

# Flinders Coastal and Marine Management Plan

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April 2023



**MORNINGTON  
PENINSULA**  
*Shire*

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Executive summary

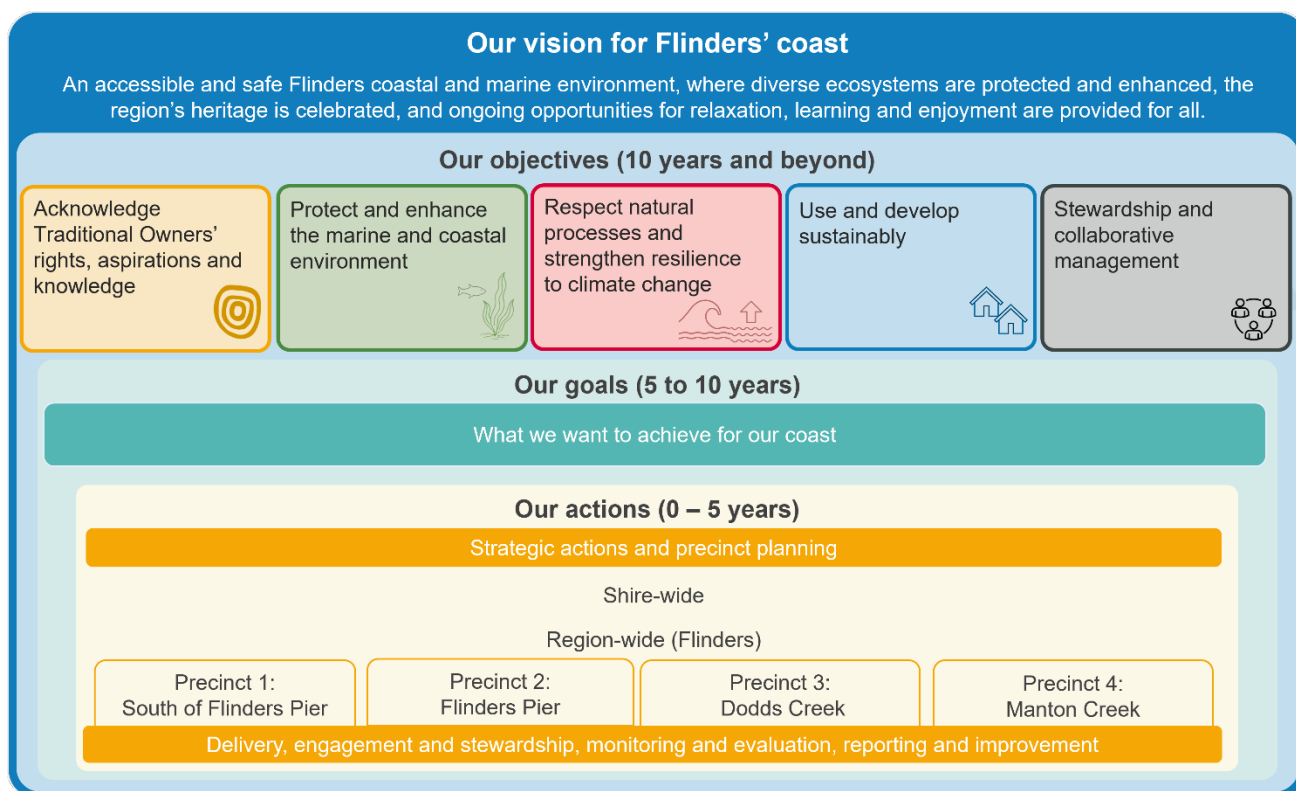
#### Overview

A Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP) has been created in consultation with the Flinders community, including the Flinders Coastal Advisory Group, the Bunurong Land Council, Council staff, and other agencies. Commencing its development in November 2021, it has been designed to align with state legislation, guidelines and government policy, in particular the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* and Policy.

The CMMP sets the strategic direction for marine and coastal management for the next 5-10 years. Its vision and objectives have been informed by community and stakeholder perspectives. They reflect expectations and aspirations for the Flinders coastline. Community perspectives are also presented in the plan as values, concerns and opportunities.

#### CMMP framework

An overview (program logic) of the Flinders CMMP structure shows the relationships between the vision and objectives.



Objectives for managing coastal and marine areas in Flinders have been shaped through discussions with Shire staff, agencies, and community stakeholders, and align closely with key management pillars of the Marine and Coastal Policy. Goals and actions have been developed to help achieve the realisation of each management objective.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### CMMP actions

Aligned with our goals, our actions describe the projects and tools we will use to achieve our long-term objectives over the next 5 years. A range of actions have been defined to enable a strategic approach to coastal and marine management across the Flinders and broader Mornington Peninsula Shire region.

The Flinders CMMP actions have been defined at three scales:

- **Shire-wide actions** – applicable across the Mornington Peninsula Shire and developed through coordination of the Flinders, Portsea and Mount Eliza CMMPs
- **Region-wide actions** – Specific for the entire Flinders CMMP region
- **Precinct actions** – Specific to particular locations within the Flinders area

These actions and their timing have been guided by the findings from community and stakeholder consultation, and the management experiences of the Shire and other agencies. They align with the objectives and goals defined for the CMMP and are presented under the objective themes.

These CMMP actions will guide investment and management priorities over the next 5 – 10 years and are to be reviewed and revised after 5 years. As a Shire-led plan, the Shire is to lead each action. Key partners involved in action delivery are also identified along with recommended timing of action commencement and indicative costing ranges.




### Upcoming actions

Current and upcoming actions for Flinders are shown in the following tables. These are actions planned to commence within the next two years. The full lists of actions are detailed within the plan.

Timelines for commencing CMMP actions are a guide and are subject to available funding and resourcing. Refer to *Implementation* section of the plan for possible funding pathways.






#### Shire-wide actions

Delivery on Shire-wide actions are integral to this plan. A number of specific shire-wide actions have been highlighted due to strong alignment in supporting and addressing Flinders values, concerns and opportunities.

	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 1: Acknowledge Traditional Owners' rights, aspirations &amp; knowledge</b>			
S.1e	Ensure collaboration with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation for any projects or works located in or near recognised culturally sensitive areas within marine and coastal zones via initiatives which work towards co-management and support the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation teams to work on Country.		**	The Shire BLCAC and others

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan










	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>				
S.2e	<p>Partnering with relevant stakeholders, build upon existing Shire and community vegetation management and habitat enhancement measures, with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- integrating best practice methods</li> <li>- regenerating and re-establishing native communities</li> <li>- improving weed and invasive species management</li> <li>- defining clear performance indicators (i.e., weed/pest control, native cover, number/presence of species)</li> <li>- determining current baselines</li> <li>- monitoring performance</li> </ul> <p>Approach to consider ecological vegetation classes (EVCs), species origin, sensitivity and diversity.</p>		\$\$	<b>The Shire and others</b>
S.2f	<p>Protect sensitive coastal and marine areas and retain public spaces for all users, through educating adjacent landowners and lessees on impacts of their activities and practises. Includes informal structures and access points on Crown land, connectivity obstructions, ground disturbance and vegetation impacts.</p>		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
S.2g	<p>Advocate, educate and promote behaviour change for foreshore adjacent homeowners and residents, to protect vegetated crown land areas, by providing guidance and examples on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- planting and gardening methods (incl. valued native and indigenous species, weed control, disposal)</li> <li>- material placement, ground disturbance and geological contamination</li> <li>- site drainage</li> <li>- good vegetation and site management practices</li> </ul>		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
<b>Objective 3: Respect natural processes and strengthen resilience to climate change</b>				
S.3f	<p>Investigate adaptation opportunities for foreshore infrastructure and facilities and cultural and historical assets, in response to projected climate change impacts, including relocation of foreshore assets where feasible.</p>		\$\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>				
S.4b	<p>Using communication, advocacy, enforcement and planning controls, work with relevant landholders to reduce encroachment and synergistic impacts on Crown Land, and align activities with the CMMP and other Shire and state management guidelines and policies.</p>		\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Regional actions

Regional actions are applicable across the broader coastal and marine areas at Flinders.

	Regional actions (Flinders)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>				
R.2a	Continue a minimal management and intervention approach towards onshore seaweed and increase awareness of its biodiversity values, as a habitat, nesting and food source, and a natural erosion mitigation measure.		**	<b>The Shire</b>
R.2b	Work with relevant stakeholders to investigate opportunities to formalise protection and increase awareness of sensitive ecosystems in Western Port Bay and surrounding areas, including the use of marine protected areas.		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>DEECA, Victorian Environmental Assessment Council, others</i>
R.2c	Work with Melbourne Water and community to support catchment and water quality improvements in Dodds Creek and Manton Creek.		\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>MW</i>
R.2d	Partnering with relevant stakeholders, and guided by the Flinders Vegetation Management Plan, build upon existing Shire and community vegetation management and habitat enhancement measures, with a focus on regenerating and re-establishing native communities and weed control. (Linked to action R.2e.)		\$\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>PV</i>
R.2e	Develop and implement recommendations from vegetation management plan to guide and prioritise stakeholder and community management activities for the Flinders foreshore reserve, and demonstrate the need for funding.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
R.2f	Work with Parks Victoria and relevant stakeholders to revise the Flinders Conservation Management Plan (2013) to reflect the heritage values of the site and management requirements in accordance with the Victorian Heritage Registry		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>PV</i>
R.2g	Advocate for and explore options for an ongoing funding commitment to enable routine vegetation management works at Flinders foreshore reserve to ensure delivery and performance.		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>and others</i>
<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>				
R.4a	Retain and support local commercial industry operating from Flinders – and promote and enforce sustainable behaviours and practices		\$	<b>The Shire</b>
<b>Objective 5: Stewardship and collaborative management</b>				
R.5a	Liaise with the Flinders Yacht Club and Bass Coast Trust to communicate the CMMP to gain support and encourage alignment.		**	<b>The Shire,</b> <i>Flinders Yacht Club, Bass Coast Trust</i>






# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan





### By precinct

The Flinders coastline has been divided into four precincts, to enable localised management needs to be addressed. Each of these has a set of precinct-specific actions. Current and upcoming actions for each Flinders precinct are shown below.

#### Precinct 1: South of Flinders Pier


	Action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>			
P1.1	Widen and enhance native vegetation buffer at the car park, foreshore picnic area and playground through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increased planting, fencing, access control, weed management</li> <li>- changes to vegetation maintenance and mowing</li> </ul>		\$\$	The Shire and others
	<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>			
P1.2	Undertake usage surveys and other monitoring (e.g., car counters, sensors) at Flinders foreshore carpark to quantify and understand usage, visitation and demands of marine and coastal areas, to inform strategic foreshore management, particularly during high visitation periods.		\$\$	The Shire
P1.3	Continue to encourage activation of the picnic areas and foreshore via community events, outside of peak usage times.		\$\$	The Shire
P1.4	Undertake works to improve pedestrian safety, access and connectivity between the picnic area and the pier, through formalised path/s, all-abilities opportunities, increased visibility and improved configuration.		\$\$\$\$	The Shire
P1.5	Review and improve disabled access parking spaces foreshore car park.		\$	The Shire

#### Precinct 2: Flinders Pier


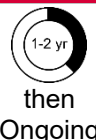
	Action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>			
P2.1	Undertake usage surveys and other monitoring (e.g., car counters, sensors) at Flinders Pier to quantify and understand usage, visitation and demands of marine and coastal areas, to inform strategic foreshore management, particularly during high visitation periods.		\$\$	The Shire
P2.2	Retain existing authorised pier access (maintenance, commercial operators & emergency services)		\$\$	The Shire
P2.3	Work with Parks Victoria and relevant stakeholders on the potential Flinders Pier restoration and review the alignment of any works with this CMMP vision, objectives and actions.		\$	The Shire PV and others
P2.4	Complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the future use of the Pier Shed. Evaluation to be guided by the CMMP objectives and Marine and Coastal Policy to ensure sustainable use, and consider adjacent Pier restoration.		\$	The Shire

# Flinders


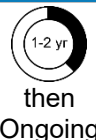
## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
P2.5	Investigate opportunities for the installation of an outdoor shower and wash down facility for swimmers, divers and other beach and bay users.		\$	<b>The Shire</b>

### Precinct 3: Dodds Creek

	Action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>				
P3.1	Work with adjacent landowners to minimise impacts from private property, increasing awareness and understanding of activities and practises to help protect and enhance the coastline. To align with VMP guidance.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
<b>Objective 3: Respect natural processes and strengthen resilience to climate change</b>				
P3.2	Informed by geotechnical assessment, undertake measures to further mitigate existing cliff and slope erosion hazards, and strengthen the resilience and safety of cliffs under a changing climate.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>

### Precinct 4: Manton Creek

	Action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>				
P4.1	Work with adjacent landowners to minimise impacts from private property, increasing awareness and understanding of activities and practises to help protect and enhance the coastline. To align with VMP guidance.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>				
P4.2	Work with relevant landholders and Melbourne Water to improve management of stock access to Manton Creek		\$\$	<b>The Shire with Melbourne Water</b>

### Implementation and review of the Flinders CMMP

Successful implementation of the CMMP requires commitment from the Shire and State Government to prioritise coastal and marine management and ensure its integration with other Shire plans and strategies.

The Flinders CMMP actions will be delivered via a range of existing Shire and stakeholder mechanisms (where possible). This includes the annual capital works program, planning schemes, local laws, asset management plans and other Shire plans, as well as business-as-usual operations for the Shire.

An implementation plan (as supplement to this document) details timing, lead agencies, supporting partners, implementation mechanism/approach, funding estimates and opportunities, relevant approval along with metrics to track action implementation and performance.

Actions will be reviewed annually, to determine action status - what has been started, completed, yet to commence or is ongoing. This will include progress reporting and identify upcoming work proposed for the next 12 months.

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## Coastal and Marine Management Plan



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### Supplement A – Implementation plan

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## Coastal and Marine Management Plan



### Acknowledgement of Country

Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges and pays respect to the elders, families and ancestors of the Bunurong people, who have been the Traditional Custodians of this land (including its coastal and marine areas) for many thousands of years.

We acknowledge that the land on which we meet is the place of age-old ceremonies, celebrations, initiation and renewal; and that the Bunurong peoples' living culture continues to have a unique role in the life of this region.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan



### Abbreviations

ABM	Association of Bayside Municipalities
BBV	Better Boating Victoria
BLCAC	Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
CAG	Coastal Advisory Group
CMP	Coastal Management Plan (predecessor of this CMMP)
CMMP	Coastal and Marine Management Plan
DEECA	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
EPA	Environment Protection Authority Victoria
EVC	Ecological Vegetation Class
LSV	Life Saving Victoria
MER	Monitoring, Evaluation and Review
MW	Melbourne Water
PV	Parks Victoria
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party
SEW	South East Water
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VFA	Victorian Fisheries Authority



### Document version history

			Authors
Draft CMMP	V1	August 2022	Shire: H. Forrest Alluvium: P. Bicknell, S. Doumtsis, P. Richards, E Hodson
Final CMMP	V1	April 2023	Shire: H. Forrest Alluvium: P. Bicknell, S. Doumtsis

The Mornington Peninsula Shire thank the following members of the Flinders Coastal Advisory Group for their contributions during development of the CMMP; J. Willis (Chair), M. Aarons, A. Farrar, L. Glover, S. Guggenheimer, N. Hallam, T. Hiney, C. Jaeger and C. Reis.

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## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

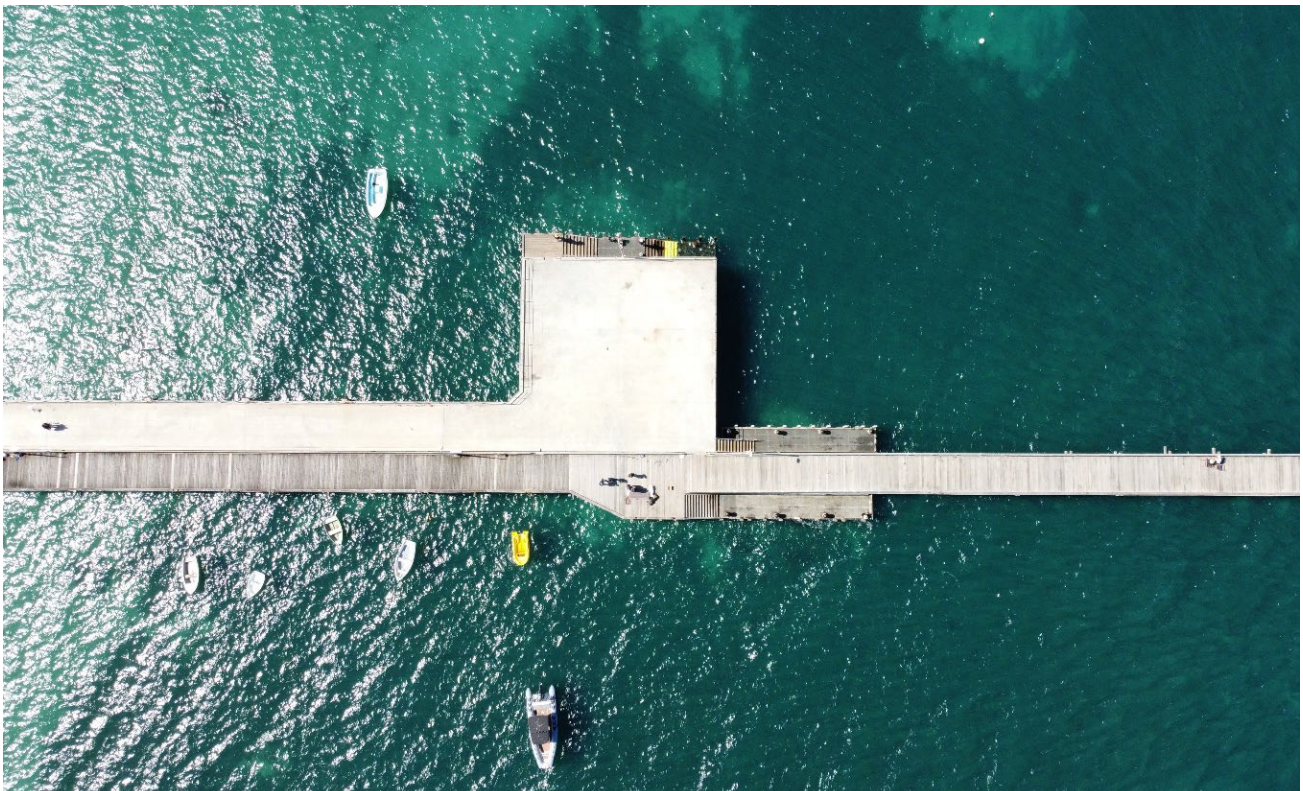
### Introduction

Surrounded by Port Phillip Bay, Bass Strait and Western Port Bay, the Mornington Peninsula coastline is almost 200 km long and makes up more than 10% of Victoria's coast. These coastal and marine areas are a key part of the Peninsula's past, present and future. Flinders is the southernmost town on the Peninsula, at the entrance to Western Port Bay. It is part of the lands of the Bunurong People and has been an important hub for marine activities throughout the Peninsula's European history. It has held on to its charm and coastal heritage, and is a popular place to live, holiday and visit.

The coastal and marine areas at Flinders are an important part of this appeal. The surrounding marine environment sustains incredible and unique biodiversity and marine life. Serviced by the iconic Flinders pier, the offshore waters of Western Port Bay attract swimmers, divers, snorkellers and fishers as well as a range of commercial and aquaculture ventures. Flinders foreshore is a popular place to stroll along the beach, explore rockpools, launch a boat, all while enjoying the panoramic views of Western Port Bay.

Managing this coastline faces a range of ongoing and emerging challenges including ageing infrastructure and facilities, increasing pressures from visitation and usage, growing communities, development and a changing climate.

Our Flinders Coastal and Marine Management Plan will help guide appropriate, effective and sustainable management of these valued and sensitive areas, and the facilities, infrastructure and management initiatives that support them. This strategic approach strengthens our long-standing commitment to being leaders in coastal planning and management and will shape the future of our Flinders foreshore.



# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

We have been working with key stakeholders and the community to develop the Flinders Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP). The CMMP will guide how we manage our coastal and marine areas over the next 10 years by:

- Highlighting what people love and what they are concerned about
- Setting our overall vision, objectives and management approach
- Outlining priority actions and projects for delivery
- Helping coordinate management across relevant organisations and community groups.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (the Shire) commenced development of the Flinders CMMP in November 2021, which has been undertaken in stages (Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** *Timeline for developing the CMMP.*

A tailored stakeholder engagement plan informed the approach to engagement throughout the development of the CMMP. This enabled insights and perspectives from the Flinders community and stakeholders to be considered and included. Summaries of key engagement activities with stakeholders to date are available in Attachment A.



## Mornington Peninsula

### Community and connection to coast

The Mornington Peninsula is home to about 170,000 people, and a second home or favourite holiday destination to many more. Wherever you live, work or visit on the Peninsula, you are never very far from the sea. This coastal connection is reflected in the Peninsula's history and character. The Bunurong people used the coastal areas as sources of food and camping sites. In European history, the Peninsula has been a place of maritime and naval activities, coastal living, and seaside getaways. The coast is, and always will be, fundamental to the Peninsula way of life.

