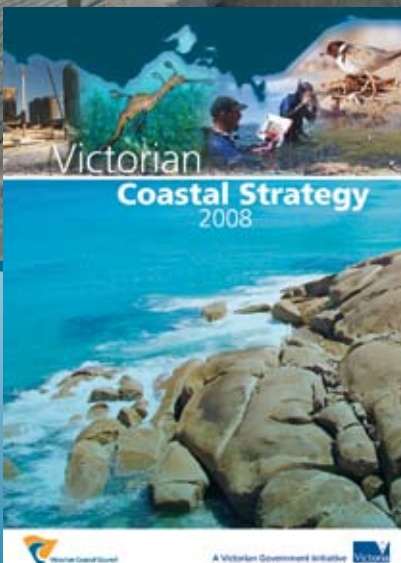
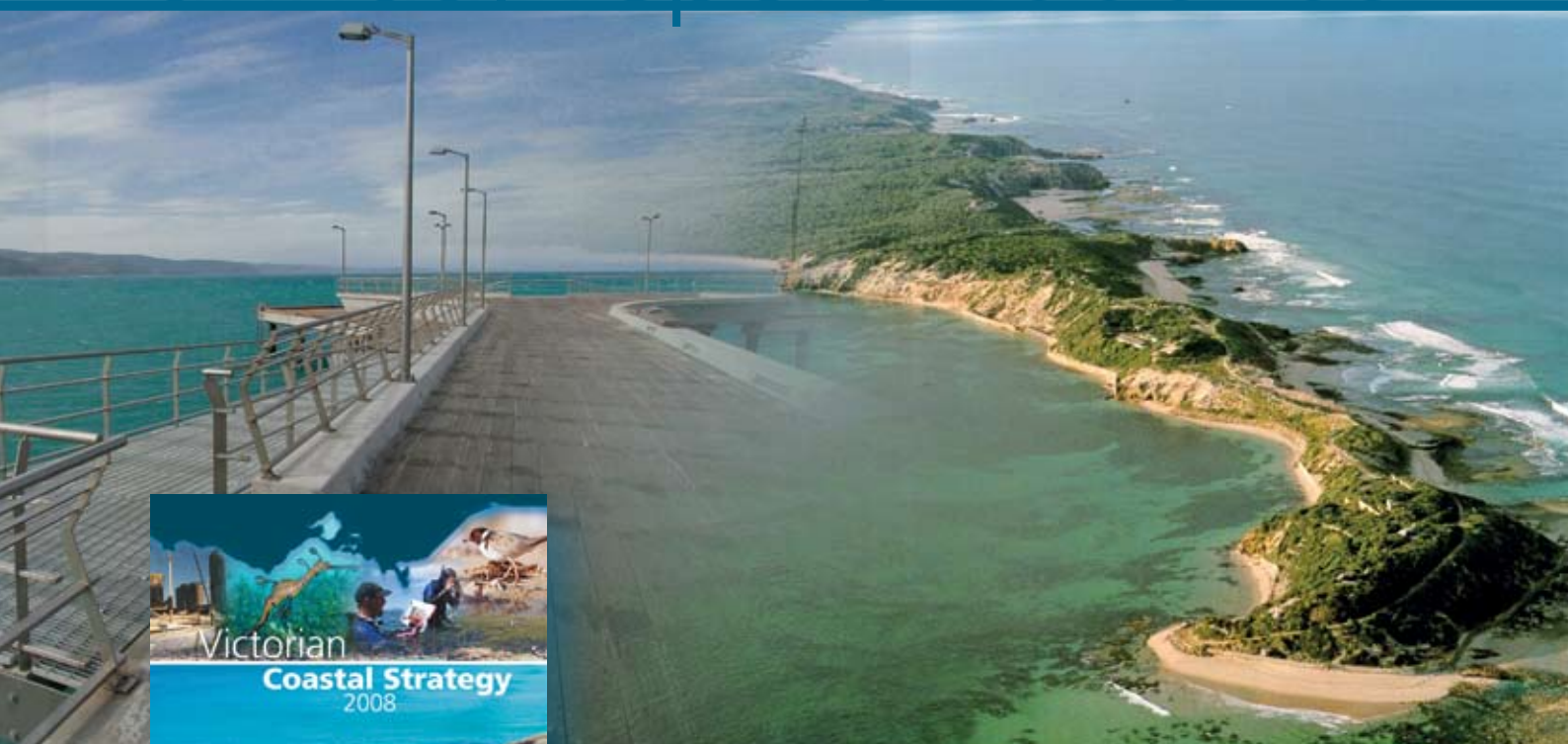


