

Victorian Coastal Council



# annual report 2009–10

**a unique marine environment,  
"full of beauty, full of wonder"**

**we need to understand and  
respond to threats to  
the marine environment**



# contents

one: <b>mission statement</b>	1
two: <b>chair's report</b>	1
three: <b>highlights</b>	2
four: <b>vision for the coast</b>	4
five: <b>reporting relationship and functions</b>	4
six: <b>council activities</b>	5
seven: <b>membership</b>	10
eight: <b>report on the implementation of the <i>coastal management act 1995</i></b>	12
nine: <b>regional coastal boards</b>	17
ten: <b>council operations</b>	19
eleven: <b>council expenditure</b>	20
twelve: <b>disclosure Index</b>	20
appendix one: <b>other coastal plans</b>	21
<b>acronyms</b>	inside back cover

Published by the Victorian Coastal Council, Melbourne,  
September 2010  
Victorian Coastal Council  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne Vic 3002  
Telephone (03) 9637 9456  
Facsimile (03) 9637 8592

Also published on [www.vcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcc.vic.gov.au)  
© The State of Victoria, Victorian Coastal Council 2010  
This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced  
by any process except in accordance with the provisions of  
the *Copyright Act 1968*.

Authorised by the Victorian Government,  
8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne.  
Printed by Impact Digital

ISSN 1327-659X  
ISSN 1327-659X (Online)

## General Disclaimer

This document may be of assistance to you, but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

## Photo Acknowledgements

Images included in this Annual Report were included in presentations provided by various presenters at the Victorian Marine Forum 2009. Contact VCC office for further details.

Acknowledgement of Country and Indigenous Australians  
The Victorian Coastal Council respectfully acknowledges the original custodians of what is now known as Victoria; their rich culture, deep affinity with the land and spiritual connection to it.

# one: mission statement

“ The Victorian Coastal Council is the peak body that advocates for and champions the Victorian coast. ”

## two: chair's report

It gives me great pleasure to report on the activities of the Victorian Coastal Council and the operation of the *Coastal Management Act 1995* for the 2009–10 year. The year was particularly notable for the agreement to the Victorian Coastal Strategy Implementation Plan and the Victorian Marine Forum held in November 2009.

The Victorian Coastal Strategy continues to provide the primary direction for the protection and management of our coast. The third iteration of the Strategy is highly regarded, and continues to provide the direction to more detailed planning and decision making at the regional and local level.

The development of a whole of government implementation plan for the Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS) was a key task completed in the year. The collaboration by the many and varied government departments and other agencies that plan for, manage and deliver the range of services to our coast, was critical in determining how best to give effect to the actions identified in the VCS 2008. A key strength of this implementation co-ordination committee will be that it continues to meet at six monthly intervals throughout the life of the strategy to monitor its progress. The VCC will be monitoring this in a more public way through the production of a mid-term report in the coming year.

The Victorian Marine Forum held in November 2009, provided the opportunity for scientists, government agencies, planners, industry, environment and

community representatives to come together and rebuild their resolve and passion for focussing on our incredible marine environment. The main messages from the Forum were that there are many bits of information on the marine environment, a lot we don't know, and threats which are likely to have major impacts. The Council acknowledges that there is a need to link the information we know and fill our gaps in knowledge, as was identified in the Victorian Coastal Strategy. The Council was very pleased to hear the Government's White Paper policy commitment to a Victorian Marine Plan being prepared for the State, and looks forward to contributing to increasing our knowledge and directing our management efforts.

The annual Victorian Coastal Awards held at Docklands in April 2010 again highlighted the best of the best on the Victorian coast. Sustainability and community action were in sharp focus this year with community groups, schools, Landcare groups, local councils and catchment authorities featuring in the Awards.

At the commencement of the year Council welcomed two new members as a result of the Regional Coastal Board Appointments that commenced on 1 July 2009; Helen Martin, Chair of Gippsland Coastal Board and Lynette Skilbeck Chair of Western Coastal Board. Lynette resigned due to illness and we wish her a full recovery. To support Lynette in her absence, Western Coastal Board Member, Sue Mudford has been attending Council meetings as an observer to continue an information exchange between the board and council.

I would like to sincerely thank and acknowledge the contributions of two of Council's outgoing members John Sweetman who served on Council for six years and Caroline Douglass who served for three years. The contribution of these two members significantly enhanced the expertise of Council and the ability to execute our key roles.

I would also like to acknowledge the passion and commitment of all Victorian Coastal Council members and I thank them for their ongoing dedication to the task. The significant work program of Council could not be undertaken without the expertise and energy of our Executive Officer David Harper leading a terrific team throughout the year of Ozlem Acik, Margot Harrison, Anna Paccini, Fiona D'Abico, and Victoria Purdue.

The year ahead offers many challenges. A new Council will be appointed for a three year term. A new business plan commitment will be developed by the new Council. And the three significant issues identified in the Victorian Coastal Strategy: climate change, population and growth, and the marine environment, will continue to be at the centre of our focus.

I am committed to leading this Council and will ensure we continue to influence positive outcomes for our precious coastal and marine environments for all Victorians.

*Libby Mears*

**Libby Mears**  
Chair Victorian Coastal Council

# three: highlights

## Victorian Coastal Strategy Implementation Plan

A significant body of work was delivered in the period in the development of a whole of government implementation plan for the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008. An Implementation Plan was a key commitment in the VCS, and process around its development has assisted in getting government and non-government partners together to examine the most effective ways of implementing the actions within the VCS 2008.

The Plan identifies the approach to delivering on each action and focuses the priority for action on the three significant issues identified in the VCS: Climate Change, Population and Growth, and the Marine Environment.

## The Victorian Marine Forum November 2009

The Victorian Marine Forum 2009, was hosted by the Victorian Coastal Council on the 16 November 2009 at Federation Square, Melbourne. The event was attended by approximately 150 people from various professions within the marine and coastal management field. The Forum raised the likelihood of significant change to the marine environment by climate change, poor water quality from urban and altered rural catchments, population increases placing increased pressures on use of marine resources, and exotic plant and animal pest species

Presenters at the forum came from peak bodies, universities, industry and government. Attendees heard from many different speakers discussing their passions, their knowledge and their concerns for the marine environment.

## Council Appointments Status

Council welcomed three new members to the Council at the start of the period: Leigh Phillips, Helen Martin, Chair of Gippsland Coastal Board and Lynette Skilbeck, Chair of Western Coastal Board (resigned 28 June 2010).

The period concluded with Council Members John Sweetman (six years) and Caroline Douglass (three years) completing their terms on Council. The remaining Members of Council reapplied for their positions.

## Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence 2010

The 11th Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence were held in April 2010. An impressive line up of nominations, resulting in the selection of 16 finalists across five different categories including, education, community action and partnerships and the natural environment, formed the basis of a highly successful evening of celebrating the best of the best on the Victorian coast. The Minister for Environment and Climate Change in presenting the Awards spoke of the importance of the coast to all Victorians and praised the efforts of people in protecting and maintaining their local environments. Sustainability and community action were priorities for community groups, schools, Landcare groups, local councils and catchment authorities.

Lynn Murrell, former Chair of the Western Coastal Board and a Victorian Coastal Council Member, was presented with the Outstanding Individual Achievement Award in recognition of his 30 year commitment to seeking better outcomes for the coast.

## 2008 Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence – Winners

Project description	Winner
Natural Environment Award	Williamstown High School
Integrated Coastal Zone Management – Special Award	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and Southern Otway Landcare Network
Community Action and Partnerships	<b>Joint winners</b> Surfers Appreciating the Natural Environment (SANE) Reef Life Survey
VSMC Post Graduate Award	Zoe Squires
Coastal Planning and Management Award	Greening Australia
Coastal Building and Design Award	City of Greater Geelong
Education Award	Phillip Island Nature Parks
Outstanding Individual Achievement Award	Lynn Murrell

## Release of Federal Inquiry Report into Climate change impacts in Coastal communities

In November 2009 the release of the Federal House of Representatives Inquiry Report, *Managing our Coastal Zone in a Changing Climate: the Time to Act is Now*, was of major interest to Council. Council had participated actively in providing advice to the Federal Inquiry Committee by making a submission to the Panel and appearing before the Panel in 2008 and early 2009 respectively.

The Inquiry report identified ways in which the federal government could help coastal communities to plan for climate change and tackle the impacts of climate change on the coast. It recognised that sea level rise coupled with increasing storm events will impact on the Australian coast causing flooding, loss of coastline, and damage to infrastructure and property.

The Chair of the Victorian Coastal Council Libby Mears had represented throughout the Committee's considerations that the active involvement of a well informed community will be essential as we learn to plan and adapt to climate change, and that the scale of the issue is far greater than local government can address on its own, needing the resources of both State and Federal governments working together.

The Committee commended the Victorian model of the Victorian Coastal Strategy, believing that the integrated nature of the strategy is of major importance in establishing best practice coastal management. The Committee further believed that the model could be effectively implemented across Australia's coastal zone

## South-west Victoria Council Tour October 2009

The Victorian Coastal Council conducted a tour of the south-west of Victoria in October 2009, visiting towns and sites between Portland and the 12 Apostles. The Council met with key authorities to hold discussions including the Shires of Glenelg and Moyne, Warrnambool City Council, the Corangamite and Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authorities, Wannon Water, South-west Sustainability Partnership and Parks Victoria.

Council noted that municipal Councils were already dealing with serious beach erosion and land slips impacting on existing houses and coastal infrastructure. Council sat in session with heads of the various bodies and management authorities, whom unanimously agreed that climate change impacts along the coast are no longer disputed and moving to action on adaptation is now critical.