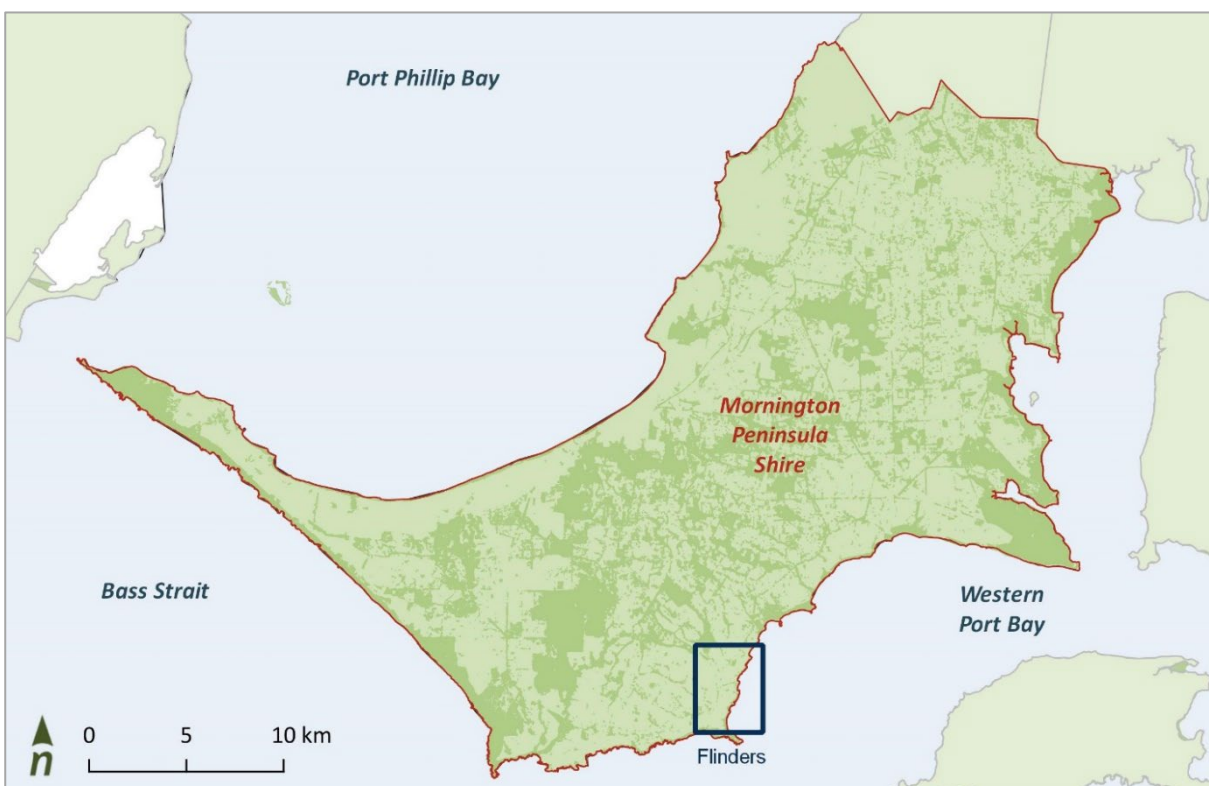


Figure 2. Mornington Peninsula, including the Flinders CMMP area.

### The Bunurong people

The Mornington Peninsula is part of the traditional lands of the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation, who have lived in this area for over 40,000 years. The Bunurong people have a strong connection to Country and have played an important role in caring for land and water across the region.

The Flinders foreshore continues to be valued Land and Sea Country for the Bunurong people. They are the traditional coastal custodians, and lived across the Mornington Peninsula and its surrounds. The clan identified in the Flinders area at the time of European settlement was the Boonwurrung Balag, which held territory around Cape Schanck and Point Nepean. Local waterways and the sea were important food sources. Significant and meaningful sites, middens, fish traps and other artefacts are found within the marine and coastal areas around Flinders.

European settlement continues to significantly impact Aboriginal communities and cultures and western activities and uses have led to deterioration of valued and sensitive coastal and marine environments.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan



### Environment

The natural environment of the Mornington Peninsula makes it a special place. It is home to an incredible diversity of plants and animals, including species of conservation significance. The parks and reserves that help protect this biodiversity cover about 10% of all Mornington Peninsula land. Much of the east coast is part of the Western Port Ramsar Wetland, and the entire Peninsula is part of a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. The Peninsula's beaches, bays, waterways, wetlands and groundwater all play a vital role in the natural ecosystem and in providing habitat.

Stretches of the Peninsula's coastline are also recognised for their significant geology and landforms. The Port Phillip Bay coast includes scenic cliff tops and sandy beaches, ranging from small pockets to long strips. The wild Bass Strait coast has windswept ocean beaches and spectacular rocky coast, including London Bridge and Cape Schanck, while the diverse Western Port coastline includes scenic bays and rocky reefs in the south and mangroves and mudflats in the north. The highest point on the Peninsula is Arthurs Seat, which is little more than a kilometre from McCrae Beach.

### Tourism and the economy

The Mornington Peninsula is one of the most popular day-trip destinations in Victoria, and its population swells significantly in summer when Melburnians make use of its many thousands of holiday homes. The Peninsula also attracts visitors from much further afield. In 2018-19, tourism was estimated to be worth over a billion dollars to the Peninsula's economy.<sup>1</sup> Its diverse and unique coastal and marine areas are a major contributor to this popularity. About 80% of overnight visitors and 60% of daytrip visitors head for the coast.<sup>2</sup> While the Peninsula has many other attractions, such as its food and wine, changing conditions and management issues of these coastal and marine areas may impact on the broader Peninsula economy.

Another important contributor to the local economy (similarly contributing over a billion dollars each year) is agriculture, for which about 40% of all Peninsula land is used.

### Emerging challenges

The Shire is currently tackling both the root cause and broader impacts of climate change.<sup>3</sup> We are already experiencing increasing temperatures. Across the Peninsula, including the coast, the impacts of climate change are predicted to include more extreme weather, greater fire risk, loss of biodiversity, and impacts on agriculture.

Climate change is also causing sea levels to rise, which will continue throughout the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond.<sup>4</sup> Together with other expected variations in coastal processes, this will mean more flooding and erosion and other changes to our coastlines. These impacts threaten our future use of the Peninsula's coast, which already experiences pressures such as sand loss, flooding and cliff erosion.

Another challenge for the Shire will be managing growing demand on our finite coastal and marine areas. In the coming years, with a growing population, we are expecting a 26% increase in dwellings by 2026, and about 15% more residents by 2036.<sup>5</sup> With visitor numbers also likely to increase, our coastal and marine areas will need to accommodate more people.

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<sup>1</sup> Victorian Government (2021) Mornington Peninsula - Regional Tourism Summary, Year Ending Dec 2020

<sup>2</sup> Mornington Peninsula Shire (2019) Mornington Peninsula Visitor Journeys 2019 Report

<sup>3</sup> Mornington Peninsula Shire (2020) Ensuring Our Future: Our Climate Emergency Response

<sup>4</sup> CoastAdapt (2017) [Sea-level rise and future climate information for coastal councils](#)

<sup>5</sup> Mornington Peninsula Shire (2021) Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Policy context

Across the Peninsula, coastal and marine management takes place in the context of Victorian Government legislation and policies.

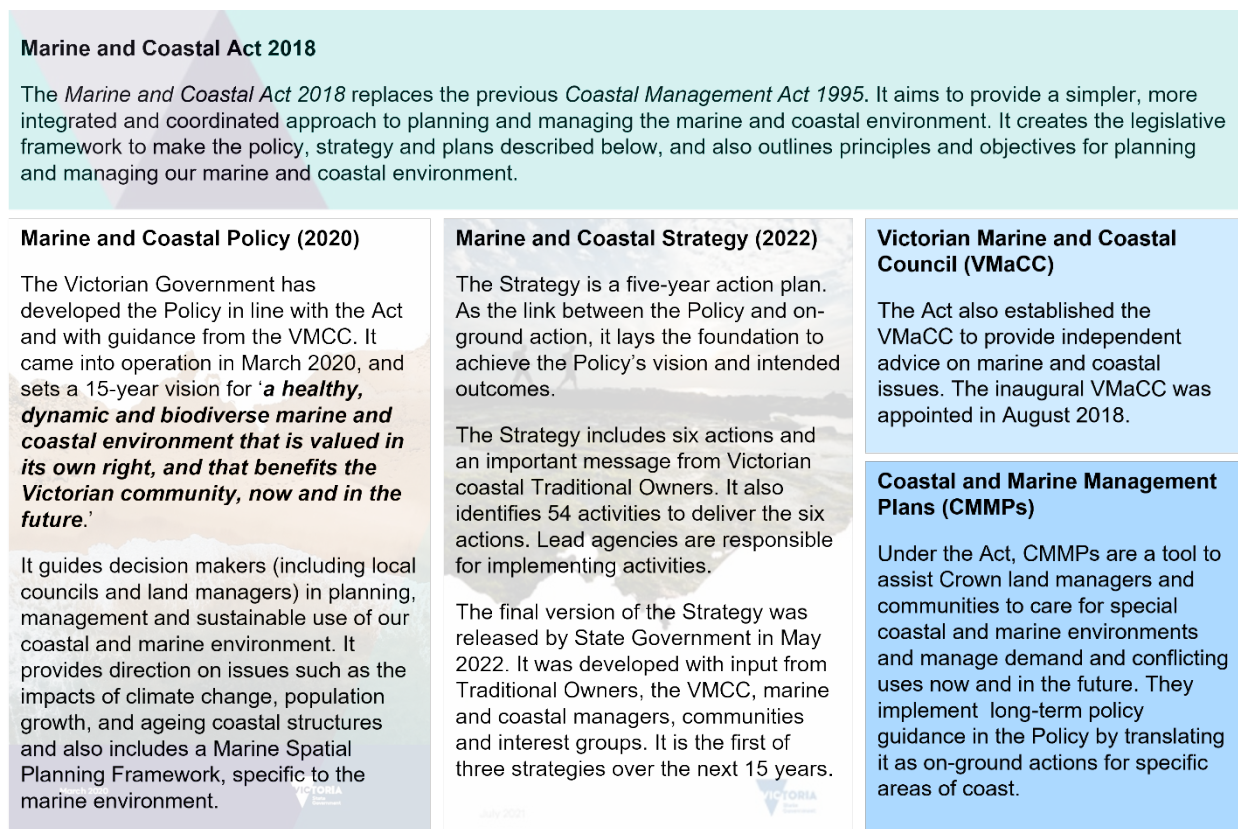
In recent years, the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Change (DEECA)<sup>6</sup> has led a reform of coastal and marine management in Victoria. This reform aims to better support coordinated management and provide tools to identify and adapt to coastal hazards.

The key components of this reform are summarised in Figure 3.

#### What came before this CMMP?

A Coastal Management Plan (CMP) for Flinders was released in 2010. It was developed under the previous *Coastal Management Act 1995*.

As one of the Shire's older CMPs, it was prioritised for renewal (as a CMMP) as part of our 2021-22 budget. CMMPs are being developed at the same time for Mount Eliza and Portsea. CMMPs have also been developed for Sorrento and Mount Martha in recent years. They will all help to translate the latest Victorian Government policy into on-ground actions.



**Figure 3.** Victoria's marine and coastal policy context.

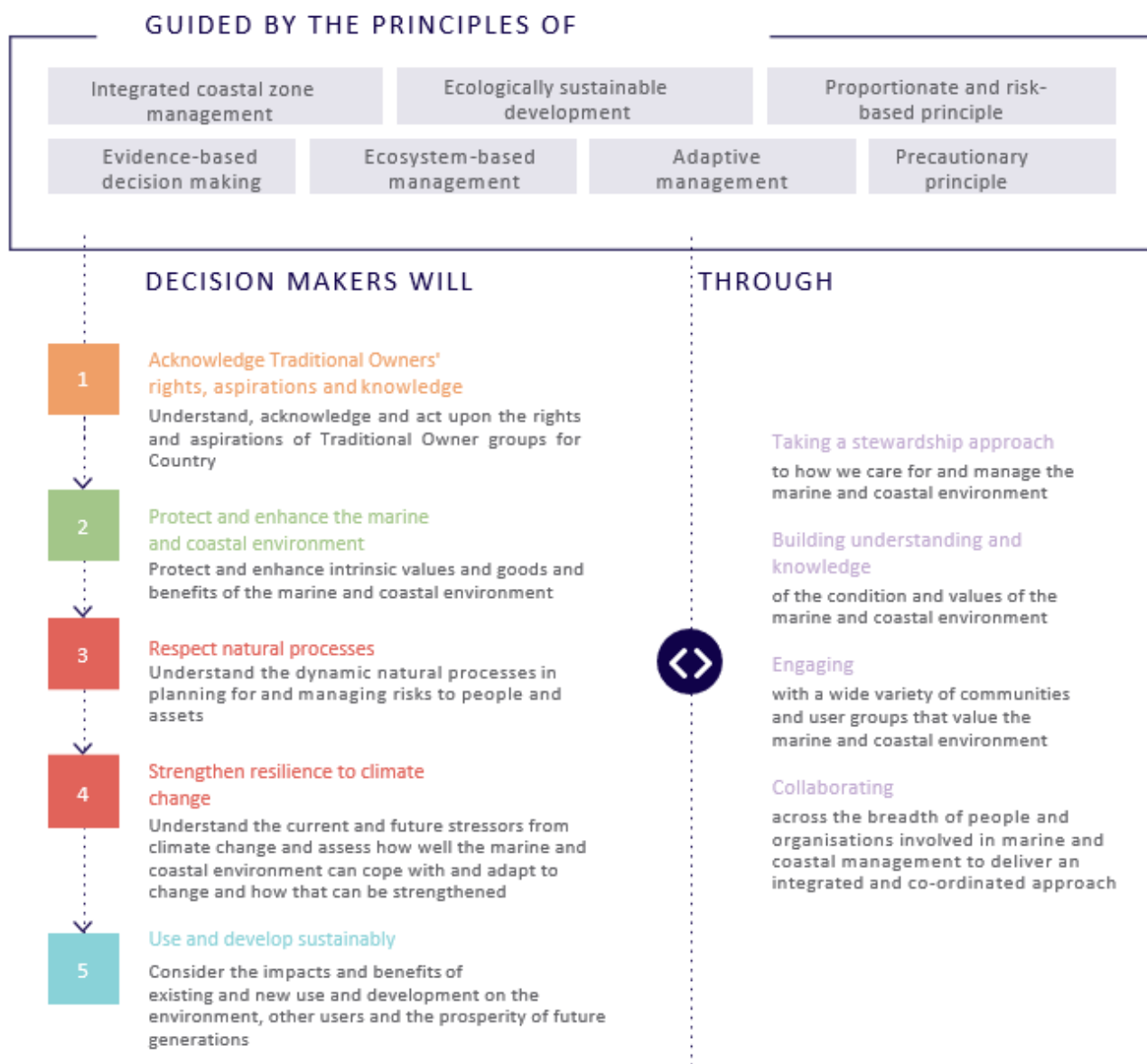
DEECA is currently developing its CMMP guidelines, under Victoria's Marine and Coastal Reforms Final Transition Plan (2018). The development of this CMMP has been guided by draft CMMP guidelines, DEECA advice (formal and informal), and a robust understanding of Victoria's marine and coastal policy context (Figure 3).

<sup>6</sup> Formerly as Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning (DELWP) until January 2023.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

The Marine and Coastal Policy includes a 'Planning and Decision Pathway' which shows how the objectives and guiding principles of the Act should be used in decision making in the marine and coastal environment (Figure 4).



**Figure 4.** The Planning and Decision Pathway sets out how the guiding principles and policy must be considered in decision making (Source: DELWP, 2020).

In addition to the Victorian Government reforms, there are policies and other documents at regional and local levels that are relevant to coastal and marine management on the Peninsula. A summary is provided in Attachment B. It is important that our vision, objectives and actions for our coastal and marine areas have consistency across the region. Some of the Shire's key plans and strategies (and how they relate to the principles in Figure 4) are shown in Figure 5.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Acknowledge Traditional Owners' rights, aspirations and knowledge	Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment	Respect natural processes	Strengthen resilience to climate change	Use and develop sustainably
Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2026	Protect natural sites of cultural and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander significance (strategy)	A healthy ecosystem, in which our coastline, bushland, wildlife and green wedge is resilient to the climate emergency and development (objective)	A healthy natural environment and well-planned townships (theme)		
Imagine: Peninsula 2040 – Our shared community vision		Protect and enhance all elements of our natural land, sea and biodiverse environments (principle)		Addressing climate change (principle)	
Ensuring Our Future: Our Climate Emergency Response	Representatives from Registered Aboriginal Party and other TO Groups are involved in decision making impacting the region, especially regarding protecting the natural environment (task)	Generate a thriving Peninsula-wide natural environment (action step)	Grow nature-based infrastructure (action step)	Understand climate risks on assets and services (action step)	
Our Reconciliation Action Plan 2022	Identify and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage (action)		Connect communities and nature in precinct planning (action step)		
	Acknowledge and celebrate Bunurong / Boonwurrung history and cultural heritage (action)				
	Incorporate cultural footprint within all project planning and design (action)				
Arts and Culture Plan 2020-2026	Uniquely the Peninsula – our places and spaces nurture creative and cultural expression and showcase our local people, their stories and our unique environment				
Biodiversity Conservation Plan	Develop a biodiversity protection and management partnership with local Traditional Owners (action)	The Morrington Peninsula's biodiversity is healthy, valued and protected (vision)		Building ecosystem resilience in a changing climate (strategic direction)	
Asset Management Strategy 2020-2030				Incorporate consideration of climate change into our asset management thinking (objective)	
Marine Precincts Strategy					Promote the Morrington Peninsula as Victoria's premier location for marine recreational boating, tourism and industry (objective)

**Figure 5.** Alignment of recent key Morrington Peninsula Shire documents in relation to the Marine and Coastal Policy and its core objectives

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Shire-wide coastal and marine management

Management of the Mornington Peninsula's coastal and marine areas is a shared responsibility between the Mornington Peninsula Shire (the Shire), Parks Victoria and DEECA, as well as various Committees of Management (Figure 6).

The Shire manages a third of the coastal and marine areas along the Peninsula in coastal foreshore reserves. The Shire is either the freehold landowner of these areas or the appointed Committee of Management (CoM), pursuant to the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*.

Parks Victoria and DEECA also manage many of the beaches and coastlines on the Peninsula, particularly at Point Nepean and along the Bass Strait Coast, while several other beaches and foreshores are managed by Voluntary Committees of Management. Other stakeholders, including Melbourne Water and the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, also play an important role (Table 1). Effective collaboration between all stakeholders is important in managing our coastal and marine areas.

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council		Parks Victoria or DEECA
<b>Bittern Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warringine Park</li> <li>• Jacks Beach</li> </ul>	<b>Mount Martha Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mount Martha Beach North</li> <li>• Mount Martha Beach South</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bushrangers Bay</li> <li>• Cape Schanck</li> <li>• Flinders Ocean Beach</li> <li>• Gunnamatta Beach</li> <li>• Point Nepean National Park</li> <li>• Portsea Ocean Beach</li> <li>• Rye Ocean Beach</li> <li>• Somers Beaches</li> <li>• Sorrento Ocean Beach</li> <li>• St Andrews Beach</li> </ul>
<b>Flinders Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flinders Beach</li> </ul>	<b>Portsea Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Point</li> <li>• Portsea Front Beach</li> <li>• Fishermans Beach</li> <li>• Shelley Beach</li> </ul>	
<b>Hastings Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fred Smith Reserve</li> <li>• Hastings South Foreshore</li> </ul>	<b>Rosebud Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• McCrae Beach</li> <li>• Rosebud Beach</li> </ul>	<b>Voluntary Committees of Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balnarring Beaches</li> <li>• Blairgowrie Front Beach</li> <li>• Capel Sound and Tootgarook Beaches</li> <li>• Crib Point / Stony Point</li> <li>• Dromana Beach</li> <li>• Merricks Beach</li> <li>• Point Leo</li> <li>• Shoreham Beach</li> </ul>
<b>Mornington Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fishermans Beach</li> <li>• Mills Beach</li> <li>• Scout Beach</li> <li>• Shire Hall Beach</li> </ul>	<b>Rye Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rye Front Beach</li> </ul>	
<b>Mount Eliza Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canadian Bay Beach</li> <li>• Daveys Bay Beach</li> <li>• Earimil Beach North</li> <li>• Earimil Beach South</li> <li>• Moondah Beach</li> <li>• Ranelagh Beach</li> <li>• Sunnyside Beach</li> <li>• Sunnyside Beach North</li> </ul>	<b>Safety Beach Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety Beach</li> </ul>	
	<b>Somers Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Beach</li> </ul>	
	<b>Somerville Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Western Port Coastal Reserve</li> </ul>	
	<b>Sorrento Foreshore</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sorrento Front Beach</li> <li>• Sullivan Bay</li> </ul>	

Figure 6. The shared management responsibility of Mornington Peninsula beaches and foreshore areas.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

## Flinders



Overlooking Western Port Bay and just around the headland (West Head) from Bass Strait, Flinders is a historic coastal town and the southernmost located on the Mornington Peninsula.

The Flinders foreshore coastal Crown land reserve covers a 5 km stretch of coastline. This includes the main Flinders Beach and several smaller beaches and cliffs to the north, intersected by several creeks.

This reserve is managed by the Shire, as the Committee of Management for this Crown land. Beyond this Crown land reserve, Shoreham Foreshore Reserve Committee of Management is responsible for areas to the north, while Bass Park Trust is responsible for the short stretch at the southern end of the Flinders foreshore (including areas leased to Flinders Yacht Club).