Victorian Coastal Council



# annual report 2008–09



# contents

one: <b>mission statement</b>	1
two: <b>chairman's report</b>	2
three: <b>highlights</b>	3
four: <b>vision for the coast</b>	7
five: <b>reporting relationship and functions</b>	7
six: <b>council activities</b>	8
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>	16
ten: <b>council operations</b>	20
eleven: <b>council expenditure</b>	21
twelve: <b>disclosure Index</b>	22
appendix one: <b>other coastal plans</b>	23
<b>acronyms</b>	inside back cover

Published by the Victorian Coastal Council, Melbourne,  
September 2009  
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 2008  
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

L–R Wreck Beach (L. Murrell), Terns in Flight (Coast Action/ Coastcare Snapshots), Lorne Pier (EDAW Australia), Point Nepean (M. Dommissie).

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: chairs report

It is with great pleasure that I submit the 13th Annual Report of the Victorian Coastal Council to the Minister for Environment and Climate Change. This Report is the second of my term and of this Council. Of major significance this year has been the delivery of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008 (VCS), the State's coastal policy framework that defines the long term vision and guides integrated management of the Victorian coast.

The VCS 2008, highlights the significant coastal issues of climate change, population and growth, and the marine environment. This VCS was strengthened by the fact that our own Minister, Gavin Jennings, Minister for Environment and Climate Change was joined by the Hon Justin Madden, Minister for Planning in launching the Strategy at the Jan Juc Surf Life Saving Club on December 10th 2008. This joint launch demonstrated the critical role of state and local government planning policy in ensuring positive outcomes for the Victorian coast.

In partnership with the three Regional Coastal Boards; Western, Central and Gippsland, Council developed a comprehensive communications strategy to promote the VCS 2008. I would like to acknowledge the work of the three Coastal Boards who played a lead role in briefing key stakeholders through a range of information sessions and public meetings held in regional locations.

The Victorian Coastal Forum, in April, invited key speakers to present their views on the significant issues of climate change and population and growth. The lively panel discussions and expert presentations provided an informative and engaging approach to exploring these issues and bringing the topics covered in the VCS 2008 to public examination.

Once again I was delighted to co-host with Minister Jennings the Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence. In their 10th year, these awards mark the breadth of commitment and excellence shown by Victorians to the protection of the coast, whether that be through volunteer efforts, excellence in planning and management, or projects and design outcomes. With over 250 people in attendance the awards are a wonderful opportunity to showcase the best of the best on the Victorian coast.

Finally I would like to mention three Council members who retired from Council in the last twelve months. I would like to thank Maggie Baron who provided Council with independent planning expertise over her five years, chaired Council's Planning Subcommittee and worked on the development of the VCS.

The decisions by Lynn Murrell, Chair Western Coastal Board and Duncan Malcolm, Chair Gippsland Coastal Board, not to re-stand for Chair appointments marks a significant changing of the guard in coastal

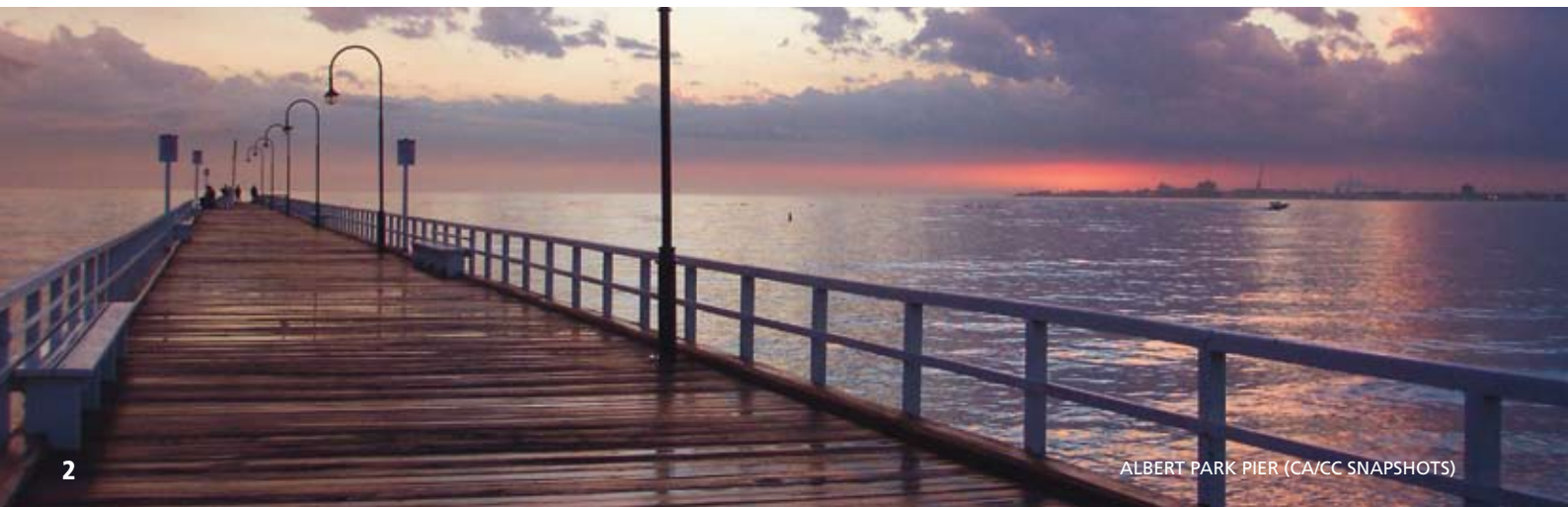
management advisory bodies in Victoria. Both of these exceptional men provided more than 10 years service each to the coast in Victoria and their collective knowledge and experience ensured that regional issues have provided a strong foundation for coastal policy development in Victoria.