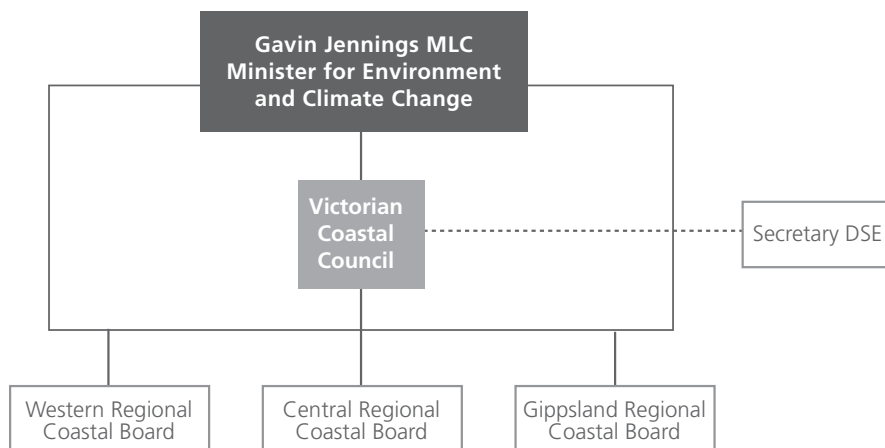
Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence winners 2010



## four: **vision for our coast**

“ A biologically and culturally rich, diverse coastal, estuarine, and marine environment that is managed for its protection, sustainable use and enjoyment today and for future generations ”

## five: **reporting relationship and functions**



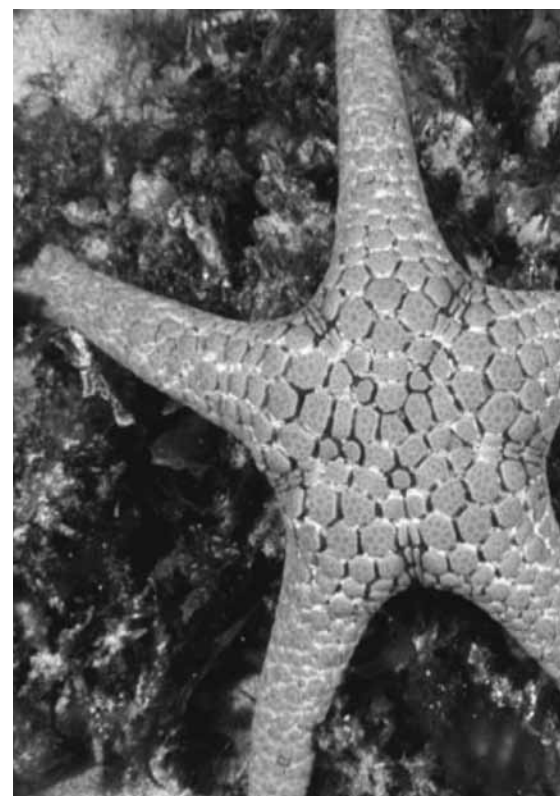
The Victorian Coastal Council (VCC) is established under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* as the peak advisory body on coastal issues in Victoria. The responsible Minister for the 2009/2010 reporting period was Gavin Jennings MLC, Minister for Environment and Climate Change.

The role of the VCC is to provide strategic direction and improve the coordination of coastal planning and management in Victoria.

An independent body accountable to the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, the Council is provided with a budget and secretariat support through the Department of Sustainability and Environment's portfolio.

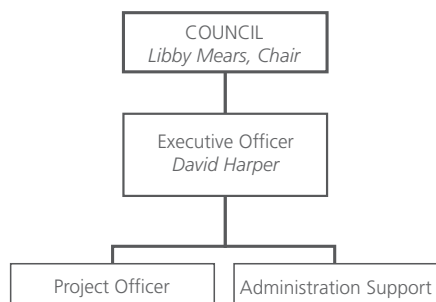
The functions of the Council under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* are:

- To undertake statewide strategic coastal planning
- To prepare and submit to the Minister a draft Victorian Coastal Strategy
- To provide advice to the Minister
- To facilitate the operation of Regional Coastal Boards
- To monitor the development of Coastal Action Plans
- To coordinate the implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy and Coastal Action Plans
- To prepare and publish guidelines
- To liaise with and encourage the cooperation of Government departments, public authorities, municipal councils, industry, community groups and persons and bodies involved in the planning, management and use of the coast in furthering the objectives of the Act
- To provide opportunities for the public and interested groups to be informed of and involved in the work of the Council
- To encourage the work of volunteers in using and conserving coastal resources
- To give consideration to the needs of Aborigines and other interested groups in relation to the coast.



# six: council activities

## 6.1 VCC Operational Chart



## 6.2 Business meetings

Eight Council business meetings were held during the 2009/2010 financial year. The October meeting was held in South-west Victoria as a tour and business dinner with key stakeholders in the region.

### Business meetings:

13 August 2009  
7 & 8 October 2009  
10 December 2009  
2 February 2010  
18 March 2010  
15 April 2010  
20 May 2010  
17 June 2010

Attendance at Council's 8 business meetings throughout 2009–10:

Member	Attendance
Libby Mears (Chair)	7
Liz Johnstone	7
Helen Martin	8
Caroline Douglass	3
Jennifer Wolcott	5
Rob Gell	7
Michael Keough	5
Leigh Phillips	6
John Sweetman	6
Matt Boland	8
Lynette Skilbeck	2 of 2
Sue Mudford (Observer)	6 of 6

## 6.3 General business

### Victorian Coastal Council Business Plan

Council continued to progress business identified in its 2008-2011 Business Plan over the period. Key actions delivered on over the period included the following:

VCC Action	Action description
1.1.2	Provide input into the 'Land and Biodiversity White Paper' and Coastal Planning & Management Frameworks
1.2.1	Build relationships with the Victorian Catchment Management Council and Catchment Management Authorities
1.3.1	Identify and document good examples of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
1.3.3	Recognise excellence in coastal planning in the annual Coastal Awards
1.3.4	Build relationship with Australian Government in regards to coastal planning and management and ensure State coastal interests are supported nationally.
2.2.2	Host 'think tank' forums (eg scenario planning, blue sky thinking spaces) on key areas of focus
2.2.8	Attend regional/community based forums to promote the VCS and the VCC work priorities and program
2.3.1	Host Annual Awards
3.1.2	Identify and develop relationships with existing and emerging opinion leaders (both public and private)
3.1.3	Work with the Regional Coastal Boards to ensure improved coordination of efforts in effective coastal management
3.1.4	Continue to focus on relationships with CMAs and Local Governments to recognise key management roles
3.2.1	Host focused forums by identifying and engaging stakeholders in formal debate and discussion on emerging issues of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>climate change</li> <li>coastal growth and development</li> </ul>
3.3.1	Promote a 'whole of government' approach to coastal planning and management



a unique marine environment,  
"full of beauty,  
full of wonder"

## Appointment and change in Council Members

Council welcomed three new members to the Council at the start of the period: Leigh Phillips, Helen Martin and Lynette Skilbeck. Leigh Phillips was appointed as a result of a vacancy left by the departure of Maggie Baron late in the last period of Council. Helen and Lynette were appointed to Council as a result of their respective appointments as the Chairs of the Gippsland and Western Coastal Boards. Liz Johnstone was reappointed as Chair of the Central Coastal Board and as a result remains a Member of Council. In November of 2009, Lynette Skilbeck became ill and Sue Mudford has attended Council meetings as an observer to continue the information exchange between Council and the Board. Lynette Skilbeck notified the Minister on 28 June 2010 of her need to resign from the position on Council.

## South-west Victoria Council Tour October 2009

The Victorian Coastal Council conducted a tour of the south-west of Victoria in October 2009, visiting towns and sites between Portland and the 12 Apostles. The Council met with key authorities to hold discussions including the Shires of Glenelg and Moyne, Warrnambool City Council, the Corangamite and Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authorities, Wannon Water, South-west Sustainability Partnership and Parks Victoria.

Council noted that municipal Councils were already dealing with serious beach erosion and land slips impacting on existing houses and coastal infrastructure. Council sat in session with heads of the various bodies and management authorities, whom unanimously agreed that climate change impacts along the coast are no longer disputed and moving to action on adaptation is now critical. Communities of the south-west will need to plan for the impacts of sea level rise and an increasing intensity of storm events, which will need to lead to careful thought to the location and design of new housing and coastal infrastructure such as jetties and boat launching ramps. The Council was encouraged by the way Councils were involving their local communities in coastal planning, noting that the active involvement of a well informed community will be essential as we learn to plan and adapt to climate change.

## Joint Meeting of Victorian Coastal Council and Regional Coastal Boards

On 10 December 2009 a joint meeting of the Victorian Coastal Council and the Regional Coastal Boards was conducted at the Life Saving Victoria State Headquarters in Port Melbourne. The purpose of the joint meeting was to achieve a number of outcomes including a sharing of ideas and thinking for the future of coasts and the building of networks and shared understanding.

The meeting also had a presentation and question and answers session with Greg Wilson, Secretary of the Department of Sustainability and Environment and Janine Haddow, Executive Director Natural Resources Division. Their role was to discuss the implications of the Land and Biodiversity White Paper recommendations on the coastal institutions.

The Department's Future Coast team also attended the meeting for a workshop

session on Future Coasts products including: the science and modelling, policy and planning, and communications and engagement. The discussions with the Council and the Boards extended to the function, use, form of regional strategic planning in managing coastal climate change risks, and the role of the RCB's in the coastal climate space generally and where can they add the most value (building on their strengths).

The Chair of the Minister for Planning's Coastal Climate Change Advisory Committee also attended the meeting at the commencement of that Committee's work. The Advisory Committee was announced at the time of the launch of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008. The task of the Committee was to look at the use of planning tools in managing adaptation to climate change. A task clearly identified as necessary in the Victorian Coastal Strategy.

## Presentations given by Council representatives on VCC Business and the Victorian Coastal Strategy

Presentation to:	Date
Parks Victoria State-wide Managers Group	15 July 2009
Central Coastal Board by the Chair and Executive Officer	27 August 2009
The Australian Property Institute State Conference	4 September 2009
Western Coastal Board by the Chair and Executive Officer	11 September 2009
Victorian Catchment Management Council	5 November 2009
Gippsland Coastal Board by the Chair and Executive Officer	19 November 2009
Liberal Opposition Party Shadow Environment Representatives	14 May 2010