### The Flinders CMMP area

From north to south, this CMMP covers the southern outskirts of Shoreham to just north of West Head. The broader region will also be included in framing the vision, objectives and actions for the CMMP.

Table 1 shows the roles and public land management arrangements for the Flinders foreshore reserve and its surrounding areas. Strong collaboration between all stakeholders will be important in successfully managing the coastal and marine areas of Flinders and in achieving the objectives of the CMMP.



Figure 7. Flinders foreshore reserve.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

**Table 1. Land managers, rightsholders and other key stakeholders.**

Agency	Role
 <p>VICTORIA State Government</p> <p>Energy, Environment and Climate Action</p>	<p>The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) is responsible for overseeing management of Crown land and marine areas for its environmental, conservation and recreational values. DEECA*, recently reformed coastal and marine management with the new <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i> and associated Policy and Strategy.</p> <p>* formerly known as the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) until January 2023</p>
 <p><b>MORNINGTON PENINSULA</b> Shire</p>	<p>Mornington Peninsula Shire is Committee of Management for large portions of coastal Crown land, directly managing a number of coastal foreshore reserves. The Shire's role in coastal and marine management also includes (but is not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- managing all Shire-owned foreshore infrastructure</li> <li>- administering the Planning Scheme and reviewing planning applications</li> <li>- engaging with the Victorian Government to influence broader coastal policy</li> <li>- facilitating advocacy with other organisations and liaising with the community.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Parks</b> VICTORIA</p>	<p>Parks Victoria (PV) is the Victorian Government agency responsible for managing protected areas of land, marine parks and reserves. In addition to managing National Parks, marine protected areas, and other Crown land reserves and assets, Parks Victoria is the local port &amp; waterway manager for Port Phillip and Western Port under the Port Management Act 1995 and Marine Safety Act 2010, responsible for safe navigation (boating and swimming zones, aids to navigation), berths and infrastructure such as boating facilities, moorings and piers.</p>
 <p><b>Melbourne Water</b></p>	<p>Melbourne Water (MW) is a statutory authority owned by the Victorian Government that manages and protects Melbourne's major water resources. Its responsibilities include managing water quality, drainage and flooding. It also owns and maintains major water, sewer and drainage infrastructure, including drainage reserves and outlets.</p>
 <p><b>Bunurong Land Council</b> ABORIGINAL CORPORATION</p>	<p>The Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC) is a Traditional Owner organisation of the South-Eastern Kulin Nation, representing the traditional lands of the Bunurong language group, ancestors, places and cultural environment. It is the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) and rightsholder for the Mornington Peninsula, with cultural heritage responsibilities under the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i>. BLCAC must be consulted on proposed land management activities and the use of traditional knowledge.</p>
 <p><b>Victorian Fisheries</b> AUTHORITY</p>	<p>The Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) is an independent statutory authority established to effectively manage Victoria's fisheries resources. Servicing all fisheries and aquaculture sectors and providing advice to government, VFA work closely with many stakeholders to deliver sustainable fishing and aquaculture, clear resource access and sharing arrangements and increased economic, social and cultural value.</p>
 <p><b>better boating</b> VICTORIA</p>	<p>Better Boating Victoria (BBV) is a division of the Victorian Fisheries Authority. It oversees the implementation of boating reforms and the Victorian Government's investment in boating infrastructure and facilities. This includes upgrading boat ramps and reviewing management arrangements for boating infrastructure.</p>
<p>Flinders Coastal Advisory Group (CAG)</p>	<p>The Flinders Coastal Advisory Group (CAG) is one of 10 such groups across the Peninsula. It provides key strategic advice to the Shire on the protection and enhancement of Flinders' coastal and marine areas. It consists of community members with a diverse range of local knowledge and operates under a Shire-adopted Terms of Reference.</p>

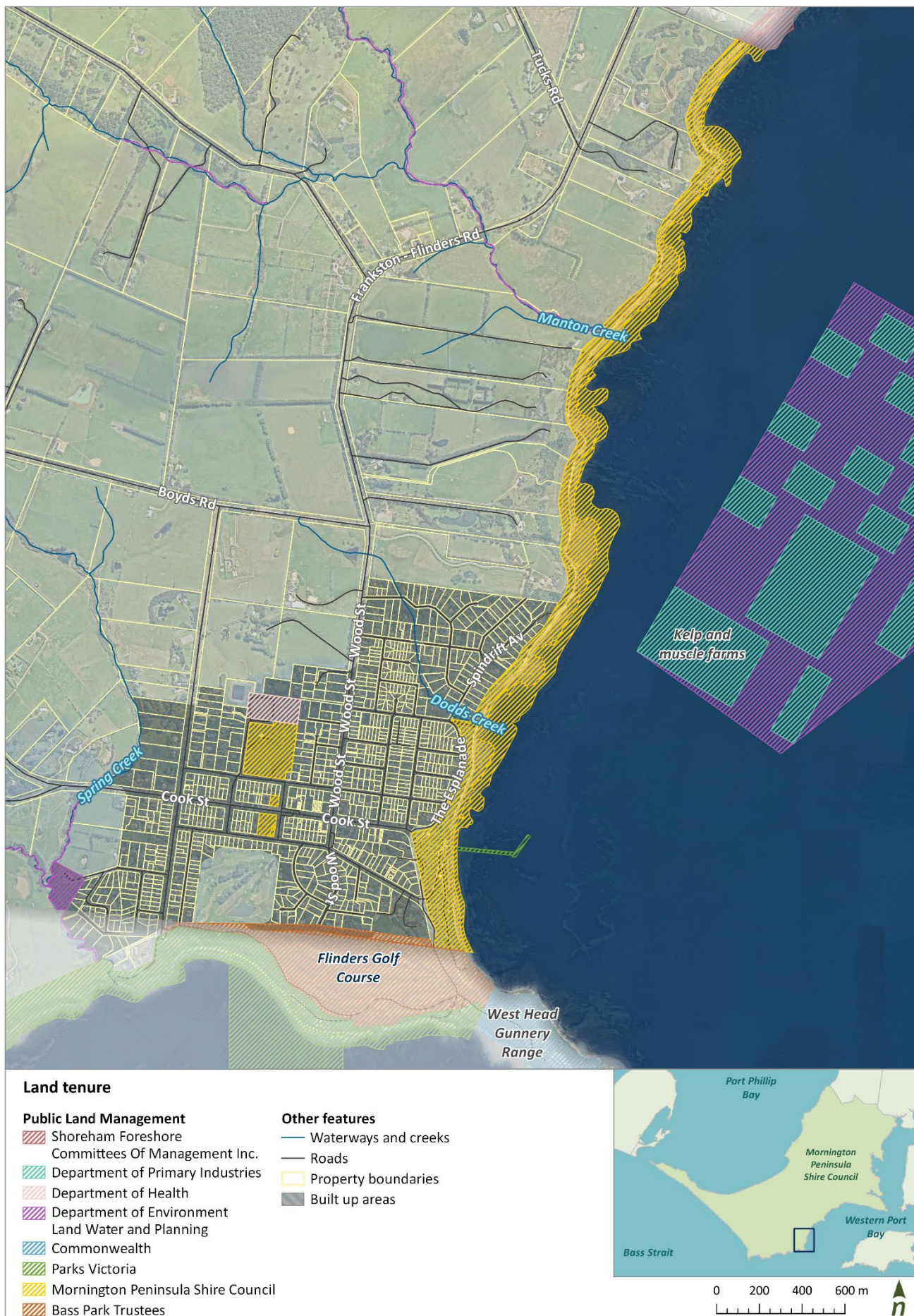


Figure 8. Public land management arrangements along the Flinders coastline.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

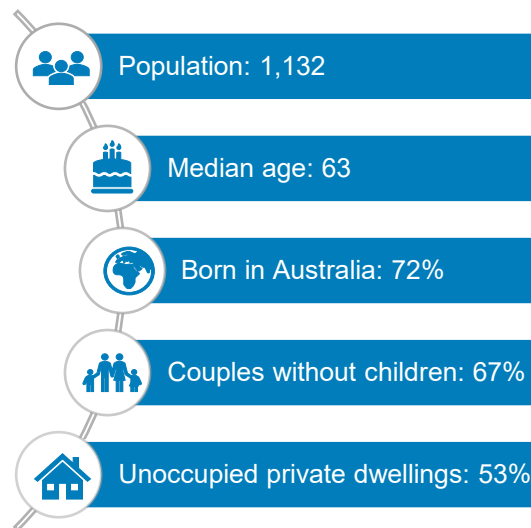
### Community and connection to coast

Flinders is part of the lands of the Bunurong People who have had and continue to have a strong connection to Country for thousands of years. These land and sea areas have many culturally significant sites and places.

Its prime location – with its easy access to Bass Strait - has also made Flinders an important hub for marine activities throughout the Peninsula's more recent European history. From the 1850s, it was as a fishing and farming settlement from which Flinders developed. Fishermen's huts were built along the beach, as was infrastructure such as Flinders Pier (from 1864), sheds, and a slipway. In the years after it was built, Flinders Pier was an important connection between the Peninsula and Melbourne. From 1869 to 1936, it also connected Tasmania to the Australian mainland – and the rest of the world – through a submarine telegraph cable across Bass Strait, and some evidence of this history remains today.

Flinders has retained its village character and coastal heritage. The statistical region has just over a thousand residents, most of which live in the town itself. Many of its homes are used as holiday homes, and the population is ageing relative to the broader Peninsula.

The coast is central to the local village lifestyle and the town's appeal to visitors. Flinders Beach, including Flinders Pier, is very popular among divers, snorkellers and fishers. It is also used for swimming, including by the Flinders Icebergers, and it is a hub for boating. Locals and visitors also enjoy the long stretches of sand and the rockpools, and there is a large leash-free area for dogs to the north. Along this entire stretch of coast there are panoramic views of Western Port Bay and Phillip Island.



Source: Statistics based on 2021 ABS Census

Some key interest groups and users of the Flinders coastal and marine areas include:

- Flinders Historical Society (Cargo shed lessee)
- Flinders Community Association
- Flinders Icebergers (Winch shed lessee)
- Pier shed lessees (Tenancy under review)
- Flinders Conchilia (Seagate Licence)
- Flinders Yacht Club
- Dive and snorkelling community
- Sports Aviation Federation (hang-gliding site)

### Land use and livelihoods

Flinders is mostly residential with some small commercial areas and conservation, parks and recreation areas, including the Flinders Golf Club. Beyond the township, it becomes more rural with green wedge zones, and some larger private properties extend all the way to the coastal foreshore reserve. The open coast near Flinders includes the Mornington Peninsula National Park, and West Head southeast of Flinders foreshore reserve includes the Royal Australian Navy's West Head gunnery range.

The local economy is linked to the coast in many ways. Some local businesses rely on tourism and commercial operations, such as Flinders Mussels, depend directly on Flinders Pier, the Flinders Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve (where all offshore marine aquaculture within Western Port Bay takes place), and the broader marine environment.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan



### Environment and coastal processes

The Flinders coastline is characterised by sandy beaches, vegetated cliffs, and rocky platforms and reefs. This largely natural, rugged section of coast is also where Dodds Creek and Manton Creek meet Western Port Bay. These sheltered waters provide habitat for unique marine life. A main attraction is the weedy (or common) seadragon, which is endemic to Australia and Victoria's marine animal emblem. It lives amongst the seagrass meadows and the pier's wooden pylons. The pier structure also provides a home for animals such as squid, octopuses, stingrays, and many other fish species. This abundant marine life is why Flinders is a popular place to dive and fish.

Located on the eastern side of the Peninsula means the Flinders foreshore is quite protected from prevailing westerly winds and wave action, but tides and swells through Western Port entrance still influence this dynamic coastal environment. While the rocky platforms provide some protection, this coastline currently experiences beach and cliff erosion, including landslips, rockfalls and gullies. Some lower lying areas of the foreshore reserve and adjacent areas are impacted by coastal flooding during storm events.

### Emerging challenges

Flinders, as the rest of the Peninsula, is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. While the steep slopes behind Flinders' shoreline are expected to protect the town from significant inundation<sup>7</sup>, the bigger challenge is likely to be coastal erosion, particularly driven by rising sea levels, which are likely to cause erosion of the platform beach, increased landslips, and cliff erosion. This would impact on areas around the Flinders Pier and foreshore reserve as well as near and above the slopes.

While Flinders is anticipated to have only a moderate population increase in the future, growing populations, further coastal development and increasing visitor numbers may impact on the town's character, environment and coastal village feel. This may put pressure on the town's coastal areas and already ageing infrastructure and facilities.

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<sup>7</sup> Water Technology (2014) Western Port Local Coastal Hazard Assessment

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

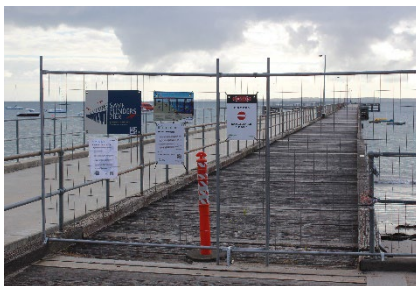
### Coastal and marine management

Legacies of historical and present-day use and management of these areas can be seen along this coastline. A range of infrastructure, facilities and activities support the community to live near, enjoy and use these coastal and marine areas at Flinders. Conservation efforts such as vegetation and weed management and access control help to protect adjacent slopes, stabilising vegetation and habitat areas.

Recent management of these areas brings together an array of actions led by various agencies and community groups, including:

- provision, maintenance and upgrades to existing aging infrastructure and facilities – piers, toilets, picnic areas, boat ramp
- connectivity and access improvements – roads, car parks, trails, walkways, beach access
- enhancement and protection of vegetation, habitat and sensitive sites
- coastal hazard mitigation – including cliff erosion
- drainage and water quality improvements
- litter management
- planning and development controls
- zoning, signage and enforcement
- vegetation protection and enhancement

Recent management has been partly guided by the Flinders Coastal Management Plan (CMP) from 2010. While some of the recommended projects have since been completed, others remain outstanding to issues of funding, implementation planning, task delegation, accountability, monitoring and review of progress.



## Vision and objectives

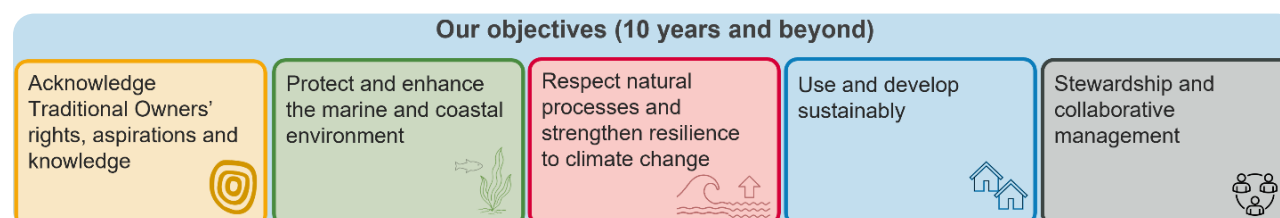
This CMMP sets the strategic direction for marine and coastal management for the next 10 years. Its vision and objectives have been informed by community and stakeholder perspectives, reflecting their expectations and aspirations for the Flinders coastline. Summaries of key engagement activities with stakeholders and the community are available in Attachment A.

The proposed vision for the coastal and marine areas at Flinders is:

An accessible and safe Flinders coastal and marine environment, where diverse ecosystems are protected and enhanced, the region's heritage is celebrated, and ongoing opportunities for relaxation, learning and enjoyment are provided for all.

<b>Accessible and safe</b>	means ensuring access is managed in a safe and sensitive manner including access to attractions such as the pier, and access along the coast
<b>Protecting and enhancing diverse ecosystems</b>	means balancing access and enjoyment of the unique species and habitats across the coastal and marine environment, with protection and enhancement of these sensitive ecosystems
<b>Celebrating heritage</b>	means providing education and learning opportunities for the community and visitors to connect with the past, both through preservation of physical structures, natural features and through storytelling
<b>Opportunities for relaxation, learning and enjoyment</b>	means activating key areas to enhance the coastal experience for all while retaining the peaceful atmosphere and relaxed feel of the area.

With state policy as its foundation, the objectives for managing coastal and marine areas in Flinders have been shaped through discussions with Shire staff, agencies, and community stakeholders. These objectives cover the intended timeframe of the Marine and Coastal Policy (10-15 years) and are the **long-term objectives** for the Flinders CMMP (Figure 9).



**Figure 9.** Long-term objectives for the CMMP.

Guided by a broader CMMP framework, these objectives are to be realised through implementing actions at site, regional and shire-wide scales.

## Values, concerns and opportunities

As the coastal zone plays an important role in the lifestyle of Flinders residents and its visitors, considered strategic planning is needed to manage the increasing pressures from development and growth, a changing climate and aging and inadequate infrastructure, ensuring it remains a desirable place. Through discussions, workshops and online activities, community and stakeholder perspectives have been gathered to understand more about Flinders and its marine and coastal areas.

This section summarises values, concerns and opportunities for the marine and coastal areas of Flinders and has been framed around the long-term objectives of the plan, with consideration to the intended outcomes of the Marine and Coastal Policy (2020).

*Understanding and appreciation of the experiences, values, concerns and opportunities the Bunurong community has for the region's coastal areas is evolving as we continue to collaborate with Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.*

### Acknowledge Traditional Owners' rights, aspirations and knowledge



#### Intended Marine and Coastal Policy outcome

*Current and future generations of Traditional Owners care for and respect Country through self-determination.*

#### Values

- Places and areas of cultural sensitivity
- Places of cultural significance – middens, burials, etc.
- Access and connectivity along the coastline
- Sight lines and views of Western Port, the coast and coastal sky lines

#### Concerns

- Disconnection between Bunurong Traditional Owners and Country
- Limited opportunity for involvement in planning decisions and management of coastal and marine areas
- Limited awareness and understanding of the region's cultural history

#### Opportunities

- Acknowledge, protect, promote, and retain cultural heritage values and culturally significant places
- Promote connection to Country through educational interpretive signage, walking trails and knowledge sharing events
- Provide opportunities for re-connection with Country (e.g. research, walks on Country, employment, etc.)
- Explore co-management opportunities between Traditional Owners and the Shire
- Explore opportunities for a Shire-wide Bunurong dreaming trail
- Strengthen partnerships with the Bunurong Traditional Owners and the Shire
- Explore innovative ways to increase understanding of the region's cultural history and values, and enrich the coastal experience - storytelling through art, education events, songs and foreshore installations
- Explore opportunities to include Traditional Owner experiences and knowledge in bushfire and other management along the coast



# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment



#### Intended Marine and Coastal Policy outcomes

##### Ecosystems and habitats

Victoria's marine and coastal ecosystems are:

- healthy, diverse, functioning, resilient and connected
- valued in their own right
- able to sustainably provide goods and services to Victorians now and in the future.

##### Natural features and landscapes

Natural features and landscapes (including seascapes) in the marine and coastal environment are protected and enhanced, while we recognise and respect naturally occurring marine and coastal processes that will also cause change.

##### Cultural values and heritage sites

Cultural values and heritage sites in the marine and coastal environment are protected for current and future generations.

##### Value of marine and coastal Crown land

The benefits of marine and coastal Crown land continue to be available to current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to enjoy similar benefits.

#### Values

- Healthy ecosystems and habitats
- Diverse aquatic ecology - seagrass environments, rock pools, stingrays as well as Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) listed species (weedy sea dragons, pipefish and seahorses)
- Geology and terrestrial environments
- Dune and catchment vegetation
- Endemic native trees, remnant vegetation
- Diverse bird species
- Ecology of Dodds and Mantons Creek
- Sight lines and views

#### Concerns

- Depleting and eroding dune vegetation
- Invasive vegetation species and weed management, including the pine trees
- Private encroachment on Crown land
- Built structures on dunes
- Waste management, litter, fishing waste
- Stormwater pollution entering waterways and the beach from drains and upstream catchments
- Seaweed/seagrass odour and visual impact

#### Opportunities

- Protect and enhance:
  - Terrestrial flora and fauna
  - Marine ecology, including seagrass beds and rock pools
  - Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) listed Syngnathidae (Seahorses, Sea Dragon, Pipefish) colonies and their environment
- Celebrate and educate community on the value and importance of local geology, significant ecosystems aquatic environments and marine life
- Design environmentally sensitive beach access and thoroughfares
- Improve:
  - Management of cliff erosion, slope stability
  - Weed management measures, resourcing
  - Litter and waste management
  - Boat mooring impacts including seagrass friendly moorings
  - Water quality improvements (e.g. gross pollutant traps)
  - Bird, flora and fauna monitoring, surveys and reporting, to help monitor biodiversity and inform revegetation programs

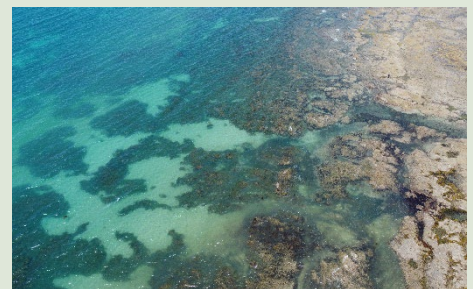




Figure 10. Ecosystems and habitats

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Respect natural processes and strengthen resilience to climate change



### Intended Marine and Coastal Policy outcomes

#### Managing coastal hazard risk

Coastal hazard risks and climate change impacts are understood and planned for.

Communities, land managers and decision makers have the capability and capacity to respond to coastal hazards.

#### Emergency response and preparedness

Emergencies that impact on the marine and coastal environment are effectively planned for to prevent or minimise immediate and long-term consequences on human health and safety, property, the natural environment, and local values and to enable recovery and reduce future risk.

