong and Melbourne was made easier in 1932 when the Great Ocean Road officially opened. While plans for a 'South Coast Road' first emerged in the late 1880s, the project really began in 1918 when more than three thousand returned servicemen descended on the area to start work.

Road travelers during the early years paid a toll at gates at Eastern View – the location of the memorial arch. In 2011 the Great Ocean Road was listed on the National Heritage Register to formally recognise the work undertaken from 1919 to 1932 by repatriated ex-servicemen, and to honour their fellow soldiers and sailors from the World War I.

We also manage many reminders of our post-European settlement history including the Cypress and Pine tree avenues in Torquay and Lorne, early holiday facilities which are now our caravan parks, and important recreational activities such as fishing, surf lifesaving and surfing.

Today, our foreshore reserves provide key areas of public open space within coastal settlements and are important spaces for social interaction and recreation, including events, markets and festivals. They also continue to provide many highly valued community services, buildings and facilities such as boat ramps, sailing clubs, fishing clubs and Surf Life Saving Clubs.

Built coastal assets provide valuable services and add value to the environment, the economy and community. We manage and maintain 145 buildings, and 105 built structures (bridges, boardwalks, coastal protective structures), and thousands of open space assets (furniture, paths, fences, playgrounds, signs, bins and drinking fountains), including:

- 26 amenity blocks
- 17 drinking fountains
- 14 outdoor showers
- 55 public park benches
- 90 beach access stairs and ramps
- 33 kilometres of trails.

## Our challenge

Our ageing built infrastructure, established during a time without concern or consideration of climate change, is now under increasing pressure as our population and visitation increases.

Furthermore, the impacts from climate change, such as major storm events, means significant long-term funding is required to maintain our existing built infrastructure. Existing and new assets must be maintained, upgraded and replaced over time. A key challenge for all Crown land managers is determining who should pay for this ongoing work, and how.

The total replacement value of our built assets is estimated at over \$40 million dollars.

The challenge and costs associated with climate change impacts on infrastructure, including major storm events, are significant and long-term funding will be required to remediate damage and replace infrastructure more frequently.

## Our strategic response

We are committed to enabling the use and enjoyment of our coastal and marine environment over the short, medium and long term by:

- Using master plans to guide the development of new built assets (Strategic Action 11).
- Continuing to use our Asset Management Framework to inform the replacement of built assets (Strategic everyday actions).
- Supporting GORCAPA to deliver Actions 14 and 17 from the 2018 Great Ocean Road Action Plan to establish funding arrangements (Strategic Action 28).



## SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

Our unique coastline and townships within easy driving access to Melbourne and Geelong attract many people to visit, live and work. The townships and rural hinterland support over 3,220 businesses which drive an economy worth nearly \$1.25 billion annually.

Tourism is the second biggest industry in the region, after construction, and contributed \$381 million to the local economy in 2017. More than 30% of the local population work in tourism exposed employment sectors.

The coastline and its range of beaches are recognised for their critical role in driving tourism and the regional economy. Our managed coastline contains significant infrastructure required to support this tourism and important recreational activities, including car parks, boat ramps, caravan parks, playgrounds and public amenity blocks.

A range of private commercial activities including surf schools, educational tours, sea-kayaking, restaurants, kiosks and mobile food vans operate from within GORCC managed land. These operators employ staff and contribute to our local economy. They rely on, and are supported by, the natural asset-base and return a benefit through lease and licence fees that are reinvested back into managing the coastal and marine environment.

## Our challenge

Replacing and upgrading existing coastal infrastructure and delivering high service levels that meet the expectations of residents and visitors, requires increasing investment.

Our everyday foreshore, education and conservation activities, community programs and capital projects are entirely funded through our commercial activities.

Government grants contribute to some capital projects.

Strong relationships with agencies and local government and community groups facilitate sustainable funding. Shared services and partnership opportunities are also considered during the provision of major contracts.

## Our strategic response

We will continue to sustainably grow and diversify our commercial activities within designated activity zones by:

- Continuing to use and develop master plans to manage the future development of our caravan parks (Strategic Action 19).
- Developing an overarching caravan park strategy to increase revenue while maintaining affordable, accessible and enjoyable holidays (Strategic Action 20).
- Undertaking a feasibility study to identify opportunities to expand commercial operations and maximise revenue consistent with policy, legislation and community aspirations (Strategic Action 21).
- Support GORCAPA to deliver Action 7 from the 2018 Great Ocean Road Action Plan to establish funding arrangements (Strategic Action 28).



# THE MARINE AND COASTAL ACT 2018

The new *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* came into effect on 1 August 2018 to establish an integrated and coordinated whole-of-government approach to protect and manage Victoria's marine and coastal environment.

## Objectives

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* contains nine objectives:

1. Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment
2. Promote the resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems, communities and assets to climate change
3. Respect natural processes in planning for and managing current and future risks to people and assets from coastal hazards and climate change
4. Acknowledge traditional owner groups' knowledge, rights and aspirations for land and sea country
5. Promote a diversity of experiences in the marine and coastal environment
6. Promote the ecologically sustainable use and development of the marine and coastal environment and its resources in appropriate areas
7. Improve community, user group and industry stewardship and understanding of the marine and coastal environment
8. Engage with specified Aboriginal parties, the community, user groups and industry in marine and coastal planning, management and protection
9. Build scientific understanding of the marine and coastal environment.

## Guiding principles

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* contains seven guiding principles:

1. Integrated coastal zone management
2. Ecosystem-based management
3. Ecologically sustainable development
4. Evidence-based decision-making
5. Precautionary principle
6. Proportionate and risk-based principle
7. Adaptive management.

## Policy and strategy

The new Act also provides for the development of an integrated and coordinated policy and strategy to inform local planning, management, decision-making and reporting.

The Vision for the Marine and Coastal Policy is:

*'A healthy, dynamic and biodiverse marine and coastal environment that benefits the Victorian community now and in the future'.*

A series of outcomes (what success looks like) and policies (set of rules) drive the planning and management.

A Marine Spatial Planning Framework guides how the many sectors in the marine environment can work together to provide for existing and future uses and overcome challenges.

To view the Marine and Coastal Policy and the relationship between the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* planning hierarchy and the broader land use planning system, please click [here](#).

## Coastal and Marine Management Plans

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* requires all CMMPs to have the following key components:

### 1. Implementation plan

Detailing measurable actions, timeframes, and responsible agencies and partners.

### 2. Maps

Identifying the existing and proposed use and development, including areas vulnerable to climate change, and priority adaptation projects.

### 3. Monitoring framework

A framework to monitor, evaluate and report on the implementation of the plan).

# CMMP FRAMEWORK

This CMMP ensures high level policy and direction in the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* is embedded into our everyday business and on-ground actions.

## Vision

*World-leading environmental protection and coastal experiences for all.*

## GORCC and MACA guiding principles

Our nine guiding principles govern who we are and how we operate.

The seven guiding principles in the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* govern the state-wide management and protection of the coastal and marine environment.

## Objectives

Our ten localised objectives align directly to, and build upon, the MACA objectives, as well as the five objectives within the Great Ocean Road Action Plan 2018. Objectives extend beyond the life of the five-year CMMP.

## Five-year outcomes

Our five-year outcomes respond to the challenges highlighted on pages 14-19 and outline what we want to achieve as a result of implementing the CMMP. By focusing on outcomes, the CMMP provides flexibility to adapt actions in response to new information and best-practice standards.

They also provide the basis for our monitoring and evaluation process, providing accountability for the delivery of the CMMP.

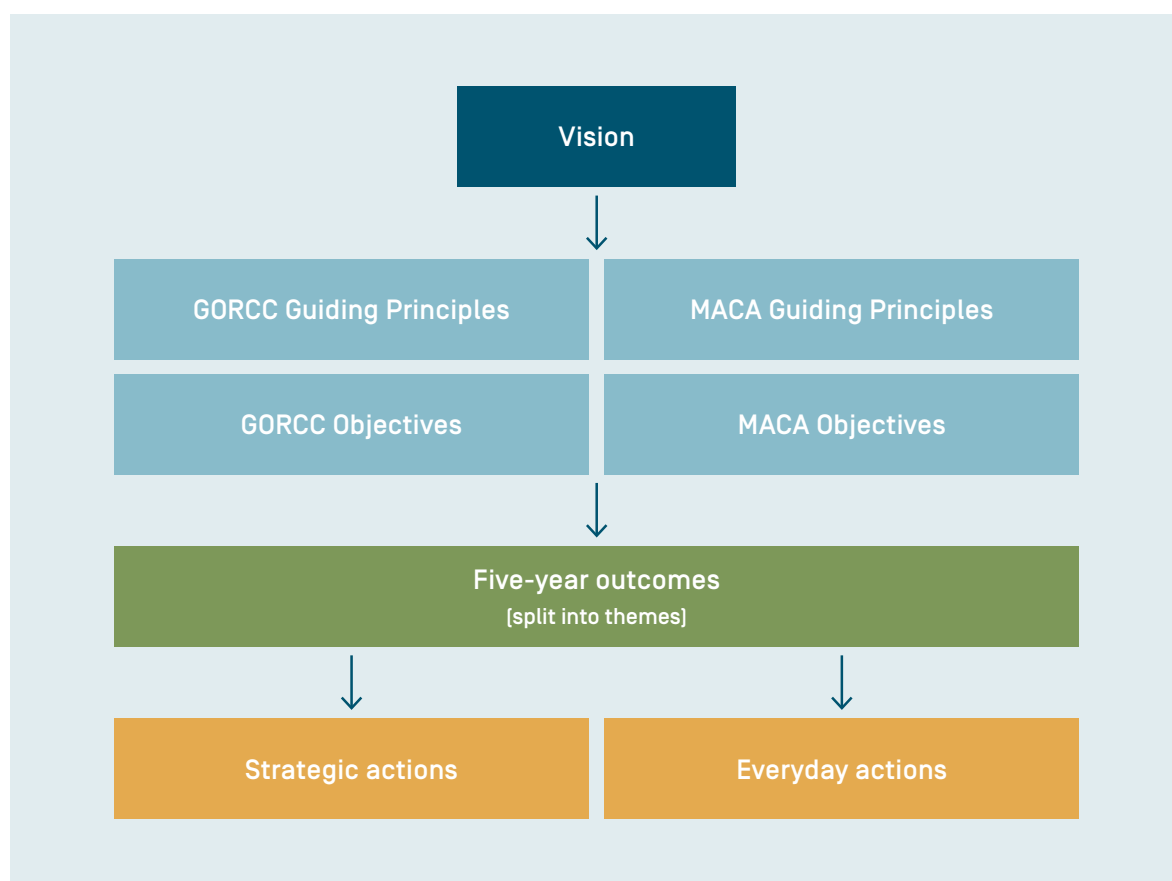
All outcomes align with one of seven themes that relate to our core business.

## Strategic actions

Our strategic actions are designed to achieve our objectives and five-year outcomes. They align with the vision and guiding principles of both the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee and the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*. Each strategic action has a corresponding timeframe and partner assigned to it.

## Everyday actions

Our everyday actions occur on an ongoing basis to reach our objectives and five-year outcomes.



# CMMP FRAMEWORK

Theme	Five-year outcomes
<b>Natural Environment</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Effectively resourced and delivered conservation programs.</li> <li>2. We have improved the quality of native vegetation across our conservation areas.</li> <li>3. We have improved our understanding of, and reduced identified impacts on, the marine and coastal environment.</li> <li>4. Breeding populations of hooded plovers are maintained on GORCC managed Crown land.</li> </ol>
<b>Community and Partnerships</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. We are a trusted and reputable land manager and collaborative partner.</li> <li>6. Volunteer participation is increased, fostering long-term coastal stewardship.</li> </ol>
<b>Education and Awareness</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Our education programs are effectively resourced and delivered.</li> <li>8. Increased awareness and understanding of marine and coastal values and challenges, particularly in school education program participants.</li> <li>9. We increase voluntary compliance with foreshore regulations.</li> </ol>
<b>Planning and Adaptation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. We have an effective and transparent planning framework.</li> <li>11. We provide equitable access to, and use of, the coastal and marine environment.</li> <li>12. We improve our knowledge and implement strategies to manage impacts from climate change and to protect and conserve Aboriginal heritage.</li> </ol>
<b>Facilities and Infrastructure</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. We continue to manage our built infrastructure in accordance with our Asset Management Framework, including the Port of Lorne and boating infrastructure.</li> <li>14. We continue to mitigate safety risks.</li> </ol>
<b>Sustainable Funding</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Our revenue and expenditure are delivered according to our Long-term Financial Plan.</li> <li>16. Our commercial operations are managed to balance revenue with affordable accommodation and equitable access.</li> </ol>
<b>Governance and Organisation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17. We transition successfully to the new Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority.</li> <li>18. We continue to meet our corporate and regulatory requirements.</li> <li>19. We adopt best contemporary environmental and sustainable practices and require all new lease/licence and permit holders to do the same.</li> </ol>













# THE PLAN

# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

The protection of our marine and coastal environment is our highest priority.

Our coastline contains significant freshwater and marine environments, including two marine protected areas – Point Danger and Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary, and four rivers, nine creeks and three estuaries. Reforms to the former *Coastal Management Act 1995* in 2018 included managing the whole-of-coast water cycle, not just the terrestrial environment. We now need to apply ecosystem-based management to enable marine and coastal ecosystems to be healthy, functioning, and resilient.

Controlling pest plants and animals is our core business and we invest significantly in our conservation team. On-ground conservation works are guided by our Native Vegetation and Weed Action Plan (NVWAP), a five-year management plan to protect and enhance biodiversity through current and best-practice management. Our current NVWAP is due for renewal in 2020.

*Invasion of indigenous vegetation and fauna habitat by environmental weeds is the overwhelming environmental management issue in the study area and the region generally. This issue dwarfs all other biodiversity management issues combined and this will remain the case, whatever global climate change occurs.*

– Great Ocean Road Coast Committee Land and Environment Management Plan, 2006

## GORCC objectives

- Protect the ecological and landscape integrity of coastal and marine environments.
- Engage and consult with our community and stakeholders to inform strategic planning.

## MACA objectives

- Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment.
- Improve community, user group and industry stewardship and understanding of the marine and coastal environment.
- Engage with specified Aboriginal parties, the community, user groups and industry in marine and coastal planning, management and protection.
- Build scientific understanding of the marine and coastal environment.

## Five-year outcomes

1. Effectively resourced and delivered conservation programs.
2. We have improved the quality of native vegetation across our conservation areas.
3. We have improved our understanding of, and reduced identified impacts on, the marine and coastal environment.
4. Breeding populations of hooded plovers are maintained on GORCC managed Crown land.

## Achievements 2013 – 2018

- In addition to our Torquay based team of four conservation members, we created two full-time conservation roles based in Lorne
- Significantly improved native vegetation and habitat – an on ground assessment conducted by GORCC's Conservation team determined that 95% of environmental weeds have been removed from 80% of our coastline
- Exceeded the hooded plover national recovery target in seven out of ten years
- Planted more than 30,000 indigenous plants
- Applied the Plastic Wise Policy to all programs, activities and events on our coastline

## Environment glossary

**Coastal erosion:** The displacement of sand associated with coastal processes such as waves, currents and wind

**Coastal tea-tree:** *Leptospermum laevigatum* is a shrub/tree native to South Australia, New South Wales, Tasmania and Victoria. In some areas of GORCC managed land, Coastal tea-tree is classified as an environmental weed as it has become invasive and adversely affects the survival of other indigenous flora and fauna. Coastal tea-tree is therefore managed to retain and encourage site diversity and prevent a monoculture habitat

**Cross-tenure management:** Integrated land management practices that are conducted across parcels with differing management bodies

**Endemic species:** Endemic species are plants and animals that exist only in one geographic region

**Environmental weed:** Environmental weeds are plants that invade native ecosystems and adversely affect the survival of indigenous flora and fauna

**Indigenous/native species:** A native species is one that is found in a certain ecosystem due to natural processes, such as natural distribution and evolution

**Intertidal:** The littoral region that is above the low-water mark and below the high-water mark

**Storm surge:** Increased water levels associated with storm activity due to waves, wind and changes in atmospheric pressure

STRATEGIC ACTIONS	Timeline
<b>1. Native Vegetation Weed Action Plan</b>	
Continue to fund and implement the 2015-2020 NVWAP	Year 1
Develop 2020-2025 NVWAP with adjoining land managers and include: Traditional Owner ecological knowledge and understanding of the land and sea	Year 1
Map areas of Coastal Moonah Woodland	
Fund and implement the 2020-2025 NVWAP	Year 1
Implement annual monitoring program, incorporate learnings and re-align priorities	Ongoing
Establish monitoring benchmarks	Year 1
Investigate the use of fire to manage native vegetation and weeds	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> DELWP, Environmental community groups, Traditional Owners, Parks Victoria	
<b>2. Marine and intertidal environment</b>	
Develop process to consider direct and indirect impacts to the marine and intertidal environmental and the whole-of-water-cycle in all planning and development decisions post-development of MACA policy and strategy	Year 2
<b>PARTNERS</b> Parks Victoria, Corangamite CMA, Surf Coast Shire	
<b>3. Integrated pest animal management</b>	
Develop and implement a strategic and cross-tenure pest animal management plan in partnership with stakeholders	Year 2
Implement actions in the approved management plan	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Parks Victoria, Corangamite CMA, Surf Coast Shire	
<b>4. Operational environmental management plans</b>	
Develop operational environmental management plan template and guidelines based on contemporary best practice	Year 1
Ensure all new permit, lease and licence holders, contractors and caravan parks have operational environmental management plans	Ongoing
Provide environmental and sustainability information and guidelines to existing operators of commercial activities	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Lease/licence/permit holders	

# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

## EVERYDAY ACTIONS

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment team to undertake conservation management.</li> <li>• Implement the Native Vegetation and Weed Action Plan (NVWAP).</li> <li>• Remove environmental weeds, including Tea-tree <i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i> and Sallow Wattle <i>Acacia longifolia</i> var. <i>sophorae</i>.</li> <li>• Undertake regular litter patrols, install gross pollutant traps (GPTs) on stormwater outfalls, and run community events such as Clean Up Australia Day to reduce litter entering our marine environment.</li> <li>• Continue to undertake an integrated approach to managing stormwater with Surf Coast Shire and Barwon Water, including the installation of gross pollutant traps and ensuring water sensitive urban design is included in all new developments such as Point Grey.</li> <li>• Undertake compliance patrols (education and awareness) with Surf Coast Shire to protect biodiversity.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor warrens and control rabbits in priority locations such as Whites Beach, Anglesea heath and caravan park, Painkalac Creek.</li> <li>• Monitor dens and control foxes, with continued focus on hooded plover breeding sites.</li> <li>• Manage dune incursion by restricting public access with fencing and revegetation.</li> <li>• Develop and introduce environment protection and sustainability measures in leases/licences and permits.</li> <li>• Facilitate programs such as the BioBlitz program during biodiversity month to contribute to the collection of global biodiversity data.</li> <li>• Support Parks Victoria to deliver marine protected area management plans at Point Danger and Eagle Rock.</li> <li>• Support the Corangamite CMA and other external agencies to manage and deliver riverine and estuarine projects, including monitoring the requirement for estuary openings.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with Surf Coast Shire and DELWP to prevent and manage unpermitted removal of native vegetation.</li> <li>• Implement hooded plover/shorebird protection activities, including temporary beach closures, with BirdLife Australia and volunteer groups.</li> <li>• Support the implementation of the hooded plover strategic report and Plan, with BirdLife Australia.</li> <li>• Advocate for and deliver cross-tenure environmental management with private and public land managers.</li> <li>• Manage our Moonah community in accordance with the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> and our internal Tree Management Guidelines and Policy.</li> <li>• Work with Aboriginal groups to manage the natural environment with regard to cultural heritage and traditional practices including fire.</li> </ul> |
|---|---|--|

## Hooded plover *Thinornis rubricollis*

Hooded plovers (affectionately known as 'hoodies') are listed as vulnerable under the *Environmental Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and were recently identified as one of 20 species targeted under the Federal Government's Threatened Species Strategy.

Hoodies have the lowest survival rates of any species in the world (only 1 in every 100 chicks survives from egg to fully fledged adult) as they nest on beaches over summer, which forces them to share their breeding sites with thousands of beach-goers (and their dogs).

Between 2003 and 2018, only 23 nesting pairs of hoodies were recorded within GORCC managed Crown land reserves. However, hoodie numbers are very slowly rising thanks to the hard work of passionate volunteers and organisations like BirdLife Australia and Friends of the Hooded Plover Surf Coast.

We partner annually with volunteers, conservation organisations and sister agencies to protect these beach-nesting shorebirds by:

- Implementing education and awareness signs and campaigns with a strong focus on dog owners.
- Installing seasonal exclusion zones, wooden shelters for chicks, and temporary fencing around nesting sites.
- Supporting on-ground monitoring by hard working volunteers.

The Friends of the Hooded Plover Surf Coast and the GORCC conservation team provided more than 1,000 hours of on-ground protection during the 2017/18 breeding season. We compliment volunteer capacity with year-round conservation work such as dune fencing and fox control, and community awareness programs such as our 'Save the Hoodie' campaign.





## Stopping litter in its tracks

Our conservation team recently undertook works to address an overgrown drain at Torquay's back beach, emptying into the sea near Voss' car park. Conservation worker Scott Hives set about designing an innovative solution to prevent rubbish flowing into the sea. His first infrastructure design project, Scott carefully considered the site and came up with a design that is sympathetic to the environment but effectively captures waste. With the help of a civil engineer, Scott's waste trap design did not require digging to construct, is easy to empty, and handles a lot more waste than is anticipated to flow through the site. The waste trap system has already made a big difference to the amount of litter flowing out to sea in this area, and it is hoped that the design may be replicated at other coastal sites around Australia to help stem the flow of waste from storm-water drains to our precious waterways.

## Coastal Moonah Woodland

Our coast is home to threatened Coastal Moonah Woodlands protected under the *Victoria Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act). This important vegetation community consists of a Moonah *Melaleuca lanceolata* canopy over shrubs and understorey plants that help stabilise cliffs and sand dunes. Since European settlement, much of Victoria's Coastal Moonah Woodlands have been cleared, with less than 10% of this community remaining in Victoria.

Moonah are often twisted into fascinating shapes from the windswept nature of the coastline, giving our Torquay and Anglesea caravan parks their iconic and much-loved identity while providing excellent shade and protection for campers.

We are incredibly appreciative and protective of our Moonah community, which is managed in accordance with our internal Tree Management Policy and Guidelines to ensure its health and longevity.

## COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS

We partner with a wide range of coastal users and stakeholders to achieve the best possible outcomes for the coast and the community.

The backbone of our conservation effort continues to be environmental volunteers, with around fifteen groups working directly on GORCC managed land. Our incredible volunteer community contributes approximately 10,000 hours each year. They plant over 1,800 indigenous plants annually and control pest plants and animals across 430 hectares. We commit to continuing to partner with and support our coastal volunteers:

- Aireys Inlet District Association (AIDA)
- Anglesea, Aireys Inlet Society for the Protection of Flora and Fauna (ANGAIR)
- Friends of Cosy Corner
- Friends of the Hooded Plover Surf Coast
- Friends of Moggs Creek
- Friends of Queens Park
- Friends of Taylor Park
- Jan Juc Coast Action
- LorneCare
- Surf Coast and Inland Plains Network (SCIPN)
- Surfers Appreciating the Natural Environment (SANE)
- Torquay and Jan Juc Boardriders Clubs
- Torquay Coast Action.

Much of our work can only be undertaken in partnership with other organisations and agencies. Each year our partners include:

- BirdLife Australia and the Friends of the Hooded Plover Surf Coast to protect beach-nesting shorebirds.
- The Lorne Surf Life Saving Club to provide the Accessible Beaches initiative at Lorne (beach access matting, a beach wheelchair and a portable hoist).
- Corangamite CMA to care for estuaries, estuarine flora and fauna and undertake estuary openings.
- Surf Coast Shire to implement cost effective and efficient service agreements for cleaning, collection of rubbish/recycling, dog regulation and compliance, and event management.
- Other Category 1 Committees of Management to share learnings and information at the annual Coastal Connections Forum.
- Parks Victoria to run environmental education programs.
- Regional Roads Victoria to facilitate vegetation management on the road verge, road maintenance and upgrade projects (including communications).