Of course, all of the work outlined in this report could not take place without a very dedicated team behind Council, providing expert guidance and support. David Harper, Executive Officer leads our small team with both intelligence and humor. Victoria Purdue and Erin Nash as Project Officers throughout the year have both worked diligently and with much passion. Rebecca Harnett played an important role in supporting the overall operations of the Council.

The year ahead marks the final year of the three year term of this Victorian Coastal Council. Our focus on the marine environment will increase in the coming year, and our ongoing commitment to effective climate change knowledge building and response will continue. I am excited about the challenges ahead and will continue to ensure the Victorian Coastal Council is the peak body that advocates for and champions the Victorian coast.

*Libby Mears*

**Libby Mears**  
Chair





# three: highlights

## Launch of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008

On 10 December 2008, the third iteration of the Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS) 2008 was launched at Jan Juc by both Gavin Jennings, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, and Justin Madden, Minister for Planning.

The launch event was held at the Jan Juc Surf Life Saving Club and attended by some 90 individuals from both government and the community. The VCS 2008 forms the Victorian Government policy commitment to the coast, estuarine and marine environments of Victoria. It provides a long-term vision for the planning, management and sustainable use of our coast, and the policies and actions Victorians will need to implement over the next five years to help achieve that vision.

It is also a framework to assist in the development and implementation of other locally and regionally specific strategies and plans such as management plans, Coastal Action Plans (CAP's), and planning schemes.

The VCS 2008 builds on the principles and actions of the last two strategies and identifies and responds to three significant issues affecting Victoria's coast that require specific attention:

- Climate change
- Population and growth
- Marine ecological integrity

More than 170 submissions were received to the Draft VCS (2007) which was released for public comment in November 2007. Council established an Editorial Review Committee from its membership and staff to analyse all the submissions, ensure all issues

had been understood and an appropriate response developed. The high quality of the submissions to the draft VCS contributed positively to the development of the final document.

The VCS 2008 sets the direction and provides the framework to protect and enhance our coast for future generations. Work has now commenced to develop an implementation plan with a new Implementation Co-ordination Committee having been established comprising VCS action lead agents and partners. The work of this group will be seeking to achieve an effective whole of government response to the implementation of the VCS.

The VCS is established under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, and is reviewed every five years.

## Appointments/resignations

The Victorian Coastal Council (VCC) was advised formally on 18 March 2009 of the resignation of VCC Member Maggie Baron. Maggie had been appointed to a senior role in the Department of Planning and Community Development and determined that this appointment compromised her ability to provide independent advice to the VCC. Maggie was appointed to the VCC in 2004 and provided independent planning expertise throughout her term, chaired the VCC's Planning Sub-committee and was a member of VCC's Editorial Review Committee that was developed to support the finalisation of the draft VCS (2007). The VCC wishes Maggie all the best in her future pursuits and sought that the Minister move to replace her skills and expertise on the VCC.

## Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence

In April 2009, the VCC, in partnership with Coast Action\Coastcare hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence in St Kilda. The awards attracted 38 finalists across 11 different categories, including biodiversity conservation, integrated coastal and catchment management and coastal culture. Finalists included a wide range of community groups, government agencies, individuals and organisations demonstrating outstanding commitment to the protection and improvement of our coast.

Following a welcome to country by Boonerwung elder Carolyn Briggs, Victorian Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Gavin Jennings MLC and VCC Chair, Libby Mears presented the awards to winners. The hosts noted that the mix of entries received this year confirmed a growing community interest in protecting Victoria's coast. The VCC acknowledges the dedicated individuals who work tirelessly to protect, improve and maintain Victoria's coast. These individuals are an invaluable resource in coastal management.