#### Values

- Natural coastal and riverine processes and natural areas
- Nature-based solutions, including seagrass acting as a natural buffer against coastal hazards

#### Concerns

- Cliff and beach erosion
- Public safety concerns associated with cliff instability and erosion
- Sea level rise
- Changing conditions increasing coastal hazard impacts
- Activities and factors contributing towards climate change
- Impacts of current and future coastal processes on infrastructure and facilities

#### Opportunities

- Strengthen understanding of:
  - local coastal processes,
  - present and emerging coastal hazards
  - role of important ecosystems in resilience
- Mitigate cliff erosion and public safety risks
- Increase community resilience, awareness and understanding of changing climate and coastal hazards
- Increase Shire's preparedness to respond to and recover from hazard events such as sea level rise
- Explore, develop and implement a beach and cliff erosion strategy
- Explore, develop and implement a climate change strategy
- Minimise factors contributing towards climate change (i.e. environmental footprint)
- Limit impacts of users and adjacent landholders on natural processes and coastline condition through development controls, sustainable design practices, enforcement and education





Figure 11. Coastal infrastructure

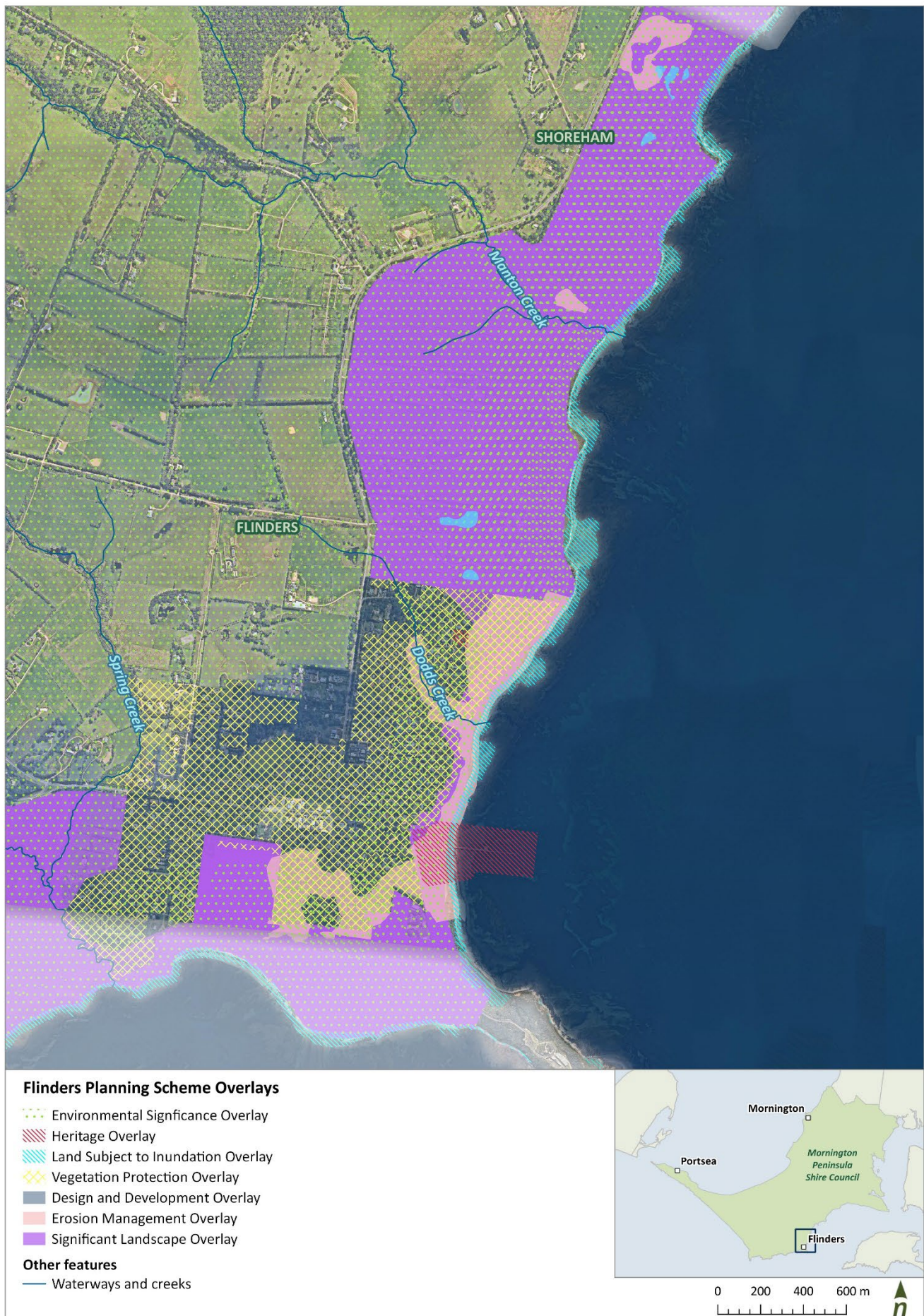


Figure 12. Coastal hazards and planning overlays

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Use and develop sustainably



#### Intended Marine and Coastal Policy outcomes

##### Coastal settlements

*Coastal settlements are desirable places to live, work, visit and play.*

*Non-urban breaks between coastal settlements are maintained to preserve the character of the coastline and coastal settlements.*

*Growth of coastal settlements is ecologically, socially and economically sustainable.*

##### Marine and coastal industries

*Use of the marine and coastal environment by industry is ecologically, socially and economically sustainable.*

##### Recreation and tourism

*The marine and coastal environment hosts a diverse range of recreation and tourism experiences that are strategically planned and located to be safe and sustainable now and in the future.*

##### Buildings, structures, and access

*Buildings and structures in the marine and coastal environment exhibit excellence in siting and design that is sympathetic to the landscape context and minimises impacts on the environment.*

*Buildings and structures on marine and coastal Crown land have a functional need to be near or in the water and provide significant public benefit.*

*Communities access marine and coastal Crown land in ways that minimise risk to public safety and protect environmental and cultural values*

#### Values

- Peaceful and quiet beaches with a 'coastal village' ambiance that has not been gentrified
- Protection and maintenance of historical buildings and facilities, including the pier, pier shed, cargo shed, spill way/slipway, boat ramp and Cable Station site
- Walking and driving access
  - Boat ramps and spill ways
  - Formal beach access paths and staircases
  - Carparks
- Recreational opportunities including boating, diving, hand and paragliding, swimming, snorkelling and fishing
- Cleanliness and maintenance of beaches/public place, parklands and natural spaces
- Tourism and visitation
- Local industries - Mussel and seagrass farming
- Access, paths, trails and pedestrian linkages along/to the coastline
- Safe and reliable public foreshore access
- Panoramic coastal views, sightlines and scenic walks - on the foreshore, the pier and along the Esplanade
- Beach (zones) available for residents and their dogs
- Quality public infrastructure and facilities, sympathetic to the natural, sensitive surrounds
- Clean and clear water
- Passive enjoyment opportunities
- Appreciation, protection and use of the Flinders pier

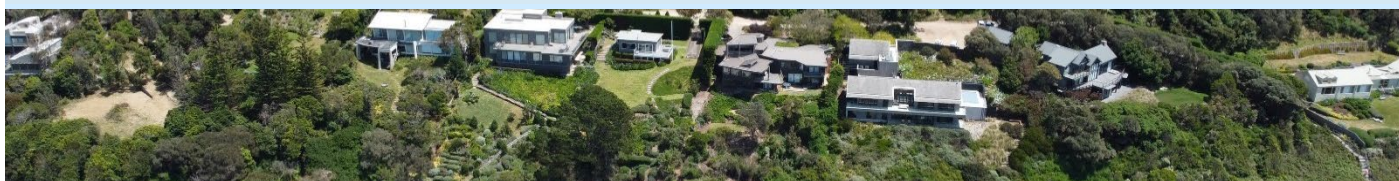


# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Concerns

- Private owner encroachment onto Crown land
- Loss of beach access between the pier and Dodds Creek during high tide
- Loss of the coastal village “look and feel” of Flinders foreshore
- Condition, capacity and maintenance of existing access and associated infrastructure including:
  - Limited beach access to the foreshore
  - Informal tracks to the beach
  - Limited all abilities access
- Degrading infrastructure and facilities, including the spill ways and pier, and associated impacts to public safety
- Maintenance and protection of the historical pier
- Approvals of buildings and new developments on low-lying private and public land
- Litter/waste management, including fishing tackle, and fish waste
- Proposal for a formalised boat ramp at Flinders and increased user pressures
- Single use plastics from beach users
- Access restriction and footprint of the nearby Gunnery
- Excessive signage at Pier creating mixed/lost messages
- Boating and mooring impacts on the marine environment Car parking and road access configuration and capacity
- Public perceptions and approach to onshore seagrass management
- Overcrowding of foreshore and the pier during peak periods
- Beach (zones) for residents and their dogs during peak periods
- Shared pedestrian and vehicle paths and roads in the Flinders Foreshore Reserve
- Sightline and visual amenity impacts from vegetation growth, weeds and invasive species



### Opportunities

- Protect and retain ‘coastal village’ ambiance and charm
- Review carparking, traffic/transport planning and adequacy of facilities at and nearby foreshore, including:
  - car and trailer parking improvements.
  - peak period overflow parking alternatives (park and ride shuttles, pedal cabs, alternative foreshore access)
  - all-abilities priority parking
  - parking / pedestrian connectivity
  - zoning, permits, enforcement
- Explore new recreational opportunities:
  - ocean sculpture garden, snorkelling trail, hydrophone and a swimming pontoon
- Celebrate and acknowledge historical assets and value
- Improve all abilities and wheelchair access
- Improve connectivity and access:
  - Between town and foreshore, e.g. defined shared trails, new trails and access points
  - between foreshore reserve and beach
  - along the beach
- Review, repair, maintain and protect foreshore infrastructure and facilities, including:
  - toilets (and potential for showers)
  - informal boat ramp
  - playground
  - bins, seating, tables and paths,
  - historical structures – pier, sheds, slipway
- Explore, create and promote diverse, innovative foreshore activation opportunities:
  - meditation/spiritual practice zones
  - installing local and cultural art
  - a ‘green’ identity for Flinders
- Support and promote local commercial ventures, whilst retaining character, e.g. foreshore events, markets, temporary vendors, pop-ups.
- Review (audit), consolidate, update and improve foreshore signage to increase clarity, education and awareness potential.
- Use environmentally sensitive materials where possible in facilities and management
- Manage and protect the intertidal zone against damage cause by vehicles
- Enhance, link and promote the shared trail between Shoreham and Flinders
- Explore new funding models and opportunities (e.g. The Nature Conservancy) and mechanisms for foreshore initiatives and reduce reliance on government funding
- Explore public access improvement and recreational opportunities the foreshore and gunnery

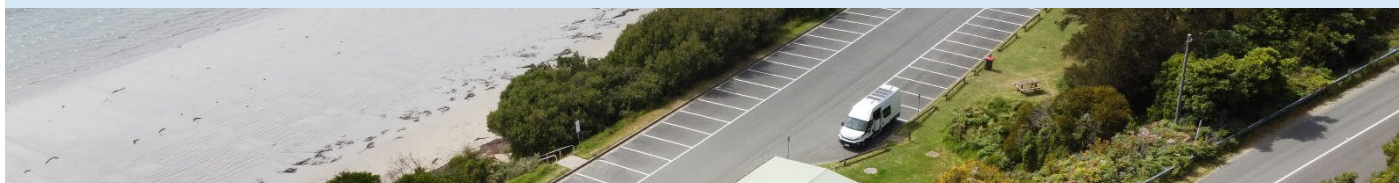




Figure 13. Transport infrastructure



Figure 14. Flinders Planning Scheme



Figure 15. Recreational areas and infrastructure

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Stewardship and collaborative management



#### Intended Marine and Coastal Policy outcomes

- **Taking a stewardship approach**
- **Building understanding and knowledge**
- **Engaging**
- **Collaborating**

*Improved knowledge and understanding of the marine and coastal environment is used to inform evidence-based decision making and evaluate the effectiveness of those decisions.*

*Traditional Owners, marine and coastal managers, community groups and user groups:*

- *are actively engaged and empowered to care for, protect and improve the health of the marine and coastal environment*
- *collaborate, as stewards, to take care of and deliver integrated and coordinated planning and management of the marine and coastal environment*
- *have the knowledge, skills and capacity to manage current and future challenges.*

#### Values

- Educational and factual signage in major access areas
- An engaged community already taking an active stewardship role in the protection of the beach and its assets
- Public awareness, health, and safety
- Shared public spaces
- Enthusiastic and willing community groups (including friends' groups, Coastal Advisory Group, and the historical society) helping to manage the foreshore and catchment and participating in knowledge sharing events and advocacy



#### Concerns

- Ineffective management and disconnect between some users and stakeholders:
  - private landholders encroaching on Crown land
  - boating and fishing behaviour
- Boat mooring management and licensing agreements
- Poor and antisocial behaviour of some foreshore and facility users
- Uncertainty and miscommunication of roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders and agencies
- Seeking and securing funding for initiatives



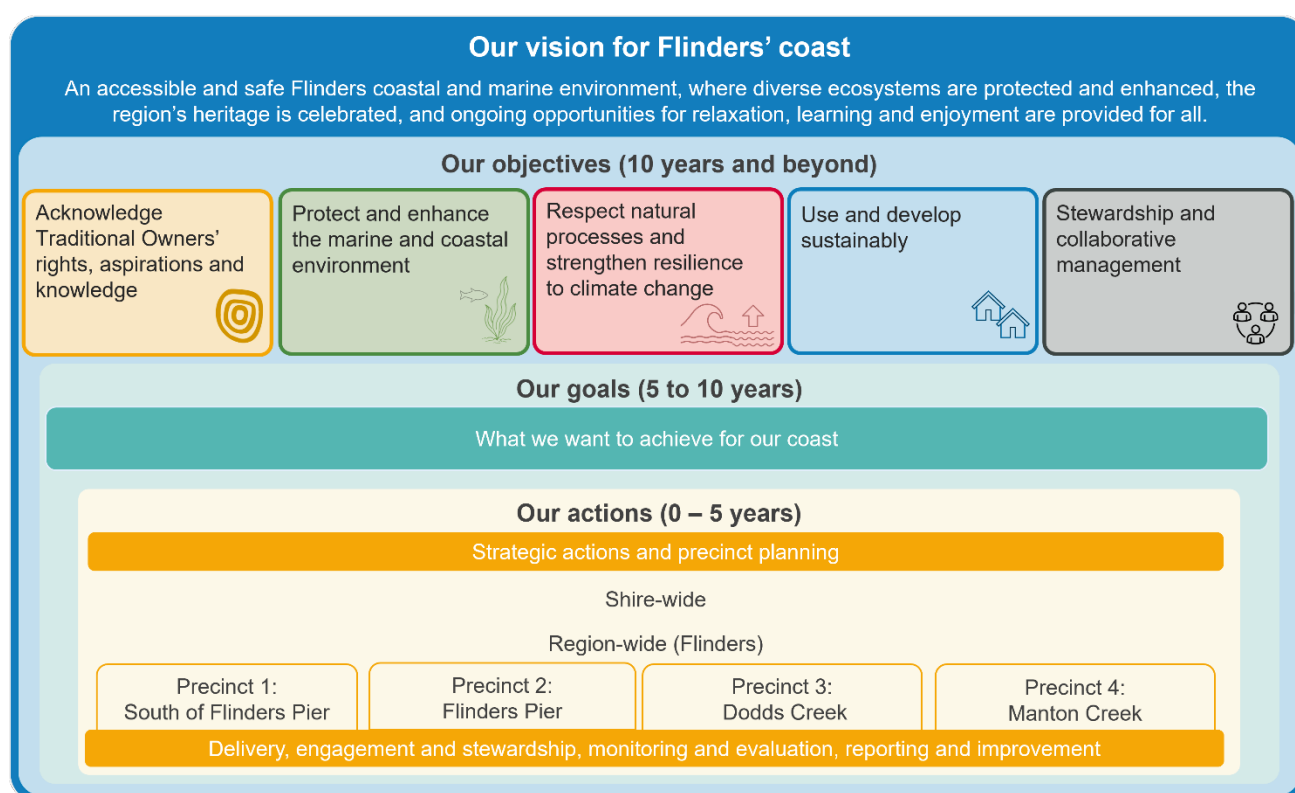
#### Opportunities

- Improve engagement with and education of private landowners
- Educate and engage private landowners native plant planting benefits, species selection i.e., education, tours, aesthetic communications
- Formalise/confirm lease and licensing agreements/responsibilities for boat moorings
- Promote and enforce rules and regulations to hold foreshore and water users accountable for their actions
- Define and communicate roles and responsibilities
- Coordinate, promote and support community and special interest groups (existing and new), encouraging collaboration for the management of the Flinders Foreshore
- Celebrate and communicate Flinders coastal and marine areas to promote tourism and local businesses
- Celebrate historical assets through knowledge sharing events and targeted signage and campaigns
- Collaborate and develop active relationships between relevant agencies and stakeholders, including the naval base
- Develop targeted and relevant signage and campaigns to foster behaviour change on key issues
- Elevate local artist and scientists' voices to communicate, generate awareness/interest and celebrate the significance of Flinders coastal and marine environment

## Our management approach

### CMMP framework

An overview (program logic) of the CMMP structure (Figure 16) shows the relationships between the vision and objectives set out in the values, concerns and opportunities sections above and the CMMP goals and actions.



**Figure 16.** *Flinders CMMP program logic*

Goals and actions have been developed in line with the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* and Policy and based on feedback from the community, Shire staff and stakeholder consultation. They also aim to reflect the values, concerns and opportunities for Flinders' coastal and marine areas, detailed above.

### Our goals

Aligned with our five long-term objectives, our goals describe what we want to achieve for our coast over the next 5 to 10 years (Figure 13). Guiding action development and delivery, these goals act as overarching principles to be considered for any decision making, planning, works or initiatives, when managing or working within Flinders' coastal and marine areas, to ensure we act within our CMMP objectives and overall vision.



# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Our goals (5 to 10 years)



#### What we want to achieve for our coast

Acknowledge Traditional Owners' rights, aspirations and knowledge



Two-way knowledge sharing and capacity building is used to develop a shared understanding and responsibility

Cultural connections with coastal and marine areas are supported and enhanced

Country is cared for and respected through self-determination

Knowledge and experience of the Bunurong People is acknowledged and embedded in our management

Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment



The value of our culture, heritage, and history is acknowledged, communicated and protected

Degraded ecosystems are enhanced

Views and seascapes are preserved

Biodiversity, biolinks, connectivity and habitat corridors are protected and enhanced

The significant role of the littoral (shore) zone is recognised

Coastal connection, sense of place/inspiration is celebrated, enhanced and protected

Marine and coastal ecosystem importance is understood and conveyed in management (incl. vegetation and seagrass)

Water quality, litter and pollution management is improved

Respect natural processes and strengthen resilience to climate change



Current and future coastal hazards and their potential impacts are better understood

Our dune systems, as natural buffers, are retained, strengthened and

Updated hazard understanding and knowledge is integrated in Shire process, informing appropriate management, decision making and design

Increased resilience to coastal hazards through adaptation - both for our coast and our community

Safer and more resilient cliffs, slopes and bluffs.

Use and develop sustainably



Character, natural breaks, and open space, are preserved through appropriate controls and siting and design principles

Public safety risks are minimised

A range of options for getting to, from and along the Flinders coast

Crown land is respected

Diverse commercial / business opportunities and events that provide broad community benefit

Use, development and growth is sustainable and rationalised

Zoning, enforcement and communication balances the wide range of foreshore uses and keeps people, wildlife and vegetation safe and protected

Services and amenities, including access, provide for safe, reliable and enjoyable experiences for the users of our coastal and marine areas

Facilities and infrastructure are appropriate, strategically placed and suitably designed for Flinders' coastal and marine environments

Stewardship and collaborative management



Our decision making is evidence-based, informed by technical and strategic assessments as well as knowledge and experience of the Bunurong People

Roles and responsibilities for management of coastal and marine areas are defined and understood

The values of our foreshore are protected and enhanced for future generations - by working together with the community

The capacity of our Shire, our community and our stakeholders to care for our marine and coastal areas is increased

Figure 17. CMMP goals - What we want to achieve for our coast.

### Our actions



Aligned with our goals, our actions describe the projects and tools we will use to achieve our long-term objectives over the next 5 years. A range of actions have been defined to enable a strategic approach to coastal and marine management across the Flinders and broader Mornington Peninsula Shire region. The CMMP actions have been defined at three scales:

- **Shire-wide actions** – applicable across the Mornington Peninsula Shire and developed through coordination of the Flinders, Portsea and Mount Eliza CMMPs
- **Region-wide actions** – Specific for the entire Flinders CMMP region
- **Precinct actions** – Specific to particular locations within the Flinders area

These actions have been guided by the findings from community and stakeholder consultation, and the management experiences of the Shire and other agencies. They align with the objectives and goals defined for the CMMP and are presented under the objective themes.