### Achievements 2013 – 2018

- Coastal Grants Program offered annually to local community groups to preserve and protect the environment
- Successfully trialled Accessible Beaches initiative in Lorne with the Lorne Surf Life Saving Club and Life Saving Victoria
- Completed construction of the Anzac Memorial Garden in Lorne with the Lorne Returned Services League (RSL)
- Trialled an all-terrain vehicle to patrol beaches with Surf Coast Shire
- Supported redevelopment of three Surf Life Saving Clubs: Fairhaven, Jan Juc and Anglesea (currently underway)
- Completed the Torquay Bowls Club clubhouse redevelopment

### GORCC objectives

- Instil value, improve knowledge and build stewardship of the marine and coastal environments.
- Increase Traditional Owner inclusion.
- Engage and consult with our community and stakeholders to inform strategic planning.

### MACA objectives

- Improve community, user group and industry stewardship and understanding of the marine and coastal environment.
- Engage with specified Aboriginal parties, the community, user groups and industry in marine and coastal planning, management and protection.

### Five-year outcomes

5. We are a trusted and reputable land manager and collaborative partner.
6. Volunteer participation is increased, fostering long-term coastal stewardship.



STRATEGIC ACTIONS		Timeline
<b>5. Community participation and volunteer engagement</b>		
Develop an action plan to strengthen and increase volunteer participation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep volunteer groups informed</li> <li>• Provide platforms to assist volunteer groups to recruit members</li> <li>• Promote environmental volunteer groups and their work</li> <li>• Identify and develop opportunities to include volunteers in environmental monitoring programs</li> <li>• Connect seasonal caravan park community with volunteer groups and environmental programs</li> <li>• Connect local sporting clubs with volunteer groups and environmental programs</li> </ul>		Year 3
Hold an annual coastal volunteer summit to facilitate information exchange and confirm volunteer group requirements and areas that require support		Ongoing
Expand formal partnerships to include local educational institutes for placement and training		Year 2
Develop and implement guidelines for lease holders to expand opportunities for community groups to use and access coastal buildings and facilities		Year 1
<b>PARTNERS</b> All volunteer groups		
<b>6. Communications and Engagement Strategy</b>		
Develop and implement a Communications and Engagement Strategy that includes a standard process for planning consultation and communications activities for all new projects		Year 2
<b>PARTNERS</b> DELWP		
<b>7. Regional and Strategic Partnerships</b>		
Support the development of Regional and Strategic Partnerships (RASPs) to respond to an identified regional issue relating to or affecting the marine and coastal environment		As required
<b>PARTNERS</b> Marine and Coastal Council, partner agencies		

EVERYDAY ACTIONS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver the annual Coastal Grants Program.</li> <li>• Seek opportunities to showcase and reward the work of volunteers.</li> <li>• Identify sites for volunteer works that are coordinated with GORCC work programs and do not compromise safety.</li> <li>• Support volunteer groups with regular working bees and events (approximately 25 events annually).</li> <li>• Collaborate and share relevant information with other Crown land caravan park managers for mutual benefit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with local government to coordinate events.</li> <li>• Work with partner agencies to identify priority management issues across marine, coastal and estuarine environments.</li> <li>• Assist local government and DELWP to regulate local laws and Crown land reserve regulations.</li> <li>• Implement, review and renew partnership arrangements with local government (projects, service delivery, compliance and lifesaving services).</li> <li>• Support and facilitate events such as the annual Coastal Connections Forum with other coastal Crown land managers and agencies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide robust community consultation opportunities in-line with the best practice guide for <i>Public Participation in Government Decision-making</i> by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.</li> <li>• Continue to offer a range of communication activities and platforms to engage with the public.</li> <li>• Maintain regular and open communication and work with Traditional Owner groups.</li> <li>• Support Life Saving Victoria and local Surf Life Saving Clubs to review current and future levels and types of service.</li> <li>• Work with Corangamite CMA to ensure estuary openings present minimal impact on environmental values.</li> </ul>

## COMMUNITY AND PARTNERSHIPS

### Friends of Cosy Corner

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Cosy Corner is a beloved quiet spot for families and swimmers to visit in Torquay. Being such a popular spot, Cosy Corner has unfortunately also suffered from increased human pressures. To help give the sheltered cove the extra TLC it deserves, a group of regular swimmers started a volunteer group called Friends of Cosy Corner.

With the help of Friends of Cosy Corner, our conservation team planted more than 800 native plants at Cosy Corner in Spring 2018. In 2019, another 1,000 indigenous species, such as Moonah, were planted along the bank towards Point Danger. Temporary timber and wire fences were installed to protect the young Moonah while they find their feet and will be removed when the trees are a little more robust.



### Coastal Grants Program

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Each year, funds are dedicated for community-led projects that enhance the natural values of our coastal Crown land. The Coastal Grants Program aims to support the work of environmental volunteers and community groups who play an integral role in enhancing our work between Torquay and Lorne. These groups preserve and protect our environment along the Great Ocean Road, with their work benefiting the entire community.

Grants have funded a diverse range of projects, from the refurbishment of historic anchors, to the revegetation of degraded coastal and riverine habitats. In 2019, Jan Juc Coast Action, St Therese Catholic Primary School and Torquay and District Historical Society received funding to support their work in caring for our coast.

### Accessible Beaches

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In partnership with Lorne Surf Life Saving Club and Life Saving Victoria, we trialled an Accessible Beaches initiative in Lorne during February and March 2019. As part of a six-week trial, free access to a floating beach wheelchair, portable hoist and 40 metres of accessible beach matting was provided.

A first for the Surf Coast, the trial was a great success and will be implemented again for the 2020-21 summer season.

We also partnered with Surf Coast Shire to secure funding for an all-abilities Changing Places facility in Anglesea. GORCC continues to investigate ways to enhance the coastal experience for people with a disability, including providing \$30,000 in funding for building the Changing Places facility and \$40,000 for the Accessible Beaches initiative. Future planning for upgrades at our caravan parks includes accessible cabins and infrastructure.



## EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

We educate the next generation of coastal protectors through our award-winning education program, equipping participants with the knowledge and skills to understand, respect and protect our coastal surroundings. We create positive relationships with a range of coastal users to help spread important environmental messages and build awareness of coastal values.

Our management area is rich with various habitats and environments, each providing separate and valuable educational opportunities for students.

Over 2,000 students participate in our environmental education programs each year, at the same time contributing hundreds of hours of conservation work. We also host summer holiday activities in our caravan parks – in 2018-19 we hosted 47 activities and had over 1,500 participants.

As the number of people participating in caring for the coast continues to grow, our Environmental Education Strategy guides the sustainable and targeted development of our popular education programs.

### Achievements 2013 – 2018

- Established an effective and popular Environmental Education Program – 2,336 students participated in 2018-19
- Victorian Coastal Award winner in 2018 for our coastal education programs
- Our Coast Guardians Program was a finalist in the 2017 Premier's Sustainability Awards
- Summer holiday programs offered across our three caravan parks including biodiversity explorations and things up close using digital microscopes, rockpool rambles, bush tucker, and arts and craft sessions
- Annual education internship commenced in 2018 – available to tertiary/TAFE students
- Established the Guided Surf Coast Walk with the Wadawurrung and sold out every walk



# EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

## GORCC objectives

- Instil value, improve knowledge and build stewardship of the marine and coastal environments.
- Provide coastal experiences that support sustainable visitation and tourism.

## MACA objectives

- Improve community, user group and industry stewardship and understanding of the marine and coastal environment.
- Engage with specified Aboriginal parties, the community, user groups and industry in marine and coastal planning, management and protection.

## Five-year outcomes

7. Our education programs are effectively resourced and delivered.
8. Awareness and understanding of marine and coastal values and challenges continues to increase, particularly in school education program participants.
9. Voluntary compliance with foreshore regulations increases.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS	Timeline
<b>8. Environmental Education Strategy</b>	
Develop and implement a sustainable growth plan for education programs	Year 1
Develop and implement a portfolio of innovative environmental education programs, including Aboriginal heritage and marine/intertidal and whole-of-water-cycle	Year 2
Expand activities and education programs in caravan parks	Year 2
Develop and distribute pre and post education material to all participants	Year 2
<b>PARTNERS</b> Schools, Traditional Owners	
<b>9. Increase awareness of coastal values and challenges</b>	
Hold an annual community forum to raise awareness and communicate challenges such as coastal risk/hazards and adaptation planning	Year 1
Develop education materials for distribution on how to care for the coast and marine environment for community groups, partners and commercial operators and their customers	Year 3
Support the environmental education team to attend events as part of event permits	Ongoing
<b>10. Aboriginal heritage</b>	
Work with Traditional Owners to identify and promote suitable cultural heritage site/s and information for our education programs	Ongoing
Enhanced opportunities for story telling in built infrastructure	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Wadawurrung, Eastern Maar, Traditional Owners	



## EVERYDAY ACTIONS

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support our specialist team to continue to offer environmental education opportunities.</li> <li>• Offer the Environmental Education Program to create long-term custodians of our coastal and marine environment.</li> <li>• Offer curriculum-based school programs such as the Coast Guardians Program.</li> <li>• Offer flexible, general education opportunities and programs for all – from pre-school to tertiary, to corporate and community.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend community markets and events with our interactive environmental education trailer.</li> <li>• Partner with local businesses to deliver environmental recreational activities such as kayaking and stand up paddle boarding.</li> <li>• Partner with Parks Victoria to offer diverse educational conservation programs.</li> <li>• Provide information to operators of commercial activities on the coast regarding the environment and minimising impacts to other users.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate environmental and cultural coastal narratives through multiple channels and platforms.</li> <li>• Implement interpretative and educational material (digital and signage).</li> <li>• Offer summer environmental educational activities program within our caravan parks.</li> <li>• Involve and partner with community groups and clubs to offer diverse educational conservation programs.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|

## Environmental Education Strategy 2019-2024

We believe that education is fundamental to the ongoing protection of our coast and marine environment. Through our environmental education programs, we encourage all to understand, respect, and protect our natural environment and Aboriginal heritage.

In 2019, more than 2,000 students engaged with our Environmental Education Program.

The Environmental Education Strategy 2019-2024 provides a practical framework to determine who, what, when and where to invest to develop and expand the program, ensuring growth is in-line with our vision, guiding principles and objectives.

## Vision

Inspiring and innovative environmental education providing meaningful experiences and ongoing connection with the coast.

## Who, what, when and where?

All education programs will be relevant to the coast, seasonally appropriate and conducted in an environmentally sustainable manner. In order to provide inspiring and innovative environmental education, GORCC will:

1. Establish a well-planned and attractive annual program of offerings for GORCC managed caravan parks, in partnership with the GORCC Commercial team. This includes education embedded in multi-day accommodation packages, school camps and summer camper holiday programs.
2. Partner with Traditional Owners to deliver meaningful education on Aboriginal heritage.
3. Continue the Environmental Education Program with specific focus on the following areas:
  - Retain curriculum-based school programs such as Coast Guardians, offering classes from local schools the opportunity to have ongoing sessions throughout the school year.
  - Implement a sustainable growth model, including identification of activities that can attract sponsorship or cost-recovery.
  - Embed and deliver positive education to enhance mental health and wellbeing in program participants
  - Develop challenging adult focussed programs to attract tertiary, community and corporate groups to coastal sessions with conservation outcomes.

## EDUCATION AND AWARENESS



### Coast Guardians

Coast Guardians is our curriculum-based school program tailored towards year 9 students to enhance their understanding of the marine and coastal values and challenges. Schools participate throughout the year at one site to witness on-ground change as a result of their work. This fosters social responsibility and environmental stewardship.

### Coast Guardians Forum

Our annual Coast Guardians Forum is held in September to celebrate the contribution Year 9 students have made to conserving and protecting our coastal environment, and to workshop new ideas. All schools who have completed the program that year are invited to the forum to hear guest speakers and participate in a range of celebratory activities.

# PLANNING AND ADAPTATION

The primary purpose of the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* is to establish an integrated and coordinated approach to protecting and managing Victoria's marine and coastal environment, by implementing integrated and coordinated planning, management, decision-making and reporting.

## Strategic planning

We plan for the long-term care and development of our precincts through our master plans and strategic plans, all of which consider our key coastal challenges, including climate change, ageing infrastructure, and increased visitation and population growth.

Master plans are developed for our reserves that contain recreational and activity nodes to address the long-term development and use aspirations of our community:

- **Activity nodes** are located within existing coastal settlements and provide a focus for access to the coast, services and social interaction. They provide an area for active recreational use including boating, larger events, and commercial activities.
- **Recreation nodes** are often located outside activity nodes and provide public space for a range of passive activities such as walking and surfing.
- **Conservation nodes** are all other areas where the primary purpose is biodiversity conservation.

## Statutory approvals

Our operational and day-to-day business also requires planning oversight:

- Consent from the Minister under the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* is required to use and develop marine and coastal Crown land.
- Consent from the Minister under the *Crown Land Reserves Act 1978* is required to use and develop Crown land.

We must ensure any application for consent is consistent with federal and state policy and strategy, including the objectives and guiding principles of this CMMP.

Our day-to-day business may also require approval from local government under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Our reserves are zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone (to provide land for recreation and open space) or Public Conservation and Resource Zone (to conserve the natural environment and processes).

## Achievements 2013 – 2018

- Completed >80% of the 114 actions from the 2013 – 2018 Coastal Management Plan
- Introduced a planning team, including an Aboriginal Coastal Planning and Projects Officer
- Developed six master plans for coastal reserves and commenced implementation of actions and improvements: Point Impossible to Jan Juc, Taylor Park, Lorne Foreshore, Fairhaven to Eastern View, Erskine River, Queens Park Reserve
- Secured \$8 million through the Geelong City Deal to deliver the Point Grey – Lorne Redevelopment

## GORCC objectives

- Strengthen adaptive management to mitigate risks and address climate change/coastal hazard impacts.
- Protect distinctive areas and landscapes by ensuring appropriate use and development of the marine and coastal environment.
- Engage and consult with our community and stakeholders to inform strategic planning.

## MACA objectives

- Promote the resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems, communities and assets to climate change.
- Respect natural processes in planning for and managing current and future risks to people and assets from coastal hazards and climate change.
- Promote the ecologically sustainable use and development of the marine and coastal environment and its resources in appropriate areas.
- Acknowledge Traditional Owner groups' knowledge, rights and aspirations for land and sea country.

## Five-year outcomes

10. We have an effective and transparent planning framework.
11. We provide equitable access to, and use of, the coastal and marine environment.
12. We improve our knowledge and implement strategies to manage impacts from climate change and to conserve Aboriginal heritage.



# PLANNING AND ADAPTATION

STRATEGIC ACTIONS	Timeline
<b>11. Master plans</b>	
Commence construction of the Point Grey Redevelopment	Year 1
Commence implementation of the Taylor Park Master Plan and deliver short term improvements (2020 – 2025)	
Commence implementation of the Lorne Foreshore Master Plan and deliver short term improvements (2020 – 2025)	
Commence implementation of the Point Impossible to Jan Juc Master Plan and deliver short term improvements (2020 – 2025)	
Commence development of the Anglesea Bay/Point Roadknight Master Plan	Year 2
Review achievements and actions, and review the need for a new or updated master plan at:	
• Split Point	Year 3
• Erskine River	Year 3
• Fairhaven to Eastern View	Year 3
• Queens Park Reserve	Year 4
Develop a long-term vision and improvements for:	
• Anglesea foreshore	Year 3
• Point Roadknight (beach access ramp)	Year 1
• Aireys Inlet (excluding Split Point)	Year 4
• North Lorne	Year 4
Review the draft Memorial Arch Master Plan and deliver long-term vision and objectives	Year 3
<b>PARTNERS</b> Community, DELWP, Surf Coast Shire, Traditional Owners	
<b>12. Climate change management</b>	
Develop a Climate Change Adaptation Framework and Policy	Year 1
Identify natural and built assets vulnerable to climate change	Year 1
Identify priority risk sites	Year 1
Develop and implement preferred adaptation response and mitigation.	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Community, DELWP	
<b>13. Climate change monitoring</b>	
Develop a program to monitor impacts from climate change, including the use of volunteers and citizen science	Year 1
Implement program to monitor coastal climate change	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Community, Deakin University, DELWP	

STRATEGIC ACTIONS		Timeline
<b>14. Aboriginal heritage conservation and compliance</b>		
All staff undertake annual Aboriginal heritage identification training with Traditional Owners		Ongoing
Engage Traditional Owners or independent consultants to review sites of Aboriginal significance		Year 1
Develop internal Aboriginal heritage conservation and compliance process with Traditional Owners		Year 1
Reintroduction of original names in partnership with Traditional Owners		Ongoing
Ensure all staff and contractors understand the procedure for reporting Aboriginal heritage and incorporate this into all projects and contracts		Ongoing
Embed Country Plans in all planning and programs on Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar Country		Ongoing
Investigate the use of strategic approvals, including an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Management Agreement (ACHLMA) with WTOAC to accurately map and record cultural heritage and identify appropriate activities within these areas that respect and protect it.		Ongoing
Investigate development of an ACHLMA with Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation.		Year 1
<b>PARTNERS</b> Wadawurrung, Eastern Maar, Traditional Owners, First Peoples - State Relations		
<b>15. Statutory approvals</b>		
Develop a straightforward process and guiding material, including templates, to assist third parties to apply for and obtain statutory approvals for projects and events on coastal Crown land		Year 1
Communicate legislative expectations for the appropriate use and development of coastal Crown land		Year 1
Assist with the development, and support the implementation of, GORCAPA's planning framework		Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Community, DELWP, Surf Coast Shire		
EVERYDAY ACTIONS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure all use and development on coastal Crown land meets the purpose and objectives of applicable legislation including the <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i> and <i>Planning, Environment Act 1978</i>, and <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i> and obtain approvals prior to commencing work.</li> <li>Implement the new <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i> and ensure all use and development is consistent with the policy and strategy.</li> <li>Use master plans, including Activity Nodes and Recreation Nodes to guide the suitable siting of any new development or infrastructure.</li> <li>Discourage the use of the coastal Crown land for non-coastal dependent infrastructure and events (i.e. water and sewer infrastructure, non-coastal dependent clubs and activities).</li> <li>Continue to work with Victorian and Australian tourism agencies to direct campaigns to areas with appropriate facilities and services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to identify, deliver and support the implementation of projects which enable universal access and use of the coast.</li> <li>Protect and conserve Aboriginal cultural heritage with Traditional Owners.</li> <li>Maintain regular and transparent communication with authorities such as DELWP, Surf Coast Shire, and First Peoples - State Relations.</li> <li>Use the best available science and risk management approaches to support planning and decision-making regarding climate change.</li> <li>Manage our tree population in accordance with our internal Tree Management Guidelines and Policy.</li> <li>Actively participate, support and provide expert advice into local government planning matters such as planning permit applications and planning scheme amendments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Actively participate, support and provide expert advice into State government legislative and planning matters such as the Surf Coast Distinctive Areas and Landscapes, Coastal Node and Infrastructure Project.</li> <li>Provide expert advice into assessments and audits by government agencies such as the Victorian Environment Assessment Council, Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability Victoria, Victorian Auditor General's Office.</li> <li>Consult and engage with community and stakeholders on planning and decision-making in line with the best practice guide for <i>Public Participation in Government Decision-making</i> by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.</li> </ul>

# PLANNING AND ADAPTATION

## Master plans

Master plans provide a dynamic blueprint for a 10 to 15-year period. They set the vision and principles to guide future use and development of an area to assist long-term planning and resourcing of the coastal and marine environment. All master plans are informed by community and stakeholder feedback and approved by DELWP.

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### Point Grey – Lorne Redevelopment

The Point Grey – Lorne Redevelopment is one of the largest new public-space projects along the Great Ocean Road. The redevelopment site is 1.7 hectares and will include a new public realm of 600sqm and open space of 900sqm.

A Federal government commitment of \$8 million to the project through the Geelong City Deal was announced in October 2018, including \$900,000 to the Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club to redevelop their club house. GORCC has also committed to a long-term financial contribution to ensure the successful completion of the project.

#### Actions completed:

- Master Plan and Business Case.
- Design competition.
- Concept designs developed, with input from the Victorian Government Architect.
- Established Creative Counsel and developed the Creative, Heritage and Cultural Plan to incorporate heritage and cultural components into long-term planning for the site.
- Statutory approvals received in late 2019 – early 2020 from DELWP, Surf Coast Shire and Aboriginal Victoria.
- Planning submitted for approval to Surf Coast Shire and Aboriginal Victoria.

#### Over the next five years:

- Complete construction documentation and award tender.
- Commence construction in 2021.

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### Point Impossible to Jan Juc [2020]

Provide world-leading environmental management and coastal experiences on the foreshore reserves between Point Impossible and Jan Juc, and celebrate the area's rich social and cultural history, diversity and natural environment.

#### Actions completed:

- *To be included post approval of the PI JJ MP.*

#### Over the next five years:

- *To be included post approval of the PI JJ MP.*

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### Taylor Park [2019]

A natural community place that honours its rich cultural history, environmental values and central location.

#### Actions completed:

- *To be included at approval of CMMP.*

#### Over the next five years:

- Landscape the popular duck pond area.
- Implement long-term tree replacement strategy to strengthen existing tree avenues.
- Upgrade BBQ facilities at The Esplanade BBQ area.

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### Lorne Foreshore [2019]

To celebrate Lorne Foreshore as a vibrant community space, cultural heart and waterfront destination, revered by locals and visitors alike, and set within a relaxed, contemporary, natural beach setting.

#### Actions completed:

- *To be included post approval of the LFMP.*

#### Over the next five years:

- Provide a continuous pedestrian path from Point Grey to the Swing Bridge.
- Construct new DDA compliant access from Mountjoy Parade to the foreshore.



## Master plans

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### Erskine River Precinct [2014]

To emphasise the natural beauty and recreational value of the lower reaches of the Erskine River and surrounds through improved amenity, functionality and increased recognition of the contribution that the precinct makes to the overall Lorne experience.

Environmental values and informal recreational uses of the river precinct, including picnicking, walking, fishing and places for quiet relaxation will be enhanced whilst protecting and enhancing the health and sustainability of the river and the surrounding environment.

#### Actions completed:

- Swing Bridge upgrade – pedestrian connections, additional seating and picnic facilities.
- Retain grassy area of Erskine Paddock as public open space.

#### Over the next five years:

- Complete Cultural Heritage Management Plan.
  - Erskine River Landscape Plan and playground.
  - Upgrade entrance and street scape at Kia Ora Caravan Park.
  - Rationalise signage at Lorne 'gateway precinct'.
  - Review master plan and update actions and learnings.
- 

### Queens Park Reserve [2015]

To emphasise the natural beauty and recreational value of Queens Park Reserve through improved amenity and functionality, recognition of historical and cultural values and removal of environmental weeds.

This will be achieved through protecting, enhancing and promoting natural, cultural and social heritage values within the reserve, and by creating awareness of, and appreciation for, the recreational opportunities it presents.

#### Actions completed:

- New directional and educational signage.
- Improved tracks including stone steps in steep areas at Teddy's Lookout.
- Replacement of steps at Shelley Beach.
- Ongoing weed control with Friends of Queens Park and Lorne Care.
- Reduction in off-track walking and stream side fishing.

#### Over the next five years:

- Upgrade Tramway track between Hird Street and caravan park.
  - Continue to have active presence to reduce off-track walking and fishing.
  - Review master plan and update actions and learnings.
- 

### Fairhaven to Eastern View [2015]

Objectives include biodiversity and heritage conservation, monitoring climate change and shoreline recession, weed control, protection of hooded plovers and habitat, and maintaining low-key visitor facilities.

#### Actions completed:

- Removed Tea-tree east of Coalmine Creek.
- Monitoring of weed regeneration.
- Restoration of dune blow outs with matting.
- Protection of breeding hooded plovers.

#### Over the next five years:

- Continue removal of Tea-tree.
  - Continue revegetation.
  - Continue to work closely with BirdLife to protect breeding hooded plovers and raise awareness.
  - Memorial Arch Master Plan dependent on collaboration with other key agencies.
-

# PLANNING AND ADAPTATION

## Scenario modelling with Deakin University

We are working with Deakin University to collate high-resolution satellite imagery and data layers on built form, vegetation, topography, coastline, to create a digital terrain model inclusive of land use, environmental factors, climate, open source data and geodemographic classification data.

Point Impossible to Jan Juc is the pilot site for this project. The aim of the project is to better understand and communicate how landscape and social, cultural and environmental attributes may change under different scenarios. Virtual reality will allow the community to experience a feeling of 'place' when testing different scenarios.

## Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program

The Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program (VCMP) monitors shorelines to identify which areas of Victoria's open coast and bays will be impacted by sea-level rise, and whether they are likely to lose or gain sediment.

In mid-2018, GORCC partnered with DELWP, Deakin University and Melbourne University, who are leading the VCMP, to collect data on wave dominated sandy shorelines and exposed cliff shorelines in Anglesea Bay.