The ceremony was attended by approx. 250 individuals from various sectors within coastal management including Mayors and CEO's of Local Councils, Executive Directors of both government departments and private organisations, and many community members dedicated to protecting the coast in their respective regions.



## 2008 Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence – Winners

Category	Winner	Project description
Biodiversity and Conservation	Friends of Chinamans Creek	The Skink Link project
Education	Boating Industry Association	Marine pest project
Coastal Culture	Frankston City Council	Coastal Arts Discovery Trail
Victorian Marine Science Consortium – post graduate award	Isla Fitzridge	PhD: 'Seasonality, seduction and foul play: the hydroid fauna of Port Phillip Bay'.
Coastal Planning	City of Greater Geelong, the Municipal Association of Victoria, Council on The Aging, David Lock Associates and the Communities of Indented Head, Portarlington and St Leonards	Guidelines for walkable coastal environments project
Innovation	Westernport Greenhouse Alliance	People, Property and Places
Coastal Building and Design	Frankston City Council and Robert Simeoni Pty Ltd Architects	Seaford Life Saving Club
Integrated Coastal Zone Management	Bellarine Catchment Network	Community governed catchment to coast management
Coastal Management	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee	Environment and land management plan
Community Action	Friends of Venus Bay	Raising community awareness of coastal issues
Outstanding Individual Achievement	Duncan Malcolm	Member of the Victorian Coastal Council, Chair Gippsland Coastal Board, Chairman of the Victorian Environment Assessment Council, former chairman of both the Irrigation Association Australia and the Lakes and Wilderness Tourism Association Inc.



## Victorian Coastal Forum 2009

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2009, the VCC hosted the Victorian Coastal Forum. The forum examined two of the three significant coastal issues identified in the VCS, Climate Change and Population and Growth. By utilising key note speakers and panels of experts, the forum aimed to increase the understanding and future planning choices related to these two issues for key managers, planners and decision makers in Victoria.

The Victorian Coastal Forum gathered approx. 200 individuals from various fields within coastal management. These included Councillors, coastal planners, DSE and Parks Victoria staff, students and coastal volunteers. Other than informing attendees of the most up to date climate change science and population issues, the forum provided a networking opportunity for those in the coastal management field.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the forum, the VCC prepared an on-line survey and distributed to forum attendees. The feedback received was positive with the majority of attendees stating that the forum was informative, the speakers were engaging and they had adequate opportunities to ask questions or present their ideas. The majority of attendees also stated that they would attend any similar forums hosted by the VCC.

## Coastal Governance Review

In December 2008, the VCC commissioned an evaluation of the coastal governance model in Victoria. The evaluation focussed on the VCC and the Regional Coastal Boards (RCBs) and their functions as provided for in the *Coastal Management Act 1995*.

The Council commissioned the evaluation for the following reasons:

1. To ensure that opportunities for improvement were explored for the VCC and RCBs to adapt and work together in the most effective way to meet the challenges ahead.
2. To provide input to support the development of the Land and Biodiversity White Paper.
3. To provide a tool to assist in the guidance and induction of new RCB members in 2009.

The Report concluded that the:

- Current model is an effective vehicle for the creation and advocacy of coastal policy
- VCS is a significant contribution to coastal management in Victoria
- VCC works well as a body, accommodating regional differences via the Chairs of the RCBs
- Model has considerable strengths, to which some other States aspire.

The report provided 13 recommendations to the VCC to improve and further strengthen its coastal governance model, which the VCC has commenced to act on.

## Land and Biodiversity Green/ White Paper

The VCC welcomed the opportunity to provide input to the Land and Biodiversity at a time of Climate Change White Paper process and did this by providing a detailed submission to the Green Paper and active participation on the Stakeholder Reference Group.

The VCC's submission addressed key matters related to the unique set of climate change impacts that will affect the coast. It also highlighted the management needs of addressing increasing population and growth, and provided a strong focus on protecting coastal biodiversity, with a particular emphasis on the marine environment.

The VCC strongly encouraged the principle of integrated coastal zone management to manage the coastal environment effectively in its response. The VCC sees this being achieved through a building of scientific knowledge of our coastline and effective use of that knowledge through education and information to planners, managers and the general community. This needs to occur through the effective engagement of all tiers of government and all sectors of the community. It is working to build and encourage this that the VCC sees as being key to its business. The VCC also strongly supported initiatives described in the White Paper that provide the mechanisms and funding to support improved outcomes for Victoria's coastal environment.