## Presentations received by Council

Presenter	Topic	Date
<b>Ian Walker</b> , Director, Healthy Parks, Parks Victoria	Healthy People Healthy Parks Program	13 Aug 2009
<b>Kevin Love</b> , Deputy Secretary, DSE	Land and Biodiversity White Paper	13 Aug 2009
<b>Syd Deam</b> , Group Manager Planning & Economic Development, Glenelg Shire Council	Portland's waterfront activity district	7 Oct 2009
<b>Gary Bebbington</b> , Economic Development & Tourism Manager, Glenelg Shire Council		
<b>Shire of Moyne Mayor and Councillors</b>	Coastal planning issues at Port Fairy	7 Oct 2009
<b>Oliver Moles</b> , Environment & Planning Director		
<b>Peter Robinson</b> , Director of Infrastructure & Strategic Planning, Warrnambool City Council	Warrnambool's waterfront activity district	8 Oct 2009
<b>Brett Cheatley</b> , Director Community, Tourism & Communications, Parks Victoria	Parks and tourism management in the south-west	8 Oct 2009
<b>Tracey Edwards</b> , Acting Ranger in Charge, Parks Victoria		
<b>Natasha Johnson</b> , Ranger Team Leader, Parks Victoria		
<b>Chris Halpin</b> , Chair of VCS Implementation Co-ordination Committee	VCS Implementation Plan	10 Dec 2009
<b>Rebecca Price</b> , Principal Policy Officer Public Land Division, DSE		
<b>Greg Wilson</b> , Secretary DSE	Land & Biodiversity White Paper	10 Dec 2009
<b>Janine Haddow</b> , Executive Director Natural Resources		
<b>Doug Miller</b> , Program Manager Future Coasts	"Future Coasts" Program presentation	10 Dec 2009
<b>Nick Wynn</b> , Future Coasts Team	Coastal Climate Change Advisory Committee presentation	
<b>Carol MacMillan</b> , Future Coasts Team		
<b>Liz Patterson</b> , Future Coasts Team		
<b>Nick Wimbush</b> , Chair, Coastal Climate Change Advisory Committee		
<b>Peter Watkinson</b> , Executive Director, Public Land Division, DSE	Marine Energy in Victoria	18 Mar 2010
<b>Nicola Waldron</b> , Policy Officer, Public Land Division, DSE		
<b>Madeline Wilson</b> , DSE		
<b>Adrian Panow</b> , Director Energy Investment DPI		
<b>Janine Haddow</b> , Executive Director, Natural Resources, DSE	Institutional Changes recommended in the Land & Biodiversity Paper	18 Mar 2010
<b>Doug Miller</b> , Program Manager, Future Coasts DSE	Future Coasts Program progress and update	18 Mar 2010
<b>Fiona McKenzie</b> , Manager, Regional Analysis DPCD	Lake Boga's public attitudes experience of change and uncertainty	20 May 2010
<b>Elissa Waters</b> , Research Assistant, Regional Analysis, DPCD		
<b>Poppy Wise</b> , Director, Sustainable Communities & Environment Unit, Ipsos-Eureka Social Research Institute	Climate Change Community Attitudes Research	20 May 2010



## Submissions made by Council

Submission	Date
Climate Change Green Paper	October 2009
Planning and Environment Act Review	March 2010
Proposed Restructure of the State Planning Policy Framework	March 2010
Marine Energy in Victoria Discussion Paper	May 2010
Coastal Climate Change Advisory Committee Issues and Options Paper	May 2010
Consultation Draft of Victoria's Biodiversity Strategy	June 2010

**Victorian Coastal Council Media** (available at [www.vcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcc.vic.gov.au))

The following media releases were issued:

Media Release Title	Release date
VCC Welcomes Federal Inquiry Report on Climate Change Impacts on Coastal Communities	27 October 2009
Climate Change is Real and Will Affect South-West Coast	13 October 2009
Communiqué from the Victorian Coastal Council on the Victorian Marine Forum	18 November 2009
Acknowledge their efforts: Nominate your coastal champions	7 January 2009

## Other Partnerships

- Land and Biodiversity White Paper Stakeholder Reference Group
- Department of Sustainability & Environment Biodiversity Strategy Stakeholder Group
- Marine Energy Project Control Board – Observer status
- Future Coasts Program group

## Conference Attendance

- National Climate Change Forum 18–19 February 2010 Adelaide
- National Coastal Councils Conference 2–3 March 2010 Byron Bay
- Healthy Parks Healthy People International Congress 11–16 April 2010 Melbourne
- Good Governance Conference: Leading Institutional Change 3–4 June 2010 Melbourne

## 6.4 Sub-committees

### Planning & Development Committee

#### Terms of Reference

- To advise Council of the development, implementation, monitoring and review of CAPs.
- To advise Council on opportunities and strategies to improve integration of coastal consideration in statutory planning arrangements affecting coastal and marine environments
- To advise Council on emerging strategic issues affecting the coast and to recommend an appropriate response
- To advise Council on opportunities to improve coastal and marine planning and management skills amongst local government and other coastal managers and groups active on the coast
- Identify the future investment needs of coastal infrastructure and assist in identifying future planning needs, with a specific focus on public safety.

#### Membership

Matt Boland (Chair)

Leigh Phillips

Liz Johnstone

The sub-committee held 5 meetings during 2009/10:

- 16 October 2009
- 9 December 2009
- 5 February 2010
- 5 March 2010
- 7 May 2010



... we need to understand and respond to threats to the marine environment...

Over the reporting period the sub-committee:

- Monitored the implementation of the Coastal Spaces policy by Councils across the State and has considered a next stage of this work to protect Victoria's coastline through appropriate growth and development
- Considered the review requirements of Coastal Action Plans prepared by the Regional Coastal Boards
- Worked with the Western Coastal Board on the finalisation of the Western Boating Coastal Action Plan
- Provided Council's key liaison point on the Future Coasts Program, remaining abreast of developments within the program and provided advice
- Commenced a register of coastal planning key decisions to help monitor and inform policy effectiveness on the coast
- Considered the Planning & Environment Act Review and the proposed restructure of the State Planning Policy Framework
- Provided input into Council's submission to the Government's Climate Change Green Paper
- Provided input into Council's submission to the Government's Coastal Climate Change Advisory Committee Issues and Options Paper
- Assisted with Council's response to the Government's Marine Energy in Victoria Discussion Paper.

## Science & Environment Committee

### Terms of Reference

- To provide strategic advice to Council on current and emerging scientific issues relevant to coastal and marine environments
- To provide authoritative advice to Council in response to initiatives of Government and other agencies
- To advise Council on strategic opportunities to improve coordination of coastal and marine scientific, monitoring and education activities
- To identify long term emerging coastal issues
- To facilitate the operation of a broad based science panel able to provide multi disciplinary advice on issues from time to time

### Membership

Prof. Michael Keough (Chair)  
Rob Gell  
Jennifer Wolcott

The sub-committee held 4 meetings during 2009/10:

- 7 August 2009
- 18 November 2009
- 25 February 2010
- 6 May 2010

Over the reporting period the sub-committee:

- Provided key Council support for the Victorian Marine Forum, including content support and Chairing of the Marine Forum Working Group
- Was briefed and provided advice to the scientific components of the Government's Future Coasts Program
- Considered appropriate circumstances and topics for the reconvening of the Victorian Coastal Council Science Panel
- Involved in the Research and Science Advisory Committee for the Reef and Seagrass Program for Port Phillip Bay
- Provided input to the Council's response to the Government's Marine Energy in Victoria Discussion Paper.
- Provided input to the Council's response to the Government's Biodiversity Strategy.
- Provided a level of support to the Western Coastal and Marine Forum

## Community Engagement & Advocacy Committee

### Terms of Reference

- To develop a strategic approach to communication and marketing activities undertaken by the Victorian Coastal Council
- To facilitate coordination of external communications undertaken by Council and Regional Coastal Boards on a range of matters
- To advise Council on opportunities to increase broad awareness and understanding of coastal and marine issues
- To oversee the Annual Coastal Awards for Excellence

### Membership

Libby Mears (Chair)  
Leigh Phillips  
John Sweetman  
Rob Gell  
Matt Boland  
Caroline Douglass

The sub-committee held 5 meetings in 2009/10:

- 25 September 2009
- 26 November 2009
- 24 February 2010
- 31 March 2010
- 13 May 2010

Over the reporting period the sub-committee:

- Provided the oversight and Judging Panel representation for the Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence 2010.
- Has assisted in working up a draft proposal for Council to undertake an additional wave of community attitudes research on the Victorian Coast.
- Assisted with communications around the Marine Forum, including the development of the Marine Forum communiqué.
- Provided support to Council's media releases and media responses throughout the year
- Provided a key role in monitoring and responding to the Government's Land & Biodiversity White Paper.



# seven: membership

Members of the Victorian Coastal Council during 2009/10 were:

## Chair

### Libby Mears

Cr Libby Mears lives with her family at Aireys Inlet having moved from Melbourne in the 1990s. Libby is a passionate advocate for the coast with a particular interest in the role coastal communities play in coastal protection and management and in promoting sustainable use of our coastal resources. In 2004, Libby's community activism led her to be elected to local government and Mayor of the Surf Coast Shire in 2006. Libby currently serves on a number of council committees including Chair of a joint working party between the Shire and the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee aimed at advancing integrated coastal planning within the Shire and is a member of Council's Environment Advisory Committee. Libby's professional background is in public health with a keen interest in the way environments impact on the health, wellbeing and connectedness of communities.



## Members

### Liz Johnstone

Liz Johnstone is a Senior Policy Advisor with the Municipal Association of Victoria. She has extensive experience in local government and community associations as a former councillor and Mayor of the City of Port Phillip, the Association of Bayside Municipalities and the Australian Local Government Women's Association. At Port Phillip her particular area of interest was in the planning and environmental area. She is also Chair of the Central Coastal Board. Liz trained as an accountant and has a background in small business.



### Rob Gell

Rob Gell is a coastal geomorphologist by training; he taught Environmental Science and Physical Geography at tertiary level, then for thirty years he has presented television weather. In his professional life he works as an environmental and communications consultant and is a Director of World Wind Pty Ltd. He is also a company director, a published author photographer. He is the national President of Greening Australia, Chairman of the Mornington Peninsula and Westernport Biosphere Reserve Foundation Ltd. and serves on the board of Surfing Victoria. Rob is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and an Inaugural Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand. He was the Environment Ambassador to the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games. He has been a local government councillor and was a councillor of the ACF. He is also the Patron of the Geography Teachers Association of Victoria, Wildlife Victoria, Life Education Victoria, a Mentor of the Environmental Jobs Network and has been made a Life Ambassador for Australia Day.



### Professor Michael Keough

Professor Michael Keough is a leading marine scientist with an international reputation in marine ecology. He leads a research team at the University of Melbourne that has been successful in demonstrating the impacts of pest species in Victorian waters. He is a frequent contributor to state and national workshops on coastal management, and has advised state governments on marine monitoring. He contributed to State of the Marine Environment reports at both state and national level. Michael serves on the EPA Scientific Advisory Panel and is a member of the Australian Research Council's College of Experts.



### John Sweetman OAM

John Sweetman has over 30 years experience in the tourism and hospitality industry, working with peak bodies and with industry both in Victoria and nationally. John was the foundation Executive officer of the Victorian Tourism Industry Council (VTIC). As managing director of J Sweetman & Associates Pty Ltd, he continues to work across the tourism and hospitality industries and with industry sector associations, including relationships with Tourism Victoria. John is the Chairman of the Tourism Accreditation Board of Victoria, Service Skills Victoria and Service Skills Australia. John was recognised for his contribution to the tourism industry in the 1996 Australia Day Honours.



### Jennifer Wolcott

Jennifer Wolcott is General Manager Corporate Strategy & Services for Parks Victoria. She is a career Victorian State public servant who has held senior positions in a range of natural resource and environmental agencies including as Director of Natural Resources Policy at the Department of Primary Industries, Director of Policy at the Environment Protection Authority, and Manager of Environmental Policy at the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Ms Wolcott has significant experience in developing policy and strategy for natural resource and environmental issues, including developing legislation and regulatory instruments as well as community engagement and change programs. Ms Wolcott currently sits as a director on the Board of the Royal Botanical Gardens and is a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.