Our staff and community volunteers are now trained in the use of drones to monitor the highly erodible Point Roadknight and Demons Bluff shoreline in Anglesea. As a result, we will be able to provide the community with information on expected longer-term impacts associated with climate change and support our decision-making and planning.



## Point Roadknight coastal erosion – challenges of climate change

We are investigating options to mitigate erosion at Point Roadknight in Anglesea where coastal processes are causing the shoreline and cliff to recede. This erosion is also eroding a midden and is creating a pinch point that will eventually impact vehicle and boat access to the beach access ramp. In 2019 we collected extensive data on coastal processes and ground water to inform the development of long-term options to mitigate erosion.

## Priority adaptation locations

To inform our Climate Change Management Framework, we have identified priority adaptation locations based on the GHD Cliff Stability Risk Assessment (June 2020) and GORCC Coastal Hazard Assessments (2020). It is predicted that all priority locations will require an adaptation response in the next 10-20 years, and an appropriate project will be initiated once identified trigger points have been reached.

Our Trigger Action Response Plan (TARP) guides when and how to activate a response in accordance with the threat level (low to very high) and is a key component of our cliff stability monitoring program.

Priority Adaptation Locations:

- Fishermans Beach – Fishermans Beach car park
- Lower Cosy Corner – Car park and toilet block
- Jan Juc – Bird Rock Lookout and the Surf Coast Walk (Sparrows Beach and near Rocky Point)
- Anglesea – The Anglesea Caravan Park and the Surf Coast Walk at Demons Bluff
- Point Roadknight – Boat trailer car park
- Eastern View to Moggs Creek – six car parks and one boat/beach access ramp
- Lorne – Central foreshore area (SLSC to Erskine River), the Erskine River caravan park and the Cypress Tree car park (North Lorne).

## FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

We manage critical visitor, community and commercial coastal infrastructure from the Port of Lorne, through to Fishermans Beach boat ramp in Torquay. Our built assets are valued at \$40 million dollars. We build, maintain and upgrade facilities including toilet amenities, beach access points, car parks and playgrounds to ensure the continued enjoyment of the coast.

Ageing infrastructure, coupled with the extreme coastal environment, climate change and increasing visitation is a major challenge. To meet the high expectations of the local and visitor community and to provide world-leading coastal experiences, we will continue to invest in high quality, sensitively built coastal infrastructure with a low impact on our environment.

### Achievements 2013 – 2018

- Replaced beach access stairs at Steps and Boobs in Jan Juc, and Fairhaven
- Realigned Surf Coast Walk and installed Demons Bluff boardwalk in Anglesea
- Installed universal access viewing platforms in Split Point, Aireys Inlet
- Redeveloped lookouts at Rocky Point in Jan Juc and Teddy's lookout in Lorne
- Redeveloped amenity blocks at three tier car park in Jan Juc, and Whites Beach and Elephant Walk in Torquay
- Redeveloped car park and pedestrian path network at Darian Road and access to the Torquay Sailing Club in Torquay
- Rebuilt the Swing Bridge in Lorne





# FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

## GORCC objectives

- Protect distinctive areas and landscapes by ensuring appropriate use and development of the marine and coastal environment.

## MACA objectives

- Promote a diversity of experiences in the marine and coastal environment.
- Promote the ecologically sustainable use and development of the marine and coastal environment and its resources in appropriate areas.

## Five-year outcomes

13. We continue to manage our infrastructure in accordance with our Asset Management Framework, including the Port of Lorne and boating infrastructure.
14. We continue to mitigate safety risks.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS	Timeline
<b>16. Use and visitation</b>	
Develop a digital application to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easily report and record maintenance to improve response time to address the maintenance requirement</li> <li>• Include a 'Guide to the beaches of the Surf Coast' to identify suitable areas and access for different beach users and activities such as swimming, surfing abilities, fishing, dog walking, young families, disabled and elderly</li> <li>• Provide guides that accommodate culturally and linguistically diverse audiences</li> </ul>	Year 3
Investigate and implement ways to collate and analyse visitation metrics, patterns of use and levels of satisfaction	Year 1
Publish a calendar of foreshore events to inform visitors, local businesses and the community and help them plan	Year 1
<b>PARTNERS</b> Community, Surf Coast Shire, Great Ocean Road Tourism	
<b>17. Universal and emergency access</b>	
Review provision of universal and emergency access	Year 2
Identify priority areas for all-abilities	Year 2
Implement universal and emergency access at priority locations	Year 3
<b>PARTNERS</b> DELWP, Community, Surf Coast Shire, Victoria Police, Parks Victoria, CFA, LSV	
<b>18. Active transport</b>	
Review opportunities to encourage active transport	Year 2
Implement opportunities to encourage active transport including drop-off parking, bicycle facilities, including in caravan parks	Year 3
Support Surf Coast Shire to implement bicycle lanes within adjacent road reserves	Ongoing
Advocate for improved public and community transport	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Community, Surf Coast Shire	

## EVERYDAY ACTIONS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the foreshore environment by undertaking maintenance activities to empty beach bins, pick up rubbish and identify general maintenance repairs and issues.</li> <li>• Monitor and work with external contractors to ensure suitable service and standard levels are maintained (cleaners, rubbish collection).</li> <li>• Undertake additional cleaning of amenity blocks on an as needs basis, including out of hours.</li> <li>• Close and rehabilitate surplus or inappropriate access tracks or facilities.</li> <li>• Continue to develop and implement our Asset Management Framework, including use of GIS software to ensure built assets and infrastructure are maintained, upgraded, replaced or decommissioned as required, as part of the Long-term Financial Plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manage the Port of Lorne in accordance with the Business Plan and Safety and Environment Management Plan. Including bi-monthly audits to determine minor works and maintenance activities.</li> <li>• Work with Better Boating Victoria to review and sustainably manage boat access at Fishermans Beach, Point Roadknight and Point Grey.</li> <li>• Maintain lawn areas at priority locations, including Lorne, Elephant Walk, and Cosy Corner. Ensure watering regimes are compliant with relevant legislation and restrictions and consider future water security.</li> <li>• Maintain landscapes and vegetation through regular pruning, mowing, edging and planting.</li> <li>• Manage our tree population in accordance with our internal Tree Management Guidelines and Policy.</li> <li>• Manage our tree population within activity and recreational nodes for safety, landscape amenity, climate change and biodiversity.</li> <li>• Undertake site preparation and provide assistance to public events (festival, markets, club events).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After establishment of the new Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority, review compliance arrangements with Surf Coast Shire for the management of social activities and behaviour including illegal camping, littering, dog regulations and sleeping in vehicles.</li> <li>• Continue to work with DELWP to review Crown land reserve regulations.</li> <li>• Complete risk audits of infrastructure and facilities for inclusion and action in the Coastal Reserves and Caravan Park Risk Register.</li> <li>• Complete risk audits of signage for inclusion and action in the Coastal Reserves and Caravan Park Risk Register.</li> <li>• Use pedestrian counters/trackers to monitor use of key assets such as boardwalks and amenity blocks.</li> <li>• Manage maintenance email inbox that informs the maintenance register and daily works plan.</li> <li>• Complete annual capital expenditure program.</li> <li>• Maintain and replace chairs and furniture.</li> </ul>
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## Asset Management Framework

As a coastal Crown land manager, we are required to respond to the recommendations in *Protecting Victoria's Coastal Assets* by the Victorian Auditor-Generals Office, including the preparation of a strategic document which outlines how our built assets will be managed using a targeted and risk-based approach.

Work to develop our Asset Management Framework, including auditing and mapping of our coastal asset, commenced in 2019. The ongoing program of works will include service level targets, asset degradation profiles, and asset life-cycles, as well as treatment types, what triggers them, and their impact on service levels.

## FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE



### Staircase replacement at Steps and Boobs in Jan Juc

In June 2019, a helicopter was used to airlift a new staircase into place at popular surf access point Steps and Boobs in Jan Juc.

The replacement was required as a result of storm damage that occurred in 2017. Following a detailed design process using geotechnical and coastal engineers, works to demolish, construct and install the new staircase at Steps and Boobs is now complete. The lower tier replacement was constructed using reinforced materials and non-slip fibre treads to provide safer access and withstand the predicted impacts of climate change.

The project was funded by our Capital Works Program and a \$60,000 grant from DELWP's Coastal Environments Grant Program.

### Beach patrol initiative with Surf Coast Shire Council

In a new initiative with Surf Coast Shire, we trialled an all-terrain vehicle to patrol beaches over the busy summer season. Our rangers focused on public safety, dog and horse regulations, litter control, protection of dunes and vegetation, illegal camping and wildlife offences. We will continue to work with Surf Coast Shire to undertake this important work over summer 2019-20.



## SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

Significant financial resources are required in order for us to fulfil our role and responsibilities across the land we manage. Our commercial operations allow us to provide a diversity of coastal experiences and deliver day-to-day activities, environmental programs and capital projects.

Our caravan parks in Torquay, Anglesea and Lorne contribute more than 90% of our revenue. They cover 35 hectares of Crown land and provide more than 1,600 affordable and accessible accommodation opportunities:

- 800 casual campsites that are powered and unpowered for campervans, caravans and tents
- 700 twelve-month permits that allow campers use of a site for 180 nights over a 12-month period
- 100 cabins, pods and glamping tents providing 1 to 3 bedrooms.

Our Caravan Park Strategy [to be completed in 2020] will direct the provision of affordable and accessible services and programs to encourage Victorians and visitors to stay and enjoy our coast throughout the year. Our aim is to provide the best coastal holiday experience.

The *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* enables us to enter into lease and licence agreements with third parties to occupy and use Crown land. We currently manage 21 leases and 20 licences of cafes, restaurants, surf schools, food vans and markets that operate on our coastal Crown land.

In 2018-19 we permitted and supported the operation of more than 200 community and corporate events including music festivals, markets, weddings and filming and photography permits. These events help create active communities and sustainably contribute to local economies.

### Achievements 2013 – 2018

- We are the largest accommodation provider on the Great Ocean Road, offering 525,000 visitor nights annually
- Increased direct revenue from \$7 million in 2013-14 to over \$14.4 million in 2018-19
- Resumed management of the Anglesea Family Caravan Park in 2017
- Developed and implemented master plans for Queens Park Caravan Park and Anglesea Family Caravan Park
- Grew our off-season with initiatives including the Lorne Glamping Fiesta

### GORCC objectives

- Protect distinctive areas and landscapes by ensuring appropriate use and development of the marine and coastal environment.
- Grow commercial operations through strategic business development.
- Provide coastal experiences that support sustainable visitation and tourism.
- Support local business and local, state and national economies.

### MACA objectives

- Promote a diversity of experiences in the marine and coastal environment.
- Promote the ecologically sustainable use and development of the marine and coastal environment and its resources in appropriate areas.

### Five-year outcomes

15. Our revenue and expenditure are delivered according to our Long-term Financial Plan.
16. Our commercial operations are managed to balance revenue with affordable accommodation and equitable access.

## SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

STRATEGIC ACTIONS	Timeline
<b>19. Caravan park master plans</b>	
Continue to implement improvements as part of the Anglesea and Queens Park master plans	Ongoing
Develop master plans for Torquay and Lorne (Erskine, Kia Ora, Ocean Road and Top Bank)	Year 2
Assist Cumberland River lease holders to prepare a master plan to deliver capital improvements as required in the 2015 lease agreement	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Caravan park community	
<b>20. Caravan Park Strategy</b>	
Develop overarching caravan park brand while recognising individual park experiences and characteristics	Year 1
Facilitate the assessment and accreditation of caravan parks through the star rating and eco-tourism accreditation	Year 2
Review current land use to maximise peak period camping opportunities	Year 3
<b>PARTNERS</b> Caravan park community	
<b>21. Commercial operations</b>	
Develop and use a standard process for assessing community proposals for commercial activities on the coast that compares risks and benefits	Year 2
Undertake a feasibility study to identify opportunities to expand commercial operations and maximise revenue	Ongoing
Implement commercial opportunities that are consistent with policy, legislation and community aspirations	Ongoing
Adapt financial plans and conduct regular cash flow analysis in response to COVID-19.	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Community, DELWP	
<b>22. Lease and licence holders</b>	
Ensure buildings and facilities such as recreational clubs are available for use by the community through the establishment and monitoring of agreed targets	Year 2
Annually review surf school numbers, operating times and locations to reflect the increasing use of beaches by the general public and to minimise disruption and conflict	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Permit / lease / licence holders	
<b>23. Event Policy</b>	
Develop and use an event framework, in line with the policy, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage off-season activation</li> <li>Ensure sustainable use and manage community expectations</li> <li>Encourage events that promote the protection of the marine and coastal environment</li> </ul>	Year 1
<b>PARTNERS</b> Surf Coast Shire	

## EVERYDAY ACTIONS

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure our caravan parks continue to provide the best coastal holiday experience with exceptional customer service, accessible facilities and engaging activities.</li> <li>• Manage caravan parks in accordance with relevant policy and legislation including the <i>Residential Tenancies Act 1997</i>, and 2010 regulations.</li> <li>• Manage our parks, and ensure our clients comply with the caravan park and camping rules developed in accordance with the <i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i> to provide a safe and enjoyable holiday.</li> <li>• Undertake new works and upgrades consistent with master plans.</li> <li>• Implement sustainability actions, such as LED lighting and solar, and water saving to decrease our environmental impact and increase economic benefit.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate and share information with other Crown land caravan park managers for mutual benefit.</li> <li>• Review accommodation and package prices annually to ensure they are commercially competitive, and revenue keeps pace with maintenance requirements and future investment, while maintaining principles of accessibility and affordability.</li> <li>• Diversify accommodation options while maintaining camping to ensure affordable holiday experiences and increase off-peak use, enhance visitor experience and increase revenue.</li> <li>• Offer combined environmental education and accommodation packages.</li> <li>• Develop accommodation and packages with local business offers.</li> <li>• Continue to identify business opportunities to partner with local businesses, community groups and stakeholders.</li> <li>• Offer a full suite of summer entertainment and education activities for campers.</li> <li>• Establish and maintain star ratings at Torquay 4 star, Anglesea 4.5 star, and Lorne 3.5 star.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all leases and licences align with the Leasing Policy for Crown land in Victorian 2010 and the requirements of the <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i>.</li> <li>• Explore opportunities with lease and licence holders to encourage best contemporary and sustainable practices and behavior which also create economic benefit such as solar, waste, recycling.</li> <li>• Provide support to lease and licence holders to ensure they operate effectively and sustainably using best practice environmental guidelines.</li> <li>• Review leasing, licensing and permit system annually for commercial activities on coastal Crown land to ensure the number and types of activities, fees, and other requirements remain current and are best-practice.</li> <li>• Advocate to relevant government agencies and other bodies to secure suitable funding contributions.</li> <li>• Seek and secure suitable external grant funds that help achieve identified priorities.</li> </ul> |
|---|--|--|



# SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

## Master plans

Master plans inform the long-term investment needed to deliver upgrades to ageing infrastructure so that the parks are welcoming and accessible. The master plan created for the Anglesea Family Caravan Park provides a template for the development of similar plans for the Torquay and Lorne caravan parks.

### Queens Park Caravan Park [2015]

Nature-based accommodation. Retain and enhance natural values: bush, natural beauty, panoramic views.

#### Actions completed:

- Redevelopment of the heritage listed Spotters Hut.
- Installation of a glamping tent.

#### Over the next five years:

- Increase accommodation type and diversity, via the provision of tent platforms and glamping tents.
- Upgrade existing amenity block.
- New indoor - outdoor camp kitchen.

### Anglesea Family Caravan Park [2019]

Retain the village feel by enhancing the camper experience, improving the natural environment, acknowledge heritage, update existing amenities and provide new sustainable facilities.

#### Actions completed:

- New adventure playground and multi court.
- Kitchen and games room internal redevelopment.

#### Over the next five years:

- Redevelopment of the recreational area, including pool precinct.
- Additional parking.
- Amenity block upgrades.

### Guided Surf Coast Walk

In 2018, we partnered with the Wadawurrung to provide a unique coastal experience - the Guided Surf Coast Walk.

It is the only tour of its kind - Corrina Eccles, a Wadawurrung woman, leads participants on a three-day guided walk from Point Impossible to Aireys Inlet, sharing cultural knowledge and stories of Wadawurrung Country and Aboriginal heritage. GORCC staff provide environmental education and awareness.

The Guided Surf Coast Walk is an innovative tour that embraces cultural values, stories and coastal experiences.

### Surf Coast Walk

In 2012, we partnered with Surf Coast Shire and Regional Development Victoria to upgrade and extend walking tracks between Point Impossible and Fairhaven. The \$1.35 million redevelopment of the Surf Coast Walk transformed the quality of the track and associated facilities, resulting in 44 kilometres of world-class walking tracks that offer easy access to pristine beaches and breathtaking views.

# GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION

We apply good governance to our management of the coastal and marine environment to meet community expectations of transparency, accountability and participation.

We operate within a complex governance framework and are accountable to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change through legislation which affects the management, use and enjoyment of the marine and coast environment.

See page 56 for legislative and policy context.

## Achievements 2013 – 2018

- Developed a proud and professional workforce that has grown from 30 full time employees in 2013 to over 60 full time equivalent employees in 2019
- Developed and implemented our Long-term Financial Plan and Asset Management Framework
- Undertook Coastal User Survey to gauge community satisfaction, enable our community to provide feedback, and collect data for comparative monitoring
- Developed our internal Statement of Purpose and values and behaviours
- Undertook a corporate sustainability audit and developed an action plan to improve efficiencies to meet our sustainability aspirations

## GORCC objectives

- Build a strong organisational culture that is sustainable, transparent, accountable and responsive to future challenges.

## MACA objectives

- Acknowledge traditional owner groups' knowledge, rights and aspirations for land and sea country.
- Promote the ecologically sustainable use and development of the marine and coastal environment and its resources in appropriate areas.

## Five-year outcomes

17. We transition successfully to the new Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority.
18. We continue to meet our corporate and regulatory requirements.
19. We adopt best contemporary environmental and sustainable practices and require all new lease/licence and permit holders to do the same.

## GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION

STRATEGIC ACTIONS	Timeline
<b>24. Reserve Regulations <i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i></b>	
Review and update reserve regulations so they provide for the full range of activities and manage issues	Year 1
Communicate reserve regulations across a range of media to ensure coastal users understand and are aware of expectations	Year 1
<b>PARTNERS</b> DELWP, Community, Coastal Crown land managers	
<b>25. Adopt elements of DELWP's Munganin – Gadhaba Aboriginal Inclusion Plan</b>	
Develop related strategy and protocols that could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Statement of Commitment and Partnership with Traditional Owners</li> <li>• A GORCC Aboriginal cultural identity</li> <li>• Partnership arrangements with Traditional Owners</li> <li>• Ensuring all planning for coast and marine areas considers and aligns with Country Plans</li> </ul>	Year 1 and ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Wadawurrung, Eastern Maar, Traditional Owners, First Peoples - State Relations, DELWP	
<b>26. Customer Relationship Management platform [CRM]</b>	
Implement a CRM to collect data from coastal users, volunteers and all stakeholders to improve our relationships and interactions	Year 1, 3, and 5
<b>PARTNERS</b> Community, DELWP	
<b>27. Sustainability</b>	
Implement the Sustainability Action Plan annually	Ongoing
Review action plan annually and embed current best-practice actions	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> Caravan Park community, Barwon Water, Surf Coast Shire, DELWP	
<b>28. Transition to GORCAPA</b>	
Work with the Great Ocean Road Reform team to identify and implement strategic and operational actions that ensure GORCC's effective transition to GORCAPA	Ongoing
Support the Victorian Government to implement actions within the 2018 Great Ocean Road Action Plan	Ongoing
<b>PARTNERS</b> DELWP, Otway Coast Committee, Parks Victoria and other Coastal Crown land managers	



## EVERYDAY ACTIONS

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report annually against the Statement of Expectations issued by the Minister for Environment, Energy and Climate Change.</li> <li>• Adhere to relevant State Government governance policy and guidelines including conduct, financial management, and risk management.</li> <li>• Adopt recommendations from all relevant audits and reports prepared by the Victorian Auditor-General's Office.</li> <li>• Report to relevant government departments including Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner and Office of the Valuer-General.</li> <li>• Implement key internal strategies and plans including the Strategic Risk Plan, Long-term Financial Plan, and Business Continuity Plan.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CEO and Executive Leadership Team report regularly to Board.</li> <li>• Support DELWP to transition our organisation successfully to GORCAPA.</li> <li>• Support DELWP, Parks Vic and local government to review and rationalise land management areas.</li> <li>• Improve operation efficiencies, including best practice information technology through Information Management Framework, Data Security Framework, and integration of IT systems.</li> <li>• Implement and review the Sustainability Action Plan annually to embed new actions and remove completed and/or unviable actions.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and support staff to transition to GORCAPA through change programs, performance development plans, internal communications and other initiatives.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|---|



# GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION

## Staff culture

Our purpose	How we do this	What we don't do
<p>We want to be an organisation that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is respected and trusted for world-leading coastal protection and experiences for all</li> <li>• ensures everyone feels valued and wakes up in the morning wanting to come to work where we can make a difference.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are professional, approachable and communicate thoughtfully.</li> <li>• We find solutions to get things done, safely.</li> <li>• If there is a better way, we share it.</li> <li>• We make GORCC an enjoyable workplace everyday.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We do not dismiss or disregard customer or staff issues and points of view.</li> <li>• We do not tolerate complacency.</li> <li>• We do not wait for things to deteriorate before taking action.</li> <li>• We are not rude to each other.</li> </ul>

## Sustainability Audit and Action Plan

Action 109 in our previous Coastal Management Plan was to 'review and improve the GORCC Resource Efficiency program to minimise power and water use and generation of waste across the business'.

In 2018 a whole-of-business sustainability audit was undertaken to understand our current resource use (energy, waste and water) and inform the development of an action plan to improve efficiencies and meet sustainability aspirations by benchmarking GORCC against other relevant government agencies.

The subsequent action plan provides us with a roadmap to transition findings from the sustainability audit into tangible outcomes. It is split into discrete actions (one-off projects), ongoing actions (day-to-day business), and investigative actions (investigation is required

before implementation) and is dynamic to allow emerging actions to be embedded along with the removal of completed and/or unviable actions.

Certain ongoing and investigation actions are envisioned to transition into discrete actions. Such transition will primarily be in response to available grants/schemes and/or an investigation determining an appropriate course of action.

Twenty-one actions are approved for completion during the 2019-2020 financial year, ranging from the installation of solar at the Torquay and Lorne caravan parks, conducting bin/waste audits and improving bin labelling, utilising our caravan park as public recycling points for phones, batteries, e-waste, and joining the Sustainability Victoria Take 2 Pledge.

# MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

## Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Monitoring the implementation of actions is required to ensure we reach our objectives and outcomes.

Our Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI) framework ensures actions are implemented and our objectives are achieved. It also provides a mechanism to identify opportunities for adaptive management and continuous improvement.

This plan details local management until 2025, acknowledging the establishment of GORCAPA.

Yearly implementation plans will be used to inform our annual Capital Expenditure Program. Post-implementation we will:

- Annually review actions to evaluate progress
- Identify outstanding actions and barriers to implementation
- Report annually to DELWP and the community via our Annual Report.

## Adaptive management

New information, research, policy/legislation and monitoring data will inform management decisions, and management approaches will be adapted to respond to these emerging issues.

Adaptive management involves an ongoing program of management and monitoring that can be adjusted over time as our understanding improves.

Results from our annual monitoring, reporting and evaluation may lead to the adaptive improvement of the CMMP, including changes to our strategic and everyday actions.