## Federal Inquiry into climate change impacts in coastal communities

VCC Chair, Libby Mears and Executive Officer, David Harper presented the VCC submission to the Inquiry Panel at its Melbourne session on Wednesday 20 May 2009. Public Hearings were held for 2 days in Melbourne on Wednesday 20 May and Thursday 21 May. Federal Parliamentary members present at the hearing were:

- Ms Jenny George, MP – Chair of the Inquiry Panel
- Dr Mal Washer, MP – Deputy Chair of the Inquiry Panel
- Mr Tony Zappia, MP
- Mrs Julia Irwin, MP
- Mr Mark Dreyfus, QC, MP

All RCB's were represented also on the day with Western Coastal Board presenting with the VCC in the morning session, and Gippsland and Central Coastal Boards presenting in the afternoon session. Members of the Inquiry Panel repeatedly made comments at how advanced Victoria has been across all sectors in dealing with the impacts of climate change on coastal communities. The VCS was particularly well regarded as was the Coastal Spaces work.

## Yarram workshop and Gippsland tour

The VCC conducted an overnight field trip to the Gippsland Region on 26 & 27 November. The VCC arrived in Traralgon on the Wednesday evening and met with representatives of key bodies in the region who were given the opportunity to brief the VCC on regional interests. The invitees were:

- Alan Bawden – CEO Bass Coast Shire Council
- Mr Keith Hamilton – Chairman Gippsland Integrated Natural Resources Forum (GINRF)
- Mr Bernie Smith – Chairman Gippsland Ports
- Ms Liz Clay – Chair West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

The following day the VCC conducted its meeting at Yarram where it was further briefed by three other key regional individuals:

- Cr Heather Bligh, Mayor, South Gippsland Shire Council
- Cr Peter Cleary, Mayor, and Lyndon Webb, CEO, Wellington Shire Council



The VCC conducted a field trip, led by Gippsland Coastal Board Chair Duncan Malcolm, of coastal towns including Woodside Beach, Manns Beach, Port Albert, Port Welshpool and Toora.

The VCC also took the opportunity of undertaking a facilitated RCB evaluation to consider future improvements to RCB operations, taking into account the current business plan and strategy. The evaluation considered: a review of evaluation survey results from RCB members, strengths in how the RCBs currently operate, areas for improvement, improving RCB meetings, determining influence and pathways, and refining VCC's focus.

### Indigenous Coastal Forum – “Managing Country Together”, Portsea 13-14 November

VCC's Executive Officer attended the Indigenous Coastal Forum – “Managing Country Together” at Portsea on the 13th-14th November and presented on the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, the VCC and the VCS as the coastal advisory arrangement in Victoria. The Indigenous Coastal Forum was a valuable networking opportunity for Aboriginal interest groups right across Victoria, and provided the opportunity to develop some important relationships with the elders of these communities. The forum included presentations, workshops and field trips.

### National Coast to Coast Conference, Darwin 18 – 22 August

Two VCC Members and two VCC Staff members represented the VCC at the biennial National Coast to Coast Conference held in Darwin. Presentations were made to the conference by Libby Mears, Chair

VCC, Erin Nash VCC Project Officer and David Harper, VCC Executive Officer. The presentations were:

- Victoria's 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation State Coastal Strategy 2008 – Planning for a new coastal future
- Managing Coastal Population Growth and Development – Getting smarter about managing what we value
- The re-emergence of public volunteer foreshore Committees of Management in Victoria

A booth display was also exhibited at the National Conference by the VCC, showcasing the Victorian Coast. Display panels included a 3 metre long map of Victoria, an outline of the role and function of the VCC, an outline of each of the RCB's, focus on the Victorian hierarchy of coastal principles and the key focus areas of the VCC being Climate Change, Population and Growth, and the Marine Environment.



**Victorian Coastal Council**  
The Victorian Coastal Council is established under the provisions of the *Victorian Coastal Management Act 1995*. It is the peak independent advisory body on coastal issues in Victoria. Its role is to provide strategic direction and improve the co-ordination of coastal planning and management in Victoria. The Council is accountable to the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, within the Victorian Government.

**Victorian Coastal Council Functions**  
Functions defined by the *Coastal Management Act 1995*

- Statewide strategic coastal planning
- Prepare and submit draft Victorian Coastal Strategy (5 yearly)
- Provide advice to the Minister
- Facilitate operation of Regional Coastal Boards
- Monitor development of Coastal Action Plans
- Coordinate implementation of the VCS and Coastal Action Plans





## 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”

HOODED PLOVERS (BIRDS AUSTRALIA)

## five: reporting relationship and functions

The VCC is established under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* as the peak advisory body on coastal issues in Victoria. The VCC is accountable to the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Gavin Jennings MLC.

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

The VCC is provided with a budget and secretariat support through the Department of Sustainability and Environment's portfolio.