Action development and prioritisation considered:

- Alignment with Flinders CMMP framework – including vision, objectives and goals
- Alignment with Victorian Marine and Coastal legalisation
- “Multi-benefit” opportunities
- Opportunity for public benefit, breadth of interest groups and stakeholders
- Costs at various stages of project/action/structure lifecycle – design, construction, maintenance
- Ease of implementation – Approvals, stakeholder/public sentiment

### Indicative costs

**	No significant additional cost
\$	Low (<\$20k)
\$\$	Moderate (\$20k to \$100k)
\$\$\$	High (\$100k to \$250k)
\$\$\$\$	Very High (>\$250k)

### Timing (commencement of action)



**Ongoing** - implement into the Shire's ongoing work in a 'business as usual' capacity.



Start implementing within **0-1 year**



Start implementing within **1-2 years**



Start implementing within **2-3 years**



Start implementing within **3-5 years**



Start implementing in **5 years and beyond**

These CMMP actions will guide investment and management priorities over the next 5 – 10 years and are to be reviewed and revised after 5 years. As a Shire-led plan, the Shire is to lead each action. Key partners involved in action delivery are also identified along with recommended timing of action commencement and indicative costing ranges.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Shire-wide actions

A suite of Shire-wide actions has been developed to achieve the outcomes and objectives of the CMMP. These actions are presented below, under the objective themes. Information on time frames and responsibilities, including leads and key partners, is also shown. Further details related to these actions are provided in the implementation plan (Supplement C).

Shire-wide actions are applicable across all of the Mornington Peninsula Shire. They have been developed through coordination of the Flinders, Portsea and Mount Eliza CMMPs. These actions focus on progressing the Shire's approach to coastal and marine management. Many look to improve Shire systems, procedures, communication and relationships, local laws, policies, and accountability, to provide the foundations for robust management at a site-specific scale. Some of the region-based and precinct-specific actions rely upon the Shire-wide processes to help guide and/or implement them.

Some Shire-wide actions may have more relevance for specific precincts or areas of the Flinders foreshore based on local management needs. Precinct summaries (further below) highlight priority Shire-wide actions in each precinct.



# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Timing (action commencement)



Ongoing



(0-1 yr)



(1 -2 yr)



(2-3 yr)



(3-5 yr)









Beyond  
5yr

### Indicative cost

\*\* No signif. addition.    \$    Low (<\$20K)    \$\$    Mod. (\$20K to \$100K)    \$\$\$    High (\$100K to \$250K)    \$\$\$\$    Very High (>\$250K)

## Acknowledge Traditional Owners' rights, aspirations and knowledge



	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 1: Acknowledge Traditional Owners' rights, aspirations &amp; knowledge</b>			
S.1a	Guided by the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, examine, explore and implement ways to manage and protect cultural values, heritage sites and stories of the Bunurong People.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and others</i>
S.1b	Guided by the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, recognise and promote important cultural values and experiences of coastal and marine areas, through meaningful and considered communication and appropriate activities. This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- cultural education and training days</li> <li>- walking trails along previous song lines</li> <li>- cultural practices in the natural environment and in its management.</li> </ul>		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and others</i>
S.1c	Collaborate with Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, to increase knowledge and understanding of traditional natural resource management practices and local vegetation species.		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and others</i>
S.1d	Collaborate with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation to explore naming opportunities for places and natural features (including waterways).		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and others</i>
S.1e	Ensure collaboration with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation for any projects or works located in or near recognised culturally sensitive areas within marine and coastal zones via initiatives which work towards co-management and support the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation teams to work on Country.		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and others</i>
S.1f	Continue collaborations between South East Water, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation and the Shire, exploring further opportunities to increase awareness of Aboriginal history and culture.		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and South East Water</i>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
S.1g	Collaborate with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation to audit and update cultural signage and communications to ensure the Bunurong People are recognised as the region's Traditional Owners, in line with formally recognised Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAP).		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and others</i>
S.1h	<p>Collaborate with relevant stakeholders (including Bunurong Traditional Owners, stakeholders, community groups and heritage organisations) to design and install interpretive signage and artwork/sculptures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increase awareness and understanding of Aboriginal history and experience</li> <li>- acknowledge and celebrate natural, cultural and heritage values of coastal and marine areas.</li> </ul>		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and others</i>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Timing (action commencement)



Ongoing



(0-1 yr)



(1-2 yr)



(2-3 yr)



(3-5 yr)








Beyond  
5yr

### Indicative cost

\*\* No signif. addition.    \$    Low (<\$20K)    \$\$    Mod. (\$20K to \$100K)    \$\$\$    High (\$100K to \$250K)    \$\$\$\$    Very High (>\$250K)








## Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment



	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>			
S.2a	Protect and enhance sandy dunes through minimising dune and vegetation disturbance. Includes establishing and maintaining structurally diverse native vegetation, weed management and access controls.		\$\$	The Shire, DEECA
S.2b	Protect and enhance vegetation communities and slope stability in the cliff and bluff areas of the foreshore reserve, through minimising material and vegetation disturbance, and establishing and maintaining structurally diverse native vegetation.		\$\$	The Shire
S.2c	Explore coastal and marine habitat restoration opportunities (including seagrass) and potential collaborative partnerships, including with research institutions.		\$\$	The Shire
S.2d	Ensure future planning updates retain coastal land and open space under Crown or other public ownership, as a resource for all, preventing private land owners from creating or maintaining structures in these areas.		\$\$	The Shire
S.2e	<p>Partnering with relevant stakeholders, build upon existing Shire and community vegetation management and habitat enhancement measures, with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- integrating best practice methods</li> <li>- regenerating and re-establishing native communities</li> <li>- improving weed and invasive species management</li> <li>- defining clear performance indicators (i.e., weed/pest control, native cover, number/presence of species)</li> <li>- determining current baselines</li> <li>- monitoring performance</li> </ul> <p>Approach to consider ecological vegetation classes (EVCs), species origin, sensitivity and diversity.</p>		\$\$	The Shire and others

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
S.2f	Protect sensitive coastal and marine areas and retain public spaces for all users, through educating adjacent landowners and lessees on impacts of their activities and practises. Includes informal structures and access points on Crown land, connectivity obstructions, ground disturbance and vegetation impacts.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
S.2g	Advocate, educate and promote behaviour change for foreshore adjacent homeowners and residents, to protect vegetated crown land areas, by providing guidance and examples on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- planting and gardening methods (incl. valued native and indigenous species, weed control, disposal)</li> <li>- material placement, ground disturbance and geological contamination</li> <li>- site drainage</li> <li>- good vegetation and site management practices</li> </ul>		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
S.2h	Enforce, monitor and promote behaviour change for foreshore adjacent homeowners, residents and lessees, preventing illegal clearing, disturbing, damaging and/or dumping of vegetation on Crown land.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
S.2i	Identify and implement water quality and drainage improvement opportunities, in line with an integrated water management (including stormwater) approach and other Shire plans and strategies, includes removing private stormwater outlets.		\$\$\$	<b>The Shire and others</b> (incl. SEW, MW)
S.2j	Collaborate and partner with local community groups and relevant stakeholders to continue and improve vegetation management across the foreshore reserve.		\$	<b>The Shire</b> friend/scout groups, others
S.2k	Advocate for Parks Victoria to undertake a review of current boat mooring arrangements and potential opportunities for minimising user impacts (e.g., environmentally sensitive moorings).		**	<b>The Shire</b> PV
S.2l	Work with Melbourne Water and relevant stakeholders to develop and enforce creek buffer distances.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> MW and others

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Timing (action commencement)



Ongoing



(0-1 yr)



(1-2 yr)



(2-3 yr)



(3-5 yr)



Beyond  
5yr

### Indicative cost

\*\* No signif. addition.    \$    Low (<\$20K)    \$\$    Mod. (\$20K to \$100K)    \$\$\$    High (\$100K to \$250K)    \$\$\$\$    Very High (>\$250K)





## Respect natural processes and strengthen resilience to climate change



	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 3: Respect natural processes and strengthen resilience to climate change</b>			
S.3a	To mitigate habitat loss due to climate change, identify opportunities for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- maintaining and increasing the extent of natural buffers</li> <li>- encouraging native vegetation migration up creeks</li> <li>- restoring or creating habitats.</li> </ul>		\$\$	The Shire
S.3b	Incorporate the CMMP and its objectives into the Shire's asset management procedures (including asset renewal, future asset management plans and strategies), ensuring consideration of current and long-term changing conditions and Victorian Government policy.		\$\$	The Shire
S.3c	Advocate and work with DEECA for condition assessments (fit for purpose) of existing hazard protection and coastal structures, and inform options for strengthening resilience to climate change. Assessments should consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- structure design life, performance and ongoing maintenance</li> <li>- potential impacts of any infrastructure changes on surrounding areas</li> <li>- feasibility of alternate adaptation actions (including nature-based solutions), in line with State policy.</li> </ul>		\$\$\$	The Shire DEECA
S.3d	Investigate opportunities to improve public awareness of coastal processes and current and emerging coastal hazards, through community education and monitoring programs and events, community awareness campaigns and signage.		\$\$	The Shire
S.3e	Mitigate bushfire risks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- undertaking fires prevention works in accordance with the Mornington Peninsula Municipal Fire Management Plan</li> <li>- liaising with the Country Fire Authority for fire management and prevention techniques.</li> </ul>		\$\$	The Shire Country Fire Authority

# Flinders

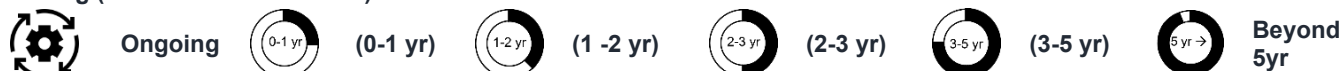
## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
S.3f	Investigate adaptation opportunities for foreshore infrastructure and facilities and cultural and historical assets, in response to projected climate change impacts, including relocation of foreshore assets where feasible.		\$\$\$\$	The Shire
S.3g	Advocate for and collaborate on the continuing improvement of knowledge and understanding of marine and coastal processes, and climate change impacts on the marine and coastal environment, informing evidence based decision making at a local and regional scale.		\$\$\$	The Shire
S.3h	In line with Victoria's approach to coastal adaptation, <i>Victoria's Resilient Coast – Adapting for 2100+</i> , and using best available hazard information (including Coastal Hazard Assessments for Port Phillip Bay and Western Port): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- assess current and future coastal and marine hazard vulnerability and risk (cultural, environmental, social and economic) at both a regional and locality scale.</li> <li>- undertake strategic approach to adaptation planning and decision making.</li> </ul>	 1-2 yr then Ongoing	\$\$\$\$	The Shire DEECA
S.3i	Informed by geotechnical assessments, undertake measures to mitigate public safety risks to bluff, cliff and slope erosion hazards, including restricting access across known risk areas and improving drainage; and develop longer-term planning for management of at-risk areas to strengthen resilience and safety of cliffs under changing climate conditions.	 2-3 yr	\$\$\$\$	The Shire

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Timing (action commencement)










### Indicative cost

\*\* No signif. addition. \$ Low (<\$20K) \$\$ Mod. (\$20K to \$100K) \$\$\$ High (\$100K to \$250K) \$\$\$\$ Very High (>\$250K)








## Use and develop sustainably



	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>				
S.4a	Collaborating with relevant stakeholders, work with community and visitors to ensure water activities (such as boating and fishing) are safe, responsible and sustainable. Includes enforcement of zones and activities to improve public safety and protect marine life.		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>PV, BBV</i>
S.4b	Using communication, advocacy, enforcement and planning controls, work with relevant landholders to reduce encroachment and synergistic impacts on Crown Land, and align activities with the CMMP and other Shire and state management guidelines and policies.		\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
S.4c	Undertake ongoing monitoring, management and maintenance of stormwater and drainage connections from public and private land into the foreshore reserve, addressing illegal discharge points and ensuring discharge does not impact the stability or increase potential erosion of cliffs and the foreshore.		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>MW and SEW</i>
S.4d	Protect views and seascapes by ensuring effective management, planning controls and sympathetic design of buildings and structures in the marine and coastal environment, including applying the Siting and Design Guidelines for Structures on the Victorian Coast (DELWP, 2020).		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>DEECA</i>
S.4e	Continue ongoing management of foreshore infrastructure and facilities, using environmentally sensitive materials for any maintenance or upgrades required.		\$\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
S.4f	In line with the Marine and Coastal Policy, ensure current and future planning controls and planning updates, protect and retain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- coastal land, inter-urban breaks and open green spaces under Crown or other public ownership, as a resource for all</li> <li>- unique coastal community characteristics through development controls.</li> </ul>		**	<b>The Shire,</b> <i>DEECA and others</i>
S.4g	Audit and improve signage to communicate and encourage use of pathways and public thoroughfares on Crown land.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
S.4h	Manage watercraft storage on foreshores, including removal of unauthorised watercraft, to improve the health and resilience of the coastal and marine environment.	 1-2 yr then Ongoing	\$\$\$	The Shire
S.4i	Develop a policy and workflow to prevent encroachment of foreshore-adjacent land parcels onto Crown land, including encroachment through private fencing, access barriers, structures and infrastructure.	 2-3 yr	\$\$	The Shire
S.4j	Support and contribute to the development of commercial use of public space guidelines (including events), incorporating objectives of the CMMP and Marine and Coastal Policy (2020), and ensuring broader community benefit.	 2-3 yr	\$\$	The Shire
S.4k	Audit and improve (if necessary) dog off leash signage to ensure it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- is current and transparent</li> <li>- effectively communicates the boundaries/extents of dog off leash areas</li> <li>- highlights nearby alternative dog off leash areas</li> <li>- is educational, communicating threats dogs pose to coastal ecosystems</li> <li>- communicates how rules are to be enforced.</li> </ul>	 2-3 yr	\$\$	The Shire
S.4l	Using the defined Shire encroachment policy, undertake review and inspection of foreshore adjacent land parcels, to identify and address existing Crown land encroachment breaches.	 2-3 yr	\$\$	The Shire
S.4m	Work with relevant stakeholders to explore opportunities for foreshore improvements, to respond to demand, protect sensitive areas and/or adapt to a changing climate, including new or upgraded: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- access points, trails and boardwalks</li> <li>- recreational infrastructure (beach/wind/water sports and activities)</li> <li>- amenities and facilities.</li> </ul> All proposed improvements must be rationalised, consider existing activity and recreational nodes, demonstrate a functional need to be near or on the coast, and minimise local character impact.	 3-5 yr	\$\$\$\$	The Shire DEECA, PV, BBV, LSV
S.4n	Investigate opportunities to improve connectivity along, to and from the coastline, through pedestrian access (with consideration of all-abilities opportunities) and alternative ways to experience the coast (e.g. viewing platforms). To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- recognising and protecting environmental and/or culturally sensitive areas</li> <li>- accounting for cliff and foreshore instability and increasing hazard risk</li> <li>- addressing illegal private access controls/measures and public safety risks</li> <li>- ensuring formal access is safe, resilient against coastal hazards and provides options suitable for users of all abilities.</li> </ul>	 3-5 yr	\$\$\$\$	The Shire

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Timing (action commencement)



Ongoing



(0-1 yr)



(1-2 yr)



(2-3 yr)



(3-5 yr)









Beyond  
5yr

### Indicative cost

\*\* No signif. addition.    \$    Low (<\$20K)    \$\$    Mod. (\$20K to \$100K)    \$\$\$    High (\$100K to \$250K)    \$\$\$\$    Very High (>\$250K)




## Stewardship and collaborative management



	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 5: Stewardship and collaborative management</b>			
S.5a	Develop, promote and contribute to marine and coastal citizen science monitoring programs, including monitoring and reporting of coastal and marine changes (e.g., through CoastSnap, drones), environmental monitoring opportunities (e.g., water quality, flora / fauna, marine pests), and coastal issues identification (e.g., through Snap Send Solve).		\$\$	The Shire
S.5b	Strengthen partnerships and advocacy with other stakeholders to raise awareness and promote and support shared care for coastal and marine areas. Includes identifying opportunities for collaboration, funding streams, and management efficiencies.		\$\$	The Shire with other stakeholders
S.5c	Generate awareness and encourage interest in marine and coastal environments (including geological significance), cultural history and experiences, hazards, and adaptation. To include strategic investment in resources (staff, funding, tools and programs) for community stewardship programs and partnerships, knowledge sharing and education programs.		\$\$\$	The Shire
S.5d	Liaising with DEECA and in line with the Marine and Coastal Policy (2020), identify current and future funding mechanisms for coastal and marine management, including exploration of alternate opportunities for private investment / partnerships.		**	The Shire
S.5e	Develop a campaign to advocate, educate and encourage behaviour change for foreshore adjacent homeowners, including planting guides and examples to inform better gardening methods.		\$\$\$	The Shire
S.5f	Increase engagement with bathing box, boat shed and jetty owners, to ensure impacts to Crown land are minimised and align with Shire and state management guidelines and policies.		\$\$	The Shire

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Shire-wide action	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
S.5g	Review, formalise/confirm lease and licensing agreements and management responsibilities of foreshore clubs to control use of Crown land and ensure alignment with <i>Marine and Coastal Act 2018</i> and Policy (2020).		\$	The Shire
S.5h	Undertake a foreshore signage audit, examining messaging, physical condition, design and placement, and investigate improvement opportunities.		\$\$	The Shire
S.5i	Install educational signage to inform the community about marine life and encourage its protection through litter reduction (including squid jigs, fish and aquaculture waste), stormwater management, and responsible fishing practices.		\$\$	The Shire

# Flinders


## Coastal and Marine Management Plan






### Regional actions (Flinders)

A suite of regional actions has been developed to achieve the outcomes and objectives of the Flinders CMMP. These actions are presented below, under the objective themes.

Regional actions are applicable across the broader coastal and marine areas at Flinders. Based on local values, characteristics and management needs of Flinders and its community, they have been developed to address region-wide management improvements specific to Flinders.








Similarly to the Shire-wide actions, some regional actions may have more relevance for specific precincts or areas of the Flinders foreshore based on local management needs. The Flinders precinct summaries (further below) highlight relevant regional actions in each precinct.

Timing (action commencement)											
	Ongoing		(0-1 yr)		(1 -2 yr)		(2-3 yr)		(3-5 yr)		Beyond 5yr
Indicative cost											
**	No signif. addition.	\$	Low (<\$20K)	\$\$	Mod. (\$20K to \$100K)	\$\$\$	High (\$100K to \$250K)	\$\$\$\$			Very High (>\$250K)

	Regional actions (Flinders)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>			
R.2a	Continue a minimal management and intervention approach towards onshore seaweed and increase awareness of its biodiversity values, as a habitat, nesting and food source, and a natural erosion mitigation measure.		**	The Shire
R.2b	Work with relevant stakeholders to investigate opportunities to formalise protection and increase awareness of sensitive ecosystems in Western Port Bay and surrounding areas, including the use of marine protected areas.		**	The Shire DEECA, Victorian Environmental Assessment Council and others
R.2c	Work with Melbourne Water and community to support catchment and water quality improvements in Dodds Creek and Manton Creek.		\$\$\$	The Shire MW
R.2d	Partnering with relevant stakeholders, and guided by the Flinders Vegetation Management Plan, build upon existing Shire and community vegetation management and habitat enhancement measures, with a focus on regenerating and re-establishing native communities and weed control. (Linked to action R.2e.)		\$\$\$\$	The Shire PV
R.2e	Develop and implement recommendations from vegetation management plan to guide and prioritise stakeholder and community management activities for the Flinders foreshore reserve, and demonstrate the need for funding.		\$\$	The Shire





# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Regional actions (Flinders)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
R.2f	Work with Parks Victoria and relevant stakeholders to revise the Flinders Conservation Management Plan (2013) to reflect the heritage values of the site and management requirements in accordance with the Victorian Heritage Registry		**	The Shire PV
R.2g	Advocate for and explore options for an ongoing funding commitment to enable routine vegetation management works at Flinders foreshore reserve to ensure delivery and performance.		**	The Shire and others
<b>Objective 3: Respect natural processes and strengthen resilience to climate change</b>				
R.3a	Investigate (through research partnerships) local ecosystem responses and sensitivities to a changing climate and the implications for the protection and enhancement of seagrass and intertidal environments (i.e., rockpools).		\$\$	The Shire and others
<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>				
R.4a	Retain and support local commercial industry operating from Flinders – and promote and enforce sustainable behaviours and practices.		\$	The Shire
R.4b	Review (audit) and improve car parking and transport arrangements for Flinders foreshore, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- enforcing zoning and permits</li> <li>- peak period overflow parking alternatives</li> <li>- revised car park configuration (considering permit zones, disability spaces, trailer parking, capacity increase within current footprint)</li> <li>- integration with all-abilities and pedestrian access improvements as part of this CMMP.</li> </ul>		\$\$\$	The Shire PV
R.4c	Investigate opportunities to improve pedestrian access and connectivity, between the foreshore reserve and town centre, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- supporting ongoing pedestrianisation and activation of The Esplanade and its connections along and to the foreshore</li> <li>- new or formalised access and paths/ trails south of the pier, between Golf Links Road and the foreshore</li> <li>- alternative transport options such as bikes and e-bikes, scooters, shuttle service</li> </ul>		\$\$\$\$	The Shire
R.4d	Linked to the vegetation management plan, develop a campaign to advocate, educate and enforce behaviour change for foreshore-adjacent homeowners, including land encroachment and weed control measures, obligations under the <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i> .		\$\$	The Shire

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Regional actions (Flinders)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 5: Stewardship and collaborative management</b>			
R.5a	Liaise with the Flinders Yacht Club and Bass Coast Trust to communicate the CMMP to gain support and encourage alignment.		**	<b>The Shire,</b> <i>Flinders Yacht Club, Bass Coast Trust</i>
R.5b	Linked to the vegetation management plan, develop a campaign to advocate, educate and encourage behaviour change for foreshore-adjacent homeowners, including planting guides and examples to inform better gardening methods and community led vegetation management activities.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
R.5c	Support advocacy and educational activities to increase awareness of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- heritage values and history</li> <li>- human impacts on the natural environment.</li> </ul>		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
R.5d	Establish community events targeted at educating local and visiting communities on the marine environment at Flinders, including education on seagrass, rock pools and marine biodiversity.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Precinct actions

The Flinders coastline has been divided into four precincts, to enable localised management needs to be addressed:

#### Precinct 1

South of Flinders Pier

#### Precinct 2

Flinders Pier

#### Precinct 3

Dodds Creek

#### Precinct 4

Manton Creek

As per the Shire-wide and regional actions, CMMP actions identified for each precinct have been aligned with the long-term objectives. Relevant Shire-wide actions also apply within each precinct.