# COASTAL PLANNING AND POLICY FRAMEWORK

	Federal	Victorian		
<i>Act</i>	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	<i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i>	<i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i>	<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>
Regulations and Guidelines	Significant Impact Guidelines – Matters of National Environmental Significance	Crown Land (Reserves) Regulations  Torquay and Jan Juc Foreshore Regulations 2009	Protected Flora Controls and Protected Flora List  Coastal Moonah Woodland Action Statement 141	Surf Coast Shire Planning Scheme  Surf Coast Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (TBA)
Approval Process	Referral	Land manager consent	Protected flora permit	Planning permit
Directions and Recommendations	<p>Country Plans are critical guiding documents for our decision making and management in the protection, use and development of coastal and marine areas.</p> <p>Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability Victoria: State of the Environment Report, State of the Environment - Great Ocean Road (TBA)</p> <p>Victorian Auditor-General's Office: Protecting Victoria's Coastal Assets, Public Participation in Government Decision Making</p> <p>Victorian Environmental Assessment Council: Assessment of the Values of Victoria's Marine Environment, Assessment of Victoria's Coastal Reserves</p> <p>The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility: Coastal Climate Change Adaptation Decision Support</p>			

<i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i>	<i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i>	<i>Great Ocean Road and Environs Protection Bill (TBA)</i>	<i>Water Act 1989/Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act)</i>
<i>Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018</i>	<p>Marine and Coastal Policy</p> <p>Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014</p> <p>New Marine and Coastal Strategy (TBA)</p> <p>Great Ocean Road Coast Committee Coastal and Marine Management Plan 2020-2025</p>	<p>Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (TBA)</p> <p>Great Ocean Road Action Plan 2018</p> <p>Great Ocean Road Planning Framework (TBA)</p>	<p>Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy</p> <p>Victorian Waterway Management Strategy</p> <p>Corangamite Regional Floodplain Management Strategy 2018-2028</p>
Cultural Heritage Management Plan, Cultural Heritage Permit, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Management Agreement	Marine and coastal consent	(TBA)	Artificial estuary mouth opening







# MAPS



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Short-term improvements from the Point Impossible to Jan Juc Master Plan (Draft)

1. Continue to provide sustainable access to beach and surf break while responding to climate change.
2. Improve understanding of Wadawurrung and environmental values through signage.
3. Investigate and implement options to manage beach user conflict.
4. Upgrade existing low-key facilities.
5. Allow natural coastal process to occur at Whites and Nude Beach and Point Impossible.
6. Work with the Wadawurrung to manage and care for country.
7. Continue to work closely with BirdLife to protect shorebirds and raise awareness.





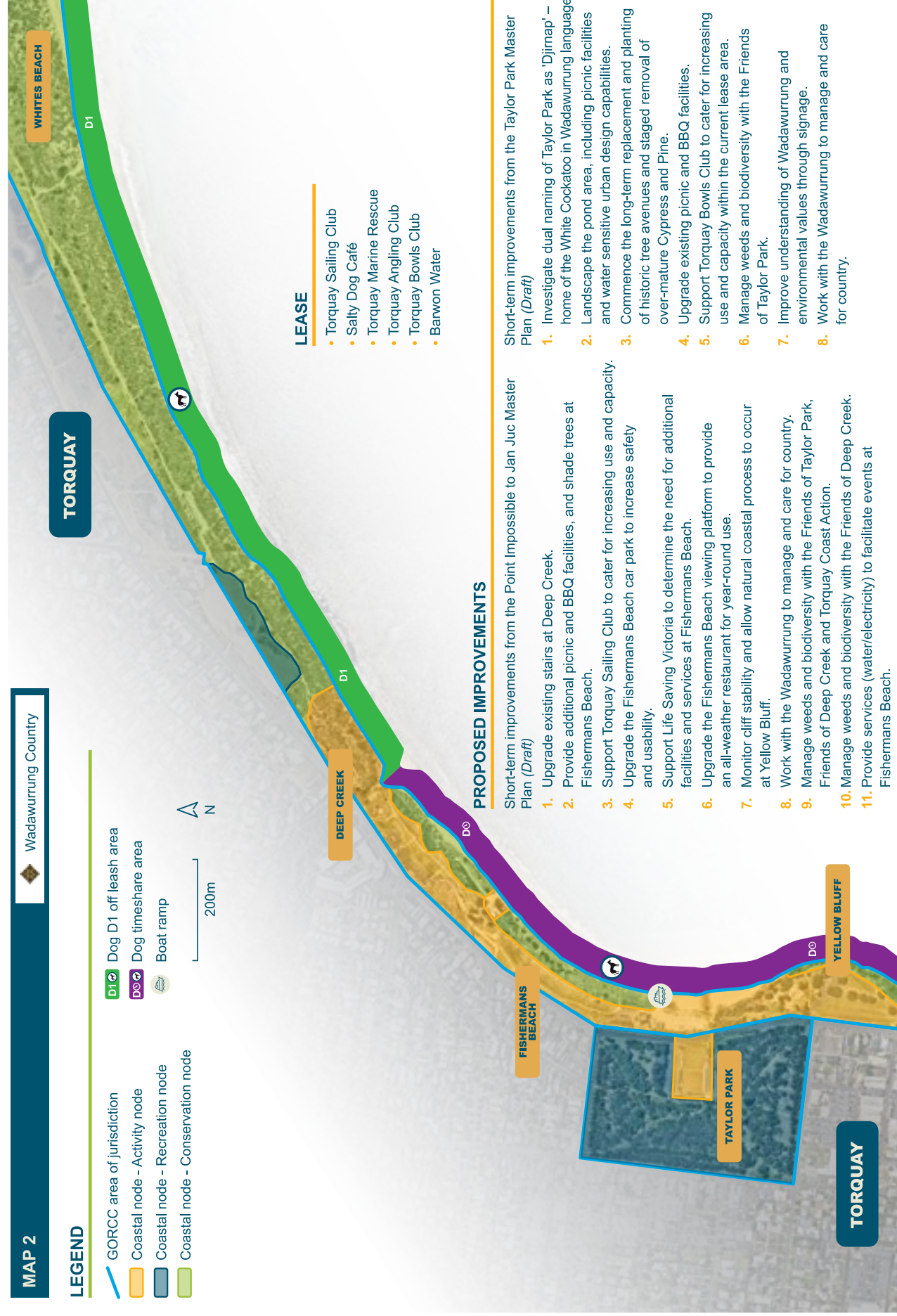
## MAP 2

Wadawurrung Country

### LEGEND

-  GORCC area of jurisdiction
-  Coastal node - Activity node
-  Coastal node - Recreation node
-  Coastal node - Conservation node

-  Dog D1 off leash area
-  Dog timeshare area
-  Boat ramp



### LEASE

- Torquay Sailing Club
- Salty Dog Café
- Torquay Marine Rescue
- Torquay Angling Club
- Torquay Bowls Club
- Barwon Water

### PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Short-term improvements from the Point Impossible to Jan Juc Master Plan (Draft)

1. Upgrade existing stairs at Deep Creek.
2. Provide additional picnic and BBQ facilities, and shade trees at Fishermans Beach.
3. Support Torquay Sailing Club to cater for increasing use and capacity.
4. Upgrade the Fishermans Beach car park to increase safety and usability.
5. Support Life Saving Victoria to determine the need for additional facilities and services at Fishermans Beach.
6. Upgrade the Fishermans Beach viewing platform to provide an all-weather restaurant for year-round use.
7. Monitor cliff stability and allow natural coastal process to occur at Yellow Bluff.
8. Work with the Wadawurrung to manage and care for country.
9. Manage weeds and biodiversity with the Friends of Taylor Park, Friends of Deep Creek and Torquay Coast Action.
10. Manage weeds and biodiversity with the Friends of Deep Creek.
11. Provide services (water/electricity) to facilitate events at Fishermans Beach.
12. Protect and replace Moonah at Yellow Bluff.

Short-term improvements from the Taylor Park Master Plan (Draft)

1. Investigate dual naming of Taylor Park as 'Djirnap' – home of the White Cockatoo in Wadawurrung language.
2. Landscape the pond area, including picnic facilities and water sensitive urban design capabilities.
3. Commence the long-term replacement and planting of historic tree avenues and staged removal of over-mature Cypress and Pine.
4. Upgrade existing picnic and BBQ facilities.
5. Support Torquay Bowls Club to cater for increasing use and capacity within the current lease area.
6. Manage weeds and biodiversity with the Friends of Taylor Park.
7. Improve understanding of Wadawurrung and environmental values through signage.
8. Work with the Wadawurrung to manage and care for country.



## MAP 3

Wadawurrung Country

### PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

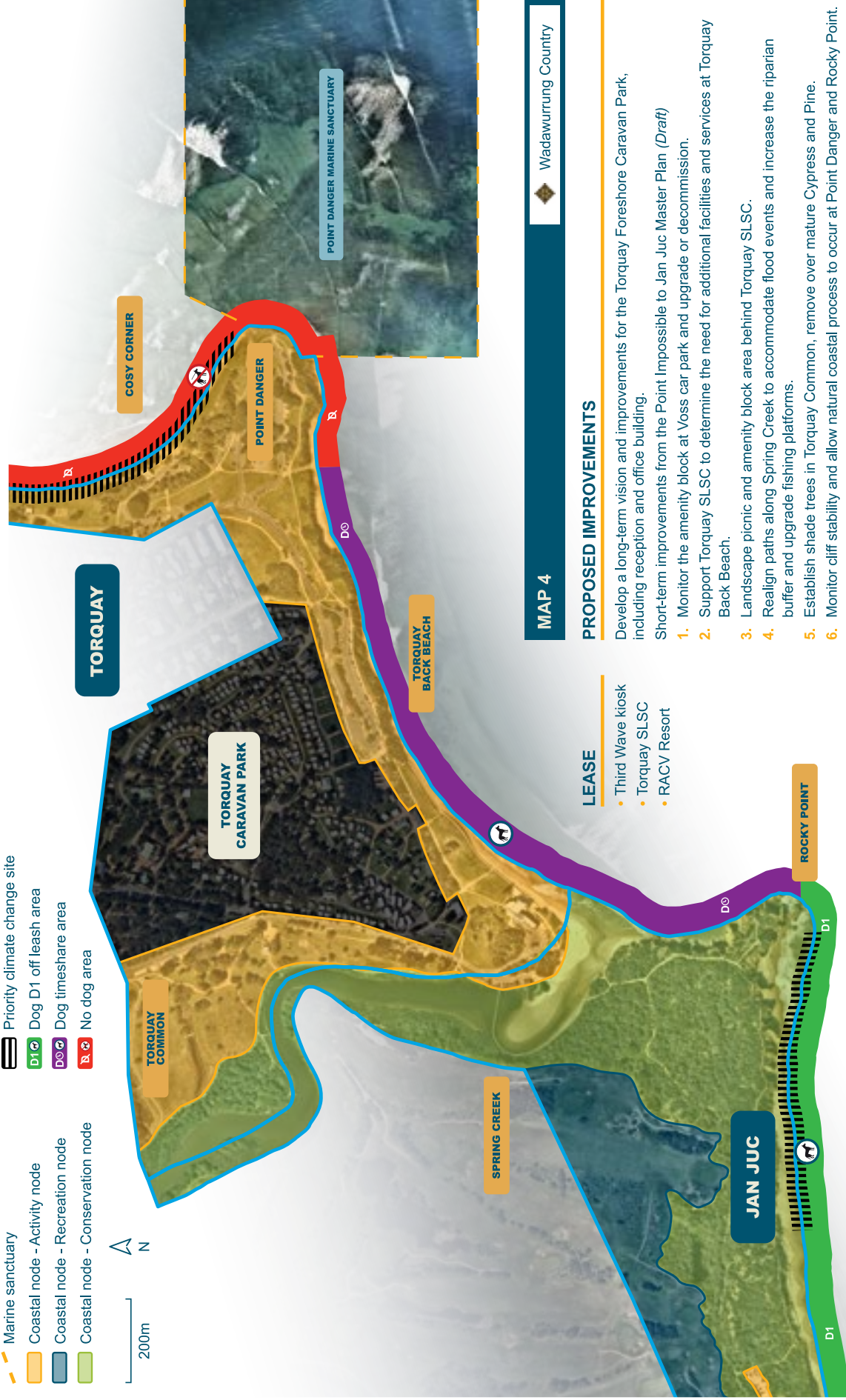
Short-term improvements from the Point Impossible to Jan Juc Master Plan (*Draft*)

1. Replace over-mature Cypress at Yellow Bluff and Elephant Walk with Moonah.
2. Establish vehicle drop off areas with Surf Coast Shire.
3. Investigate coastal processes subject to climate change and the impact on the promenade and sea wall at Torquay Front Beach.
4. Increase shade trees while retaining views.
5. Increase DDA access to Cosy Corner, including use of an accessible beaches wheelchair.
6. Upgrade the amenity block at Cosy Corner, including beach shower.
7. Manage weeds and biodiversity with the Friends of Cosy Corner.
8. Work with the Wadawurrung to manage and care for country.
9. Provide services (water/electricity) to facilitate events at Elephant Walk.



## LEGEND

- GORCC area of jurisdiction
- Marine sanctuary
- Coastal node - Activity node
- Coastal node - Recreation node
- Coastal node - Conservation node
- Coastal node - Caravan park
- Priority climate change site
- Dog D1 off leash area
- Dog timeshare area
- No dog area



MAP 4

Wadawurrung Country

## LEASE

- Third Wave kiosk
- Torquay SLSC
- RACV Resort

## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Develop a long-term vision and improvements for the Torquay Foreshore Caravan Park, including reception and office building.

Short-term improvements from the Point Impossible to Jan Juc Master Plan (Draft)

1. Monitor the amenity block at Voss car park and upgrade or decommission.
2. Support Torquay SLSC to determine the need for additional facilities and services at Torquay Back Beach.
3. Landscape picnic and amenity block area behind Torquay SLSC.
4. Realign paths along Spring Creek to accommodate flood events and increase the riparian buffer and upgrade fishing platforms.
5. Establish shade trees in Torquay Common, remove over mature Cypress and Pine.
6. Monitor cliff stability and allow natural coastal process to occur at Point Danger and Rocky Point.
7. Work with the Wadawurrung to manage and care for country.
8. Review and upgrade pedestrian connectivity at Point Danger.







## MAP 6

Wadawurrung Country

### PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Develop a long-term vision and improvements for the Anglesea Beach foreshore, including Four Kings. Support the redevelopment of the Anglesea Surf Life Saving Club.

Work with the Wadawurrung to manage and care for country.

Monitor cliff stability and allow natural coastal process to occur at Demons Bluff.

Maintain current beach access and dune fencing.

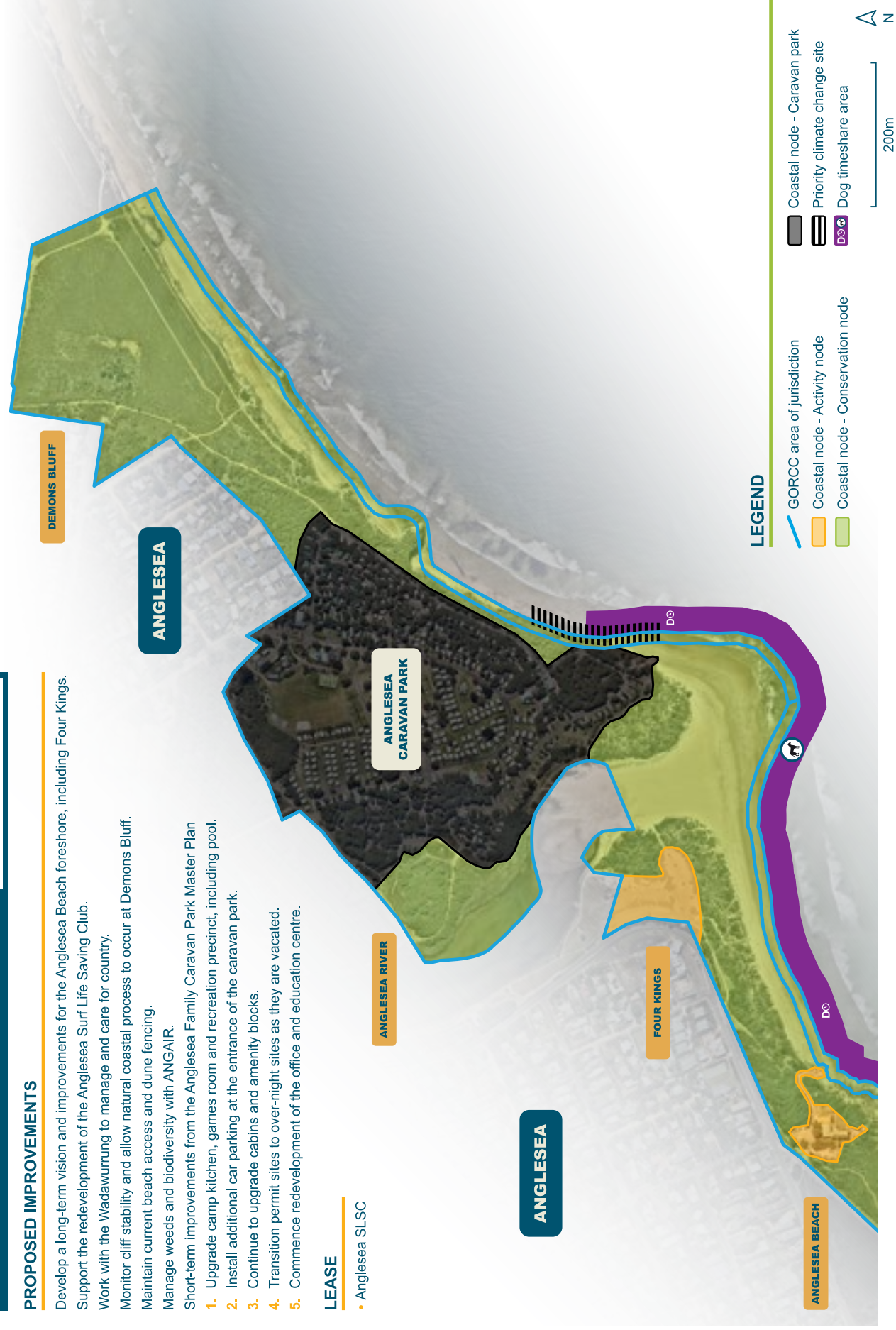
Manage weeds and biodiversity with ANGAIK.

Short-term improvements from the Anglesea Family Caravan Park Master Plan

1. Upgrade camp kitchen, games room and recreation precinct, including pool.
2. Install additional car parking at the entrance of the caravan park.
3. Continue to upgrade cabins and amenity blocks.
4. Transition permit sites to over-night sites as they are vacated.
5. Commence redevelopment of the office and education centre.

### LEASE

- Anglesea SLSC





## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Develop a long-term vision and improvements for the Point Roadknight foreshore, including the amenity block and café building.

Support the redevelopment of the Anglesea Motor Yacht Club.

Implement actions to mitigate erosion north of the boat ramp.

Support Surf Coast Shire to improve stormwater management.

Work with the Wadawurrung to manage and care for country.

Monitor cliff stability and allow natural coastal process to occur at Soapy Rocks.

Maintain current beach access and dune fencing.

Continue to work closely with BirdLife to protect shorebirds and raise awareness.

Manage weeds and biodiversity with ANGAIR and Friends of Aireys Inlet.

## LEASE

- Anglesea Motor Yacht Club





## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Work with the Wadawurrung to manage and care for country.  
 Maintain current beach access, walking trails and fencing.  
 Monitor cliff stability and allow natural coastal process to occur.  
 Manage weeds and biodiversity with ANGAIR and Friends of Aireys Inlet.



## LEGEND

- GORCC area of jurisdiction
- Coastal node - Recreation node
- Coastal node - Conservation node
- 🐕 Dog timeshare area

200m





MAP 9

Eastern Maar Country

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

- Develop a long-term vision and improvements for the Aireys Inlet and Painkalac Creek foreshore.
- Reconfigure the lighthouse car park to increase usability and safety.
- Review the long-term vision and improvements for Split Point.
- Work with the Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar to manage and care for country.
- Maintain current beach access, walking trails and fencing.
- Continue to work closely with BirdLife to protect shorebirds and raise awareness.
- Monitor cliff stability and allow natural coastal process to occur.
- Support Friends of Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary.



LEGEND

GORCC area of jurisdiction

Marine sanctuary

Coastal node - Recreation node

Coastal node - Conservation node

Shorebird protection zone (SPZ)

Dog D1 off leash area

Dog timeshare area

No dog area

N

200m

Wadawurrung Country

Eastern Maar Country

EAGLE ROCK MARINE SANCTUARY

SPLIT POINT

PAINKALAC CREEK

AIREYS INLET

FAIRHAVEN

## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Support the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority to review the draft Memorial Arch Master Plan and deliver long-term vision and improvements.

Work with the Eastern Maar to manage and care for country.

Monitor shoreline recession and allow natural coastal process to occur.

Improvements from the Fairhaven to Eastern View Master Plan

1. Continue removal of tea-tree and revegetation with indigenous dune species.
2. Continue to work closely with BirdLife to protect shorebirds and raise awareness.
3. Maintain current beach access, walking trails and fencing.
4. Review the long-term vision and improvements for Fairhaven, Moggs Creek, Eastern View.

## LEASE

- Fairhaven SLSC





### PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Develop a long-term vision and improvements for North Lorne.  
 Work with the Eastern Maar to manage and care for country.  
 Replace over-mature Cypress and Pine with indigenous canopy species.  
 Maintain current foreshore access, walking trails and fencing.  
 Manage weeds and biodiversity with LorneCare.  
 Monitor shoreline recession and allow natural coastal process to occur.



### LEGEND

- GORCC area of jurisdiction
- Coastal node - Recreation node
- Coastal node - Conservation node
- Priority climate change site
- Dog D1 off leash area
- Dog timeshare area

200m





## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Continue to upgrade cabins and amenity blocks within the Ocean Road and Kia Ora caravan parks. Develop a long-term vision and improvements for the Ocean Road, Top Bank, Erskine River and Kia Ora caravan parks.

Support redevelopment of the Swing bridge café.

Improvements from the Erskine River Master Plan

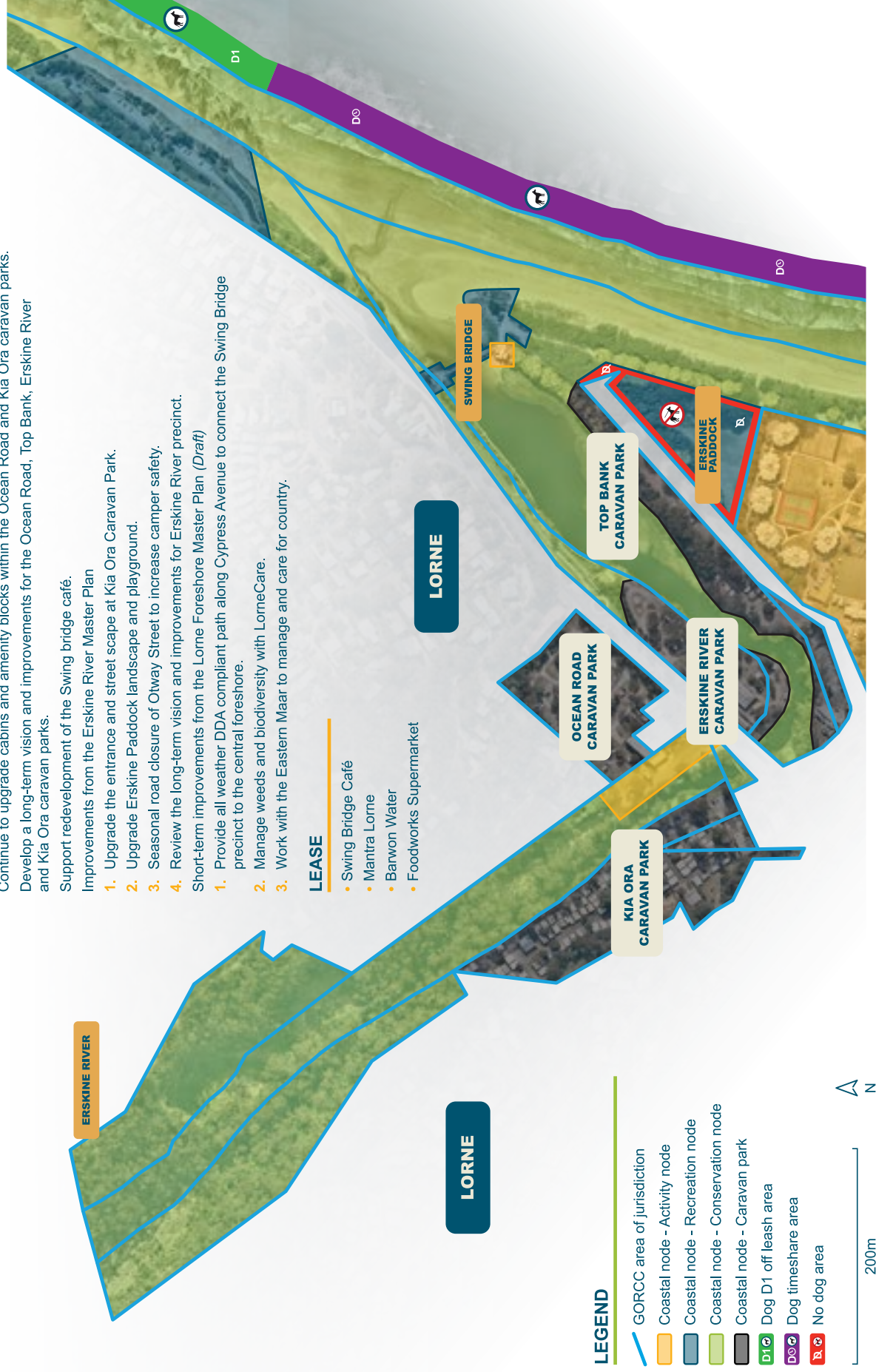
1. Upgrade the entrance and street scape at Kia Ora Caravan Park.
2. Upgrade Erskine Paddock landscape and playground.
3. Seasonal road closure of Otway Street to increase camper safety.
4. Review the long-term vision and improvements for Erskine River precinct.