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

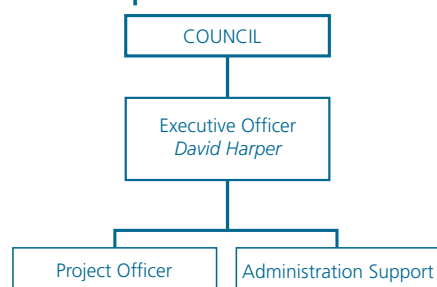
- › To undertake statewide strategic coastal planning
- › To prepare and submit to the Minister a draft Victorian Coastal Strategy
- › To provide advice to the Minister
- › To facilitate the operation of Regional Coastal Boards
- › To monitor the development of Coastal Action Plans



- › 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

Six VCC business meetings were held during the 2008/2009 financial year. The November meeting was held in South Gippsland and included field inspections in Yarram and a facilitated workshop to improve the effectiveness of VCC's meetings and the working relationship between the VCC and the RCB's.

### Business meetings:

14 August 2008  
2 October 2008  
27 November 2008  
12 February 2009  
2 April 2009  
11 June 2009

### Attendance at VCC business meetings:

Member	Attendance
Libby Mears	6
Liz Johnstone	4
Duncan Malcolm	6
Rob Gell	5
Maggie Baron	4 of 4
Michael Keough	5
Lynn Murrell	4
John Sweetman	4
Matt Boland	6
Caroline Douglass	5
Jennifer Wolcott	2

## 6.3 General business

### VCC Business Plan

The end of the annual reporting period marks the half way point of the VCC 2008-2011 Business Plan.

The VCC has made significant progress in implementing its Business Plan. Key deliverables that the VCC has committed to and achieved have included:

- › Release of the VCS 2008
- › Meetings with all Local Government Areas and Catchment Management Authorities
- › Development of Submissions to key government policy considerations including:

- › Land and Biodiversity Green Paper
- › Federal Inquiry into the impact of Climate Change on Coastal Communities
- › State Government's development of a Climate Change Green Paper
- › Successful conduct of Annual Coastal Awards for Excellence in 2009
- › Hosting of the first Victorian Coastal Forum April 2009
- › Presentations at significant conferences and events including:
  - › Coast to Coast 2008
  - › UDIA Conference Melb & SA
  - › MAV 2008
  - › Mandurah WA 2009
  - › Climate Symposium 2009

### Appointment of New VCC Members

Maggie Baron resigned from her position as member of the VCC. Maggie's position was as an independent planning advisor. This position is in the process of being filled.

Both Duncan Malcolm, Chair of Gippsland Coastal Board, and Lynn Murrell, Chair of Western Coastal Board held positions on the VCC. Both Duncan and Lynn determined not to seek reappointment, and as a result, the 2 new chairs of the Boards will be appointed to the VCC.

Liz Johnstone is re-running for position as Chair of the Central Coastal Board and if appointed, will remain on the VCC.

### Presentations received by the VCC at business meetings

Presenter	Topic
Rod Anderson – Future Coasts, DSE	Future Coasts Project
Rachel Murphy & Alexandra Guild, Environmental Policy and Climate Change, DSE	Climate Change green paper/white paper process
Mike Benke and Darren James, Infrastructure Risk and Management, DSE	Beach Protection Works, Royal Ave, Sandringham
Peter Watkinson, Executive Director, Public Land Division, DSE	Update on the launch of the Victorian Coastal Strategy
Duncan Malcolm, Chair, Gippsland Coastal Board	Gippsland Climate Change forum
Cr Heather Bligh, Outgoing Mayor, Gippsland Shire Council	Coastal management
Peter Cleary, Mayor and Lyndon Webb, CEO, Wellington Shire Council	Coastal management
Jane Tovey and Hamish Walker	State of the Environment Report
John Ginivan and Maggie Baron, DPCD	Metropolitan planning and regional strategic planning
Jo Klemke, Senior policy officer, DSE	Reef and Seagrass program for Port Phillip Bay
Barnaby McIlrath and Kylie Goodwin, Environmental Policy and Climate Change Division, DSE	Climate Change green paper
David Spokes and John Williamson, EPA	New goals for the EPA

### Presentations given by VCC representatives

- › Minister Gavin Jennings – Victorian Coastal Strategy
- › Coast to coast conference, Darwin – (Libby, David and Erin)
- › Deakin University – Coastal management
- › UDIA, South Australia branch – Libby Mears on the coastal development challenge
- › Indigenous Coastal Forum: Managing Country Together (David)
- › Victorian Coastal Forum
- › Federal enquiry into climate change and environmental impacts on coastal communities (Libby and David).
- › Public Land @ 5 million conference