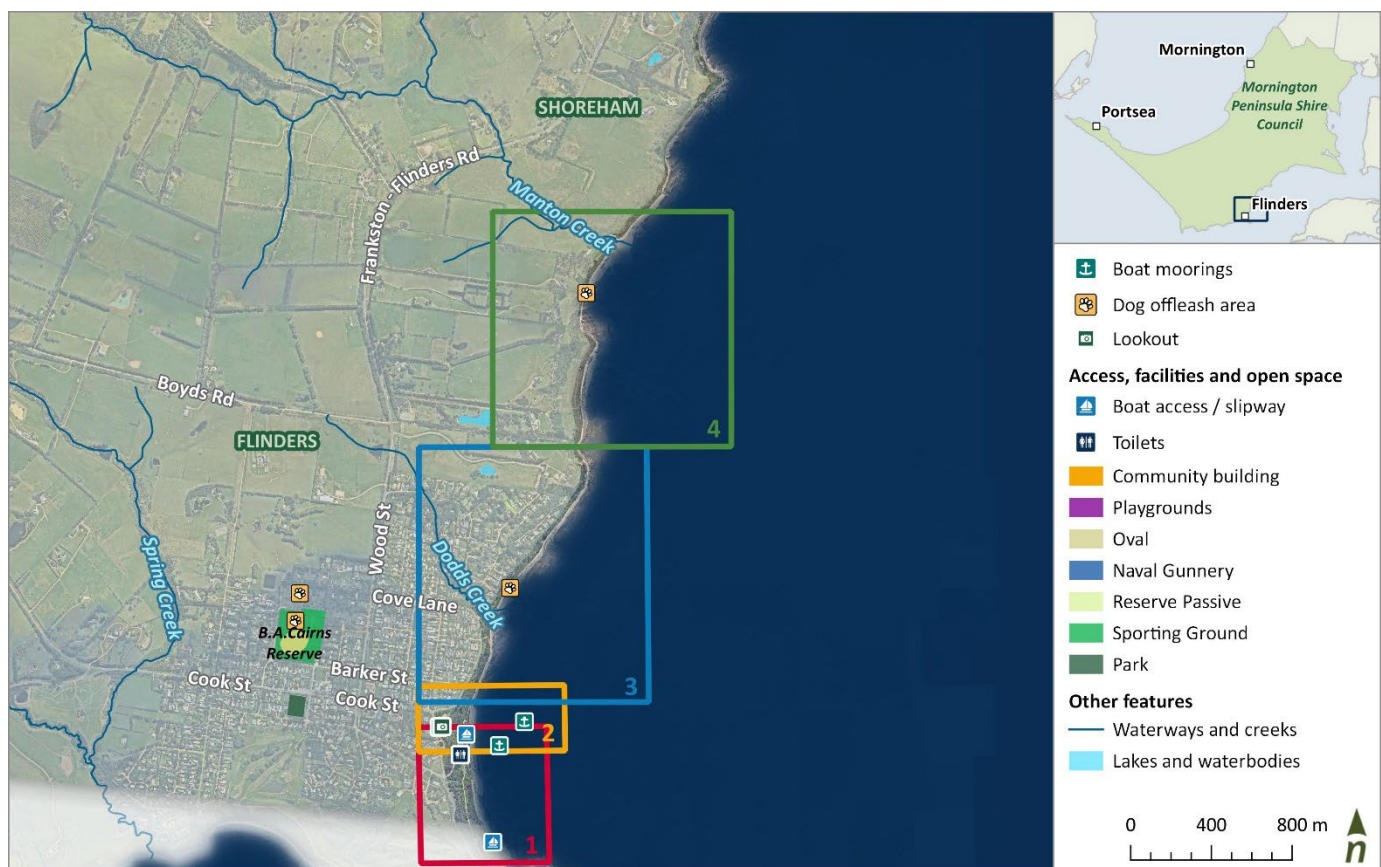


Figure 18. Flinders precinct locations

#### Activity and recreation nodes

**Recreation and activity nodes** are a strategic planning tool for identifying and improving current and future activity and recreation developments in the marine and coastal environment. They are identified in Coastal and Marine Management Plans and are informed by relevant strategic documents (such as boating strategies). Identifying recreation and activity nodes creates efficient relationships between buildings and structures and minimises development impacts on the coastal and marine areas.

**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 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. It should be noted that boating and fishing access points will be maintained and enhanced in line with relevant plans and strategies. *Marine and Coastal Policy (DELWP, 2020)*.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### PRECINCT 1: South of Flinders Pier



Precinct 1 encompasses a 400 m stretch of the foreshore to the south of Flinders Pier. This includes most of the Flinders Pier car park, as well as the toilet, BBQ, picnic and playground facilities. These facilities make up part of the main Flinders recreation node. The access road to Flinders Yacht Club also passes through Precinct 1, with the club itself immediately to the south.

Precinct 1 has a long and narrow stretch of beach, often covered with onshore seaweed. There is extensive coastal vegetation along the foreshore.


A steep vegetated slope separates the beach and facilities from Golf Links Road. Precinct 1 also includes the access road to the car park (from Bass Street).

#### Priorities

Protecting, enhancing and building respect for the natural environment







Building understanding of usage to inform activation opportunities and upgrades




Improving safe access to the coast for all

	Precinct actions (Precinct 1: South of Flinders Pier)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>			
P1.1	Widen and enhance native vegetation buffer at the car park, foreshore picnic area and playground through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increased planting, fencing, access control, weed management</li> <li>- changes to vegetation maintenance and mowing.</li> </ul>		\$\$	<b>The Shire and others</b>

# Flinders





## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Precinct actions (Precinct 1: South of Flinders Pier)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>			
P1.2	Undertake usage surveys and other monitoring (e.g., car counters, sensors) at Flinders foreshore carpark to quantify and understand usage, visitation and demands of marine and coastal areas, to inform strategic foreshore management, particularly during high visitation periods.		\$\$	The Shire
P1.3	Continue to encourage activation of the picnic areas and foreshore via community events, outside of peak usage times.		\$\$	The Shire
P1.4	Undertake works to improve pedestrian safety, access and connectivity between the picnic area and the pier, through formalised path/s, all-abilities opportunities, increased visibility and improved configuration.		\$\$\$\$	The Shire
P1.5	Review and improve disabled access parking spaces foreshore car park.		\$	The Shire
P1.6	Investigate opportunities to upgrade the toilet block amenities, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- inclusion of showers</li> <li>- improved all-abilities access and use.</li> </ul>		\$\$\$\$	The Shire
P1.7	In line with CMMP and Policy, investigate opportunities to improve the picnic areas, playground and BBQ facilities, and include sustainable, resilient design.		\$\$\$\$	The Shire

	Relevant Shire and regional actions for this precinct	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
R.2a	Continue a minimal management and intervention approach towards onshore seaweed and increase awareness of its biodiversity values, as a habitat, nesting and food source, and a natural erosion mitigation measure.		**	The Shire
R.2b	Work with relevant stakeholders to investigate opportunities to formalise protection and increase awareness of sensitive ecosystems in Western Port Bay and surrounding areas, including the use of marine protected areas.		**	The Shire DEECA, Victorian Environmental Assessment Council and others
R.2e	Develop and implement recommendations from vegetation management plan to guide and prioritise stakeholder and community management activities for the Flinders foreshore reserve, and demonstrate the need for funding.		\$\$	The Shire

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Relevant Shire and regional actions for this precinct	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
S.3f	Investigate adaptation opportunities for foreshore infrastructure and facilities and cultural and historical assets, in response to projected climate change impacts, including relocation of foreshore assets where feasible.		\$\$\$\$	The Shire
R.4b	Review (audit) and improve car parking and transport arrangements for Flinders foreshore, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- enforcing zoning and permits</li> <li>- peak period overflow parking alternatives</li> <li>- revised car park configuration (considering permit zones, disability spaces, trailer parking, capacity increase within current footprint)</li> <li>- integration with all-abilities and pedestrian access improvements as part of this CMMP.</li> </ul>		\$\$\$	The Shire PV
R.4c	Investigate opportunities to improve pedestrian access and connectivity, between the foreshore reserve and town centre, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- supporting ongoing pedestrianisation and activation of The Esplanade and its connections along and to the foreshore</li> <li>- new or formalised access and paths/ trails south of the pier, between Golf Links Road and the foreshore</li> <li>- alternative transport options such as bikes and e-bikes, scooters, shuttle service</li> </ul>		\$\$\$\$	The Shire
R.5a	Liaise with the Flinders Yacht Club and Bass Coast Trust to communicate the CMMP to gain support and encourage alignment.		**	The Shire, Flinders Yacht Club, Bass Coast Trust



### PRECINCT 2: Flinders Pier



Precinct 2 is centred around the Flinders Pier. Popular across the community, especially for swimmers, divers, fishers, it is a primary recreation and activity node for the region. It includes the Pier, and its three associated historic sheds (now used as community buildings), as well as the beach immediately south and north of the pier – a stretch of approximately 300 m. It also holds picnic tables, the busy northern car park and the informal boat ramp.

The Telegraph Cable Complex and Pier have been recently formally recognised as being of State-level cultural heritage significance, and it was added to the Victorian Heritage Register in October 2022.

This precinct offers facilities to access and enjoy the highly valued nearshore marine environment of Western Port Bay. It is also an important location for marine-based commercial activity. Vehicle access is the same as for Precinct 1.

Leading up through Happy Valley, the 'Cable Station Walk' also provides steps up the steep vegetated slope to Flinders Ocean Lookout area (on the Esplanade). The Cable Station Walk passes historic sites linked to the submarine telegraph cable that used to connect Tasmania to the mainland.

The Flinders Ocean Lookout area has a car park and more picnic facilities. It also has both a monument (dated 1912) commemorating the naming of Western Port, and a war memorial (dated 1922).

#### Priorities

Retaining and celebrating unique heritage, character, views and sightlines

Protecting and enhancing environmental values of Western Port Bay

Heritage conservation

Building understanding of usage to inform activation opportunities and upgrades

Maintaining safe access between the coastal and marine areas











Improving parking arrangements

Adaptation response for rising sea levels

Supporting local commercial operations









# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Precinct actions (Precinct 2: Flinders Pier)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>			
P2.1	Undertake usage surveys and other monitoring (e.g., car counters, sensors) at Flinders Pier to quantify and understand usage, visitation and demands of marine and coastal areas, to inform strategic foreshore management, particularly during high visitation periods.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
P2.2	Retain existing authorised pier access (maintenance, commercial operators & emergency services).		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>PV</i>
P2.3	Work with Parks Victoria and relevant stakeholders on the potential Flinders Pier restoration and review the alignment of any works with this CMMP vision, objectives and actions.		\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>PV and others</i>
P2.4	Complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) for the future use of the Pier Shed. Evaluation to be guided by the CMMP objectives and Marine and Coastal Policy to ensure sustainable use, and consider adjacent Pier restoration.		\$	<b>The Shire</b>
P2.5	Investigate opportunities for the installation of an outdoor shower and wash down facility for swimmers, divers and other beach and bay users.		\$	<b>The Shire</b>
P2.6	Formalise pedestrian beach access point on north side of Flinders Pier, integrating with any planned pier upgrades.		\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
P2.7	Improve sightlines around Happy Valley through vegetation works, and in line with the new Vegetation Management Plan.		\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
P2.8	Retain the informal boat ramp next to Flinders Pier, its current design and form, and work with Better Boating Victoria to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- improve educational and zoning signage at the boat ramp</li> <li>- raise awareness of ramp safety hazards, changing conditions, safety risks, and implications for recreational boating</li> <li>- monitor and manage safety and potential hazards</li> <li>- limit vehicle impacts and parking between the pier and boat ramp.</li> </ul>		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>Better Boating Victoria</i>
P2.9	Work with relevant stakeholders to investigate opportunities to promote, preserve and utilise valued heritage structures, including the cargo shed and the storage shed, to share knowledge of the region's history. Opportunity for some alignment with Flinders Pier restoration works.		\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>and others</i>
P2.10	Investigate opportunities to improve the Flinders Ocean Lookout area, including its views, facilities and car parking configuration.		\$\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>






# Flinders

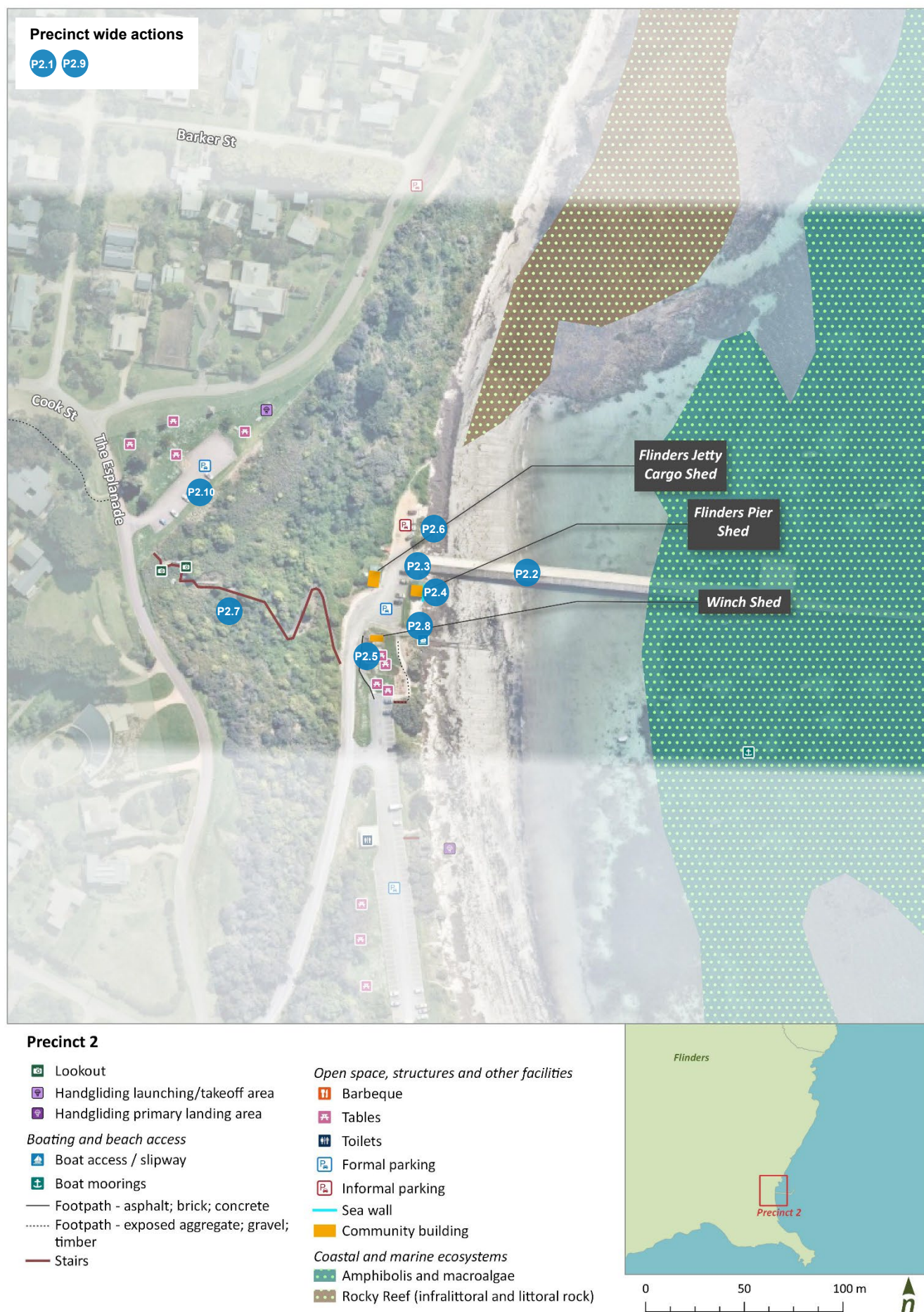
## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Relevant Shire and regional actions for this precinct	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
S.1d	Collaborate with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation to explore naming opportunities for places and natural features (including waterways).		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>BLCAC and others</i>
R.2a	Continue a minimal management and intervention approach towards onshore seaweed and increase awareness of its biodiversity values, as a habitat, nesting and food source, and a natural erosion mitigation measure.		**	<b>The Shire</b>
R.2b	Work with relevant stakeholders to investigate opportunities to formalise protection and increase awareness of sensitive ecosystems in Western Port Bay and surrounding areas, including the use of marine protected areas.		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>DEECA, Victorian Environmental Assessment Council and others</i>
R.2e	Develop and implement recommendations from vegetation management plan to guide and prioritise stakeholder and community management activities for the Flinders foreshore reserve, and demonstrate the need for funding.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
R.2f	Work with Parks Victoria and relevant stakeholders to revise the Flinders Conservation Management Plan (2013) to reflect the heritage values of the site and management requirements in accordance with the Victorian Heritage Registry		**	<b>The Shire</b> <i>PV</i>
S.3f	Investigate adaptation opportunities for foreshore infrastructure and facilities and cultural and historical assets, in response to projected climate change impacts, including relocation of foreshore assets where feasible.		\$\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
R.4a	Retain and support local commercial industry operating from Flinders – and promote and enforce sustainable behaviours and practices.		\$	<b>The Shire</b>
R.4b	Review (audit) and improve car parking and transport arrangements for Flinders foreshore, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- enforcing zoning and permits</li> <li>- peak period overflow parking alternatives</li> <li>- revised car park configuration (considering permit zones, disability spaces, trailer parking, capacity increase within current footprint)</li> <li>- integration with all-abilities and pedestrian access improvements as part of this CMMP.</li> </ul>		\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b> <i>PV</i>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Relevant Shire and regional actions for this precinct	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
R.4c	<p>Investigate opportunities to improve pedestrian access and connectivity, between the foreshore reserve and town centre, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- supporting ongoing pedestrianisation and activation of The Esplanade and its connections along and to the foreshore</li> <li>- new or formalised access and paths/ trails south of the pier, between Golf Links Road and the foreshore</li> <li>- alternative transport options such as bikes and e-bikes, scooters, shuttle service</li> </ul>		\$\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
S.4h	Manage watercraft storage on foreshores, including removal of unauthorised watercraft, to improve the health and resilience of the coastal and marine environment.	 then Ongoing	\$\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
R.5b	Linked to the vegetation management plan, develop a campaign to advocate, educate and encourage behaviour change for foreshore-adjacent homeowners, including planting guides and examples to inform better gardening methods and community led vegetation management activities.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
R.5c	<p>Support advocacy and educational activities to increase awareness of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- heritage values and history</li> <li>- human impacts on the natural environment.</li> </ul>		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
S.5i	Install educational signage to inform the community about marine life and encourage its protection through litter reduction (including squid jigs, fish and aquaculture waste), stormwater management, and responsible fishing practices.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>



**Figure 20.** Precinct 2 – Flinders, with precinct actions on map.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### PRECINCT 3: Dodds Creek



Extending either side of Dodds Creek, north of Flinders Pier, is Precinct 3. Characterised by rock flats and rock pools and the local dog beach, this stretch is a popular place for walkers, dog owners and surfers.

Seagrass, rock pools and marine biodiversity are key environmental values in this area. Flinders community groups have played an active role in enhancing Dodds Creek and surrounding vegetation.

Private residences are closely adjacent much of the foreshore, many with informal, private foreshore access. There is also large stormwater outlet at the creek entrance. The Esplanade also runs along this precinct, above steep, vegetated cliffs. Between Barker Street and Dodds Creek, the cliffs are prone to instability and erosion. Vegetation, including pines, have recently fallen down the slope.

Two small car parks are located next to the Esplanade. The beach can be accessed from the south (Flinders Pier) or via a pathway along Dodds Creek, from the most northern car park on the Esplanade. The northern end of Spindrift Avenue also has access often used by the surfing community.