Short-term improvements from the Lorne Foreshore Master Plan (Draft)

1. Provide all weather DDA compliant path along Cypress Avenue to connect the Swing Bridge precinct to the central foreshore.
2. Manage weeds and biodiversity with LorneCare.
3. Work with the Eastern Maar to manage and care for country.

## LEASE

- Swing Bridge Café
- Mantra Lorne
- Barwon Water
- Foodworks Supermarket



## MAP 13

Eastern Maar Country

### PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Short-term improvements from the Lorne Foreshore Master Plan *(Draft)*

1. Provide all weather DDA compliant path along Cypress Avenue to connect the Swing Bridge precinct to the central foreshore and along Doug Stirling to Point Grey.
2. Provide DDA compliant access from Mountjoy Parade to the foreshore.
3. Manage weeds and biodiversity with LorneCare.
4. Work with the Eastern Maar to manage and care for country.
5. Provide services (water/electricity) to facilitate events at Lorne foreshore.
6. Increase shade trees while retaining views.

### LEASE

- Mantra Lorne
- Sea baths
- Lorne SLSC





## PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Redevelop the Point Grey precinct.  
Support the Cumberland River Caravan Park to develop long term vision and improvements.  
Maintain the Port of Lorne.

Develop a long-term vision and improvements for the Slaughterhouse site.

Short-term improvements from the Queens Park Caravan Park Master Plan

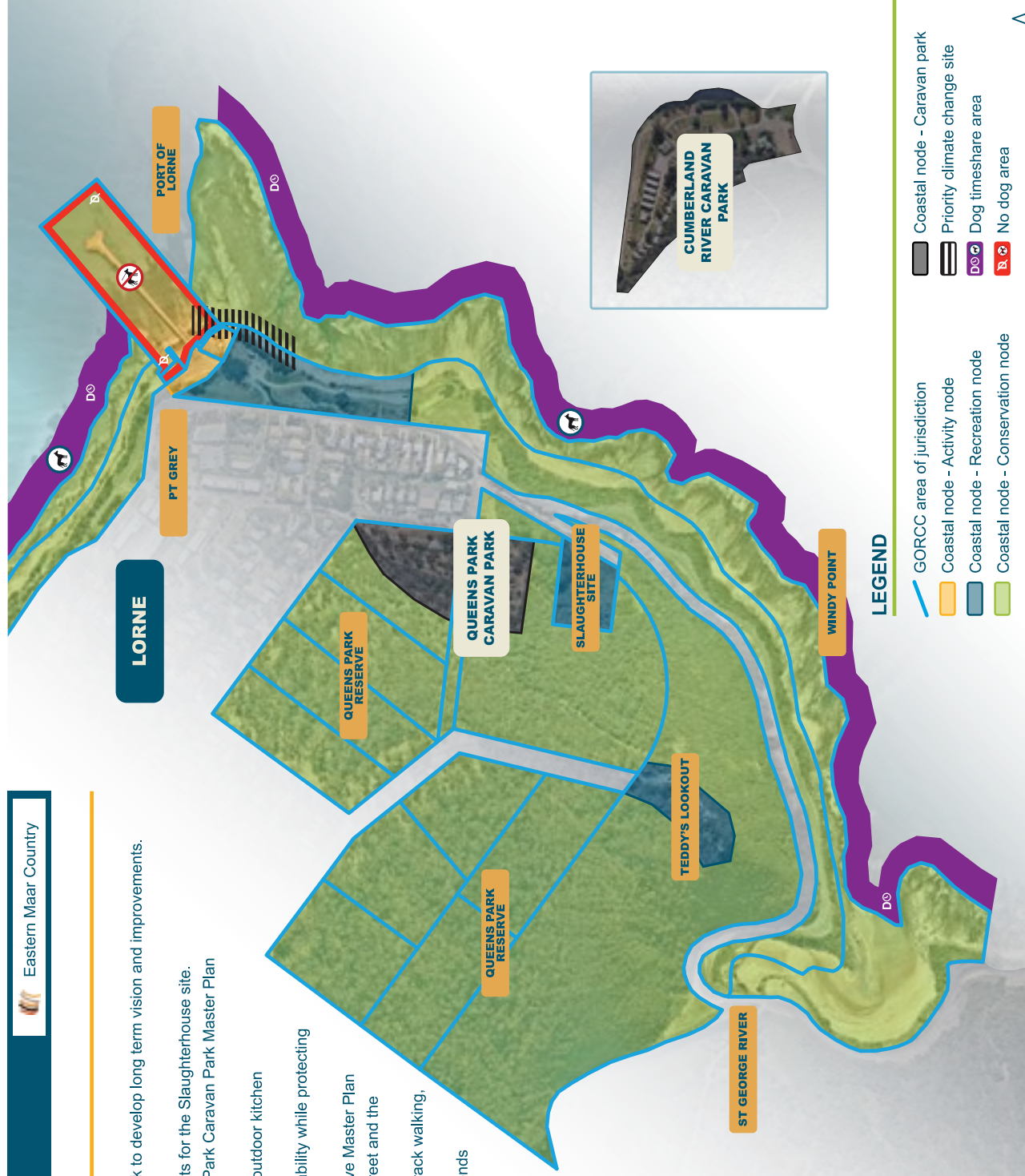
1. Restore the Spotters Hut.
2. Upgrade the existing amenity block and outdoor kitchen and dining area.
3. Install camping platforms to increase usability while protecting native vegetation.

Improvements from the Queens Park Reserve Master Plan

1. Upgrade tramway track between Hird Street and the caravan park.
2. Continue active presence to reduce off-track walking, and unpermitted fishing and camping.
3. Manage weeds and biodiversity with Friends of Queens Park.
4. Work with the Eastern Maar to manage and care for country.

## LEASE

- Pier Restaurant
- Lorne Aquatic and Angling Club
- Fish Co-op
- Axicom
- Parkside Inn P/L





The inside cover artwork is created by artist Billy-Jay O'Toole. Billy-Jay is a proud Wadawurrung man and local artist. He has created artwork for a number of corporations and his biggest achievement was designing Geelong Football Club's Indigenous Round guernsey in 2015. Billy-Jay is a Traditional Owner of Wadawurrung Country and has recently started working for the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee in the role of Indigenous Coastal Officer.

Artist's description:

This artwork represents the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee and the land they manage. The blue represents the ocean, with the big swirls in the ocean area representing the different colours you see throughout the ocean when looking from above. The cream colour, with symbols on top, represents the sand and the dunes along the coast. The green represents all the grass vegetation and trees on coastal Crown land. I have tried to incorporate as much of the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee story as I can in this painting, closely following the colours of the land and the logo, and adding traditional symbols into it.

Photography: Many photos throughout this report were taken by Chris McConville.

Disclaimer: The Great Ocean Road Coast Committee cannot guarantee that all information provided in this report is accurate and therefore disclaims liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

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## How to find out more about the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee

To stay up to date with the latest news from the coast, including our work, volunteering, events, and opportunities to get involved and have your say:


- Sign up to our Coast News and Volunteer News e-newsletters
- Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn
- Follow our Blog
- Keep an eye on the News and Current Works section of our website.

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# Otway Coast Committee Inc. Coastal and Marine Management Plan



Otway Coast Committee Inc.  
November, 2020

# Traditional Owner Acknowledgement

The Otway Coast Committee Incorporated (OCC) proudly acknowledges the Eastern Maar as the traditional custodians of the Otway coastline.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors and Elders, past and present.

We recognise and respect their unique cultural heritage, beliefs and intrinsic connection to their traditional lands, which continue to be important to them today.

We value the contribution their caring for Country makes to the land, coastlines, waterways and seascapes along the Great Ocean Road.

We support the need for genuine and lasting partnerships with the Eastern Maar People to understand their culture and connections to Country in the way we plan for, and manage, the Otway coastline. We embrace the spirit of reconciliation, working towards self-determination, equity of outcomes and an equal voice for Australia's First People. By integrating traditional ecological knowledge and land management practices with contemporary western ecological knowledge, we can deliver better environmental outcomes, make communities more liveable, and provide a great visitor experience.

Marine and Coastal Crown land managed by the OCC is within an area under negotiation for the Eastern Maar recognition and settlement agreement (1).



# Acknowledgements

This Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP) has been prepared by the Otway Coast Committee Incorporated (Inc.) with support from Coastal Planning Pty Ltd, Blue Sense Consulting Pty Ltd and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). The participation of staff and representatives from the Eastern Maar Traditional Owner Group is also acknowledged.

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## **Disclaimer**

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# Abbreviations

<b>CCMA</b>	<b>Corangamite Catchment Management Authority</b>
<b>CFA</b>	Country Fire Authority
<b>CMMP</b>	Coastal and Marine Management Plan
<b>CoM</b>	Committee of Management
<b>COS</b>	Colac Otway Shire Council
<b>DELWP</b>	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
<b>GORCC</b>	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee
<b>GORCAPA</b>	Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority
<b>GORRT</b>	Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism
<b>Inc.</b>	Incorporated
<b>LSV</b>	Life Saving Victoria
<b>OCC</b>	Otway Coast Committee Incorporated
<b>OH&amp;S</b>	Occupational Health and Safety
<b>RRV</b>	Regional Roads Victoria
<b>SOLN</b>	Southern Otway Landcare Network
<b>VAGO</b>	Victorian Auditor Generals Office

# From the Minister

*To be developed upon approval of Final Coastal and Marine Management Plan.*

## Executive Summary

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* requires the development of a coastal and marine management plan (CMMP) by marine and coastal Crown land managers. This CMMP is a public document and once finalised will be approved by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. The CMMP establishes an agreement between the Crown land manager, in this case, the Otway Coast Committee Incorporated (OCC), a voluntary Committee of Management, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and the community. The CMMP sets the direction for the future local management of an area of marine and coastal Crown land in Victoria.

The CMMP for the OCC managed area is being developed in two stages consisting of the overarching CMMP (this document) and the *Community Infrastructure Plan*, a joint project with the Colac Otway Shire (COS) which provides the detailed planning for the areas of Apollo Bay, Marengo and Skenes Creek.

The OCC is accountable to the Victorian Government, via DELWP, for the efficient and effective governance and management of the coastal public land under its control. The marine and coastal Crown land reserves managed by the OCC provide significant economic benefits for local communities and are managed to operate sustainably with minimal environmental impacts. These coastal reserves provide an inspiring and memorable setting for people living along or visiting the Otway coastline, and they complement the adjacent Great Otway National Park.

A coastal and marine management plan sets out the strategic approach to marine and coastal planning. It considers coastal processes and climate change, environmental, cultural and community values. The CMMP addresses the principles outlined in the *Marine and Coastal Policy, 2020*. The planning and management of our highly valued marine and coastal environments will ensure it is available to current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to enjoy similar benefits.

The long-term vision for the CMMP is: *The Otway coast's natural and cultural values, its heritage features and the dramatic Great Ocean Road landscapes are protected, appreciated and provide an outstanding experience for all.*

The vision reflects the aspirations of the community, incorporates the directions of *Marine and Coastal Policy, 2020* and is aligned to the vision developed by the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee (GORCC) for its CMMP.

Implementation of the CMMP will be guided by the planning and decision pathway and detailed planning for use and development. This will ensure the sustainable use of natural coastal resources, and that development on the coast is located within existing modified environments where the demand for development is evident and the impact can be managed.

A new authority, the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA) will commence in 2020, replacing the OCC and other land managers along the Great Ocean Road. This CMMP will provide the foundational planning for GORCAPA to progress strategic actions and day to day management activities during the period of transition.

Anthony Alfренко  
**General Manager**  
**Otway Coast Committee Inc.**

# 1. Introduction

This *Coastal and Marine Management Plan* (CMMP) provides the strategic direction for the management of marine and coastal Crown land managed by the Otway Coast Committee Incorporated (OCC). The CMMP is a requirement of the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* and in addition to land managed by the OCC, it considers matters on the coast that impact on the marine environment and those that cross different land management arrangements.

The CMMP identifies the values of the marine and coast and clarifies the issues and opportunities for management. Management will be guided by a strategic framework including the vision, goals and interim management outcomes for the five-year planning horizon. A set of strategic actions and an initial set of precinct scale actions will form the basis of implementation.

## Managing the Otway coastline

The Otway Coast Committee is a state government body appointed by the Victorian Minister for Environment and Climate Change. The OCC is responsible for managing 28.5 km of coastal Crown land between Marengo and Separation Creek along the heritage-listed Great Ocean Road.

The OCC was established in 2009 from the amalgamation of the Apollo Bay-Kennett River Public Reserves Committee of Management and the smaller Wye River Foreshore Committee of Management. Committee members are appointed under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* for a term of three years by the Minister and are selected through a public, skills-based expression of interest process. Committee members meet regularly to oversee and provide strategic direction to the organisation. Operations are overseen by a General Manager with support from employees, contractors and a network of volunteers.

The primary role of the OCC is to manage marine and coastal Crown land reserves and their values on behalf of the State for the use and enjoyment of the community and visitors including future generations. In fulfilling this role, under Part 3 of the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* the OCC holds a variety of responsibilities and powers.

### Management area

---

The OCC management area is made up of many reserves totalling an area of 1,422.53 ha as set out in Table 1 (see Appendix 1 for detailed information on Crown land parcels).

The area includes five precincts that incorporate activity and recreation areas adjacent to local townships. The Great Ocean Road forms the boundary for much of the reserve (see Figure 1).

The OCC manages assets and facilities associated with the Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve and the Wye River Foreshore camping ground. The OCC is also responsible for managing the leases for part of the Wye River Valley Caravan Park (Big4), the Apollo Bay Golf Club, and Great Ocean Road Visitor Information Centre (2). In December 2020, the lease arrangements for the Marengo, Skenes Creek, and Kennett River caravan parks will sunset and management will transfer back to the OCC.

Three surf life saving clubs (Wye River, Kennett River and Apollo Bay) are also located on land managed by the OCC. The current lease arrangements for surf life saving clubs are informal and exist between DELWP and Life Saving Victoria.

Many other government agencies have associated responsibilities for marine and coastal management in the local area. Parks Victoria is the designated land manager for marine and coastal Crown land that makes up the Great Otway National Park and Regional Roads Victoria (RRV) is responsible for the Great Ocean Road. Colac Otway Shire Council (COS) manages a range of municipal services, the Apollo Bay Harbour and other areas of public land that interface with OCC managed reserves and assets.



**Table 1. Otway Coast Committee Incorporated Crown land Reserves (2)**

Reserve Name	Purpose	Size (ha)
Wongarra Coastline Reserve	Protection of the Coastline	1,119.00
Marengo Tramway Reserve	Conservation of an area natural and historic interest	0.51
Apollo Bay Cricket and Recreation Reserve	Public Purposes and Public Recreation	10.65
Apollo Bay Foreshore Reserve	Public Purposes	228.54
Skenes Creek Foreshore Reserve	Public Purposes	22.23
Kennett River Foreshore Reserve	Public Purposes and Protection of the Coastline	10.79
Wye River Foreshore Reserve	Combination of reservations including Protection of the Coastline, Public Purposes and Public Recreation	13.33
Separation Creek Foreshore Reserve	Public Purposes	17.48

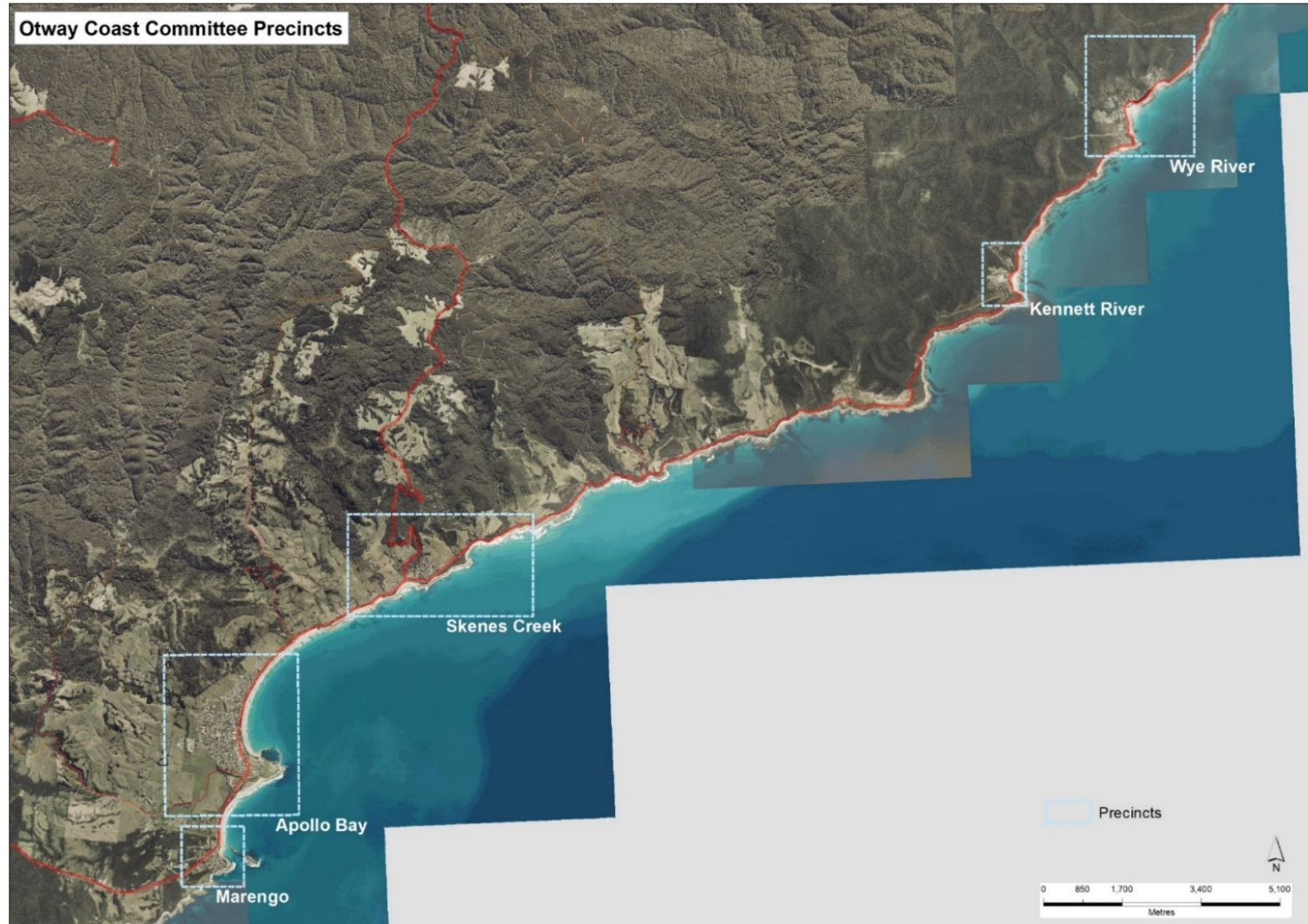


Figure 1. Otway Coast Committee Inc. Management Area

## A new Authority

In October 2018 the Victorian Government unveiled a landmark Action Plan to protect the iconic Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks for generations to come. The Action Plan commits the Victorian Government to create a standalone Act of Parliament that recognises the Great Ocean Road region as a single, integrated and living entity. The Action Plan also commits to establishing a statutory management authority, and for the authority to adopt the following five objectives:

1. Protect the ecological and landscape integrity of coastal and marine environments
2. Increase Traditional Owner inclusion
3. Protect distinctive areas and landscapes
4. Grow the local, State and National visitation economy
5. Modernise governance

The Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority (GORCAPA) is due to commence in 2020, replacing the OCC and other land managers along the Great Ocean Road.

This CMMP aligns with and builds upon, the objectives and 18 actions in the *Great Ocean Road Action Plan*. It defines the foundational planning work and a short-term program of works and actions to protect and enhance the Otway coastline during the transition to new management arrangements.

With the primary purpose of managing and protecting the land and seascapes of the Great Ocean Road, to manage visitation and to coordinate delivery of associated government investment projects, GORCAPA will become the land manager and therefore be responsible for the delivery of this CMMP.

## Developing the CMMP

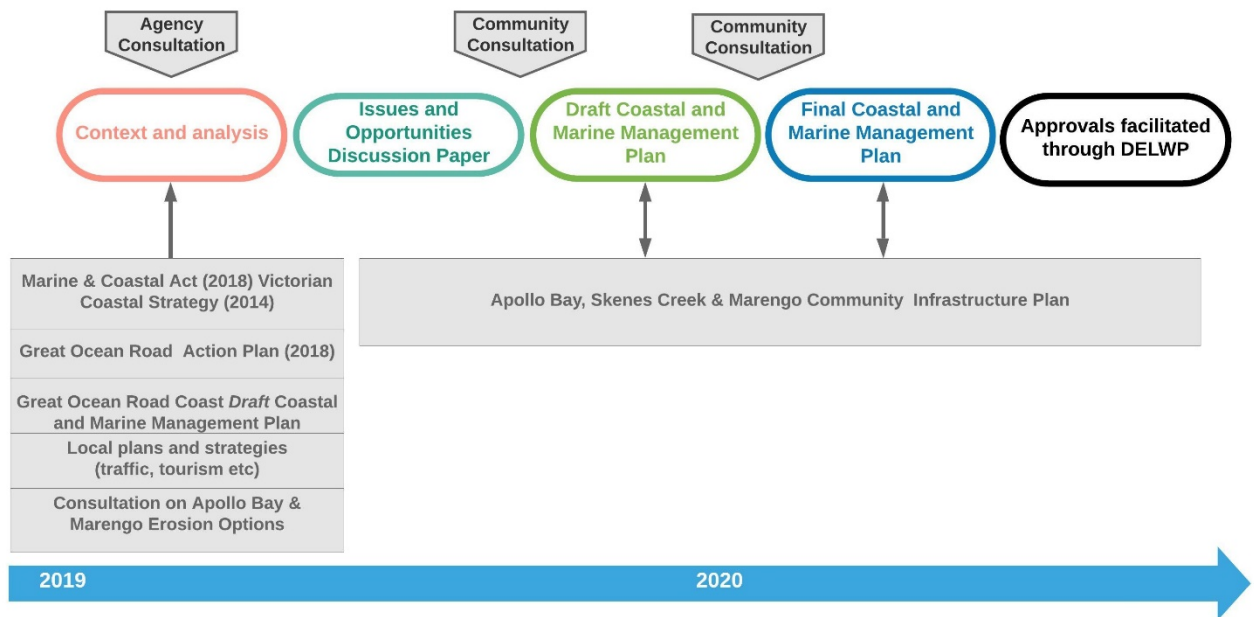
The planning process has involved three main stages of work across 2019 and 2020. Development of the CMMP has included, review and analysis, consultation with agency and community stakeholders, the preparation of a Discussion Paper and development of this CMMP (Figure 2).

The detailed steps to develop the CMMP included:

- Review of the *Otway Coast Committee Inc. Coastal Management Plan* (2012) and relevant state and local planning and policy documents.
- Interviews with agency and community stakeholders to identify values, management issues and opportunities.
- Preparation of a Discussion Paper.
- Meetings and written feedback on the Discussion Paper.
- Preparation of a vision and goals aligned with legislation and community views.
- Identification and mapping of precincts, activity and recreation nodes.
- Inventory of precinct scale assets and values and assessment of management issues.
- Action planning at a strategic and precinct scale and cross-referencing other local plans.
- Feasibility assessment of actions and identification of interim management outcomes.
- Preparation of the Coastal and Marine Management Plan.

Further consultation including a public comment process will be undertaken for this CMMP. Feedback from the community and stakeholders will inform the preparation of a Final CMMP and will be followed by an approvals process coordinated by DELWP.





**Figure 2. Coastal and Marine Management Plan Process**

#### Links with other planning processes

Several planning processes are currently underway that will affect marine coastal management and the communities that live along the Otway coastline. The OCC together with COS and DELWP have established processes to coordinate their projects and streamline communications and consultation with the community about new projects and plans. Three planning processes are of immediate relevance to this CMMP, as summarised below.