### Presentations given by a VCC representative on the VCS 2008

- › Planning panels Victoria
- › DPCD Planning and Development Manager Forum
- › Land and Biodiversity White Paper Stakeholder reference group
- › Association of Bayside Municipalities
- › Victorian Industry Tourism Council

### Submissions made by VCC

- › Land and Biodiversity Green paper
- › Climate Change summit discussion paper





#### VCC Media

(available at [www.vcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcc.vic.gov.au))

The following media releases were issued:

- › Victorians urged to nominate coastal champions (13 October 2008)
- › Victoria's long-term vision for the coast – Launch of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008 (10 December 2008)
- › Finalists selected for 10<sup>th</sup> Victorian Coastal Awards (25 March 2009)
- › 10<sup>th</sup> Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence 2009 (24 April 2009)

#### Other Partnerships

- › Land and Biodiversity White paper – stakeholder reference group.
- › DSE Committee of Management Partnerships program.

#### Conference and Forum Attendance by members and staff

- › Gippsland Climate Change Forum
- › Launch of Victoria's Nature Based Tourism Strategy
- › Western Coastal Board Forum.
- › DSE's annual research, Policy Conference
- › VRFish, Boat ramp forum
- › DSE Coastal Planners Forum
- › Climate Change Adaptation Symposium
- › Melbourne University – Festival of Ideas

#### Council's Chairman, Libby Mears participated in the following National role:

- › Coast to Coast conference, Darwin.
- › Australian Coastal Councils conference, Mandurah, WA
- › Federal Enquiry into climate change and environmental impacts on coastal communities.

## 6.4 Sub-committees

#### Planning sub-committee

Purpose: to ensure co-ordination of Victorian planning as it affects the coast, advise on Coastal Action Plans, coastal development and approval arrangements for the coast, and to oversee the preparation of coastal guidelines.

- › Maggie Baron (Chair)
- › Liz Johnstone
- › Lynn Murrell

The sub-committee held 2 meetings during 2008\09:

- › 2 September 2008
- › 1 October 2008

The sub-committee:

- › Provided input into VCC's workplan
- › Determined the Coastal Awards Planning Category key selection criteria
- › Familiarised itself with the Western Coastal Board Boating CAP
- › Developed a proposal for a Coastal Planning Land Use and Development Forum.

#### Science sub-committee

Purpose: to provide strategic advice to the VCC on current and emerging scientific issues relevant to coastal and marine environments.

- › Prof. Michael Keough (Chair)
- › Rob Gell
- › Duncan Malcolm

The sub-committee held 5 meetings during 2008\09:

- › 29 July 2008
- › 10 November 2008
- › 5 February 2009
- › 25 March 2009
- › 27 May 2009

The sub-committee:

- › Provided advice to the VCC on the Climate Change summit discussion paper
- › Provided advice to the VCC on the State of the Environment report
- › Considered matters for referral to the Science Panel
- › Reviewed the science content of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008
- › Aided in the implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008
- › Assisted in shaping the format of the Victorian Coastal Forum 2009

#### Communications and Marketing sub-committee

Purpose: to develop a strategic approach to communication and marketing activities undertaken by the VCC, facilitate the coordination of external communications undertaken by the VCC, advise on opportunities to increase broad awareness and understanding of coastal and marine issues, develop a strong relationship with the Minister's office and seek the active participation of the public in the VCC's work.

- › Libby Mears (Chair)
- › Matt Boland
- › Rob Gell
- › Caroline Douglass

The sub-committee held 6 meetings in 2008\09:

- › 16 July 2008
- › 20 May 2008
- › 17 September 2008
- › 5 November 2008
- › 12 March 2009
- › 20 May 2009

The sub-committee:

- › Provided input into the preparation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008
- › Provided advice to Council on representing the VCC at the National Coast 2 Coast conference held in Darwin 2008
- › Consistently advised on the content and format of the VCC website
- › Advised VCC on the implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008
- › Aided in the preparation of a summary brochure for the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008
- › Assisted in the coordination of the Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence 2009
- › Advised the VCC on the issue of providing funding to organisations.

# seven: membership

Members of the Victorian Coastal Council during 2008/09 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

### Duncan Malcolm AM

Duncan Malcolm lives on a farm at Boisdale in Gippsland. He has a strong interest in natural resource management developed through various positions he has held and has worked hard to develop strategic linkages between resource managers and participants at regional, state and federal levels. Duncan's current positions include Chairman of the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council, Chairman of the Gippsland Coastal Board and a member of a number of other committees and bodies. He is a former Chairman of both the Irrigation Association Australia and the Lakes and Wilderness Tourism Association Inc.