### **Matt Boland**

Matt Boland originally trained as an agricultural scientist, Matt has experience in agriculture, education, planning and government.

His most recent positions were as Director Corporate Affairs at RMIT University and Chief of Staff to the former Minister for Planning, Arts and Women's Affairs. He now runs his own consultancy business. He has a long-term interest in Victoria's coast and is a keen ocean swimmer, sailor and surf life saver.



### **Leigh Phillips**

Leigh Phillips has over 30 years experience with the Victorian Planning system. He has held a number of senior planning positions in various State Government departments with a particular focus on regional land use, project facilitation and management of the planning system. His contribution to planning in Victoria has been recognised by the Victorian Planning and Environmental Law Association (VPELA) when he was presented with the 'Paul Jerome' award in 2008. He is also a former member of the Central Coastal Board, a current member of the Alpine Resorts Co-ordinating Council and now runs his own planning consultancy business.



### **Lynette Skilbeck (resigned 28 June 2010)**

Lynette Skilbeck has commerce and law degrees from Melbourne University and is a current Australian Legal Practitioner practising as a lawyer in Warrnambool. Lynette's area of expertise is in property law including general property, commercial property arrangements, development and planning and environmental law. She is a Warrnambool and district local - born and bred.



### **Caroline Douglass**

Caroline Douglass is Director of Public Land Use and Development within the Public Land Division of the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). She has extensive experience in land management programs, having worked in range of positions in the Department from Landcare, catchment and public land management to salinity control and native vegetation protection. The positions have been located in regional Victoria as well as Melbourne and have included policy and legislation development, community engagement and project management. Ms Douglass has a background in natural resource management and an Executive Masters in Public Administration from the Australia and New Zealand School of Government. She recently became one of the first female State Duty Officers for the Emergency Co-ordination Centre located within DSE.



### **Helen Martin**

Helen Martin has extensive experience in government agencies and the private sector in strategic planning for rural and regional areas, with a particular focus on coastal planning and integration of planning for private and public land. She runs a small consultancy based in East Gippsland. In addition, Helen is a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria, a member of the Ministerial Reference Council on Climate Change Adaptation and an alternate member of the Heritage Council of Victoria.



### **Other Attendees**

#### **Sue Mudford (Western Coastal Board)**

Sue Mudford has professional experience in risk management, governance, community engagement, facilitation, regional development, biodiversity and conservation. She is actively involved in Landcare and conservation activities and is Regional Manager for the Glenelg Hopkins Trust for Nature. Sue is a member of the Western Coastal Board and in support of Lynette Skilbeck's absence has been attending council meetings as an observer to continue the information exchange between council and the Western Coastal Board.



# eight: the *Coastal Management Act 1995*

The following report provides a list of activities undertaken by the Victorian Coastal Council, the Regional Coastal Boards, and the Department of Sustainability and Environment's Coastal Consent process, over the period, which have worked to implement the objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*.

## Objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*

- (a) To plan for and manage the use of Victoria's coastal resources on a sustainable basis for recreation, conservation, tourism, commerce and similar uses in appropriate areas;
- (b) To protect and maintain areas of environmental significance on the coast including its ecological, geomorphological, geological, cultural and landscape features;
- (c) To facilitate the development of a range of facilities for improved recreation and tourism;
- (d) To maintain and improve coastal water quality;
- (e) To improve public awareness and understanding of the coast and to involve the public in coastal planning and management.

## Victorian Coastal Strategy Implementation Plan

An Implementation Plan for the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008 was developed in the year. The development of a whole of government implementation plan was a key action commitment of the VCS, and has assisted in getting government and non-government partners together to examine the most effective ways of supporting the actions within the VCS 2008 to be delivered.

The Secretary of the Department of Sustainability and Environment established a co-ordinating committee with an Independent Chair made up of interdepartmental and Victorian Coastal Council representation to provide for a whole-of-government approach to the VCS.

The Plan identifies the approach to delivering on each action and focuses the priority for action on the 3 significant issues identified in the VCS: Climate Change, Population and Growth, and the Marine Environment. It represents a live working document for the VCC and agencies to have ongoing conversations over, and monitor the progress of the implementation of the VCS 2008 throughout its life. Council will use the document as a resource to develop the mid-term review of the VCS to be conducted independently by the VCC in 2011, and the full term review which will assist in informing the VCS 2013.

## Regional Coastal Action Plans (CAPS)

Coastal Action Plans (CAPs), developed in accordance with the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, provide a key mechanism for the implementation of the VCS. CAPs enable the broad principles and priorities identified in the Strategy to be further developed and applied at a sub-regional or issue based level. They provide strategic direction for the future management of an area of coast by identifying necessary priorities, actions and outcomes.

There were 17 Coastal Action Plans covering the Victorian coast during 2009\10 year. The development status of these plans is outlined in Table 1.

Coastal Action Plan activity over the year and across the State has included the following:

### Western Victorian Boating Coastal Action Plan (in draft 2010)

The Western Victorian Boating Coastal Action Plan, being prepared by the Western Coastal Board, will deliver a strategic framework to guide the provision of improved and more sustainable boating facilities across the region extending from Breamlea to the South Australian border. A grant from Marine Safety Victoria has assisted in the development of the Boating Coastal Action Plan.

Extensive consultation was undertaken with the community and across a broad range of interest groups to develop the Draft Boating CAP. A Stakeholder Reference Group and Steering Committee provided representation and input into the key matters to be addressed by the Plan.

The Draft Boating CAP was placed on public exhibition for 6 weeks from late August to early October 2009 and consultation resulted in the engagement of a range of stakeholders:

- Public information sessions in each municipality attracted 45 participants
- 17 written submissions were received
- Briefings were provided to local government throughout the region

The Western Coastal Board endorsed the final draft Boating CAP in December 2009 and the CAP is being reviewed by the Victorian Coastal Council for recommendation to the Minister later in 2010.

**Table 1: Coastal Action Plan Status**

RCB	CAP title	Status
WCB	South West Victoria Regional CAP 2002	Implementation. Review underway.
WCB	Central West Victoria Regional CAP 2002	Implementation. Review underway.
WCB	South West Victoria Estuaries CAP 2002	Implementation. Review underway.
WCB	Central West Victoria Estuaries CAP 2005	Implementation. Review underway.
WCB	Lorne CAP 1998	Implementation
WCB	Anglesea CAP 1999	Implementation
WCB	Warrnambool CAP 1999	Implementation plan drafted.
WCB	Moyne CAP 2001	Implementation plan drafted. Review underway.
WCB	Skenes Creek to Marengo CAP 2002	Implementation. Review underway.
WCB	Glenelg CAP 2004	Implementation. Review underway
WCB	Boating CAP	Draft
CCB	Boating CAP	Implementation
CCB	Mount Eliza to point Nepean CAP	Review underway
CCB	Corio Bay CAP	Review underway
GCB	Gippsland Lakes CAP (1999)	Implementation. Review underway
GCB	Gippsland Boating CAP (2002)	Implementation. Review underway
GCB	Integrated Coastal Planning for Gippsland CAP (2002)	Implementation. Review underway
GCB	Estuaries CAP (2006)	Implementation.

## Western Coastal Region Implementation and Review of CAPs

The Western Coastal Board has progressed their program of statutory 5-year reviews of CAPs over the period. Further consultation was undertaken with key lead agents and community members across the region in May 2010 to discuss the draft CAP Review Report recommendations and their implications. A total of 19 meetings were conducted with local councils, Catchment Management Authorities and other stakeholders. Comments and feedback from the consultation is being collated for distribution in September 2010, and will inform the completion of a final draft for Board consideration in August 2010. Preliminary results indicate that CAPs provide the most suitable planning tool for delivering Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

Varying progress was made in implementing the range of CAPs in the region, including:

- Two Regional CAPs for South West and Central West Victoria that progress integrated coastal zone management at a sub-regional scale
- Two Estuary CAPs that provide the sub-regional framework for Estuary Management Planning
- Six local CAPs that apply to spatial areas including the Glenelg Shire, the Moyne Shire, the City of Warrnambool, Skene's Creek to Marengo, Lorne and Anglesea and which translate the VCS 1997 and VCS 2002 at the local and municipal level. They are implemented by local government, land managers and agencies.
- The current CAP Review identifies that over 82% of the proposed actions have been initiated, are ongoing or have been completed by lead agents and partners.

## Central Coastal Region Boating Coastal Action Plan (2007)

The Boating CAP establishes a framework for future use, improvement and investment in the region's boating network. It supports improved recreational and tourism opportunities on land and water.

The Boating CAP Implementation Committee met 3 times in the year. It is progressing the priorities identified in the CAP Progress Report 2009 which include considering boat ramp 'hot spots' to explore solutions for more efficient use of these facilities. The Committee has also been briefed on the Bays and Maritime Initiative facilitated by Parks Victoria.

In the year, the CCB received a grant from Marine Safety Victoria of \$20,000 to provide recommendations for improving the safety of 12 local boat ramps identified as being in poor condition. The study will involve close liaison with facility managers and stakeholders such as VRFish (Victorian Recreational Fishers).

The year saw some important achievements around Port Phillip which were supported by the Boating CAP framework:

- Official opening of the \$38 million Queenscliff Harbour development. The redevelopment includes an expanded safe harbour and boating infrastructure as well as public access to the marine precinct, shops and restaurants.
- Launch of the Portarlington Safe Harbour Master Plan by the Minister for Environment and Climate Change in October 2009.
- Consultation over St Kilda Harbour Concept Plan providing for staged redevelopment.
- Signing of the Crown lease and ongoing negotiations over the amended development plan for Wyndham Harbour.
- Consultation over the master-planning, detailed proposal and EES for the Mornington Safe Harbour upgrade.

## Mt Eliza to Point Nepean and Corio Bay Coastal Action Plans

Statutory 5-year reviews are due in 2010 for the Mt Eliza to Point Nepean and Corio Bay CAPs. The Board approved the review process which has now commenced. A final assessment report identifying any outstanding CAP actions will be prepared in the next few months.

## Gippsland Coastal Region Boating Coastal Action Plan

The Gippsland Boating CAP was approved in 2002 and is now due for review. A grant of \$50,000 has been obtained from Marine Safety Victoria's Boating Safety and Facilities Grant Program, to undertake the review and preparation of a recreational boating strategy. The Gippsland Coastal Board has established a project control group from stakeholder agencies and a brief developed as the basis for expressions of interest from potential service providers. The new Boating CAP will draw on the recommendations of the 2008 Boating Amenity and Sustainable Infrastructure Study (BASIS) which assessed future boating infrastructure needs for the Gippsland Lakes.

## Gippsland Lakes & Integrated Coastal Planning for Gippsland Coastal Action Plans

The Gippsland Lakes CAP and the Integrated Coastal Planning for Gippsland CAP date from 1999. A review of both documents in 2008-09 found that most of the specific strategies and actions contained in them had either been completed or incorporated into ongoing management programs.