Related to this plan are several infrastructure projects. Colac Otway Shire has received funding via the 'Geelong City Deal' to progress three major coastal projects that fall within the OCC managed area, this includes the Apollo Bay Harbour Precinct Redevelopment, Great Ocean Walk and Kennett River Infrastructure Redevelopment. The commencement of these projects was included in the Colac Otway Shire 2019-20 budget and where relevant these projects have been referenced in this CMMP.

The OCC has drawn on the outcomes from the analysis and consultation undertaken for the *Great Ocean Road Action Plan* and the other projects described above to inform this CMMP. Where appropriate the CMMP is consistent with other regional planning projects currently underway.

### Box 1. Related planning processes

#### The Apollo Bay, Skenes Creek and Marengo Community Infrastructure Plan (the Community Infrastructure Plan)

The *Community Infrastructure Plan* is being led by Colac Otway Shire Council in partnership with the Otway Coast Committee Inc. The *Community Infrastructure Plan* incorporates the master planning process for Apollo Bay, Skenes Creek and Marengo and redevelopment of the Apollo Bay Harbour. It is a holistic review of existing and proposed infrastructure for Apollo Bay, Skenes Creek and Marengo townships. It incorporates planning for the key activity centres and destinations (including the harbour, foreshore and commercial hubs). The Community Infrastructure Plan will provide for improved linkages between towns and between activity centres and destinations, including options for types of travel (e.g. walking, cycling, driving). Use and development will be guided by a set of Design Guidelines for public infrastructure, with a materials and planting palette covering things such as signage, street furniture and landscaping. The OCC is working closely with Colac Otway Shire Council to align infrastructure planning with the objectives and strategic actions outlined in this CMMP.

#### The development of short and long-term erosion control options for Apollo Bay and Marengo

Planning for coastal protection measures and long-term adaptation options in response to erosion and inundation risks is being led by DELWP. Consultation on immediate and long-term erosion control options was undertaken in October 2018 and March 2019 and has been considered in this CMMP.

#### Colac Otway Shire and Kennett River Tourism Parking and Strategies (2019)

The Colac Otway Shire recently prepared Tourism Parking and Traffic Strategies for Apollo Bay, Skenes Creek, Marengo, Wye River, Separation Creek, Lavers Hill, Forrest, and Kennett River (3).

The strategies seek to outline the traffic and parking infrastructure requirements for the towns along the Great Ocean Road to cater to the growing number of tourists whilst considering and respecting the characteristics of each town. The strategies outlined in the plan have been considered and where relevant referred to in this CMMP.

## The Otway coast

The Otway coast is located in the heart of the world-renowned environs of the Great Ocean Road. With its unique coastal villages and stunning natural landscapes, the Otway coast provides the backdrop to Australia's most famous road trip. The iconic road was constructed as a memorial to the people that served in World War 1. The broader Great Ocean Road was listed on the National Heritage Register in 2011 for its cultural, historic and landscape values and is protected under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (Cth)* (4).

Located within a 3 to 4 hour drive from Melbourne, the Otways and the Apollo Bay region is a popular holiday destination and a day trip for domestic and international visitors. Apollo Bay is characterised as a coastal fishing village and has a small residential community and together with Marengo, Skenes Creek, Kennett River and Wye River, the area provides a gateway to visitors heading west to the Otways and the coastline beyond (2).

The Otway coast includes a range of important marine and coastal habitats including high-energy, wave-dominated beaches and rocky headlands, sublittoral reef and sediments and coastal lagoons (5). These support a rich diversity of marine life as well as plants and native wildlife that use the intertidal and land areas.

The marine and coastal environment provide the backdrop for community life. Reserves and beaches managed by the OCC provide much of the open space associated with the townships of Apollo Bay, Marengo, Skenes Creek, Kennett River, Wye River and Separation Creek. Recreational use of the coast is varied and includes picnics, swimming, walking (including the Great Ocean Walk), fishing and surfing. Events and festivals, markets and other activities held on the coast also contribute to community life and the visitor experience.

Apollo Bay is the main centre for tourism in the Colac Otway Shire, it contributes 766 (7.8%) of total jobs in the municipality, and supports 22.2% of the Shire's tourism employment (6). It is colloquially known as 'the lunchtime stop' for all tourist travel down the Great Ocean Road and is often congested with pedestrian traffic, cars and buses parking. The local port and its associated commercial fishing activities including rock lobster and abalone are important contributors to the local economy.

The Apollo Bay foreshore is the main focus of activity along the Otway coast. It acts as an interface between the retail area and the beach and provides the main public facilities for visitors and the community. The Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve provides sporting facilities for the local community and the (leased) Apollo Bay Golf Club attracts golfers to play in a unique and picturesque setting.

The Apollo Bay Harbour, currently managed by COS, directly adjoins land managed by the OCC. The harbour is a significant piece of infrastructure, that contributes more than \$43 million annually to the State's economy, and is home to the local fishing industry which has an annual catch of \$8 - 10 million (7). It includes facilities that support tourism, recreational fishing and marine safety. There are opportunities to expand harbour-based activities whilst providing additional attractions that enhance the harbour as a key tourist destination. Planning for the redevelopment of the harbour is currently underway and is being led by COS.

To a large extent, Apollo Bay operates as a service town for residents and visitors of Marengo, Skenes Creek, Kennett River, Wye River and Separation Creek. Marengo is situated only 2km from Apollo Bay and includes the Marengo Reef Marine Sanctuary which is protected by Haley Reef. Marengo is separated from Apollo Bay by the Barham River estuary. The residential areas of Marengo are made up of both permanent residents and holiday homes.

Kennett River is the smallest coastal hamlet on the Great Ocean Road and offers a quiet rural aspect for residents and visitors. Wye River including Separation Creek is further north of Kennett River by 5km and has many holiday homes. Wye River and Separation Creek experienced significant impacts by the 2015 bushfires and continues to recover today. These coastal townships include defined settlement boundaries and are challenged by increasing visitor numbers. The local area benefits from Great Ocean Road events such as the Great Ocean Road Marathon and other smaller local events within a beautiful natural landscape where hills meet the ocean.

Caravan parks and camping including those directly managed by the OCC and other operators make an important contribution to the local economy and tourism industry. When combined, the camping and accommodation under the OCC's oversight make up a major part of the accommodation available along the Great Ocean Road.

#### **Box 2. Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary (8)**

The Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary is managed by Parks Victoria. The sanctuary protects 12ha of the marine environment and is located about 150m offshore. The sanctuary incorporates the Little Henty Reef system which consists of two sections of the reef, the inner and outer reef, separated by a narrow channel known as 'The Gap'.

The reefs are formed by sandstone and support inter-tidal and sub-tidal environments teeming with life including sea snails, tubeworms and abalone. The reef supports a colony of over 200 Australian fur seals and is a roosting area for seabirds such as the Pacific Gull and Black-faced Cormorant. In the deeper waters, there are seaweed gardens and Bull Kelp forests. Calmer waters support colourful soft corals, sponge gardens and sea urchins, schools of Zebra Fish and many species of wrasse.

The sanctuary is a popular destination for snorkelling, rock-pooling and kayaking with access via water and the near-by Marengo beach.



## Community and stakeholder views

The OCC has adopted a broad definition of the ‘community’ for this CMMP. The community in this context includes Traditional Owners, residents and holiday-home owners, domestic and international visitors to the region, business operators and the government agencies and community organisations that service the natural and built environments.

The views and perspectives of agency and community stakeholders were collected through interviews and meetings and via written feedback on the Discussion Paper. Initial consultation for the CMMP focussed around values, management issues and opportunities (Table 2). As detailed above the planning process has also been informed by broader public consultation undertaken for related projects. Community and agency perspectives have directly informed the Vision and Goals and strategic and precinct actions.

**Table 2. Summary of community and stakeholder values, management challenges and opportunities for the OCC management area**

Values	Management challenges	Management opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nature and the environment</li> <li>• Unspoiled landscape</li> <li>• Native flora and fauna</li> <li>• Coastal views and scenery</li> <li>• Local history and heritage</li> <li>• The unique identity of the local townships</li> <li>• Beach and bushwalking</li> <li>• Kayaking, surfing, diving and fishing</li> <li>• Tourism and visitor services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal erosion and climate change</li> <li>• Impacts from increased visitation and demand for access</li> <li>• Ageing assets and facilities</li> <li>• Congestion and parking</li> <li>• Invasive flora and habitat condition</li> <li>• Disturbance of wildlife</li> <li>• Water quality risks associated with public toilets and wastewater management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-agency partnerships and collaboration</li> <li>• Improved and diversified revenue</li> <li>• Shared-services</li> <li>• Trail connectivity and access</li> <li>• New and upgraded facilities</li> </ul>



## 2. Strategic framework

Preparation of the *Otway Coast Committee Inc. Coastal and Marine Management Plan* has been guided by the requirements of a range of legislation and policy documents (see Appendix 2).

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* established an integrated and coordinated whole-of-government approach to protect and manage Victoria's marine and coastal environment. The Act also provides for the development of an integrated and coordinated policy and strategy to inform local planning, management, decision making and reporting.

The Vision for the *Marine and Coastal Policy 2020* is: 'A healthy, dynamic and biodiverse marine and coastal environment that benefits the that benefits the Victorian community now and in the future'. The policy sets out a 'Planning and Decision Pathway' that describes how the objectives and guiding principles of the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* are to be used in decision making for the marine and coastal environment (9).

Preparation of a CMMP is a requirement of marine and coastal Crown land managers under the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*. The CMMP is required to include an implementation plan, maps and a monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework.

### Box 3. Marine and Coastal Policy – Planning and Decision Pathway [9]

#### **Guided by the principles of:**

- **Integrated coastal zone management**
- **Ecosystem-based management**
- **Ecologically sustainable development**
- **Evidence-based decision-making**
- **Precautionary principle**
- **Proportionate and risk-based principle**
- **Adaptive management**

#### **Decision makers will:**

- 1. Acknowledge Traditional Owners' rights, aspirations and knowledge**  
Understand, acknowledge and act upon the rights and aspirations of Traditional Owner groups for Country
- 2. Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment**  
Protect and enhance intrinsic values and goods and benefits of the marine and coastal environment
- 3. Respect natural processes**  
Understand the dynamic natural processes in planning for and managing risks to people and assets
- 4. Strengthen resilience to climate change**  
Understand the current and future stressors from climate change and assess how well the marine and coastal environment can cope with and adapt to change and how that can be strengthened
- 5. Use and develop sustainably**  
Consider the impacts and benefits of existing and new use and development on the environment, other users and the prosperity of future generations.

#### **Through:**

- Taking a stewardship approach**  
to how we care for and manage the marine and coastal environment.
- Building understanding and knowledge**  
of the condition and values of the marine and coastal environment.
- Engaging**  
with a wide variety of communities and user groups that value the marine and coastal environment.
- Collaborating**  
across the breadth of people and organisations involved in marine and coastal management to deliver an integrated and coordinated approach.

## Vision, goals and management outcomes

### *Our Vision:*

*The Otway coast's natural and cultural values, its heritage features and the dramatic Great Ocean Road landscapes are protected, appreciated and provide an outstanding experience for all.*

The vision for this CMMP has been updated to align with the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*, address current management issues and reflect contemporary community aspirations for the marine and coast.

Supporting the vision are a set of six goals, that provide the direction and focus of management for the five-year planning period.

Linked to the goals are management outcomes that describe the expected results from the implementation of the CMMP. At this stage, the management outcomes largely reflect the results of planning, engagement and partnership activities, as these foundational activities are the focus of this CMMP.

**Table 3. Coastal and Marine Management Plan – goals and management outcomes**

Goal	Management outcomes
1. Support Traditional Owner inclusion and strengthen our partnerships with agencies and the community	<p>The Eastern Maar Traditional Owner Group are actively and formally involved in the planning and management of marine and coastal Crown land.</p> <p>Community participation in coastal management activities has increased.</p>
2. Protect and enhance natural, cultural and heritage values	<p>Coastal habitat is protected or enhanced through an effectively resourced and delivered program.</p> <p>Eastern Maar cultural heritage values and sites are recognised and protected.</p>
3. Improve coastal infrastructure, access and facilities along the coast	<p>Built infrastructure is managed in accordance with an agreed Asset Management Framework.</p> <p>Coastal facilities are fit for purpose and are maintained through the efficient delivery of services.</p>
4. Manage risks from coastal hazards and climate change	<p>Adaptation options are identified and implemented to manage the impacts of coastal hazards and climate change.</p>
5. Manage use and development effectively and sustainably	<p>The Otway coast retains its unique character through effective planning for use and development.</p>
6. Increase awareness and knowledge of marine and coastal environments	<p>The community is informed about the values and management challenges along the Otway coast.</p>



## Strategic and precinct actions

The CMMP includes a suite of actions focused on supporting community values and addressing critical management issues in response to the long-term goals. Strategic actions address the OCC's overarching management responsibilities, whilst actions within precinct plans identify a set of initial priorities at the local scale. Precinct plans will be further defined through subsequent detailed and evidenced-based planning processes including the development of master plans.

For each action, a lead and supporting agency or community group has been identified. Timeframes for implementation have been identified, however, the delivery of actions in this plan will be subject to funding and priorities of GORCAPA.

### 3. Traditional Owner inclusion and partnerships

Increase Traditional Owner inclusion and strengthen our partnerships with agencies and the community

The OCC supports the need for a more inclusive approach to Traditional Owner participation that recognises the deep knowledge and connection to Country that Traditional Owners have and supports Traditional Owners' role in the ongoing care and use of Country.

The OCC is committed to engaging with the Eastern Maar Traditional Owner Group to understand the views and perspectives of Traditional Owners and to act upon Traditional Owners advice (e.g., no harm to cultural heritage) and knowledge. Through this CMMP the OCC will ensure a greater role for Traditional Owners in the formal planning and management of marine and coastal Crown land. The first step in this process has involved meeting, gaining an understanding of the Eastern Maar's priorities identified in *Meerreengeeye ngakeepoorryeeyt – Eastern Maar Country Plan* and identifying a draft set of actions for this CMMP. Further work is required to confirm Eastern Maar priorities (including linkages with the Country plan) for inclusion in the final CMMP. The next step will involve the OCC establishing regular communication to confirm the priorities and preferences of Traditional Owners and partnering with the Eastern Maar to enhance our relationship and incorporate culture, values and knowledge into day to day management activities.

#### Eastern Maar perspectives

(Source: Eastern Maar, 2015 *Meerreengeeye ngakeepoorryeeyt – Country Plan*)

For Aboriginal people, Country is more than the land, water and air, the plants and animals. It's more than just what we can see – it's our spirituality, our Ancestors and our connection. It is the way we feel, the way we live and the connection that holds and defines us. When the health of our Country declines, so does the health of our citizens – we are all inextricably linked.

We have had responsibility for caring for our Country for thousands of years. We have never simply taken from our Country without understanding the natural systems and managing them so that they stay healthy and keep providing for us. But that responsibility has been taken away.

Much of our land is now farmland that we are not allowed to access, and the natural resources have been degraded. Rivers have been diverted creating saline lakes that no longer support the wildlife that was once there. The extensive land clearing has removed habitat for many of the animals that we relied on. Even sites with international obligations are not being managed properly and we are worried that our Country cannot take much more. We need to reclaim our rights to care for our Country and make sure that it does not continue to be exploited beyond its capacity. It needs to be cared for in the right way – the respected way, the cultural way – so it does not suffer. Because of the many people who now have rights to our Country, we will need to build strong and collaborative partnerships.

The range of organisations, groups and individuals involved in marine and coastal management means that a collaborative approach is vital. Feedback from our stakeholders indicates that the OCC needs to do more to improve its relationships and communication with other organisations and the community.

The OCC is working closely with DELWP to facilitate community participation in the planning and management of the coast through monitoring programs, biodiversity projects and schools' activities. This will continue to be a focus during the life of this CMMP.

Management of marine and coastal Crown land is subject to complex management arrangements, and the land and services under the OCC's authority intersect with that of other managers. A priority for this CMMP will be to establish shared servicing arrangements and continue to progress the development of approaches in response to pressures from increased visitor numbers and the risks associated with climate change (see sections 4-9 for relevant actions). This will require coordination with DELWP, COS as the local government authority and the port manager for the Apollo Bay Harbour and Parks Victoria who have responsibility for managing boating zones and marine protected areas including the Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary.

## Strategic Actions

Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Establish regular meetings with the Eastern Maar Traditional Owner Group and identify priorities for participation in marine and coastal Crown land management.	OCC / GORCAPA	Eastern Maar	Commence in 2021
Deliver Aboriginal cultural awareness training for OCC staff and committee members.	OCC/ GORCAPA	Eastern Maar	2021
Coordinate community participation in the Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program (Marengo - Skenes).	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP	Ongoing
Support Apollo Bay P-12 School participation in revegetation and beach monitoring activities.	OCC/ GORCAPA	Apollo Bay P-12	Ongoing
Work with Southern Otway Landcare Network to identify and deliver natural environment projects.	OCC/ GORCAPA	SOLN	Ongoing
Reintroduction of original names in partnership with Traditional Owners.	OCC/ GORCAPA	Eastern Maar	Ongoing
Enhanced opportunities for storytelling in built infrastructure.	OCC/ GORCAPA	Eastern Maar	Ongoing
Achieve aspirations of the Eastern Maar's Country Plan (Meerreengeeye Ngakeepoorryeey). Ensure we understand threats to Country and partner with Traditional Owners to strengthen the health of country, people and culture.	OCC/ GORCAPA	Eastern Maar	Ongoing



## 4. Natural and cultural heritage values

Protect and enhance natural and cultural heritage values

### Natural values

The coastline from Marengo to Wye River and Separation Creek is a rugged natural landscape characterised by sandy beaches, cliffs and rock platforms and estuaries that are highly valued. The dunes and rocky headlands are dominated by coastal scrub vegetation and grasslands, and the conservation listed sea bindweed has been recorded in the area (10). The estuaries and creeks along the coast support wetlands and riparian vegetation communities (see Precinct Plans for more information). Weeds are a persistent management challenge and have spread along the coast.

A range of rare and threatened species have been recorded along the coast including seven species listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwth)* and the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* and twelve species on the Victorian Advisory List (10). The marine and intertidal environments of the Otway Coast provide important habitat for shorebirds and seabirds including the hooded plover, sooty oystercatcher, shy albatross, black-faced and pied cormorants and pacific gull. On the land, the scrub and shrubland on the coastal headland and dunes provide habitat for the rufous bristlebird (10). Australian grayling is identified as occurring in a number of the estuaries along the coast including the Barham, Kennett and Wye Rivers and Wild Dog and Skenes Creek (11).

The marine environment supports a range of conservation listed species including the Australian fur seal and southern elephant seal and is a nursery area for the southern right whale. The Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary is an important conservation area with dense bull kelp stands and intertidal and shallow subtidal reefs (5). The reefs along the coast have some of the greatest diversity of invertebrates in Victoria and support a range of fish species (12).

The unique coastal environments are fragile and subject to threats from weeds and pest animals, development for new facilities, trampling and physical damage (13). Activities on coastal land can affect the timing and amount of freshwater flows and water quality in receiving environments and can pose a risk to human health and the environment. In the marine environment, other threats include the spread of introduced pests, oils spills, disturbance of marine mammals and changes to longshore drift, deposition, erosion as a result of coastal structures and development (5).

The siting and maintenance of public facilities and infrastructure on marine and coastal Crown land need to be balanced with public safety, human health concerns and water quality risks in the local environment. During this CMMP, the OCC will work with other agencies including COS to plan for the upgrade or relocation of assets that pose a risk to human health and the local environment.

Vegetation management is an ongoing responsibility and includes the maintenance of significant trees, establishing native vegetation, the control of weeds and construction of fencing and barriers to prevent damage in high use areas.

The cypress along the coast at Apollo Bay are ageing and are at risk of being undermined from erosion processes making them a public safety hazard. During this CMMP, the OCC will develop and deliver a program to remove and replace ageing cypress (see the Apollo Bay Precinct Plan for details) as part of the planning to address risks from coastal processes. The program will be informed by annual arborist inspections, modelling and community consultation to determine preferred replacement options. Any replacement program will be conducted in accordance with planning regulations.

Wye River has been an area of focus for revegetation activities as part of a long-term bushfire recovery program. Work is currently underway by COS, Surf Coast Shire Council and the Country Fire Authority to investigate options to manage fuel loads and the risk of bushfire around key assets. This includes options to manage vegetation and replace with suitable species.

Native animals attract many visitors to observe and experience animals in the wild. Some species including the Hooded Plover and Australian Fur Seal are found regularly on the beaches and can be disturbed by human activities, whilst the feeding of birds can lead to disease and ill-health. The OCC works closely with other agencies and volunteers to manage access to areas used by wildlife at critical times of the year as well as encouraging responsible visitor behaviour.

The OCC has traditionally had limited capacity to deliver works and actions to enhance the natural environment. Wherever possible partnerships have been established with community groups and other agencies to help raise awareness, promote stewardship programs and deliver revegetation activities. An important action for this CMMP will be the development of a *Native Vegetation and Weed Management Plan*. This will adopt an evidence-based approach including, the establishment of clear goals, identification of works and actions and consideration of the benefits and costs of proposed interventions. Planning will involve collaboration with technical experts, adjacent land managers and traditional knowledge holders including Eastern Maar, DELWP, GORCC, CCMA and Parks Victoria.

## Cultural heritage values

The Otways and Great Ocean Road are rich in cultural heritage that incorporates Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal history. Aboriginal communities have an enduring connection to the Land and Sea Country of the Otway Coastline developed through cultural practices and Traditional Ecological Knowledge handed down by their ancestors. The marine and coastal environments are important aspects of Aboriginal culture and the area has been used for thousands of years by Aboriginal communities (12).

Sites of heritage significance from Victoria's European past are found along the Otway coast linked to the region's maritime history and construction of the Great Ocean Road. The shipwreck the 'Casino' is located off the shore of Apollo Bay and is a popular recreational diving location (5). Other significant sites include Hay's Sawmill and jetty remains (Wye River) and Armistead's sawmill (Kennett River). Part of 1880s jetty at Apollo Bay is understood to be incorporated in the current breakwater and the *Speculant* anchor is on display at the Apollo Bay foreshore (2). The Great Ocean Road has national significance for its very high values including social and historic values related to its construction by returned servicemen after World War 1 (2).

A priority for this CMMP will be the completion of a cultural heritage survey and collaboration with the Eastern Maar to identify works and activities to protect and enhance cultural heritage sites and Traditional Owner values. The management and protection of cultural values and heritage sites are undertaken in line with the requirements of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and the *Heritage Act 2017*. Protection of cultural heritage forms part of the day to day activities of the OCC and is a key consideration in the identification of short and long-term options for addressing erosion and climate change.

### **Landscapes of the Maar Country - Sea Country**

(Source: Eastern Maar, 2015 *Meerreengeeye ngakeepoorryeeyt – Country Plan* (14))

Maar citizens have always had a close connection with the sea and its resources, which were central to our culture, economy and survival. The ocean nourished our Ancestors and we still rely on it for our survival. Abundant middens along the coastline tell a rich story of our past. The coastline is home to sites that are important for our Dreaming - Three Sisters Rocks and Dee Maar (Lady Julia Percy Island) where our Ancestors leave the earth.

Our connection with our Sea Country extends well beyond the current shoreline to the edge of the continental shelf. While this area is under the sea today, we occupied it for thousands of years and rising sea levels have not washed away the history, physical evidence or our connection.

## Strategic Actions

Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Support estuary watch monitoring of Otway Coast estuaries (Skenes Creek, Kennett River, Wye River).	CCMA	OCC/ GORCAPA	Ongoing
Review available flora and fauna data and complete a comprehensive vegetation survey.	OCC/ GORCAPA	Parks Victoria, DELWP, CCMA, Landcare	In progress (complete 2021)
Establish a prioritised Native Vegetation and Weed Management Plan for each precinct (including SMART goals, a costed work program and monitoring and evaluation arrangements).	OCC/ GORCAPA	Parks Victoria, DELWP, CCMA, Landcare	In progress (complete 2021)
Undertake a cultural heritage survey and identify measures to protect Aboriginal cultural values and heritage sites on marine and coastal Crown land.	OCC/ GORCAPA, Eastern Maar	DELWP	Commence in 2021
Develop a policy and procedure to manage potential impacts on Aboriginal cultural values and heritage sites from OCC operations.	OCC / GORCAPA	Eastern Maar	Commence in 2022
Establish a coastal and marine education program for schools and coastal users.	OCC/ GORCAPA	Parks Victoria, DELWP, GORCC	Commence in 2021



## 5. Coastal infrastructure, access and facilities

Improve coastal infrastructure, access and facilities along the coast

### Increased visitor numbers

The Otway coastline attracts large numbers of visitors touring the Great Ocean Road who come to the region to enjoy its significant landscapes and natural attractions. For the year ending December 2018, the Great Ocean Road region attracted over 5.4 million visitors, of which 921,000 visited the Colac Otway Shire (15). Within Victoria, the Great Ocean Road region currently dominates the market for international day trip visitors (16). Visitation during 2020 has been significantly impacted by the effects of COVID-19. Despite this, recovery and growth in visitor numbers is expected as a result of population growth in Melbourne and Geelong and the expansion of domestic travel and the return of the international tourism market (12).