#### Priorities

Maintaining public safety by improving understanding of cliff stability and associated risks


Increasing community awareness of protection and enhancement of the coastline

Restoration of environmental values

Environmental improvements including water quality, vegetation and habitat

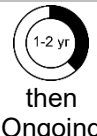
Minimising impacts on Crown land









Education about the marine environment

	Precinct actions (Precinct 3: Dodds Creek)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>			
P3.1	Work with adjacent landowners to minimise impacts from private property, increasing awareness and understanding of activities and practises to help protect and enhance the coastline. To align with VMP guidance.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Precinct actions (Precinct 3: Dodds Creek)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 3: Respect natural processes and strengthen resilience to climate change</b>			
P3.2	Informed by geotechnical assessment, undertake measures to further mitigate existing cliff and slope erosion hazards, and strengthen the resilience and safety of cliffs under a changing climate.		\$\$	The Shire

	Relevant Shire and regional actions for this precinct	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
R.2b	Work with relevant stakeholders to investigate opportunities to formalise protection and increase awareness of sensitive ecosystems in Western Port Bay and surrounding areas, including the use of marine protected areas.		**	The Shire DEECA, Victorian Environmental Assessment Council and others
R.2c	Work with Melbourne Water and community to support catchment and water quality improvements in Dodds Creek and Manton Creek.		\$\$\$	The Shire MW
R.2d	Partnering with relevant stakeholders, and guided by the Flinders Vegetation Management Plan, build upon existing Shire and community vegetation management and habitat enhancement measures, with a focus on regenerating and re-establishing native communities and weed control. (Linked to action R.2e.)		\$\$\$\$	The Shire PV
R.2e	Develop and implement recommendations from vegetation management plan to guide and prioritise stakeholder and community management activities for the Flinders foreshore reserve, and demonstrate the need for funding.		\$\$	The Shire
R.4d	Linked to the vegetation management plan, develop a campaign to advocate, educate and enforce behaviour change for foreshore-adjacent homeowners, including land encroachment and weed control measures, obligations under the <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i> .		\$\$	The Shire
S.4b	Using communication, advocacy, enforcement and planning controls, work with relevant landholders to reduce encroachment and synergistic impacts on Crown Land, and align activities with the CMMP and other Shire and state management guidelines and policies.		\$\$\$	The Shire
R.5d	Establish community events targeted at educating local and visiting communities on the marine environment at Flinders, including education on seagrass, rock pools and marine biodiversity.		\$\$	The Shire
S.5i	Install educational signage to inform the community about marine life and encourage its protection through litter reduction (including squid jigs, fish and aquaculture waste), stormwater management, and responsible fishing practices.		\$\$	The Shire



**Figure 21.** Precinct 3 – Dodds Creek, with precinct actions on map.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### PRECINCT 4: Manton Creek



Precinct 4 covers the remainder of the foreshore to the north, including the mouth of Manton Creek. This stretch of the coast is dominated by large private properties adjacent to the foreshore, including agricultural land. There is very limited accessibility for the public.

Some isolated locations are experiencing erosion impacts, resulting in an exposed scarp and shoreline slumping.



The values in Precinct 4 (as relevant to this CMMP) are almost entirely environmental, with actions focused on improving creek water quality, vegetation management, reducing impacts of adjacent land holders, and the integrity of the foreshore reserve.

#### Priorities

Managing environmental values through advocacy, education, collaboration and integrated catchment to coast management







Increasing community awareness of protection and enhancement of the coastline

Restoration of environmental values

	Precinct actions (Precinct 4: Manton Creek)	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
	<b>Objective 2: Protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment</b>			
P4.1	Work with adjacent landowners to minimise impacts from private property, increasing awareness and understanding of activities and practises to help protect and enhance the coastline. To align with VMP guidance.		\$\$	<b>The Shire</b>
	<b>Objective 4: Use and develop sustainably</b>			
P4.2	Work with relevant landholders and Melbourne Water to improve management of stock access to Manton Creek.	 then Ongoing	\$\$	<b>The Shire with Melbourne Water</b>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

	Relevant Shire and regional actions for this precinct	Timing	Indicative cost	Action lead Support
R.2c	Work with Melbourne Water and community to support catchment and water quality improvements in Dodds Creek and Manton Creek.		\$\$\$	The Shire MW
R.2d	Partnering with relevant stakeholders, and guided by the Flinders Vegetation Management Plan, build upon existing Shire and community vegetation management and habitat enhancement measures, with a focus on regenerating and re-establishing native communities and weed control. (Linked to action R.2e.)		\$\$\$\$	The Shire PV
R.2e	Develop and implement recommendations from vegetation management plan to guide and prioritise stakeholder and community management activities for the Flinders foreshore reserve, and demonstrate the need for funding.		\$\$	The Shire
R.4d	Linked to the vegetation management plan, develop a campaign to advocate, educate and enforce behaviour change for foreshore-adjacent homeowners, including land encroachment and weed control measures, obligations under the <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i> .		\$\$	The Shire
S.4b	Using communication, advocacy, enforcement and planning controls, work with relevant landholders to reduce encroachment and synergistic impacts on Crown Land, and align activities with the CMMP and other Shire and state management guidelines and policies.		\$\$\$	The Shire
R.5b	Linked to the vegetation management plan, develop a campaign to advocate, educate and encourage behaviour change for foreshore-adjacent homeowners, including planting guides and examples to inform better gardening methods and community led vegetation management activities.		\$\$	The Shire



**Figure 22.** *Precinct 4 – Manton Creek, with precinct actions on map*

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Implementation

Successful implementation of the CMMP requires commitment from the Shire and State Government to prioritise coastal and marine management and ensure its integration with other Shire plans and strategies.

The Flinders CMMP actions will be delivered via a range of existing Shire and stakeholder mechanisms (where possible). This includes the annual capital works program, planning schemes, local laws, asset management plans and other Shire plans, as well as business-as-usual operations for the Shire.

Action implementation will also include elements of monitoring, evaluation, review, and improvement, to be applied using an adaptative management approach (Figure 23), ensuring tracking, accountability and improvement of the CMMP delivery.

<b>Endorsement and adoption</b> Endorsement of the CMMP by The Shire and DELWP
<b>Implementation</b> Implementation of actions is focussed on embedding in existing Shire processes and activities. Includes annual capital works program, planning schemes, local laws, and asset management plans, and other Shire plans, and business as usual operations
<b>Operational monitoring and review</b> Ongoing operational review and monitoring of risks to project delivery. Monitoring and adjustment of 'on-ground' actions
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b> Regular and systematic monitoring and evaluation of implementation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implementation monitoring</li><li>• Community perceptions and surveys (every 2-3 years) policy, scientific advances, legislative change, etc.</li><li>• Triggers to review and update, e.g. changes in policy, scientific advances, legislative change, etc.</li></ul>
<b>Review</b> The formal review process occurs after 5 years or if triggered sooner through monitoring and evaluation process.
<b>Improvement</b> Outcomes of the review are embedded through improvement of the existing Plan or development of a new Plan.



Figure 23. CMMP implementation and adaptive management framework.

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### A pathway for funding

This CMMP provides direction and priorities for the future local management of marine and coastal Crown land at Flinders. It also clearly identifies timelines and highlights the necessity of an ongoing commitment towards the management of coastal and marine areas. Action implementation requires a diverse range of funding mechanisms, in addition to Shire's budgeting processes, to support delivery of the CMMPs actions and initiatives.

Funding opportunities might include:

- Rates and charges, environmental levees, developer contributions
- Integration with other relevant Shire projects, plans and strategies
- External funding sources for local government – local and state government initiatives supporting environment, climate resilience planning and/or communities.
- Funding sources and programs for community initiatives – such as environmental stewardship and
- volunteering groups, community grants, state and federal government programmes or private sector grants

Community advocacy has an important role to play in understanding current priorities and needs for the local community, helps to directing marine and coastal management resources, generating broader awareness of key values, concerns, and opportunities.



### Monitoring, evaluation and review

The monitoring, evaluation and review (MER) process focusses on being able to report on key outcomes relating to the delivery of management actions, such as impact and effectiveness of the actions, their efficiency and efficacy and their appropriateness/suitability. This understanding will aid the success of the Plan, providing improvement and increasing accountability. The MER process is intended to be integrated with other routine processes that the Shire has for existing plans and strategies.

Formal milestones over the 5-year life of the plan will be used to monitor and evaluate the Flinders CMMP. This approach looks to track the progress of the CMMP's implementation and to facilitate adaptive management.

An annual review of action status will be undertaken to determine what has been started, completed, yet to commence or is ongoing. This annual progress reporting will reflect on the CMMP actions and work undertaken throughout the year, and also identify upcoming work proposed for the next 12 months. This reporting will be made available to other relevant stakeholders, including DEECA.



**Ongoing** actions being implemented in a 'business as usual' capacity for the Shire need further consideration, to ensure they are incorporated into day-to-day workloads. Clearly defined work plans and routine reporting aim to generate accountability for delivering on these actions. Where appropriate, metrics will be developed as part of action implementation, to inform and demonstrate progress.

The review will also reflect on the action/project in line with some key monitoring and evaluation questions. These may include:

#### Impact/effectiveness

- To what extent, and how well, have the programs contributed to achieving:
  - marine and coastal policy objectives
  - vision of the CMMP
  - objectives of the CMMP
  - goals of the CMMP
- Did the actions and projects deliver on goals/objectives/outputs as planned?
- How has the CMMP contributed to changes in the Shire's coastal and marine areas (i.e. environmental, social, economics conditions)?
- What, if any, unanticipated outcomes (positive or negative) have resulted from implementing the CMMP?
- Were stakeholders /delivery partners effective in working together?

#### Efficiency

- Have actions been integrated into Shire plans and processes?
- Have actions been completed as per priority timelines within the plan?
- To what extent did the programs efficiently use resources, money and time?
- Have activities and delivery methods been effective?

#### Appropriateness

- Were the objectives suitable for achieving the vision of the CMMP?
- Were the actions suitable for achieving objectives/goals?
- Were the size, scale and approach of actions undertaken appropriate?
- Were Shire staff / delivery partners appropriately tasked?

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Data and evidence have an important role in quantifying progress and outcomes of the plan.

Where possible, environmental and usage monitoring, both existing and newly identified monitoring programs for development, will be used to understand the baseline condition, health and status of areas and assets on our foreshore. This allows tracking of changes over time, identifying possible improvement or decline that may be attributed to action implementation.

Community and stakeholder feedback will also be used to support this process. The Flinders Community Advisory Group (CAG) can also be used to support this process.

A specific CMMP community survey will be undertaken every 2-3 years to gain perspectives on Shire's approach to coastal and marine management, and the CMMP's implementation, and to what degree actions are contributing to the goals, objectives and vision.

Similarly, key stakeholders and agencies will be asked to provide feedback on key programs that they have been involved in delivering.



### Monitoring and evaluation milestones

2022	CMMP endorsement
Throughout	Annual reporting, targeted stakeholder feedback, ongoing improvement
2024	CMMP community survey. Review of actions based on survey outcomes
2026	5-year review as required under the Act. Update CMMP as required



# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Acknowledgement

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the development of this CMMP, including our Mornington Peninsula Shire community, representatives of our stakeholder agencies and interest groups, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC) and our Shire staff. A special thanks to the community representatives of the Flinders Coastal Advisory Group.



## Attachment A – Engagement approach

### Summary

The development of the Flinders Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP) has been shaped by a range of communication and engagement activities.

### Communication and engagement plan

To support engagement activities associated with developing the CMMP, a communication and engagement plan was developed.

This live, stand-alone plan provided an easy-to-use visual of key engagement strategies and activities (and includes consideration of risks) for the life of the CMMP development process.

The plan:

- Provided context for engagement with stakeholders including previous engagement activities
- Outlined what successful engagement will look like and the engagement objectives outcomes and activities for different stages of the CMMP
- Identified key stakeholder groups and how and when engagement with these organisations will be implemented
- Provided key evaluation questions for engagement monitoring and evaluation, along with risk management and mitigation strategies.

### Engagement activities

Early engagement activities focused on understanding perceived values, concerns and opportunities for coastal and marine areas at Flinders.

A range of activities were carried out to help build regional context, informing a background review of the Flinders coastline and its surrounding areas. These activities built our understanding of the region's key values, current condition, challenges and management approach, and in doing so will help guide the CMMP development.

As the project progressed, discussions focussed on objectives, goals, and possible management actions and opportunities, shaping the management options for the CMMP.

Later engagement stages informed the development and refinement of actions at site, regional and shire-wide scales, aimed at achieving the identified management objectives for Flinders.

Communication and engagement activities to date are detailed in Table 2.

Throughout the CMMP development, the engagement aimed to:

- Gain a shared understanding of economic, ecological, social and cultural values associated with Flinders and its local coastal and marine areas and their management
- Obtain feedback from a diverse and relevant cross-section of the community
- Identify key objectives and opportunities for the CMMP, based on protecting values.



# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

**Table 2. Key engagement activities and events to date for Flinders CMMP**

Date	Event/activity	Key activities and outcomes	Comments
<b>January 2022</b>	Briefing - Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC)	Initial meeting with the Bunurong Land Council to introduce the project and discuss their desired involvement.	Agree upon and approach and proposed scope
<b>January 2022</b>	Branding look and feel	Communication between the Shire and the consultant (Alluvium) to develop a branding look and feel with graphical elements.	Branding utilised the Shires existing branding/logo to provide a consistent look across all three CMMPs currently underway, which also includes the Mount Eliza CMMP and Portsea CMMP.
<b>February 2022</b>	Website content	Develop static website content which includes information about the CMMP project and a link to Shape activities. Shape engagement content and activities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interactive mapping exercise</li> <li>A short survey, question prompts</li> </ul>	This aimed to understand what the community love about the coast and what they'd like to retain, change or improve about the management of Flinders' marine and coastal areas.
<b>February 2022 – April 2022</b>	Shape engagement activity #1	Launch Shape engagement for Flinders CMMP	Website content live from March onwards, with Shape activity running through March and April 2022  18 individuals contributed to the website and 23 pins were placed on the interactive map
<b>February 2022 – April 2022</b>	Promotion of community online engagement	Develop media release and/or newspaper or print media advertising to support project launch and advertising of engagement activities. Call to action, QR code and/or link to Shape.  Social media advertising via Shire social media accounts to launch project and direct community to engagement activities. Call to action and direct people to Shape.  Branded corflutes/posters to be produced and erected at key locations. To include QR code to direct people to the Shape website.	
<b>February 2022</b>	Internal Shire workshop #1	Introduction workshop with Shire staff and Alluvium, to introduce the project to internal Shire staff, foster buy-in and understand existing/future values, concerns, and opportunities, including details on what makes a good CMMP (what is needed).	Providing context for the background report and CMMP development
<b>February 2022</b>	Community Advisory Group (CAG) workshops	First CMMP workshop with the Flinders CAG to develop understanding of values and experiences, discuss concerns, and priorities.	Providing context for the background report and CMMP development
<b>March 2022</b>	MPSC Councillors workshop #1	Introduction workshop with MPSC Councillors and Alluvium, to introduce them to the project, foster buy-in and understand existing/future values, concerns and	Providing context for the background report and CMMP development

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan


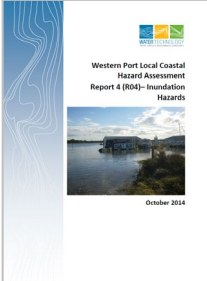
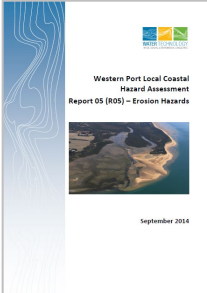
Date	Event/activity	Key activities and outcomes	Comments
		opportunities, including details on what makes a good CMMP (what is needed).	
<b>March 2022</b>	Community Advisory Group (CAG) – Site walk	Second meeting for CMMP with the Flinders CAG to gain further insights and perspectives on site	Providing context for the background report and CMMP development
<b>March 2022</b>	Inter-agency workshop	Workshop with inter-agency staff Introduction workshop with inter-agency staff and Alluvium, to introduce the project key agency staff, foster buy-in and understand existing/future value, concerns and opportunities, including details on what makes a good CMMP (what is needed) and opportunities to work together	Providing context for the background report and CMMP development
<b>April 2022</b>	Key stakeholder/interest groups discussion	Discussion with key stakeholders and interest groups to introduce them to the Flinders CMMP and develop understanding of values and experiences, discuss concerns, and priorities.	Providing context for the background report and CMMP development
<b>April 2022</b>	Community pop-ups	On site pop-ups with communities, to develop understanding of values and experiences, discuss concerns, and priorities for each CMMP location. Feedback and contributions were collected via the pinboard. Reminder for online Shape survey participation	One-on-one discussions with the community Providing context for the background report and CMMP development  Set up at Flinders Pier. Spoke with 25-30 people of range of ages, locals and visitors
<b>June 2022</b>	Briefings and site walk – Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC)	Site walk and discussions with BLCAC representatives to gain further insights and perspectives, in regard to cultural values and experiences for the marine and coastal areas region	Providing cultural context to aid CMMP development
<b>June 2022</b>	Coastal Advisory Group (CAG) workshop	CMMP workshop #3 - Preliminary actions with the Flinders CAG to discuss and refine CMMP actions and CMMP framework	Refined CMMP actions
<b>July 2022</b>	Internal Shire workshop #2	Workshop with Shire staff - CMMP action development with Council staff and Alluvium, sharing background review findings and working together refine actions and implementation details.	Providing input on action development and implementation
<b>July 2022</b>	Inter-agency workshop	Workshop with inter-agency staff - CMMP action development with inter-agency staff and Alluvium, sharing background review findings and working together refine actions and implementation details.	Providing input on action development and implementation
<b>September 2022</b>	MPSC Councillors briefing #1	Briefing with MPSC councillors to work through Draft CMMP, its development and key recommended actions	Providing feedback on draft plan and inform Councillor endorsement of Draft CMMP for public exhibition
<b>October 2022 to January 2023</b>	Public exhibition period for Draft CMMP	Included online survey, materials and content, community pop-ups, online community and stakeholder briefings	Opportunity stakeholder and community feedback on draft plan, providing feedback

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Attachment B – Key documents


#### Regional documents

Document	Summary of the document	Key/relevant objectives, goals or recommendations
<p><b>SECCCA Strategic Plan 2019-2024</b></p> 	<p>The South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) is a network of councils, including Mornington Peninsula Shire, committed to delivering high-quality, innovative projects and research programs at a regional level. Its 5-year strategic plan sets the roadmap for actions and priorities to 2024.</p>	<p>SECCCA is advocating for broadscale changes to institutional arrangements and structures on behalf of its members.</p> <p>For example, under the 'Infrastructure' theme: 'understand at a localised level the impacts of a changing climate... on all assets, and as they are renewed are climate resilient'.</p>
<p><b>Western Port Local Coastal Hazard Assessment Report 4 (R04) – Inundation Hazards (2014)</b></p> 	<p>This detailed technical report (one of a series) by Water Technology assesses the impact of sea level rise on inundation extents along the Western Port Bay coast. It was intended to inform consistent policy and practices, as well as planning and management against coastal hazards.</p> <p>It did not include assessment of those impacts on values and assets, and it did not suggest adaptation responses.</p>	<p>Findings directly relevant to the CMMP included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flinders would not be significantly impacted by storm tide inundation resulting from any of the sea level rise scenarios, due to the steep sloping topography of the foreshore</li> <li>• Flinders would also not be impacted by catchment inundation as there are no major sources of catchment inflow along this section of the coast.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Western Port Local Coastal Hazard Assessment Report 5 (R05) – Erosion Hazards (2014)</b></p> 	<p>Similar to the above, this detailed technical report by Water Technology assesses potential coastal erosion hazards in relation to sea level rise projections for this century.</p>	<p>This report includes description of the geology and geomorphology of the Flinders-Shoreham coast, and potential impacts of future coastal erosion such as the reactivation of platform beaches and bluffs.</p>

# Flinders

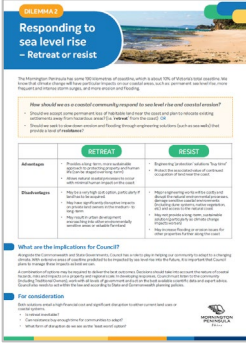

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

### Shire-wide documents

Document	Summary of the document	Key/relevant objectives, goals or recommendations
<p><i>Council and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025</i></p> 	<p>This document, for the first time, brings together the Council Plan and the Health and Wellbeing Plan. This was to reflect the importance of health and wellbeing in everything the Shire delivers for the community.</p> <p>It was developed using information from community engagement activities (as part of <i>Imagine: Peninsula 2040</i> – see below), combined with health, wellbeing and community profile data, as well as the functions and obligations required of councils by law.</p>	<p>Mornington Peninsula Shire developed this plan with a set of operating principles for how it will be delivered, which includes these three themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A healthy natural environment and well-planned townships</li> <li>2. A robust, innovative and diverse economy</li> <li>3. A flourishing, healthy and connected community.</li> </ol> <p>Each theme has a number of strategic objectives. Under the first theme, for example, is Strategic objective 1.2 – <b>‘A healthy ecosystem, in which our coastline, bushland, wildlife and green wedge is resilient to the climate emergency and development.’</b> Under this objective, ‘what we will do’ includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.2.1. Work with our community to protect native flora and fauna and coastal foreshores.</li> <li>1.2.2. Implement Coastal and Marine Management Plans, including the Mornington Peninsula Coastal Strategy, to look after our coastal heritage and marine wildlife.</li> </ol>
<p><i>Imagine: Peninsula 2040 – Our shared community vision (2021)</i></p> 	<p><i>Imagine: Peninsula 2040</i> is an extensive community engagement exercise informing Council planning.</p> <p>During the first part of this process, Council engaged a representative community panel to develop a vision based on feedback from over 3,000 community members.</p> <p>The feedback was provided through surveys, online workshops, township pop-ups, postcards and drawings. The questions posed included ‘What do you want life on the Mornington Peninsula to look like in 2040?’</p>	<p>The community vision has seven principles to guide the future of the Mornington Peninsula:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Addressing climate change</li> <li>2. Integrated public transport and accessibility infrastructure</li> <li>3. Support an inclusive, connected and safe society</li> <li>4. Innovative planning and development of the local economy</li> <li>5. Encourage and expand education, sports and arts opportunities</li> <li>6. Protect and enhance all elements of our natural land, sea and biodiverse environments</li> <li>7. Plan and regulate responsible and innovative housing development.</li> </ol>

# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Document	Summary of the document	Key/relevant objectives, goals or recommendations
<p><i>Imagine 2040 Community Panel: Dilemma survey (2021)</i></p> 	<p>The second part of the community panel's work was inspired by an approach known as Deliberative Polling®. The Imagine 2040 panel members were surveyed before and after discussion about eight key dilemmas. An example of a dilemma is 'Responding to sea level rise – Retreat or resist'.</p> <p>This report (by MosaicLab) summarises the survey results to understand how the perspectives of the panel members changed. It includes a fact sheet for each dilemma, with summaries of the implications for the Shire.</p>	<p>The final preferred options for each dilemma included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Responding to sea level rise and coastal erosion:</b> Accept that some erosion is inevitable and have a planned land-management approach ('Retreat')</li> <li>- <b>Access to the town centre:</b> Providing more car parking spaces in town centres</li> <li>- <b>Community facilities:</b> Maintain and upgrade existing single-use facilities (higher quantity of smaller facilities)</li> <li>- <b>Tourism and event-based development:</b> Allow for concentrated tourism and event-based development and activity in high-profile locations</li> <li>- <b>Increasing housing on the Peninsula:</b> Concentrate housing in urban areas leading to greater urban density, thereby protecting the current green spaces.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Ensuring Our Future: Our Climate Emergency Response (2020)</i></p> 	<p>In August 2019, Mornington Peninsula Shire became the 34th Council in Australia to declare a climate emergency.</p> <p>This document, also referred to as the <i>Climate Emergency Plan</i>, guides the Mornington Peninsula towards zero carbon emissions by 2040. It is a plan for the first decade, identifying 'seven summits' to climb, 21 'action steps' (each with several specific tasks), and 35 supplementary targets to keep on track.</p> <p>There is also a summary version of the plan, and a 2021 progress report.</p>	<p>The 'peak goal' is zero-emissions by 2040, and the 'seven summits' are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership and governance</li> <li>• Climate advocacy</li> <li>• Zero carbon energy</li> <li>• A resilient and adaptive community</li> <li>• Sustainable transport and travel</li> <li>• Sustainable land use and environmental restoration</li> <li>• Circular economy and zero waste.</li> </ul> <p>The 21 'action steps' include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate a thriving Peninsula-wide natural environment</li> <li>• Connect communities and nature in precinct planning</li> <li>• Grow nature-based infrastructure [this includes addressing the impacts of coastal erosion and sea level rise]</li> <li>• Understand climate risks on assets and services.</li> </ul> <p>There are also targets relevant to the CMMP, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2025, the resilience of our community will be strengthened by maximising social connections and meaningful engagement to increase understanding of the local impacts and risks of climate change</li> <li>• By 2025, increase human-nature connections by involving a total of 10,000 people in local terrestrial and marine based environmental care programs</li> <li>• By 2030, increase ecosystem resilience to climate change and other threats on the Peninsula, e.g., through restoring connectivity of habitat across public and private land.</li> </ul>


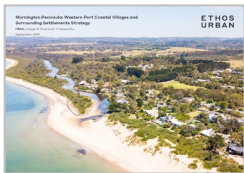
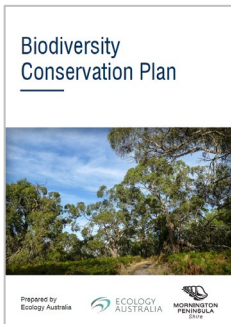
# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Document	Summary of the document	Key/relevant objectives, goals or recommendations
<p><i>Our Reconciliation Action Plan 2022: Mornington Peninsula Shire's RAP January 2020 – January 2022</i></p> 	<p>The Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) was informed by a comprehensive consultation process engaging Traditional Owner groups, local Aboriginal organisations, Aboriginal peak bodies, Councillors, Shire staff, and the broader community.</p>	<p>Examples of actions set out in the RAP that are relevant to the CMMP include:</p> <p>14 - Identify and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage (with the deliverable to work in partnership with the Bunurong Land Council, as the Registered Aboriginal Party, to identify and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage)</p> <p>15 - Acknowledge and celebrate Bunurong/Boon Wurrung history and cultural heritage (with multiple deliverables, such as consulting with Bunurong/Boon Wurrung peoples to inform the development of a cultural heritage and history trail)</p> <p>17 - Incorporate cultural footprint within all project planning and design (with the deliverable to develop minimum standards for the Shire's project framework to include a cultural footprint consideration in all new projects such as streetscapes and building designs).</p>
<p><i>Our arts and culture 2024: Mornington Peninsula Shire Arts and Culture Plan 2020-2024</i></p> 	<p>The purpose of this plan is to assess the community's current needs and aspirations and develop strategic priorities to effectively plan for rich, vibrant culture in the community.</p>	<p>There are six goals, each with strategies and key actions:</p> <p>Goal 1 – <b>An Inspired Community</b></p> <p>Goal 2 – <b>Uniquely the Peninsula</b></p> <p>Goal 3 – <b>Improved Mobility and Access</b></p> <p>Goal 4 – <b>Stronger Connections</b></p> <p>Goal 5 – <b>Growing our Cultural Economy</b></p> <p>Goal 6 – <b>Arts and Culture for Everyone, Everyday</b></p> <p>The last goal, for example, involves embedding arts and culture experiences in day-to-day life for all the community to enjoy, and increasing feelings of belonging, safety and connection to place.</p>
<p><i>Our assets 2030: Mornington Peninsula Shire Asset Management Strategy 2020-2030</i></p> 	<p>The purpose of this strategy is to 'establish objectives that will allow [the Shire] to ensure our assets are providing value', through considering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Shire's strategic objectives</li> <li>desired service delivery outcomes</li> <li>future challenges.</li> </ul>	<p>The Shire has committed to make all decisions relating to assets in accordance with six asset management principles (as also outlined in the Asset Management Policy), whereby asset management is: 1. Leadership driven, 2. Service led, 3. Informed by risk, 4. Information based, 5. Whole of life, and 6. Climate aware.</p> <p>Under each principle, the Shire established asset management objectives. For example, under the Climate Aware principle:</p> <p>'6.1 We will incorporate consideration of climate change into our asset management thinking, considering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ways we can help address the climate emergency through the ways we plan and manage our assets</li> <li>how to manage the effects climate change will have on our current assets</li> <li>how to plan our future assets to be more adaptable to climate change.'</li> </ul>


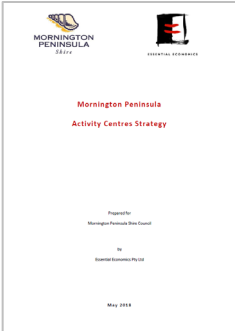
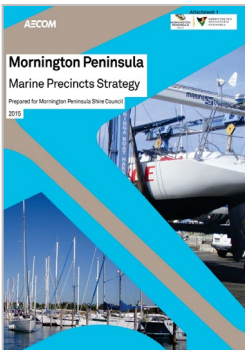
# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Document	Summary of the document	Key/relevant objectives, goals or recommendations
<p><i>Mornington Peninsula Neighbourhood Character Study and Guidelines (2019)</i></p> 	<p>This study (and an accompanying Background Report) by Ethos Urban sought to capture the Peninsula's unique values and develop a framework to ensure better design and amenity outcomes for all of its residential localities.</p> <p>As a result of this study, residential areas are now supported by preferred character statements incorporated within the Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme.</p>	<p>For Flinders, this study informed both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the <i>Western Port Coastal Villages and Surrounding Settlements Strategy</i> (2019), summarised below.</li> <li>The <i>Flinders Township: Built Form Brochure</i> (2019), summarised in the Flinders documents table.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Mornington Peninsula: Western Port Coastal Villages and Surrounding Settlements Strategy (2019)</i></p> 	<p>This strategy, also by Ethos Urban, sought to address these two issues for townships in and around Western Port Bay:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change impacts relating to sea level rise (responding to the 2014 <i>Western Port Local Coastal Hazard Assessment</i>), and</li> <li>Managing development to retain and enhance township character in response to pressures for change.</li> </ul>	<p>The Strategy presented this vision for Flinders:</p> <p>"Flinders township will retain its strong rural-coastal village feel, and spacious streetscapes dominated by vegetation. New residential development will be low-scale and reflect the coastal location. Development will have regard for the town's gridded street pattern, heritage fabric, connections and public views to the foreshore.</p> <p>Flinders Village Centre will remain distinct from the rest of the town through its small cluster of closely spaced heritage buildings with verandas and active frontages oriented towards Cook Street. The public realm will be dominated by native coastal vegetation and mature canopy trees in wide nature strips."</p>
<p><i>Mornington Peninsula Biodiversity Conservation Plan (2019)</i></p> 	<p>The <i>Mornington Peninsula Biodiversity Conservation Plan</i> was developed by Ecology Australia to provide guidance and direction on biodiversity management and allocation of resources by the Shire.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Conservation Plan identifies the long-term goals for conserving the natural capital of the Mornington Peninsula. It seeks to protect and improve the resilience of the Mornington Peninsula's natural landscapes, ecosystems and biodiversity.</p>	<p>The vision for the Mornington Peninsula is that: The Mornington Peninsula's biodiversity is healthy, valued and protected.</p> <p>The plan identifies six strategic directions aimed at achieving that vision:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engaging with the community and building stewardship</li> <li>2. Facilitating biodiversity conservation on private land</li> <li>3. Protecting biodiversity through planning and policy</li> <li>4. Building a strong knowledge base</li> <li>5. Demonstrating and leading best-practice management</li> <li>6. Building ecosystem resilience in a changing climate.</li> </ol>

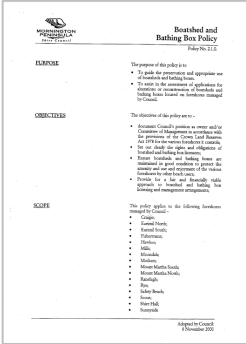
# Flinders

## Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Document	Summary of the document	Key/relevant objectives, goals or recommendations
<p><i>Local History Development Plan (2019)</i></p> 	<p>The <i>Local History Development Plan</i> supports the ongoing development and promotion of local history on the Peninsula. It aims to ensure that local history is preserved and utilised for the benefit of all. It examines and makes recommendations on the resources which are maintained by the Mornington Peninsula Local History Network.</p>	<p>There are no directly relevant objectives, goals or recommendations for Flinders, but this plan is referenced in other relevant plans such as the RAP and Arts and Culture Plan.</p>
<p><i>Mornington Peninsula Activity Centres Strategy (2018)</i></p> 	<p>As focal points for the surrounding community, it is important that activity centres serve their communities in an effective way. The Activity Centres Strategy is a tool to guide and support the ongoing performance of centres.</p> <p>Under the hierarchy, Flinders is a 'local centre'.</p>	<p>There are no directly relevant objectives, goals or recommendations, but it is noted that: 'the local activity centres are expected to continue meeting the basic convenience needs of residents and visitors with only limited opportunity for redevelopment and improvement over time, and an objective of policy is to ensure that the heritage and character of centres such as Portsea and Flinders is carefully maintained.'</p>
<p><i>Marine Precincts Strategy (2015)</i></p> 	<p>The purpose of the Marine and Precincts Strategy, which was developed by AECOM, was to be 'an advocacy document and planning framework... that will facilitate investment and clustering of marine industry and related uses into key precincts and nodes.'</p>	<p>The vision for marine precincts on the Mornington Peninsula is 'Two Bays with a Network of Marine Precincts', underpinned by the Mornington Peninsula:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- being the foremost location in Victoria for marine-based recreation, tourism and industrial activities</li> <li>- providing a network of recreational marine precincts that support recreational boating</li> <li>- providing a network of marine precincts that support boat building and servicing industries</li> <li>- encouraging public and private investment into marine infrastructure that supports marine-based industries, recreation, tourism, aquaculture and education.</li> </ul> <p>Directions, objectives and initiatives were also identified, such as <b>Direction 4 - Encourage and support broader recognition of the local marine sector including recreational boating, marine tourism and marine industrial activities</b>, with the objective 'to promote the Mornington Peninsula as Victoria's premier location for marine recreational boating, tourism and industry.'</p>

# Flinders

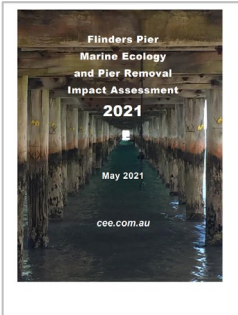
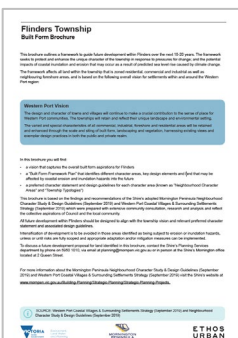
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<p><b>Boatshed and Bathing Box Policy (2000)</b></p> 	<p>This policy assists in the assessment of applications for alterations or reconstruction of boatsheds and bathing boxes located on foreshores managed by the Shire.</p>	<p>This policy guides the preservation and appropriate use of boatsheds and bathing boxes.</p> <p>Note: At the Victorian Government level, the <i>DEECA* Standards for Bathing Box and Boatshed: Construction Guidelines 2015</i> also ensure that bathing boxes and boatsheds located on Victorian coastal Crown land are of the best quality. The standards specifically address reconstruction but may also offer advice for the maintenance of existing structures. The standards are governed by local Foreshore Managers, who have final determination of appropriate use of materials and construction techniques.</p> <p><i>*formerly as DELWP</i></p>

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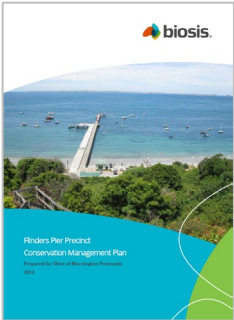
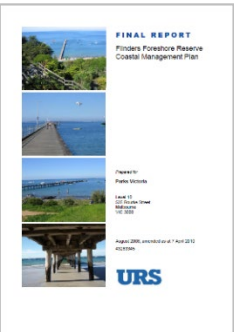
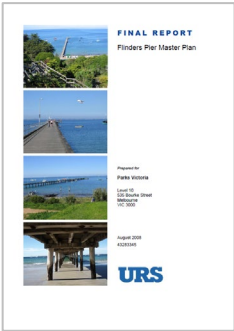
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### Flinders documents

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<p><i>Flinders Pier Marine Ecology and Pier Removal Impact Assessment (2021)</i></p> 	<p>The Flinders Pier removal impact assessment study was conducted by CEE in 2021, ahead of Parks Victoria's proposed removal of the first 180 m of the wooden jetty.</p> <p>The characteristics of the marine ecological community at the pier was documented during a marine ecological survey in December 2020, following the same approach as a marine ecological baseline study in 2007.</p> <p>The report then considers potential impact pathways of the possible pier removal works and associated risks to the marine ecosystem.</p>	<p>The findings included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risks from removal of the inner wooden length of the pier to State or Commonwealth protected and threatened species are negligible</li> <li>• Any minor, temporary disturbance to seagrasses can be mitigated through good works procedures, and seagrass is likely to re-establish in the nearshore area of seabed presently shaded by the existing wooden deck</li> <li>• Fish and seadragons are mobile relative to the spatial scale and speed of the proposed works, and with potential effects likely to be negligible</li> <li>• Good works practices managed through an approved Construction Environmental Management Plan for the pier removal works would ensure all risks to the marine ecosystem are minimised.</li> </ul> <p>It was noted that some may consider the removal of the wooden structure to reduce the experience of those visiting Flinders to enjoy the maritime and marine biodiversity associated with pier structure.</p>
<p><i>Flinders Township: Built Form Brochure (2019)</i></p> 	<p>This brochure outlines a framework to guide future development within Flinders over the next 15-20 years.</p> <p>It seeks to protect and enhance the unique character of Flinders in response to both pressures for change and the potential impacts of coastal inundation and erosion.</p> <p>The framework affects all land that is zoned residential, commercial and industrial, as well as neighbouring foreshore areas</p> <p>This framework was developed based on findings and recommendations from the Mornington Peninsula Neighbourhood Character Study &amp; Design Guidelines (2019) and Western Port Coastal Villages &amp; Surrounding Settlements Strategy (2019), which are both summarised in the table above. This includes the vision for Flinders presented in the latter.</p>	<p>Design objectives are set for different character areas of Flinders. For the 'Local Beach' area (the most relevant to the CMMP), these are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and improve public amenity within the precinct</li> <li>• Ensure new development positively responds to the coastal settings</li> <li>• Ensure the indigenous vegetation and landscape setting of the foreshore is retained and enhanced</li> <li>• Minimise the impact of car parking and access on the landscape and environmental qualities of the foreshore</li> <li>• Ensure signage is designed and located to be compatible with the character of the precinct</li> <li>• Ensure fencing treatments provide passive surveillance and contribute positively to the surrounding character</li> <li>• Respond appropriately to the threats of coastal hazards - erosion and inundation.</li> </ul> <p>Other relevant design objectives, particularly in Bush Coastal Contemporary 3, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and reinforce the rhythm of building spacing in the streetscape and provide for reasonable sharing of views to the ocean or coast</li> <li>• Use materials and finishes that complement the vegetation and coastal setting</li> <li>• Strengthen the coastal character of the areas by planting of appropriate coastal species.</li> </ul>

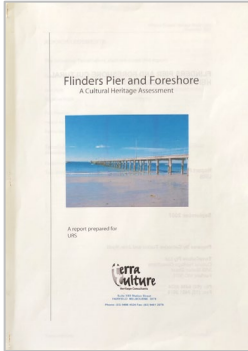
# Flinders

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<p><i>Flinders Pier Precinct Conservation Management Plan (2013)</i></p> 	<p>A 'European Heritage Conservation Plan' was developed by Biosis to provide historical and contextual information to assist decision making for the Flinders Foreshore Precinct (also known as the Flinders Pier, Foreshore and Cable Station Site Precinct).</p> <p>The need for this plan was highlighted by completed and proposed works in the area.</p>	<p>Facilities, structures and sites considered to be of primary significance included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flinders Pier</li> <li>• Sheds</li> <li>• Bass and Flinders Monument</li> <li>• War Memorial</li> <li>• Slipway</li> <li>• Principal views and vistas.</li> </ul> <p>Those of contributory significance included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slipway shed</li> <li>• Remaining mature planted trees</li> <li>• Modern walkway</li> <li>• Interpretive plaques.</li> </ul> <p>Those of archaeological significance included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fishermans hut</li> <li>• Cable Station (Houghton House)</li> <li>• Cable relay hut</li> <li>• Happy Valley house site.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Flinders Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan (2010)</i></p> 	<p>A Coastal Management Plan (CMP) was developed by URS to provide guidance and an integrated planning approach towards the future use, development and management of the Flinders Foreshore Reserve.</p> <p>The plan presented a vision for the foreshore, as well as strategies and actions to address key issues in the area. A Background Report, 'Flinders Foreshore Reserve and Pier Background Report' (URS 2007), was also prepared.</p> <p>This CMP is the predecessor to the Flinders CMMP.</p>	<p>The vision for the Flinders Foreshore Reserve was: 'To protect, maintain and create awareness of the unique natural environment and cultural heritage values of Flinders Foreshore Reserve to provide for a level of community use and high-quality coastal experience consistent with these values.'</p> <p>Key objectives identified in the Coastal Management Plan (2010) to be considered in the new Coastal &amp; Marine Management Plan included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and create awareness of natural environmental values</li> <li>• Preserve and protect heritage sites</li> <li>• Maintain/improve existing infrastructure and access</li> <li>• Upgrade Flinders Pier</li> </ul> <p>Many specific actions were also identified (and have been assessed as part of this Background Document).</p>
<p><i>Flinders Pier Master Plan (2008)</i></p> 	<p>This plan considered the history, condition, issues, and opportunities for management of the Flinders Pier, and prepared a concept design.</p> <p>The concept design was developed concurrently with the <i>Flinders Foreshore Coastal Management Plan (2010)</i> (summarised above) to ensure an integrated planning approach.</p>	<p>The priorities identified for the redevelopment of the Flinders Pier included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimize impacts on the marine ecology during the design and construction of the pier</li> <li>• Respect and manage cultural heritage sites that may be present on the seabed, including any remnants of the former pier</li> <li>• Understand both the impact of redevelopment on coastal processes and the impact of coastal processes on redevelopment</li> <li>• Meet the needs of all current users and not promote activities which impact the ecological and physical features of the marine environment.</li> </ul>

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<p><i>Flinders Pier and Foreshore: A Cultural Heritage Assessment (2007)</i></p> 	<p>This report by TerraCulture, presented specialist advice on the foreshore's Aboriginal and European/historical cultural heritage values.</p> <p>It was part of the <i>Flinders Foreshore Reserve and Pier Background Report</i> (URS 2007), which informed the objectives and actions in the <i>Flinders Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan</i> (2010) (summarised above).</p>	<p>The report makes management recommendations for cultural heritage values. For Aboriginal archaeology, these included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CMP should be conducive to the preservation of Registered Aboriginal Archaeological sites and landforms, or specific areas sensitive for any Unregistered Aboriginal Archaeological material.</li> <li>• Consultation with the relevant local Aboriginal groups (RAPs) should occur if there is any development along the foreshore.</li> <li>• The Aboriginal Heritage values should be promoted by the protection of the archaeological sites and provide some interpretation of the Aboriginal occupation.</li> </ul> <p>Recommendations are also made for the heritage sites of the Cargo Shed, Flinders Pier, the Cable Station, and unidentified archaeological material.</p>