However, the overall strategic directions contained in both CAPs remain valid.

Subsequent research and program development has identified a range of new implementation measures that could be adopted to achieve further progress towards the objectives and intended outcomes of the CAPs.

In 2008-09, GCB resolved to prepare a 'scoping document' as a first stage of a new CAP that would carry forward the themes of the Gippsland Lakes and Integrated Coastal Planning CAPs and integrate them with the outputs of the work by CSIRO and others on the potential impacts of climate change on the Gippsland coast. This work is continuing and will also help to provide a regional interpretation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy.

## Gippsland Estuaries Coastal Action Plan

The Gippsland Estuaries Plan 2006 is a strategic framework to guide planning and management decisions that affect Gippsland's estuaries. It aims to lift the quality, consistency and efficiency of decision-making. It identifies themes and links them to specific management actions for individual estuarine areas.

## Other Regional Coastal Plans

Management plans are developed by coastal managers in accordance with the *Coastal Management Act 1995* and provide direction for the day to day management of an area of coast by appointed managers. They include a business plan which outlines management requirements, proposed works and budget priorities. Management plans must be consistent with the VCS, CAPs and relevant legislation.

There were a further 193 plans relating to the management of Victoria's coast in the 2009/10 period. These plans are detailed in Appendix 1.

## Planning

The Council and the Boards continued to participate on a broad range of strategic planning initiatives on a State, regional and local level and continued to advocate for the implementation of the VCS and CAPs. This was undertaken through dedicated submissions and input and/or attendance at workshops and/or membership of governance structures for the following:

- Coastal Climate Change Advisory Committee submission
- Marine Energy in Victoria Discussion Paper submission
- Climate Change Green Paper submission
- Regional Strategic Planning Initiative – G21 and Great South Coast submission
- Parliamentary Inquiry into the Environmental Effects Statement process in Victoria submission
- Draft Regional Catchment Strategy Guidelines submission
- Draft Western Region Sustainable Water Strategy submission
- Ports and Environs Discussion Paper submission
- Provincial Victoria: Directions for the Next Decade Discussion Paper submission
- Proposed National Heritage Listing, *Great Ocean Road and scenic environs* submission
- Draft Glenelg Environment Strategy submission and Steering Committee
- Corangamite Shire Tourism Opportunities Study workshop
- Bells Beach Masterplan
- Draft Corangamite Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Strategy submission
- Port Fairy At Place project committee membership
- Membership of the Interagency Reference Group for the Great Ocean Road Interpretive Centre at Loch Ard Gorge
- Steering committee for the East Gippsland Coastal Inundation Management Project
- Representation on the Consultative Committee for the Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy.
- Review of the *Marine Act 1988* – Sept '09
- Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy – Sept '09
- Review of the Consultation Draft Design Guidelines For Nature-Based Tourism – Sept '09
- Environment Protection and Heritage Council's Draft National Windfarm Guidelines – Oct '09

The Regional Coastal Boards continued to provide commentary and assessments on planning scheme amendments and proposed coastal developments where appropriate. Key matter the respective Boards represented views on were:

- Objection to Planning Permit Application P09052, East Street, Narrawong
- Amendment C150 to the City of Greater Geelong Planning Scheme - The Stockland Residential and Waterways Development
- Amendment C93 to the Bass Coast Planning Scheme with references to strip development along the coast and township expansion
- Seaspray Surf Life Saving Club
- Golden Beach Holiday Village
- Proposed eco-resort and marina, Newlands Arm (Gippsland Lakes)
- South Gippsland Shire, planning scheme amendment C45

## Future Coasts

The Council and the Boards have been active participants in the Government's Future Coasts Program, attending workshops held to explore impacts and responses to climate change on the coast through a whole of government perspective. Practitioner workshops have also been held seeking early input on Coastal Climate Change Hazard Guidelines. The Future Coasts products will play a key role in providing information on climate change vulnerability, risk assessment and climate change hazards and will support the further refinement and development of policy and guidance to decision makers.

## CCCAC Issues & Options Paper

The Council welcomed the Government's Coastal Climate Change Advisory Committee's development of an Issues and Options Paper for addressing climate change impacts on Victorian coastal communities through planning. Council actively participated in the paper's development by being briefed, discussing and providing a submission to the Committee in partnership with the Regional Coastal Boards; Gippsland, Central and Western.

In developing the submission, the four coastal bodies came together to share their thinking and response to this common issue which has been a key focus of our respective businesses, particularly since the release of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008, but for some years prior also.

The Coastal Climate Change Advisory Committee developed a substantial consolidated and comprehensive body of work on the topic outlining the climate change problem in coastal areas with coastal inundation, the challenges of managing the problem, and a considered application of both the existing planning tool box and the suite of other options which may be available to us.

The Council and Boards intend to remain closely involved with this matter as it continues to evolve, and remain available as a resource to be drawn upon both in respect to the further deliberations of this committee and those of government.

## Marine renewable energy

The Victorian Coastal Council participated as a stakeholder and provided a submission to the Government's Victorian Marine Energy Discussion Paper. Marine Power as a renewable energy source is gaining more interest as the dynamics of the energy industry start to change due to climate change mitigation responses and a renewed focus on renewables.

The Council noted the leadership role undertaken by the Department of Sustainability and Environment in bringing the whole of Victorian government together to develop an effective response to the increasing interest in marine power as one form of alternative energy source for Victoria. The major driver for this initiative is that proposals require access to Crown land sea bed and are likely to have infrastructure which is required to traverse coastal public land.

## Increasing Awareness and Understanding of Coastal Issues

Promoting awareness and understanding of coastal and marine issues is an ongoing priority for the Council. Throughout the year Council has undertaken a range of activities including:

- Delivering presentations at universities, conferences and meetings
  - Hosting the Victorian Marine Forum
  - Recognising excellence through the Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence
  - Issuing media releases and comment via print media and newsletters
  - Maintaining its website [www.vcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcc.vic.gov.au)
- Council notes that the site has been accessed 70,174 times in 2009/10.



## Victorian Marine Forum

A statewide forum of marine scientists, community and industry stakeholders, and environmental planners and managers, held on 16 November 2009, agreed that Victoria's marine environment is unique, worth protecting, but will inevitably change.

Hosted by the Victorian Coastal Council, the Victorian Marine Forum raised the likelihood of significant change to the marine environment by climate change, poor water quality from urban and altered rural catchments, population increases placing increased pressures on use of marine resources, and exotic plant and animal species that become pests in the sea.

Presenters at the forum came from peak bodies, universities, industry and government. The 150 attendees heard from many different speakers discussing their passions, their knowledge and their concerns for the marine environment.

The Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008, identified the marine environment as one of three priority issues for the coast of Victoria. The Strategy aims to address issues in the marine environment by improving our understanding of marine ecosystems through research and more monitoring, improving the planning and management of catchments and their role in marine environments, and managing pressures of increased urbanisation and intensification of land uses.

The Victorian Marine Forum identified the four following outcomes:

### 1. A unique marine environment, "full of beauty, full of wonder"

The southern Australian coast is home to 12,000 species of plants and animals, 85 per cent endemic to our shores. The Victorian coast has remarkable regional differences: from the warmer waters of the eastern coast home to giant squid and sperm whales; our large bays with their seagrass beds and sponge gardens; to the limestone archways of the western coast where some of the biggest waves in the world are found in wilderness areas.

### 2. A coast enjoyed by many and critical to our economy

Victorians love their coast and many visit the coast every year to enjoy it in different ways. Around a quarter of Victorians go fishing at least once a year and 10 per cent go surfing. Recreational fishers catch 80 percent of snapper. It's estimated that the marine industries are worth over \$38 billion a year to the Australian economy.

However the wonders of our unique marine ecology are not fully appreciated by all and there is an opportunity to acquaint more Victorians with the wonders and mysteries of our coast.

### 3. We need to understand and respond to threats to the marine environment

There are many threats to our coast, some immediate, others longer-term, some within our control to mitigate, others requiring international action. Threats that can not be mitigated will cause us to adapt our lifestyles.

Climate change has the potential to affect the world's oceans even more than the land. Rising surface temperatures, increased stratification, increased winds and possibly most critical of all, increased acidity could have dramatic impacts. Increased acidity has the potential to profoundly change ecosystems and action on mitigation is urgent. Water quality, particularly in estuaries is declining due to reducing freshwater flows. *Marine pests, over-fishing* and the direct impacts of activities such as *dredging, aquaculture* and *waste disposal* are immediate threats.

Reduced river flows caused by the recent drought in Victoria have resulted in the State's eel catch declining from 400 tonnes per year a decade ago to 40 tonnes currently.

### 4. Port Phillip Bay is becoming warmer, deeper and more acidic

Looking ahead 50 years it is projected that Port Philip Bay will become warmer, deeper and more acidic due to the impact of climate change.

The bay will also be impacted by a 50 percent increase in Melbourne's population by 2050. Nutrient discharge to the bay will need to be carefully managed to avoid exceeding current levels.



## Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence 2010

Hosted by the Victorian Coastal Council the Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence presentation followed receipt of an impressive line up of nominations, resulting in the selection of 16 finalists across 5 different categories including, education, community action and partnerships and the natural environment.

The Minister for Environment and Climate Change attended the Awards and spoke of the importance of the coast to all Victorians and praised the efforts of people in protecting and maintaining their local environments before presenting the awards to the winners. Victorian Coastal Council Chair Libby Mears congratulated winners and finalists of the awards which recognise outstanding contributions to protect and enhance our coasts. Sustainability and community action were in sharp focus with community groups, schools, Landcare groups, local councils and catchment authorities featuring in the awards.

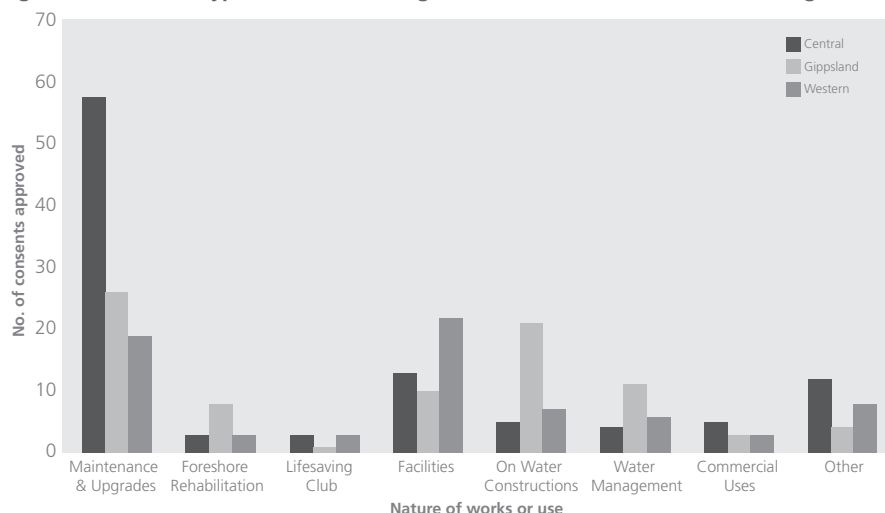
The ceremony included a special tribute to John Amor who passed away in January 2010. A committed coastal advocate and one of the State's Coast Action Coastcare Regional Facilitators, John inspired many people with his passion for the environment and generously shared his time and knowledge to protect the coast.