Day trip visitors to the Great Ocean Road typically start their journey in Melbourne in the morning arriving at the Twelve Apostles in the early afternoon. This has implications for the Otway coastline as Apollo Bay and Kennett River are important stopping points for coach tours (17). These issues all combine to impact on visitor experience and further frustrate local communities.

### Facilities and assets

Public facilities and assets along the Otway coastline are struggling to cope with the demand from increasing tourism and visitation associated with Great Ocean Road and Great Otways National Park. Crowding at popular visitor sites and inadequate carparking during summer and peak visitor periods are major issues along the coast. Many of the facilities along the coast such as toilet blocks and furniture are old, poorly designed and no longer meet community expectations and are at risk of damage and failure as a result of storm events, erosion, coastal processes and overuse.

Long-term planning for visitor infrastructure is a pillar of the *Great Ocean Road Action Plan* and is also considered in the *Colac Otway Shire Community Infrastructure Plan*. Future master plans developed under this CMMP will provide the strategic and evidenced-based plans for use and development within activity and recreation nodes (see also Section 7). Where possible the preference will be for large-scale visitor servicing solutions to be located away from marine and coastal Crown land to protect the fragile coastal landscape.

A major challenge is the resourcing of long-term asset maintenance and renewals plans. Under current arrangements, most of the OCC's available resources are directed to maintaining facilities and assets to a base level. Due to significant financial constraints, there has been limited opportunity to provide new infrastructure to service future demands and improve safety and visitor experience. The organisation's financial position means that investment in any major upgrades or new facilities will require funding from external sources.

The OCC has recently developed an asset management register and an initial plan for asset maintenance drawing on the DELWP coastal assets database (ASTHETIC). Work is currently underway to finalise an *Asset Management Framework* to consider the condition of assets, current and future risks, maintenance requirements, and a program of renewals.

To improve public safety and minimise impacts on the environment, the OCC needs to consider options to decommission and relocate facilities and investigate contemporary design options. A priority for this CMMP will be the investigation and development of a public toilet strategy aligned with the *Colac Otway Shire Tourism Parking and Traffic Strategy and Guidance for siting and design of buildings on the coast* (3; 18).

Coastal trails and beach access points are highly valued by the local community and are a drawcard for visitors to the region. Improving access and trail connectivity along the coast (including with the Great Ocean Walk) and maintaining access to beach areas are priorities for this CMMP as set out in the precinct plans. Local actions that will be explored include a shared trail between the Apollo Bay Harbour and township adjacent to the Golf Course, improving access to the Marengo foreshore, and upgrading the Apollo Bay - Wild Dog walk which has been impacted by the effects of coastal erosion.

The precinct plans in this CMMP provide a set of initial priorities that respond, in the short term, to visitor servicing issues by maintaining, improving, replacing or relocating existing facilities. The precinct plans have also considered and where appropriate aligned with the priorities in the *Colac Otway Shire Tourism Parking and Traffic Strategy*.

Through its role as the marine and coastal land manager, OCC is also providing advice on use and development proposals from other organisations in accordance with requirements for consent under the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*. This includes the extension of the Great Ocean Walk from Skenes Creek to Wild Dog and redevelopment of Kennett River infrastructure. The design and approvals phase for these projects has involved consultation with the OCC including consideration of issues associated with public safety, coastal hazards and climate change, potential environmental impacts and siting and design requirements.

## Strategic Actions

Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Develop a public toilet strategy that considers siting, design, accessibility and public safety.	GORCAPA	COS, GORCAPA, Parks Victoria	Subject to funding
Investigate traffic management options to address informal parking along the Great Ocean Road at Wye River and Kennett River.	COS	OCC, RRV	In progress
Establish arrangements for shared service provision with Colac Otway Shire Council for maintenance of toilets and grassed areas.	OCC/ GORCAPA	COS, GORCAPA	2021 and then ongoing
Complete a signage audit for all primary beach access points. Identify options to improve interpretive signs and implement a signage plan.	OCC/ GORCAPA	COS, LSV, DELWP	2022
Review and align asset management and planning systems across organisations.	DELWP	OCC, GORCC, Parks Victoria, GORCAPA	In progress
Complete OH&S review and develop a management system for OCC operations.	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP	In progress (complete 2021)

## 6. Coastal processes and climate change

### Manage risks from coastal hazards and climate change

The Otway coastline is part of the high energy coast influenced by Southern Ocean weather systems and their associated winds and large swells (19). Marine and coastal processes including the transport of sediment and the gain and loss of sand through accretion and erosion creates a dynamic environment as observed through changes to beaches and inundation of low-lying areas.

A study by Miner and Rosengren (2019, p.90) on the coastal geomorphology of Apollo Bay states that: *'In this wave-dominated coastal system with sand as the principal geological material in all components (subtidal, shore zone and backshore), a change in the character of one of these components will lead to changes in the overall system. Feedback will occur over time scales of months, years, decades or even longer.'*

The OCC acknowledges that coastal inundation and erosion are part of the natural dynamics of the coastal environment, however, it also recognises that in some parts of its management area, coastal hazards pose a serious risk to public and private assets, environmental and cultural values and use of the coast (see Figure 3).

Areas that are vulnerable from coastal processes (based on available studies) include parts of the Great Ocean Road, the Apollo Bay town foreshore, Apollo Bay Recreational Reserve, Mounts Bay, and Skenes Creek. In the longer-term, the potential impacts in these locations include loss of beach access, damage to the structural integrity of vegetation and facilities and inundation and flooding of land (20; 21). In addition, reports from the local community indicate that sand loss and seasonal movement of sand are changing at the beaches of Wye River and Separation Creek, however, the risks in these locations are yet to be quantified.



Figure 3. Causes and drivers of coastal hazards (22)

This CMMP emphasises the need for further technical work in specific locations to understand the risks from inundation and coastal processes across the Otway coastline.

Included in Appendix 4, are the predicted erosion zone maps based on the available risk assessments for the area from Marengo to Wild Dog. These can also be found at <https://engage.vic.gov.au/apollo-bay-and-marengo-community-consultation/ghd-report-apollo-bay-coastal-protection-study>

## Erosion control options – Apollo Bay

Analysis of the shoreline for Apollo Bay between 1942 and 2004 has revealed that changes range from minor erosion to severe erosion events interspersed with periods of recovery where sand builds up on the beach (23). Sand movement and erosion processes at Apollo Bay have also been influenced by the interception of wave and sand movement by the Apollo Bay Harbour, the reduction in sand supply and the construction erosion mitigation works such as rock groynes (20; 24; 21).

In the winters from 2016 to 2019, storm events created further erosion at Mounts Bay and the Apollo Bay township foreshore. Works to address short-term erosion impacts have included ‘as-required’ sand renourishment and initial works to construct a rock revetment (25; 21). The longer-term predicted changes in the sea level, winds and wave environment are expected to result in accelerated loss of beaches and the creation of ‘storm cuts’ in vulnerable locations (21). Technical investigations have indicated that implementation of coastal protection works inevitably will alter system dynamics in some form (24).

Consultation on long-term erosion control options undertaken during 2018 and 2019 focussed primarily on measures to address impacts on public assets at Apollo Bay including the Great Ocean Road. The consultation process acknowledged that in the future, the look and feel of the foreshore will significantly change from how it is today due to the changes from coastal processes and the impact of any coastal protection works. Through the consultation process, there was strong support from the community for keeping the Great Ocean Road open and a preference for a rock revetment and groynes (26).

A decision on a preferred option was confirmed by DELWP in late 2020. Stage 1 of the proposed works includes extending existing rock revetments and constructing two new groynes to help manage the impacts of coastal erosion. Maintaining amenity and access to and along the foreshore is a key objective of the design.

Planning has been informed by detailed engineering work, including wave and sediment transport modelling as well as the feedback from community consultation. The new 70-meter-long rock groynes will run perpendicular to the shoreline and be located just south of the Milford St revetment and to the south of Milford Ck. Sections of rock seawall will be constructed between the two Groynes to protect the dune, walking path, cypress trees and road from erosion. Beach nourishment will be used to prefill the beach on the up-drift side, to minimise the impact of the groynes on the beach to the north.

Additional adaptation and mitigation options also being considered include:

- Enhanced monitoring and control of dredging volumes at the harbour entrance.
- Long-term controlled discharge of pumped slurry between the breakwater and Cawood Street.
- Enhanced monitoring to establish volumes of sand being moved and where it is being moved to inform future management decisions.



## Climate change adaptation

The OCC in partnership with DELWP, COS and Regional Roads Victoria is committed to planning for and responding to, climate change and coastal hazards over the short, medium and long term to address risks from inundation, erosion and sand movement as well as the impacts of increased temperatures and harsher fire weather.

The OCC acknowledges the time required and significant funding that may be needed to implement preferred adaptation options. Experience from Apollo Bay and Marengo shows that identifying agreed options is a complex process that requires trade-offs between different objectives.

Longer-term planning for climate change involves adopting a risk-based adaptation framework which aligns with the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) decision-making tool and utilises the six categories of adaptation actions from the *Marine and Coastal Policy 2020*: Non-intervention, Avoid, Nature-based protection, Accommodate or Retreat.

The initial priority for this CMMP is to progress adaptation responses for Apollo Bay and Marengo and investigate the inundation and erosion risks for Skenes Creek, Wye River and Separation Creek. Adaptation planning for the broader coast will be undertaken once the required technical work has been completed.

In addition to coastal processes, changes to temperature and rainfall are also expected to contribute to harsher fire weather and longer fire seasons. Fire weather has become more dangerous in southern Australia since the mid-1900s. Over this time, fire seasons have become longer and have commenced earlier in the summer period. Climate change projections indicate that this is likely to continue (27). Emergency planning, managing vegetation around existing built assets and design considerations for newly built assets are key operational priorities to ensure the OCC is ready to respond to fire risks in the face of a changing climate.

### Box 4. Climate Projections for the Barwon South West Region (27)

The Victorian Government and CSIRO have released regional snapshots from the Victorian Climate Change Projections 2019. The projections of future climate change aim to help managers and the community understand the scope and scale of future climate change.

#### Continued sea level rise

- Sea level rise has been observed around the Australian coastline, an average of 2.1 mm/yr for period 1966-2009 increasing to 3.1mm/yr 1993-2009.
- Sea levels are expected to continue rising through the 21st century (very high confidence).

#### Increased temperatures

- Maximum and minimum daily temperatures will continue to increase over this century (very high confidence).
- By the 2030s, increases in daily maximum temperature of 0.8 to 1.5°C (since the 1990s) are expected.

#### Reduced and variable rainfall

- Rainfall will continue to be very variable.
- Over the long-term rainfall is expected to continue to decline in winter and spring (medium to high confidence) and autumn (low to medium confidence), but with some chance of little change.
- Extreme rainfall events are expected to become more intense on average (high confidence) but remain very variable in space and time.

#### Harsher fire weather and longer fire seasons

## Strategic Actions

Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Implement long-term protection works at Apollo Bay. Stage 1. Construct two new groynes, a section of rock seawall and associated access ramps to protect public infrastructure and access.  Implement stages 2-5 subject to further consultation and design.	DELWP	OCC/ GORCAPA	2021 (Stage 1)  Stages 2-5 subject to funding
Confirm preferred long-term adaptation options for Marengo using findings from sand movement study and coastal hazard assessment.	DELWP	OCC/ GORCAPA	Subject to funding
Advocate for a detailed coastal hazard assessment to be completed across the coast from Surf Coast Shire to the South Australia Border.	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP, GORCC, Parks Victoria, CCMA, GHCMA, local government	Ongoing
Work with COS to identify priorities to upgrade stormwater outlets to prevent scouring and address inundation risks.	COS	OCC, DELWP, GORCAPA	In progress (complete late 2020)
Continue to undertake beach erosion and landslip monitoring and report to relevant authorities.	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP	Ongoing
Undertake a local inundation and erosion study for Skenes Creek and Wye River and Separation Creek.	GORCAPA	DELWP	2022



## 7. Use and development

Manage use and development effectively and sustainably

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The future of the Otway coastline is at serious risk from being over-used as a result of population growth, development and tourism. Increased visitation and development along the coast can lead to a poor experience, conflicts between uses and have detrimental impacts on fragile ecosystems and cultural heritage sites.

Coastal settlement boundaries and the use and development along the coast is guided by the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the Colac Otway Shire Council Planning scheme. The planning scheme has an important role in reinforcing clear settlement boundaries, non-urban breaks between settlements and the hierarchy and relationships between settlements. Coastal settlements along the Otway coast are also influenced by the directions outlined in the *Great Ocean Road Action Plan*.

Use and development of marine and coastal Crown land requires consent from the Minister under the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* and *Crown Land Reserves Act 1978*. The OCC must ensure any application for consent is consistent with federal and state policy and strategy, including the objectives of this CMMP. Management of the marine and coast may also require approval from local government under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

Through this CMMP the OCC has identified activity and recreation nodes to guide use and development priorities as well as ensuring areas of high natural or cultural value can be managed appropriately. Master Plans will provide long-term plans for use and development within activity and recreation nodes. These will be evidenced-based and guided by the *Marine and Coastal Policy*, *Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme*, the *Great Ocean Road Action Plan*, *Siting and design guidance for structures on the Coast* and the development of an Otway Coast Public Toilet Strategy.

Master plans will consider a range of issues including:

- Vehicle movement and public safety
- Improving access and providing all abilities access and facilities
- Upgrades for camping and accommodation facilities
- Improved directional and interpretive signage
- Demand for carparking and public toilets
- The need to protect vegetation, habitat, cultural and landscape values
- Managing risks from coastal processes and climate change

Master Plans for marine and coastal Crown land managed by the OCC will be developed through consultation with the Traditional Owners, agency partners, license and leaseholders and the community. They will incorporate community views and aspirations, the risks associated with inundation and coastal processes and information on natural and cultural values. An important aspect of master planning will be the preparation of a prioritised implementation plan with consideration to benefits, costs, feasibility and risk.

The *Community Infrastructure Plan* is being led by Colac Otway Shire. The *Community Infrastructure Plan* will provide the first Master Plan for OCC managed marine and coastal Crown land and detailed planning for the Central Foreshore. The *Community Infrastructure Plan* will also set out the broader infrastructure priorities for the communities of Marengo, Apollo Bay and Skenes Creek and provide planning for the Apollo Bay Harbour redevelopment. Master Planning is also underway for the Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve and Apollo Bay Golf Club and is being led by the relevant lessees. The OCC is also working with the Apollo Bay Surf Lifesaving Club on plans to redevelop its clubhouse facilities.

A range of short-term coastal infrastructure and facilities upgrade priorities for marine and coastal Crown land managed by the OCC have been identified within the precinct plans in this CMMP (see Section 5 and 9 for details).

### Box 3. Activity and Recreation Nodes (9)

In coastal communities, recreation and tourist development are focused around recreation and activities nodes identified in CMMPs.

**Activity node:** Activity nodes provide for community recreation facilities and tourism activities. They are within settlements and are adjacent to activity centres in planning schemes. They include public and private land.

**Recreation node:** Recreation nodes are located on marine and coastal Crown land outside activity nodes. They provide access and infrastructure for recreation and water-related activities. Use and development that supports access or the functioning of coastal-dependent activities may be sited in recreation nodes.

## Commercial activities

Commercial activities are an important aspect of the OCC's operations and to date has included two self-managed caravan parks and the administration of leases and licences on marine and coastal Crown land.

Revenue generated through the OCC's commercial operations is re-invested into the management of the Crown Land Reserve. A substantial proportion of Otway Coast's activity is ongoing maintenance, repairs to foreshore assets, caravan park infrastructure, and erosion mitigation and repair.

Further development of the OCC's commercial operations and self-management of assets is a priority for this CMMP. In November 2020, the OCC will take on direct management Marengo, Skenes Creek and Kennett River Caravan Parks. This will have benefits for resourcing coastal management and ensuring equitable access to marine and coastal Crown land. The decision to shift to direct management results from a review of leases conducted in 2019 with support from DELWP. The review found clearly that direct management of the caravan parks by the OCC would deliver best-value and would result in more investment into the park infrastructure including safety upgrades and improved visitor amenities. Direct management is also expected to result in additional revenue for the OCC to manage the marine and coastal Crown land between Marengo and Separation Creek (Wye River).

## Compliance

Compliance activity includes monitoring, signage, education and enforcement and has an important role in managing and avoiding conflicting uses. Compliance management is based on a partnership approach with Colac Otway Shire Council, DELWP and Parks Victoria who are authorised to enforce their respective regulations.

Enforcement issues along the Otway coastline typically relate to the control of domestic animals, illegal camping, dumping of waste and unauthorised on-water activities. The OCC takes an active role in compliance by undertaking patrols of caravan parks, inspecting facilities and beach access points and liaising with volunteers to reduce disturbance of wildlife.

Active enforcement of regulations along the Otway coast is currently constrained by the resourcing and capacity of the respective authorised organisations. During this CMMP, the OCC will work with partner agencies to identify options and establish additional capacity for compliance activities.



## Strategic Actions

Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Undertake Master Planning for Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve and Caravan Park and Wye River, Kennett River and Skenes Creek caravan parks	OCC/ GORCAPA	ABFNC (Apollo Bay)	(2021) Apollo Bay
Establish arrangements for additional compliance services - illegal camping, dog control, access.	OCC/ GORCAPA	COS, DELWP, GORCAPA	2022
Determine priorities and actions to address long term visitor infrastructure and servicing needs.	GORCAPA	Parks Victoria, local government	TBC
Work with COS to finalise the Community Infrastructure Plan.  Review Community Infrastructure Plan proposals and identify priorities for implementation.	COS	OCC, DELWP, GORCAPA	In progress (complete 2021)  2022
Work with the lessee to undertake master planning for the Apollo Bay Golf Club.	OCC	Apollo Bay Golf Club	In progress (complete 2022)
Participate in the planning and approvals process for the Apollo Bay Harbour Development Plan.	COS	OCC	In progress (complete 2021)



## 8. Knowledge and awareness

### Increase awareness and knowledge of marine and coastal environments

The OCC recognises the importance of consultation and engagement for the management of marine and coastal Crown land. The committee supports the principles for public participation in government decision making outlined by VAGO in their better practice guide (28). In recent times the OCC has delivered several initiatives to improve communications and engagement. Achievements to date include the increased use of social media, website upgrades, updates in the local news sheet and more regular contact with community groups and industry organisations.

Resourcing constraints mean that coordinated approaches with other agencies are an important part of the OCC's approach to consultation and engagement. In recent times the OCC has participated in joint-agency open houses and the Engage Vic online platform as a way of streamlining communication and avoiding over-consultation. Through the life of this CMMP, the OCC will explore other options to improve and expand communications and engagement programs.

### Strategic Actions

Action	Lead	Support	Timeframe
Explore options (including shared services) to deliver community education and awareness programs for schools and coastal users.	GORCAPA	Parks Victoria, GORCC, CCMA	2021
Establish more regular communication about marine and coastal management activities.	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP	2022 and then ongoing
Continue to coordinate the planning and delivery of community consultation and engagement processes with other stakeholders.	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP, COS	Ongoing

## 9. Precinct plans

The OCC has identified an initial set of place-based priorities for the period 2020 – 2025 in the form of precinct plans. Precincts were identified by the landscape and township characteristics and the OCC's management operations. Each precinct has a management focus based on its assets, values and the local management challenges<sup>1</sup>. Dividing the coastline into precincts allows for local priorities to be identified and tailored programs delivered.

The precincts comprise:

1. Marengo
2. Apollo Bay
3. Skenes Creek
4. Kennett River
5. Wye River and Separation Creek

Each precinct plan includes a map with proposed recreation and activity notes, identification of assets managed by the OCC and an initial set of precinct actions.

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<sup>1</sup> Cultural heritage assets and values including Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal sites have not been identified in Precinct Plans.

## Marengo Precinct Plan

This precinct is an area of high use for community activity associated with the beach as well as access to the intertidal reefs of the Marengo Marine Sanctuary. The precinct includes Marengo Beach and extends west to the Great Ocean Walk and includes a car park and beach access. The Marengo Holiday Park provides accommodation services. The Marengo Beach supports the conservation hooded Plover and there are records of rufous bristlebird. The Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary is managed by Parks Victoria and supports a diversity of marine life including a colony of conservation listed Australian fur seal.

Assets	Values	Management challenges
Marengo Holiday Park  Great Ocean Walk  Car park and associated beach access	Recreation – walking (beach and Great Ocean Walk), swimming and fishing  Tourism – accommodation services and day trips  Native vegetation - Coastal Dune Scrub/Coastal Dune Grassland Mosaic, Shrubby Foothill Forest  Shorebird habitat (including hooded plover nesting sites) and seabird foraging areas  Records of conservation listed rufous bristlebird  Marengo Reef Marine Sanctuary and associated Australian fur seal colony and marine communities (bull kelp stands and a diversity of marine invertebrates and fish).  Habitat for conservation listed southern right whale and rare fish species.	Area at high risk from coastal erosion (10-year outlook)  Area at high risk from climate change – erosion and inundation  Disturbance of wildlife from human activity (including dogs).  Lack of connectivity and pedestrian access to Great Ocean Walk.  Informal/inefficient parking on the foreshore.  Limited provision of facilities on the foreshore



Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
2. Natural and cultural heritage values	Implement Native Vegetation and Weed Management Plan priorities.	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP, Parks Victoria	2021 and then ongoing
	Establish exclusion fencing and signage each breeding season to protect. Hooded Plover nesting sites. (Marengo foreshore).	OCC / GORCAPA	Parks Victoria BirdLife	Annual
3. Coastal infrastructure, access and facilities	Identify preferred options for additional formal access and facilities for Marengo foreshore.  Establish formal access points and associated parking, signage, fencing and bollards.	GORCAPA	OCC, DELWP, Parks Victoria	2022 subject to CIP priorities
	Repair/upgrade boardwalk to improve safety and access.	GORCAPA		2022
	Undertake sediment removal and maintenance of stormwater wetland.	GORCAPA		2023
4. Coastal hazards and climate change	Continue sand renourishment in the short term to address seasonal erosion and sand movement.	OCC / GORCAPA	DELWP	Ongoing (until a long-term option is confirmed)
	Implement the agreed priorities from the Marengo climate adaptation planning project.	GORCAPA		Subject to completion of study and funding.



## Apollo Bay Precinct Plan

This precinct is a well-developed activity node and is a clear point of focus for community activity and commercial uses.

The precinct extends from the Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve to Wild Dog Creek. It incorporates the Apollo Bay Caravan Park and open space associated with the Recreation Reserve including the Apollo Bay Football Netball Club and Apollo Bay Pony club. The Apollo Bay Harbour (managed by COS) is an important commercial zone whilst the Apollo Bay Golf Club and the (central) Apollo Bay foreshore and beach including the Apollo Bay Surf Life Saving Club (leased) support recreational uses. The Apollo Bay beach provides habitat for the conservation listed hooded plover and is the main recreation beach for the community and visitors for swimming and walking.

Master planning for the Apollo Bay Foreshore will be detailed in the Colac Otway Shire Council Apollo Bay Community Infrastructure Plan.