Lynn Murrell, former Chair of the Western Coastal Board and a Victorian Coastal Council Member, was presented with the Outstanding Individual Achievement Award in recognition of his 30 year commitment to seeking better outcomes for the coast.

## Use and development of coastal Crown land for recreation and tourism

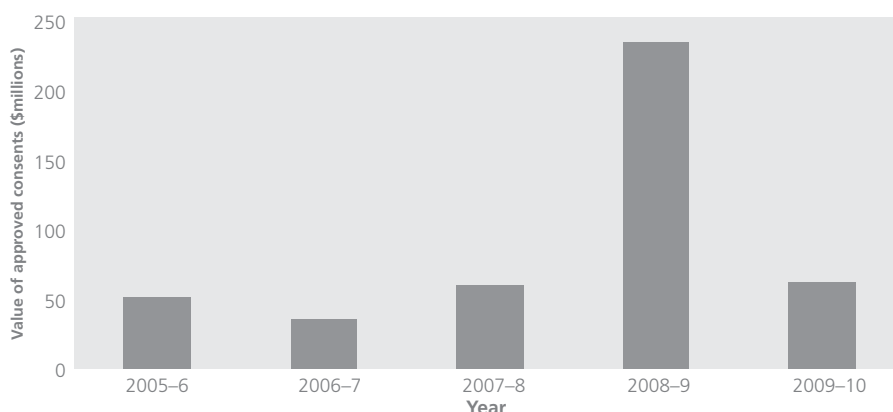
Pursuant to Section 37 of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, any use or development of Coastal Crown land must be approved, in writing, by the Minister. In the 2009\10 reporting year, 260 applications for the use and/or development of coastal Crown land were received and assessed by delegates of the Minister for Environment and Climate Change. Of the applications received, 251 were approved (Figure 1). The total value of applications approved is \$62,074,886.

**Figure 1: Number & type of Coastal Management Act Consent issued for each region**



Compared to the value of consents approved for the 2008\09 period, the past year saw a return to more normal levels of investment in the coast. The previous years variance was due to 3 large projects valued in total at \$145 million.

**Figure 2: Comparison of the value of Coastal Management Act consents issued since 2005**



# nine: regional coastal boards

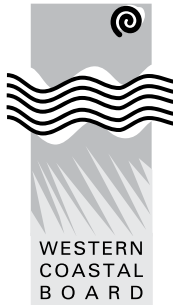
Regional Coastal Boards provide a significant role in coastal planning and management in their regions by facilitating improved outcomes on the coast and participating in a wide range of initiatives led by partner agencies and stakeholders.

The regional coastal boards have the following functions under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*:

- To develop coastal action plans within their region
- To facilitate the implementation of the VCS, CAP's and guidelines within their region
- To increase public awareness of coastal issues.

## Western Coastal Board (WCB)

Victoria's western coastal region covers some 476km of open coastline and extends from near Breamlea in the east to the South Australian border. It includes the six municipalities of Surf Coast Shire, Colac Otway Shire, Corangamite Shire, Moynes Shire, Warrnambool City and the Glenelg Shire. It also includes the entire Glenelg Hopkins catchment region and the majority of the Corangamite catchment region.



### WCB initiatives

- The Coastal Priorities for Western Victoria: Coastal Planning and NRM project was completed. The project was a pilot to establish regional priorities and promote effective collaboration between lead agents to improve ICZM. Further refinement of the process and implementation of the subsequent 2009-10 annual priority-setting cycle did not occur as a number of regional plans were being developed. The Priorities project contributed to a range of plans including G21 and Great South Coast Regional Strategic Plans.
- Substantial effort was directed to the organisation of the Western Coastal and Marine Forum held on 8-9 July 2010. This event was developed in partnership with the VCC and Deakin University, and sought to bring together coastal and marine stakeholders. 110 people from the region and across the State attended.

## Partnership/Stakeholder initiatives involving WCB

The Board is involved in a wide range of partnerships and initiatives in the region including, but not limited to:

- Directorship of the South West Sustainability Partnership
- Membership of the Glenelg Hopkins Coastal and Marine Working Group
- Co-convenor of the Coastal Partnerships Group with Corangamite CMA
- Membership of the Corangamite Regional Investment Committee
- Members and staff attended a range of events such as the Victorian Marine Forum, Barwon SW Climate Change Forum and Public Land CEO and Chair Networking Forum convened by DSE
- Support for applications to recognise and support a wide range of projects with regional implications eg Great Ocean Road Estuaries project and "Integrated Demographic and Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaptation in Coastal Communities" research project with Griffith University.
- Membership of the G21 Environment Pillar
- Building relationships with peripheral stakeholders such as VicRoads

## Central Coastal Board (CCB)

The central region of the Victorian coast spans 500 kilometres from Breamlea to Inverloch and includes 13 local government municipalities. It is a highly urbanised region with Melbourne and Geelong having a combined population of over 4 million. Current planning embraces Melbourne @ 5 million in 2030.

Given the extent of the built coastline, raising awareness and understanding the potential impacts of climate change is increasingly important for local government, coastal managers and decision makers in this region. The Federal Government's report *Climate Change Risk to Australia's Coasts* clearly illustrates the potential cost to the metropolitan coast through infrastructure instability, loss of beaches, impact on planning zones and flooding of coastal properties – all of which are expected to be significant after 2050. The value of residential buildings at risk is in the order of \$4.5 billion.



Of note this year the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, following a state-wide expression of interest process, appointed five new members to the CCB, with Liz Johnstone reappointed as Chair.

As required of a new Board, a Business Plan for 2009–2012 was prepared and submitted to the VCC. Priorities in the plan include:

- Champion the VCS and promote planning tools that address climate change.
- Review CAPs every 5 years and support the ongoing work of implementation committees.
- Build knowledge, networks and skills particularly for topics such as climate change, marine environments and Western Port.
- Strengthen partnerships between local government, key stakeholders and the community and deliver on CCB projects.

The CCB website provides more detail on new members and the Board's Business Plan.

## Board Inspection

During the year the CCB endeavours to inspect coastal sites first-hand to gain a fuller understanding of local issues. This year the focus was on the partnership between DSE and local government in addressing beach renourishment and protection around Port Phillip. Sites visited included Royal Avenue, Sandringham, Black Rock, North Aspendale Beach, Olivers Hill, Mt Martha North and Portsea.

Given use and infrastructure development at these sites natural coastal process and seasonal cycles of sand movement are not able to occur. However, some protection measures, while necessary and at times urgent, could be seen as a 'band-aid' approach.

A common aspect of coastal erosion sites around Port Phillip was that the need for costly repairs would potentially exacerbate if sea level rises and the frequency and intensity of storms increase. A new model for foreshore protection is required. It must be able to be funded. Protection measures need to be easy to build, stronger and integrate with existing structures. A better understanding by private property owners of risk, response and public versus private benefit is also needed.

## CCB Initiatives

The CCB hosted a follow-up meeting to the community capacity building forum held in Hastings in June 2009. This project aimed to build the capacity within the coastal community to support their applications for grant funding. It focused on gaining a better understanding of Western Port's key biodiversity assets. A map identifying those assets and summary information is now on the CCB website for broad use as an outcome of further collaboration.

The *Western Port Welcomes Waterbirds* project funded by the Australian Government under the *Caring for our Country* program relies on the contribution of the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research (ARI), Bird Observation and Conservation Australia (BOCA), land managers, relevant agencies and volunteers. The CCB performs a co-ordination, networking and administration role.

The project aims to provide information on the key waterbird high tide roosts and feeding areas in Western Port and the threats operating at those sites, including potential impacts from climate change. The project will be completed next year and make recommendations for improved management of habitats. It includes undertaking small scale site works with land managers.

The Management and communication outcomes will be informed by the social research that was undertaken through Deakin University this Easter. Results from this study will be used in management and communication strategies for waterbirds.

## Newsletter and website

The CCB continues to circulate its bimonthly newsletter, 'About the Bays' to over 600 people. The newsletter informs our stakeholders about CCB news, coastal planning and management around the bays and has recently focused on coastal climate change and provided guidance about good information sources. The CCB website is regularly updated.

## Gippsland Coastal Board (GCB)

Gippsland's coast extends approximately 700 kilometres, from Anderson Inlet near Inverloch to the New South Wales border. Its landscapes include Wilsons Promontory, Corner Inlet, the Ninety Mile Beach, the Gippsland Lakes and the Croajingolong coast. It covers a number of Victoria's marine national parks and sanctuaries, as well as extensive terrestrial national parks, coastal parks and coastal and lakeshore reserves. The hinterland ranges from forests, coastal woodlands and heathlands in the east and south, through farmland and larger townships further to the west.

Gippsland's coastal and marine environments provide for attractive residential areas, coastal and water-based recreation, tourism, major and local ports, fishing and industry. However, pressures on the coastal environment are increasing due to:

- increased demand for recreational opportunities;
- growth of settlements along the coast and within the catchments of coastal flowing rivers, leading to loss of natural habitat and biodiversity values, as well as rural character;
- increased sediment and nutrient loads from the catchments affecting water quality;
- potential threats from climate change including drought, sea level rise and increased storm surge affecting low lying areas;
- introduced terrestrial and marine pests and weeds.

## GCB Initiatives

The GCB has continued to work with allied agencies and stakeholders to contribute support for a range of projects that benefit the management and quality of the coastal and marine environment. Examples of this work have been and continue to be:

- Developing a project on the Gippsland Coastal and Marine Assets Framework, in



partnership with Gippsland's Catchment Management Authorities, to inform the new Natural Resource Catchment Authority's strategic plans;

- Participating in the steering committee for the Lakes Entrance Integrated Planning Project (LEIPP);
- Representation on the Executive of the Gippsland Integrated Natural Resources Forum (GINRF) and a contribution to its annual report card;
- Active membership and participation on the Gippsland Lakes Task Force, the Coastal Agencies' Liaison Group and the Corner Inlet Steering Committee;
- Contribution to a steering committee developing foreshore dune management and protection strategies and conducting trials for the Seaspray dunes;
- Provide various presentations to community groups and government agencies about strategic coastal planning matters;
- Member of East and Central Gippsland Blue-Green Algae Regional Response Group (DSE coordinated);
- Aiding Wellington Shire Council with its program for restructuring inappropriate coastal subdivisions along the 90 Mile Beach;
- Board visits to Corner Inlet in November 2009 and Lakes Entrance in February 2010, including briefings on relevant projects being carried out by stakeholder agencies, including West Gippsland CMA, Parks Victoria, East Gippsland Shire and Gippsland Ports, and related site inspections;
- Partner an Australian Research Council (ARC) linkage grant project group headed by Melbourne University researchers. The project title is 'Equitable Local Outcomes in Adaptation to Sea Level Rise'. Four Gippsland coastal communities are being studied for this project.

For further information refer to the Board's websites:

[www.wcb.vic.gov.au](http://www.wcb.vic.gov.au)  
[www.ccb.vic.gov.au](http://www.ccb.vic.gov.au)  
[www.gcb.vic.gov.au](http://www.gcb.vic.gov.au)



# ten: Council Operations

## 10.1 Administration

Council's office is Level 6, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne 3002.  
Telephone 9637 9456  
Fax 9637 8024  
Email enquiries@vcc.vic.gov.au  
Website www.vcc.vic.gov.au

**Chair** Libby Mears  
**Executive Officer** David Harper

## Workforce Data

**Staff:** Number by employment status for the majority of the year (full time equivalent)

Employment	2009–2010			2008–2009		
Type	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Ongoing	1.5	1	2.5	1.5	1	2.5
Fixed Term	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Employees	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2.5</b>

**Notes** VCC's ongoing staff are also included in employment statistics for the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

## 10.2 Statement of Pecuniary Interests

All members of Council and the Executive Officer have completed declarations of pecuniary interests for the current reporting period including details of shares held by members.

Declarations of pecuniary interest in relation to agenda items are sought at the commencement of any business meeting and noted in the minutes of the meeting.

## 10.3 Consultancies over \$100,000

In 2009/10 VCC did not engage any consultants with a cost of over \$100,000.

## 10.4 Consultancies under \$100,000

In 2009/10 VCC did not engage any consultants with a cost of under \$100,000.

## 10.5 Major contracts

During 2009/10 Council did not enter into any contracts valued at over \$10 million.

## 10.6 Publications

Council produced the following publications during the year:

- Annual report 2008\09 – available on the VCC website
- Media releases – available on website

During 2009\10 Council's major promotional activities were the 11th Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence (April 2010) and the Victorian Marine Forum (November 2009).

## 10.7 National Competition Policy

The Council adheres to the principles of the National Competition Policy (NCP) to ensure that any business competition with private entities takes place in an environment where the Council has no competitive advantages.

## 10.8 Freedom of Information (FOI)

The Freedom of Information Act 1982 allows the public a right of access to documents held by the Council. The Council operates in accordance with FOI procedures established through the Department of Sustainability and Environment. A request must be in writing and a fee of \$23.40 is payable for applications in 2009/10. No FOI requests were made to Council in 2008/09. The VCC has determined that its authorised officer is the Department of Sustainability and Environment's Freedom of Information Manager, Mr Luke Brown (03) 9637 8585

### Contact:

Department of Sustainability and Environment  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne Vic 8002  
Telephone 03 9637 8585  
Facsimile 03 9637 8128  
Email luke.brown@dse.vic.gov.au

## 10.9 Employment and Conduct Principles

Victorian Public Service merit and equity principles are applied in the appointment and management of staff. The VCC follows the employment and conduct principles set out in the Public Administration Act 2004.

## 10.10 Women, Youth and Indigenous Affairs

Council is committed to involving Victoria's community, including women, youth and indigenous Victorians in the

management and enjoyment of the coast. The Victorian Coastal Strategy identifies actions to implement indigenous cultural outcomes and to improve communications with Aboriginal communities in coastal areas, while Council's business plan includes actions to strengthen community involvement in coastal planning and management. In addition, Council operates in an environment ensuring equity in Council's processes and participation with stakeholders.

## 10.11 Whistleblowers Protection Act

The *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001* is designed to protect people who disclose information about serious wrongdoing within the Victorian Public Sector and to provide a framework for the investigation of these matters.

The Protected Disclosure Coordinator for the Department of Sustainability and Environment acts as an agent for the Victorian Coastal Council to receive disclosures under the Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001 and applies departmental procedures in managing disclosures. Disclosures may also be made directly to the Ombudsman. The contact details for the Protected Disclosure Coordinator and Ombudsman are:

Jennifer Berensen, Manager, Privacy & Ombudsman Liaison  
Department of Sustainability and Environment  
PO Box 500, East Melbourne Vic 3002.  
Telephone 9637 8697  
Facsimile 9637 8128  
Email jennifer.berensen@dse.vic.gov.au

The Ombudsman Victoria  
Level 22, 459 Collins Street,  
Melbourne Vic 3000.  
Telephone 9613 6222  
Toll free 1800 806 314

No disclosures were made during 2009/10.

## 10.12 Overseas travel

No overseas travel was conducted in 2009/10.

## 10.13 Building Act 1993

The Council uses DSE facilities to perform its operations – refer to the DSE Annual Report.

# eleven: Council Expenditure

## 11.1 Expenditure

The operating budget of the Council is provided within the budget of the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

Financial operations of the Council have not been separately audited. Audited statements are incorporated into the overall financial statements of the Department of Sustainability and Environment's Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2010 and it is considered unnecessary for Council to have a separate audit committee.

The table below shows the operating expenditure of the Council for the 2009/10 financial year, compared with the 2008/09 financial year.

Expenditure	2009–2010	2008–2009
<b>Council Operation</b> (includes all sitting fees and reimbursements, secretariat expenses, training and items such as annual report, professional services and events).	\$173,455	\$213,799

## 11.2 Significant changes in financial position during the year

There were no significant changes in financial position during the reporting period.

## 11.3 Major changes or factors affecting performance

There were no major changes or factors affecting performance.

## 11.4 Subsequent events

There were no events subsequent to the balance date that will affect performance in future years.

## 11.5 Victorian Industry Participation Policy

In the reporting period VCC did not initiate or conclude any contracts covered by the Victorian Industry Participation Policy.

# twelve: disclosure index

The 2009/2010 Annual Report of the Victorian Coastal Council is prepared in accordance with all relevant Victorian legislation. This index has been prepared to facilitate identification of the Council's compliance with statutory disclosure requirements.

Legislation	Requirement	Page Reference
Ministerial Directions		
Report of Operations – FRD Guidance		
<b>Charter and purpose</b>		
FRD 22B	Manner of establishment and the relevant Ministers	4
FRD 22B	Objectives, functions, powers and duties	4
FRD 22B	Nature and range of services provided	4-9
<b>Management and structure</b>		
FRD 22B	Organisational structure	5
<b>Financial and other information</b>		
FRD 10	Disclosure index	20
FRD 12A	Disclosure of major contracts	19
FRD 15B	Executive officer disclosures	N/A
FRD 22B	Operational and budgetary objectives and performance against objectives	20
FRD 22B	Employment and conduct principles	19
FRD 22B	Occupational health and safety policy	20
FRD 22B	Summary of the financial results for the year	20
FRD 22B	Significant changes in financial position during the year	20
FRD 22B	Major changes or factors affecting performance	20
FRD 22B	Subsequent events	20
FRD 22B	Application and operation of <i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>	19
FRD 22B	Compliance with building and maintenance provisions of <i>Building Act 1993</i>	20
FRD 22B	Statement on National Competition Policy	19
FRD 22B	Application and operation of the <i>Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001</i>	19
FRD 22B	Details of consultancies over \$100 000	19
FRD 22B	Details of consultancies under \$100 000	19
FRD 22B	Statement of availability of other information	20
FRD 24C	Reporting of office based environmental impacts	DSE Report
FRD 25	Victorian Industry Participation Policy disclosures	20
FRD 29	Workforce Data disclosures	19
SD 4.5.5	Risk management compliance attestation	Not disclosed/DSE
SD 4.2(g)	General information requirements	20
SD 4.2(j)	Sign-off requirements	4
<b>Legislation</b>		
<i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>		19
<i>Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001</i>		19
<i>Victorian Industry Participation Policy Act 2003</i>		20
<i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>		20
<i>Coastal Management Act 1995</i>		12

\* See Department of Sustainability and Environment Annual Report. Operations are managed in accordance with DSE procedures and guidelines for occupational health and safety and industrial relations and related issues.

## Statement of availability of other information

Information relevant to the headings listed in Financial Reporting Direction 22B of the *Financial Management Act 1994* is held at the VCC's office and is available on request, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

# appendix 1: other coastal plans

Region	Title of plan	Status	Developed by
Western	50 year Biodiversity and Land Management Strategy	Completed May 2009	Wannon Water
Western	Allansford Structure Plan (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Underway	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Anglesea River & Estuary Management Plan	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Anglesea Riverbank Master Plan	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Apollo Bay Structure Plan – (GORRS Funded)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Apollo Bay Structure Plan – PSA Implementation C55 (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Beach Cleaning Management Plan	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Belfast Lough Environmental Management Plan	Complete	Moynes Shire
Western	Bells Beach Masterplan Review	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Coastal Design and Logans Beach Review	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Coastal Hazards and Engineering Study (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Developing	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Otway Coast Committee
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Not commenced	Corangamite Shire
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Commenced	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation C29 (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Public exhibition complete.	Moynes Shire
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation C55 (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Colac and Apollo Bay Car Parking Study	Developing – Expect completion 2011	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Colac Otway Shire Rural Living Study	Developing – Expect completion 2011	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Colac Structure Plan – PSA Implementation C55 (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Corangamite Fishery Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Department of Primary Industries
Western	Corangamite Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Strategy	Complete	Corangamite CMA
Western	Corangamite Native Vegetation Plan	Complete	Corangamite CMA
Western	Corangamite Region Wetland Strategy	Complete	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA)
Western	Corangamite Regional River Health Strategy	Complete	Corangamite CMA
Western	Corangamite Salinity Action Plan	Complete	Corangamite CMA
Western	Corangamite Soil Health Strategy	Complete	Corangamite CMA
Western	Cultural Heritage Management Plan	Developing	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Western	Curdies River Estuary Management Plan	Developing	Corangamite and Moynes Shire Councils
Western	Deep Creek Master Plan	Completed/Approved	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Discovery Bay Marine National Park Draft Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Environment and Land Management Plan	Complete	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Western	Environmental Strategic Framework	Developing	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Environmental Sustainability Strategy	Complete/approved	Moynes Shire
Western	Environmental Sustainability Strategy	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Fawthrop Lagoon Management Plan	Developing	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Fitzroy Estuary Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Flood Study for Port Fairy	Developing	GHCMA & Moynes
Western	Futurescapes – Climate Change Demonstrator Project	Commenced	Glenelg Shire Council and Department of Primary Industries
Western	Glenelg Environment Strategy	Developing	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Glenelg Hopkins Fishery Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Department of Primary Industries
Western	Glenelg Hopkins River Health Strategy	Completed/Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Glenelg River Estuary Management Plan	Completed/ Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Glenelg Strategic Futures Plan	Seeking public comment	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Great Otway National Park and Otway Forest Park Management Plan	Developing	Parks Victoria
Western	Hopkins Point Road Structure Plan (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Hopkins River Estuary Management Plan	Completed/ Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Indigenous Partnership Strategy	Under Review	Parks Victoria
Western	Kooyang Sea Country	Complete	Framlingham Aboriginal Trust and Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation
Western	Land Suitability Decision Framework	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Land-use Audit Review of Residential Land (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Levy's Point Coastal Reserve Management Plan	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary Draft Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Merri Estuary Management Plan	Completed/ Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Merri Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria

Region	Title of plan	Status	Developed by
Western	Merri Street Design Guidelines	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Painkalac Creek Environmental Flow Determination	Complete	Corangamite CMA
Western	Painkalac Creek Estuary Management Plan	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Pathway strategy	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Peterborough UDG Amendment	Developing	Moynes Shire
Western	Point Addis Marine National Park, Point Danger Marine Sanctuary and Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Pollution Source Investigation for Lorne	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Port Fairy – Warrnambool Rail Trail	Developing	Warrnambool City Council & the Moynes Shire
Western	Port Fairy East Beach Coastal Erosion Engineering & Feasibility Study	Developing	Moynes Shire & DSE
Western	Portland Aquaculture Fisheries Reserves Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Department of Primary Industries
Western	Portland Bay Coastal Infrastructure Plan	Complete	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Princetown Urban Design Framework (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Developing	Corangamite Shire
Western	Rural Settlement Strategy	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	South Warrnambool Flood Study PSA Implementation C44	Complete	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	South Warrnambool Wetlands Management Plan	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Southern Victorian Native Fish Strategy	Complete	Corangamite CMA leading on behalf of five coastal CMA's and Melbourne Water
Western	Spring Creek Structure Plan	Abandoned April 2009	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Surry Estuary Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Surry River Flood Study	Complete	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Sustainability Strategy	Completed June 2008	Wannon Water
Western	The Crags Management Plan	Complete	Moynes Shire
Western	Torquay / Jan Juc Structure Plan – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Approved by Minister 2010	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Torquay Foreshore Masterplan	Complete	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Western	Torquay North Development Plan	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Tower Hill Design Guidelines (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Underway	Moynes Shire
Western	Twelve Apostles Marine National Park and The Arches Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Warrnambool Coastal Landscape Review	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Warrnambool Foreshore Management Plan	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Waste Water Management Plan	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Wastewater Management Plan – Moggs Creek	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Water Supply Demand Strategy 2007 - 2055	Completed June 2007	Wannon Water
Western	Weed Control and Native Vegetation Action Plan	Complete	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Western	White's Beach Master Plan – Stage 1	Completed/Approved	Surf Coast Shire
Western	White's Beach Master Plan – Stage 2	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Wye River/Sep Creek/Kennett River Structure Plan	Complete	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Wye River/Sep Creek/Kennett River Structure Plan – PSA Implementation C58 (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Developing	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Yambuk Lake Estuary Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Central	1803 Collins Settlement Future Directions Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria & Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Anderson Inlet Fisheries Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Avalon Beach Management Plan (Draft)	Implementation	DSE
Central	Balnarring Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Balnarring CoM
Central	Barwon Bluff Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Barwon Coast Coastal Management Plan 2006/07 to 2009/10	Implementation	Barwon Coast CoM
Central	Bayside Coastal Strategy 1997	Review	Bayside City Council
Central	Bellarine Bayside Landscape Management Plan	Implementation	Bellarine Bayside Foreshore CoM
Central	Bellarine Bayside Draft Strategic Plan 2018	Draft	Bellarine Bayside Foreshore CoM
Central	Black Rock – Beaumaris Foreshore Master Plan	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Central	Breamlea Foreshore Masterplan and Management Plan Update	Draft	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Brighton Foreshore Master Plan	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Central	Buckley Park Coastal Management Plan Vegetation Strategy	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Bunurong Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Cannons Creek Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Cannons Creek Foreshores Reserve CoM
Central	Capel Sound Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Capel Sound Foreshores Reserve CoM
Central	Crib Point/Stony Point Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Crib Point/Stony Point Foreshore CoM and DSE
Central	Corangamite Fishery Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Clifton Springs Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Corinella Foreshore Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DSE



Region	Title of plan	Status	Developed by
Central	Eastern Beach Conservation Management Plan (Draft)	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Eastern Port Phillip Bay Aquaculture Fisheries Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Dromana Foreshore Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Dromana Foreshore CoM & DSE
Central	Flinders Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Flinders Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Flinders Pier Master Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	French Island National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Geelong Arm Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Green Point Landscape Master Plan 1996	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Central	Halfmoon Bay Master Plan	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Central	Hampton Foreshore Master Plan	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Central	Hastings South Coastal Management Plan & Recreational Boating Precinct	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Hastings Structure Plan and Coastal Management Plan	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Jawbone Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Kingston Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Kingston City Council
Central	Limeburners Bay Management Plan Stage 2 Review	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Merricks Beach Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Merricks Beach Foreshore CoM & DSE
Central	Mornington Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Mornington Peninsula National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Mt Eliza Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Mt Martha Foreshore Draft Coastal Management Plan	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Mushroom Reef Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Pinnacle Channel Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Point Cook Coastal Park and Cheetham Wetlands Future Directions Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Point Cooke Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Point Henry Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Point Leo Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Point Leo Foreshore CoM & DSE
Central	Point Lonsdale Structure Plan	Implementation	Borough of Queenscliffe & Greater Geelong
Central	Point Nepean National Park and Point Nepean Quarantine Station Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Portarlington Safe Harbour Master Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Port Phillip and Western Port Fisheries Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Port Phillip (Western Shoreline) & Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar Site Strategic Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria & DSE
Central	Portsea Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Quarantine Station Conservation Management Plan Non-Indigenous Cultural Heritage – Volume 1 & 2	Implementation	Point Nepean Community Trust
Central	Queenscliff Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	Borough of Queenscliffe
Central	Rosebud (Anthony's Nose to Chinamen's Creek) Coastal Management Plan	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Rosebud Activity Centre Structure Plan and Foreshore Coastal Management Plan	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Rosebud Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire
Central	Rosebud Foreshore Reserve Landscape Master Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Ricketts Point Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Safety and Environment Management Plan for the local port of Port Phillip	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Sandridge Beach Master Plan	Draft	City of Port Phillip
Central	Sandringham Foreshore Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	DSE
Central	Seaford Life Saving Club Precinct Master Plan	Implementation	Frankston City Council
Central	Shoreham Foreshore Reserve Management Plan	Developing	Shoreham Foreshore CoM & DSE
Central	Snapper Point Framework	Implementation	Park Victoria
Central	Somers Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Somers Foreshore CoM
Central	South Channel Fort Conservation Management Plan – Part 1 & 2	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	St Kilda Pier Conservation Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Tooradin Foreshore and Boating Infrastructure Master Plan	Developing	Tooradin Foreshore CoM & DSE
Central	Truganina Explosives Reserve Coastal Management Plan	Implementation	City of Hobsons Bay
Central	Victorian Eel Fishery Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Victorian Abalone Fishery Management Plan	Review	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Victorian Giant Crab Fishery Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Western Port Marine National Parks Management Plan (Yaringa, French Island & Churchill Island)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Western Port Ramsar Site Strategic Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Williamstown Foreshore Strategic Plan	Review	Hobsons Bay Council and Parks Victoria

Region	Title of plan	Status	Developed by
Central	Whitecliffs and Cameron's Bight Coastal Management Plan	Developing	Whitecliffs to Cameron's Bight Foreshore CoM
Gippsland	Andersons Inlet Fisheries Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Gippsland	Beware Reef Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Gippsland	Cape Howe Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Gippsland	Corner Inlet Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Gippsland	East Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy	Reviewed. Outcomes depend on legislated NRCA responsibilities	East Gippsland CMA
Gippsland	Lakes Entrance Integrated Planning Project	Developing	DSE/EGSC*
Gippsland	Lake Wellington Wetlands Management Plan	Under Review	Parks Victoria
Gippsland	Loch Sport Crown Reserves Management Plan	Draft	DSE/CoM
Gippsland	Mallacoota Inlet Foreshore Management Plan	Implemented. Expired	DSE/EGSC
Gippsland	Marlay Point Foreshore Management Plan	Draft	DSE/CoM
Gippsland	Metung Foreshore Management Plan	Implemented. Expired	DSE/EGSC
Gippsland	Newlands Arm Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DSE/EGSC
Gippsland	Ninety Mile Beach Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Gippsland	Point Hicks Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Gippsland	Sandy Point Foreshore Management Plan	Ministers approval	DSE/CoM
Gippsland	Shallow Inlet Foreshore Management Plan	Cancelled	DSE/CoM
Gippsland	Tamboon Inlet Foreshore Management Plan	Developing	DSE/EGSC
Gippsland	Walkerville Foreshore Management Plan	Under Review	DSE/CoM
Gippsland	West Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy	Reviewed. Outcomes depend on legislated NRCA responsibilities	West Gippsland CMA
Gippsland	Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Gippsland	Woodside Beach Foreshore Management Plan	Draft	DSE/CoM



# acronyms used

<b>CAP</b>	Coastal Action Plan
<b>CCB</b>	Central Coastal Board
<b>CMA</b>	Catchment Management Authority
<b>CMP</b>	Coastal Management Plan
<b>CoM</b>	Committee of Management
<b>DPI</b>	Department of Primary Industries
<b>DSE</b>	Department of Sustainability and Environment
<b>EPA</b>	Environment Protection Authority
<b>GCB</b>	Gippsland Coastal Board
<b>ICZM</b>	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
<b>MoU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>NHT</b>	Natural Heritage Trust
<b>NRM</b>	Natural resource management
<b>PEMSEA</b>	Partnerships for Environmental Management of the Seas of East Asia program
<b>RCIP</b>	Regional Catchment Investment Plan
<b>RCS</b>	Regional Catchment Strategy
<b>UDF</b>	Urban Design Framework
<b>VCC</b>	Victorian Coastal Council
<b>VCS</b>	Victorian Coastal Strategy
<b>WCB</b>	Western Coastal Board

Victorian Coastal Council  
PO Box 500  
East Melbourne Vic 3002  
Telephone: (03) 9637 9456  
Email: [enquiries@vcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@vcc.vic.gov.au)  
Web: [www.vcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcc.vic.gov.au)



**Port Phillip Bay is  
becoming warmer,  
deeper and more acidic**

**a coast enjoyed by many and  
critical to our economy**