Assets	Values	Management challenges
Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve and associated infrastructure	Public open space for residents and visitors	Increased demand for public facilities, access to the beach and open space
Apollo Bay Caravan Park	Tourism associated with accommodation services and day trips	Ageing facilities and maintenance of public toilets
Apollo Bay Pony Club	Recreation - walking, golf, swimming, surfing, fishing	Area at high risk from coastal erosion (10 year outlook) risks to the road, paths, sewer, trees including loss of beach and habitat
Apollo Bay Surf Life Saving Club ( <i>managed by LSV</i> )	Boating including use of the Harbour for commercial and recreational fishing access	Area at high risk from long-term impacts of climate change: erosion and inundation
Apollo Bay Harbour ( <i>managed by COS</i> )	Native vegetation - Coastal Headland Scrub, Coastal Dune Scrub/Coastal Dune Grassland Mosaic, Lowland Forest	Congestion and traffic management during peak periods
Apollo Bay Golf Club ( <i>leased</i> )	Shorebird habitat (including hooded plover nesting sites) and seabird foraging areas	Ageing cypress
Public toilets and pathways	Habitat for southern right whale	Disturbance of wildlife from human activity (including dogs)
Playground		Invasive flora impacting on native vegetation
Car park and beach access		Connectivity and pedestrian access between town and harbour and between recreation reserve and beach.
Picnic facilities		Competing uses at Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve (multi-use recreation reserve and caravan park)
		Insufficient facilities at Apollo Bay Caravan Park

Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
2. Natural and cultural heritage values	Implement Native Vegetation and Weed Management Plan priorities.	OCC/ GORCAPA	SOLN, DELWP,	2021 and ongoing
	Establish exclusion fencing and signage each breeding season to protect Hooded Plover nesting sites.	OCC/ GORCAPA	BirdLife	Annual
	Remove and replace ageing cypress to address public safety risks informed by annual arborist report and community consultation.	GORCAPA		2022
	Adopt a risk-based approach to managing Barham River estuary openings.	CCMA	OCC / Landcare	Annual
3. Coastal infrastructure, access and facilities	Establish beach access and construct boardwalk sections along Apollo Bay - Wild Dog Coastal Path to address inundation hazards.	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP	2023
	Resurface gravel carparks at Cawood St, Museum, Mariners Lookout Road to provide safer access.	GORCAPA		2022
	Upgrade access from Apollo Bay SLC beach to address safety and erosion issues.	GORCAPA	LSV	2022
	Establish a shared pathway in an agreed location between Harbour precinct to Great Ocean Road via Golf Course.	GORCAPA	COS AB Golf Club	2022
	Maintain soft fall surface associated with playgrounds.	OCC/ GORCAPA		2020 and ongoing
	Replace fencing along Apollo Bay foreshore.	GORCAPA		2022
4. Coastal hazards and climate change	Implement Stage 1 erosion mitigation works (rock revetment, sand renourishment and groynes).	DELWP	OCC/ GORCAPA	In progress (complete 2021)
	Work with COS and stay informed of plans for harbour dredging and sand disposal so it can be considered in long term adaptation plans and short-term renourishment activities.	COSC	OCC	Ongoing
	Participate in flood study for the Barham River.	COS	CCMA OCC	TBC



Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
	Investigate dune stability and erosion risks and access issues foreshore south of Golf Club.	GORCAPA	AB Golf Club	2023
5. Use and develop sustainably and effectively	Participate in the planning and approvals process for the Apollo Bay Harbour Development Plan.	COS	OCC	In progress
	Undertake a master plan for Apollo Bay Recreation Reserve and associated facilities including options to address non-coastal dependent uses and relocation of facilities address inundation risks.	ABFNC OCC/ GORCAPA	COS	In progress (complete 2021)
	Work with Apollo Bay SLC to complete design and approvals for the upgrade of the clubhouse within the existing footprint.	OCC/ GORCAPA	LSV, DELWP	In progress (complete 2021)
	Implement the agreed priorities of <i>Central Foreshore Master Plan</i> .	OCC/ GORCAPA	COS	2021-2025 (subject to funding)



## Skenes Creek Precinct Plan

This precinct includes the Skenes Creek foreshore and beach. The area incorporates a public car parking and the Skenes Beach Caravan park. The Skenes Creek beach provides recreational services such as swimming and surfing and walking tracks.

Assets	Values	Management challenges
Skenes Beach Caravan Park Car park and access track	Recreation: walking, swimming and surfing  Tourism associated with accommodation services  Native vegetation - Coastal Headland Scrub, Riparian Forest (associated with Skenes Creek estuary)  Shorebird habitat (including hooded plover nesting sites) and seabird foraging areas  Records of conservation listed sea cucumber <i>Apsolidium densusum</i>	Increased demand for public facilities, access to the beach and open space.  Limited provision of public facilities.  Informal/inefficient parking on the foreshore.  Disturbance of wildlife from human activity (including dogs).  Area at risk from long-term impacts of climate change: erosion and inundation.

Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
2. Natural and cultural heritage values	Implement Native Vegetation and Weed Management Plan priorities.	OCC/ GORCAPA	SOLN, DELWP, Parks Victoria	2021 and ongoing
	Establish exclusion fencing and signage each breeding season to protect Hooded Plover nesting sites (Skenes Creek).	OCC	Parks Victoria, BirdLife	Annual
3. Coastal infrastructure, access and facilities	Work with COS to progress the siting and design of Wild Dog-Skenes Creek walk to address risks from coastal processes and climate change (erosion and inundation), public safety concerns and potential environmental impacts.	COS	OCC	In progress
	Replace Skenes Creek foreshore fencing.	GORCAPA		2022
	Resurface the Skenes Creek foreshore carpark.	GORCAPA		2023
	Resurface the Skenes Creek Caravan Park carpark.	GORCAPA		2022

Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
4. Coastal hazards and climate change	Identify risks to Barwon Water pumping station from coastal inundation and erosion.	Barwon Water	OCC/ GORCAPA	2022
	Implement coastal hazard/erosion study priority recommendations.	GORCAPA		Subject to funding
5. Use and develop effectively and sustainably	<p>Complete a master plan for the Skenes Creek Caravan Park. Priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Managing risks from inundation and erosion</li> <li>- Improving park layout</li> <li>- New facilities</li> <li>- Camping sites (number, size, grade and location)</li> </ul>	GORCAPA		2022





## Kennett River Precinct Plan

This precinct includes the Kennett River foreshore and beach. The Kennett River Holiday Park and Kennett River Surf Life Saving Club (leased) provide important infrastructure for tourist and the community. The Kennett River public toilets and car parking area are important infrastructure for tourist and day visitors.

Assets	Values	Management challenges
Kennett River Surf Life Saving Club Kennett River Holiday Park Kennett River Walk and fishing platform Car park and associated access Public toilets	Recreation: walking and fishing (beach, estuary), swimming, surfing Tourism associated with accommodation services and day trips Wildlife observation Kennett River Estuary - Australian grayling habitat Native vegetation - Coastal Headland Scrub, Riparian Forest (associated with Kennett River estuary) Seabird foraging areas Diverse marine invertebrate communities	Effluent, water quality and public health concerns associated with public toilets Increased demand for public facilities, access to the beach and open space Ageing facilities and condition of access tracks and carparks Feeding of wildlife (potential for disease and public safety risks) Invasive flora <i>Risks from climate change and coastal hazards require further investigation.</i>

Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
2. Natural and cultural heritage values	Implement Native Vegetation and Weed Management Plan priorities (examples include: vegetation establishment and weed control).	OCC/ GORCAPA	SOLN, Parks Victoria	2021
	Support efforts to prevent the feeding of wildlife including education, signage and awareness-raising.	OCC/ GORCAPA	DELWP, COS, GORT	Ongoing
3. Coastal infrastructure, access and facilities	Confirm the preferred location for permanent public toilets to address public safety and environmental health risks.  Complete design and approvals and construct toilets in the agreed location.	COS	OCC, KRA	In progress
	Replace Skenes Creek foreshore fencing.	GORCAPA		2022
	Upgrade carpark and bollards adjacent to SLSC equipment shed.	GORCAPA		2022

Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
5. Use and develop effectively and sustainably	Complete a master plan for the Kennett River Holiday Park. Priorities include: - Marketing plan - Wastewater treatment - Emergency management infrastructure - Condition assessment of existing assets	GORCAPA		2024







## Wye River and Separation Creek Precinct Plan

This precinct extends from the Separation Creek foreshore and beach to the Wye River foreshore and beach. To the south, it includes the Wye River Hotel carpark (leased) and the public deck and playground adjacent to the Wye River Café. Further north is the Wye River Caravan Park and the Wye River Surf Life Saving Club (leased). Paddys Path and Separation Creek Beach are also located in the precinct.

Assets	Values	Management challenges
Wye River Caravan Ground Public Deck and playground Carpark (at Wye River Hotel) Paddy's Path Wye River frontage (leased by Big4 Wye River) Public toilets Separation Creek foreshore and beach	Recreation - surfing and swimming, walking (beach and estuary)  Tourism - accommodation services and day trips  Wye River estuary - Australian grayling and Australian mudfish habitat  Native vegetation - Coastal Headland Scrub, Riparian Forest and Estuarine wetland (associated with Wye River estuary)  Seabird foraging areas  Diverse marine invertebrate communities	Effluent discharge from public toilets with potential impacts on the estuary and public health  Increased demand for public facilities, access to the beach and open space  Ageing facilities and condition of access tracks and carparks  Invasive flora impacting on native vegetation  Stormwater and drainage causing erosion  Seasonal erosion and sand movement <i>(risks from climate change and coastal hazards require further investigation)</i>

Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
2. Natural and cultural heritage values	Implement Native Vegetation and Weed Management Plan priorities	OCC/ GORCAPA	SOLN Parks Victoria	2021
3. Coastal infrastructure, access and facilities	Resurface Wye River Caravan Park Road	OCC/ GORCAPA		2021
	Maintain Paddy's Path surface and drainage	GORCAPA		Ongoing
	Investigate options to improve the siting of beach access to improve public safety	OCC/ GORCAPA		2021
	Investigate options to relocate the Wye River toilet block away from the foreshore and improve visibility, all abilities access and signage  Complete design and approvals for agreed option and seek funding to implement required works	GORCAPA	COS	2022

Goal	Action	Lead	Partner	Timeframe
4. Coastal hazards and climate change	Implement coastal hazard/erosion study priority recommendations	GORCAPA	DELWP	Subject to funding
5. Use and develop effectively and sustainably	Complete master plan for Wye River Caravan Park. Priorities include: - Road resealing - Wastewater treatment system - Parking/overflow parking	GORCAPA	DELWP	



## 10. Implementation arrangements

The CMMP describes the goals and management outcomes and identifies a set of strategic and precinct actions for the Otway Coastline for the period 2020–2025. The Plan has been developed during a time of transition to new governance arrangements and has been developed concurrently with the overarching *Great Ocean Road Action Plan*. It is anticipated when finalised the CMMP will provide GORCAPA with an interim set of priorities to ensure critical coastal management obligations continue to be met.

### Governance and finance

The OCC operates within a complex governance framework and is accountable to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change through legislation which affects the management, use and enjoyment of the marine and coast environment.

The OCC recognises that financial sustainability and an accountable governance model is critical to meet its responsibilities and respond to the pressures from increased visitor numbers, ageing assets and climate change. The OCC's self-managed caravan parks and lease and licensing arrangements are the primary sources of the Committee's income. The Committee receives no ongoing funding to support the maintenance of assets and facilities and new projects are subject to competitive funding processes administered by the Victorian Government. Since 2012, the Committee has worked to improve the financial position of the OCC as a priority and has lifted annual revenue by 3.5%.

At this stage, many of the new initiatives in this CMMP will require external funding to be implemented. A costed and prioritised action plan has been developed that includes everyday activities and the strategic and precinct actions in this plan.

Implementation of the CMMP will also require a co-operative approach with DELWP, Eastern Maar, GORCC, COS, Parks Victoria, CCMA, RRV, other agencies and local communities. Actions involving the use and development of marine and coastal Crown land may also require specific approval or consent where relevant.

### Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* requires the OCC to develop a monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) framework for this CMMP. Preparation of the detailed monitoring and evaluation arrangements will commence once the CMMP is finalised and transition arrangements to GORCAPA are in place.

The MER framework will incorporate a program logic, performance indicators linked to agreed management outcomes and monitoring and evaluation processes. The framework will seek to align the outcomes developed by the OCC with those developed by GORCC through its CMMP and reflect the capacity and resources of GORCAPA.

In the interim, implementation of the CMMP is supported by a costed and prioritised action plan which will be reviewed on a six-monthly basis to ensure the OCC's management aligns with the vision and goals in this plan.

The OCC will continue to report to the Minister and DELWP against its Statement of Expectations and CMMP delivery on an annual basis. More formal evaluation and reporting on the CMMP will be completed at the mid-term (2 or 3 years) and the end of the CMMP (5 years).

Over the life of the CMMP, the OCC will continue to participate in the Victorian Coastal Monitoring Program, a partnership between government and citizen scientists. The program involves monitoring of wave climate, sediment movement and sediment budgets to inform adaptation planning and evaluate the effectiveness of management interventions.



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36. —. *Policy Statement. Improving Equity of Access to Crown Land Caravan and Camping Parks*. s.l. : Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2011.

## Appendix 1. OCC managed Crown land parcels and reservation purpose

Table 4. Otway Coast Committee Incorporated Crown land parcels and reservation purpose (29)

Parcel	Area	Land Manager	Reserve Type and Purpose	SPI	Source
P080559	0	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	29S\PP2813 1131	VEAC, 2020
P372355	1.7	Otway Coast COM C	Permanent Protection of the Coastline	2012\PP3861 1143	VEAC, 2020
P081962	1.7	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	17B~3A\PP57 1145	VEAC, 2020
P081352	0.1	Otway Coast COM C	Permanent Road and public purposes	2H\PP3861 1147	VEAC, 2020
P373346	0	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2007\PP2813 1148	VEAC, 2020
P080583	21.1	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	6C~3\PP2936 1153	VEAC, 2020
P373347	0.6	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2006\PP2813 1155	VEAC, 2020
P081327a	1,095.30	part DELWP/ part O	Permanent Protection of the Coastline	30F\PP3861 1164	VEAC, 2020
P081341	0.7	Otway Coast COM C	Permanent Protection of the Coastline	30J\PP3861	VEAC, 2020
P080558	7.6	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Recreation	29R\PP2813	VEAC, 2020
P080578	41.5	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	B3\PP2936	VEAC, 2020
P365741	5.3	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	10C\PP3861	VEAC, 2020
P080593	30.4	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	11C~2A\PP29	VEAC, 2020
P373651	1.6	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2001\PP5716	VEAC, 2020
P081339	0.7	part DELWP/ part O	Permanent Protection of the Coastline	30G\PP3861	VEAC, 2020
P373654	2	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2001\PP5014	VEAC, 2020
P373652	15.6	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2014\PP2936	VEAC, 2020
P081350	3.9	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Recreation	2G\PP3861	VEAC, 2020
P373348	2.2	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2004\PP2813	VEAC, 2020
P081500	7.2	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	13A~2\PP501	VEAC, 2020
P373363	2.2	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2003\PP2936	VEAC, 2020
P081342	0.1	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2F\PP3861	VEAC, 2020
P373653	7.2	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2015\PP2936 1001	VEAC, 2020
P081961	2.2	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	17A~3A\PP57 1002	VEAC, 2020
P365436	0.2	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	11C~8\PP501 1010	VEAC, 2020

Parcel	Area	Land Manager	Reserve Type and Purpose	SPI	Source
P080594	11.9	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	11B~2A\PP29 1016	VEAC, 2020
P081036	0.5	Otway Coast COM C	Permanent Public Purposes	11C~1\PP501 1017	VEAC, 2020
P082169	10.3	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	11B~8\PP501 1031	VEAC, 2020
P081340	3.4	part DELWP/ part O	Permanent Protection of the Coastline	30H\PP3861 1054	VEAC, 2020
P080577	19.7	Otway Coast COM C	Permanent Public Purposes	A2\PP2936 1057	VEAC, 2020
P080555	2.3	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	27E\PP2813 1062	VEAC, 2020
P080591	21.1	part DELWP/ part O	Temporary Public Purposes	9D~2A\PP293 1069	VEAC, 2020
P081498	3.1	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	12A~2\PP501 1072	VEAC, 2020
P373349	0	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2001\PP2813 1084	VEAC, 2020
P082203	0	Otway Coast COM C	Permanent Protection of the Coastline, Public	2C\PP3861 1094	VEAC, 2020
P366568	0	part DELWP/ part O	Permanent Protection of the Coastline	32H\PP3861 1120	VEAC, 2020
P373655	0.6	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2002\PP5014 1122	VEAC, 2020
P373656	21	Otway Coast COM C	Temporary Public Purposes	2013\ 2013\PP2936	VEAC, 2020
	1345				
Additional parcels not included in the VEAC Coastal Inventory					
P080586		Otway Coast COM C		7E~2A\PP2936	Map 1 of 8
P081489		Otway Coast COM C		11A~1\PP5014	Map 2 of 8
P081501		Otway Coast COM C		13B~2\PP5014	Map 2 of 8
P365436		Otway Coast COM C		11C~8\PP5014	Map 2 of 8
P081962		Otway Coast COM C		17B~3A\PP5716	Map 4 of 8
P373651		Otway Coast COM C		2001\PP5716	Map 4 of 8
P080629		Otway Coast COM C		2B~3\PP2936	Map 4&5 of 8
P366567		Otway Coast COM C		32G\PP3861	Map 7 of 8



## Appendix 2. Legislation and policy

Coastal management arrangements arise from the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* and the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*. The state, regional and local policy documents central to the OCC operations are detailed in Figure 4. There is a large range of relevant legislation, government policies, plans, reports and other documents that the OCC needs to observe when managing the coast. Key documents are briefly outlined below.

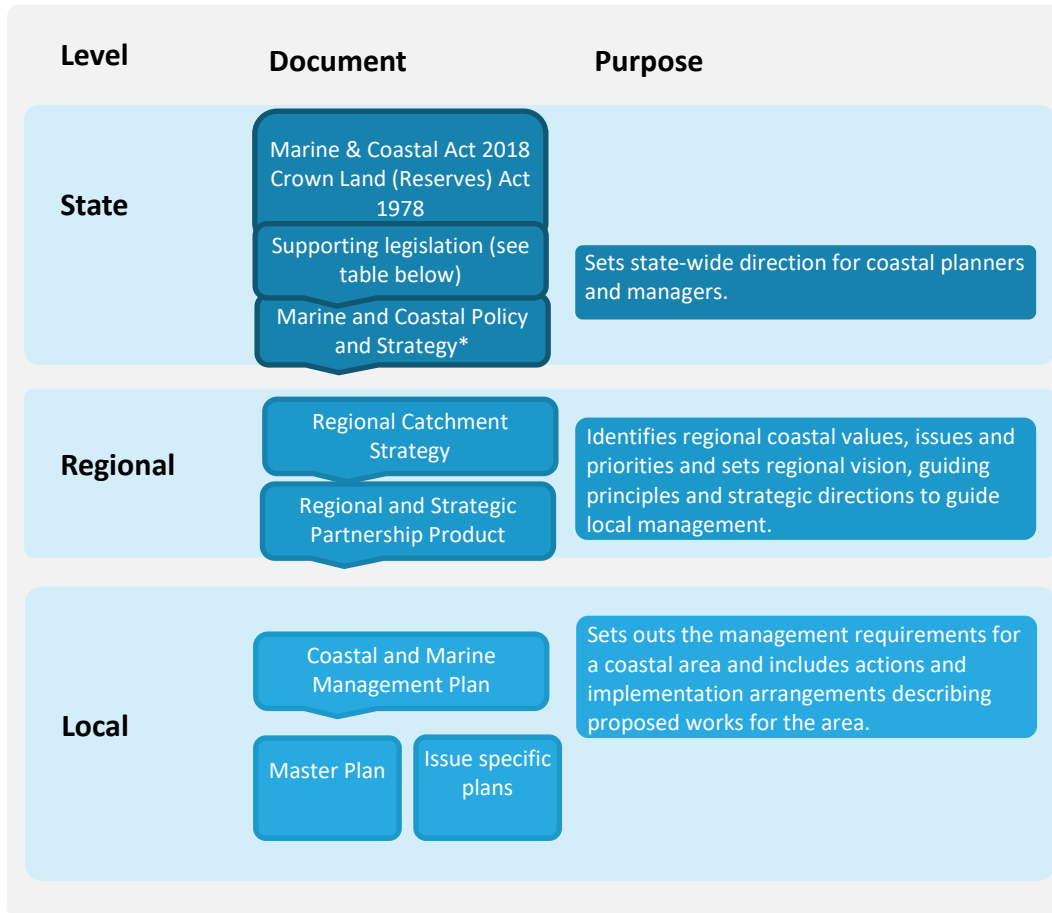


Figure 4. Coastal and marine planning hierarchy

**Table 5. Government policy and strategic documents of relevance for the Otway Coast CMMP**

Level	Document
<b>Federal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i></li> </ul>
<b>State</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i></li> <li>• <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i></li> <li>• <i>Planning and Environment Act 1981</i></li> <li>• <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i></li> <li>• <i>Great Ocean Road and Environs Protection Bill (TBA)</i></li> <li>• <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i></li> <li>• <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i></li> <li>• <i>Water Act 1989</i></li> <li>• <i>Wildlife Act 1975</i></li> <li>• Marine and Coastal Policy (DELWP 2020)</li> <li>• Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037</li> <li>• Guidelines for the development of Coastal Management Plans (DELWP, 2017)</li> <li>• Improving Equity of Access to Crown land Caravan and Camping Parks (DSE, 2011)</li> <li>• Best Practice Management Guidelines for Committees of Management Managing Caravan and Camping Grounds on Crown land (DSE, 2010)</li> <li>• Public Participation in Government Decision-making (VAGO, 2015)</li> </ul>
<b>Regional</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great Ocean Road Action Plan (DELWP, 2018)</li> <li>• Eastern Maar Country Plan (2015)</li> <li>• Western Regional Coastal Plan 2015-2020 (Western Coastal Board, 2015)</li> <li>• Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) 2013 – 2019, (CCMA, 2013)</li> <li>• Corangamite Regional Floodplain Strategy (CCMA, 2018)</li> <li>• Corangamite Waterway Strategy 2014 – 2022 (CCMA, 2014)</li> <li>• NRM Plan for Climate Change (CCCMA, 2013)</li> <li>• Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Barwon South West December 2018</li> <li>• Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism State of the Industry December 2018</li> </ul>
<b>Local</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colac Otway Planning Scheme</li> <li>• Colac Otway Tourism Parking and Traffic Strategy</li> <li>• Community Infrastructure Plan - Apollo Bay - Skenes Creek - Marengo</li> <li>• Apollo Bay Harbour Development Plan</li> <li>• Apollo Bay Harbour Precinct Redevelopment February 2019</li> <li>• Port of Apollo Bay Renewal</li> <li>• Kennett River Tourism Parking and Traffic Strategy June 2019</li> <li>• Apollo Bay Destination Action Plan</li> </ul>

## Appendix 3. Summary of consultation activities

Table 6. Consultation approaches for the Otway Coast CMMP

Stage	Consultation Approach	Organisation or individual
<b>Review and analysis</b>	Stakeholder interviews	Colac Otway Shire Council: Doug McNeil; Simon Clarke; Ian Seuren; Paul Jane, Stewart Anderson and Susan Barker. DELWP: Greg Leece; Wayne KT; Michael Noelker; Maddie Veale. OCC: All committee members and General Manager Wye River & Separation Creek Community Association Inc.: Greg Hocking. Apollo Bay P12 School: Tiffany Holt. Wye River General Store and Café Wye River Big 4 Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism: Liz Price; Jo Birley. Kennett River Association: Corrina Dichiera; Elenore Lannigan. Landcare: Ally Hughes Parks Victoria: Jess Reid CCMA: Leigh Dennis Apollo Bay Surf Life Saving Club
	Meetings and workshop	OCC: Committee and General Manager (review of analysis and confirm issues and opportunities)
	Posters / Drop-in at joint agency session	Business leaders and community members participating in Apollo Bay & Marengo Community Infrastructure Plan; Great Ocean Road Action Plan - August 2019
<b>Discussion Paper</b>	Written or verbal feedback	COS CCMA Parks Victoria Wye River Big 4 Wye River and Separation Creek Associations DELWP Great Ocean Road Regional Tourism Wye River General Store Kennett River Association
	Workshops	OCC: General Manager (review of feedback and develop strategic directions)
	Meetings	OCC: General Manager and Committee (review of feedback and confirm strategic directions, identify precincts, assets, values and threats/management issues) Eastern Maar: Alice Ugle DELWP: Amber Clarey, Martin Butcher, Michael Noelker (clarify <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i> requirements and policy directions, identify consultation approaches)
<b>CMMP</b>	Meetings and workshops	Eastern Maar: John Clarke; Billy Briggs DELWP: Libby Sampson; Paul Jane and Sue Andrews (confirm Great Ocean Road Action Plan directions) OCC: General Manager, Committee (vision and goals, identifying activity and recreation nodes, developing actions and feasibility assessment) and (review and input to full draft and precinct plans)

Stage	Consultation Approach	Organisation or individual
	Written feedback (received)	Review of full draft CMMP DELWP Apollo Bay Chamber of Commerce Apollo Bay Golf Club Colac Otway Shire Council Skenes Creek Advancement Association Wye River & Separation Creek Community Association OCC Committee (review of comments received and identification of revisions required)



## Appendix 4. Coastal hazard risk maps

**Maps from GHD.** *Apollo Bay – Coastal Protection Study. Report to Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. December 2018. 2018. To be inserted*





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