### Lynn Murrell OAM

Lynn Murrell is a former Secondary School Teacher and a Councillor for the City of Portland for over 18 years. Mr Murrell owns a primary production property at Cape Nelson. Lynn has been extensively involved representing his community at a local, regional, state and federal level and is a recent member of the Glenelg-Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, Victorian Economic, Environment and Social Advisory Council, and a current member of Greater Green Triangle Area Consultative Committee Good Governance Panel and the Natural Resources Conservation League. Lynn is also Chair of the Western Coastal Board. In April 2005 Lynn completed a solo walk of Victoria's coastline from the South Australian border to the New South Wales border. During the 103-day walk Lynn raised awareness about Victoria's coastline and assessed the feasibility of a state coastal walking trail.



### 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.





**Maggie Baron**

Maggie Baron is the director of Baron Planning and Projects P/L, a Melbourne based public policy, planning and heritage consultancy. She is a sessional member of Planning Panels Victoria and serves as a Panel member considering Planning Amendments and Environment Effects Statements. She has also been appointed to the MCG re-development and Barwon Heads Bridge ministerial advisory committees. Maggie has extensive experience in heritage, planning and cultural resource management and is a regular provider of professional development programs. She has also initiated professional development programs to build capacity in relation to Indigenous heritage management. Maggie has a strong commitment to governance and is the Deputy Chair of the Department of Primary Industry's audit and risk management steering committee.

**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. Ms Wolcott was Director of Natural Resources Policy at the Department of Primary Industries from 2003 -2007, Director of Policy at the Environment Protection Authority where she worked for some ten years, Manager of Environmental Policy at the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and has worked as a policy advisor for the Department of Premier and Cabinet. Ms Wolcott has significant experience in developing policy and strategy for natural resource and environmental issues, including developing a range of legislation and regulatory instruments as well as community engagement and change programs. She has also represented the State of Victoria on a range of national fora.

**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 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.

**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.



# eight: report on the implementation of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*

## Objectives of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*

1. 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;
2. To protect and maintain areas of environmental significance on the coast including its ecological, geomorphological, geological, cultural and landscape features;
3. To facilitate the development of a range of facilities for improved recreation and tourism;
4. To maintain and improve coastal water quality;
5. To improve public awareness and understanding of the coast and to involve the public in coastal planning and management.

## 8.1 Strategic Coastal Planning

### New Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS)

In 2008, the VCC finalised a draft of the VCS as required every 5 years by the *Coastal Management Act 1995*. Preparation of a draft VCS for the Government's consideration is the VCC's most significant legislated task related to its strategic planning role. In December 2008, the

Minister for Environment and Climate Change launched the new VCS as the Victorian Government's primary document to provide for the strategic planning and management of Victoria's coast.

The VCS provides a comprehensive integrated management framework for the coast of Victoria for the next 100 years and beyond, and provides policies and actions to guide decisions about its management over the next five years. The vision for the coast of Victoria identified in the strategy is "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."

The VCS contains a hierarchy of principles which sets the foundation of the strategy and guides planning and decision-making about land use and development on coastal private and Crown land, as well as in estuarine and marine waters. The principles stipulate that coastal resources are to be used in ways that are sustainable, and that resources are not to be harmed by exploitation or depletion below renewable levels.

As well as the hierarchy of principles, the VCS identifies three significant coastal issues facing our coast that require specific

attention. These are, climate change, population and growth, and marine ecological integrity.

### Implementation of the VCS 2008

The VCS lists 69 actions to be undertaken by various government departments and agencies, as well as the private sector and individuals. The Department of Sustainability and Environment is currently taking the lead role in supporting the implementation of the VCS and in developing an implementation plan that includes key performance indicators. The implementation plan is being produced in consultation with all agencies identified as a lead and/or partner agent for one or more of the actions within the VCS.

In response to the release of the Victorian Coastal Strategy, Planning Minister Justin Madden provided the following products:

### Update to clause 15.08 'Coastal Areas' (Gazetted 18 December 2008)

An amendment has been undertaken via scheme amendment VC52 to clause 15.08 'Coastal areas' of the State Planning Policy Framework. Gazetted of this amendment occurred on 18 December 2008. The amendment provides updated reference to appropriate coastal land-use planning policy and directions outlined within the revised VCS.





The amendment also aims to plan and manage coastal hazards and the coastal impacts of climate change by planning for sea level rise of not less than 0.8m by 2100.

### Ministerial Direction No.13: Managing coastal hazards and the coastal impacts of climate change

This Direction requires Planning Authorities within coastal areas to support new rezoning proposals with appropriate information and analysis of risks as part of a request to amend the planning scheme to rezone land from non-urban to urban. The Direction has been prepared to ensure transparency, consistency and provide direction in requesting Planning Authorities to comply with the policy positions within the amended clause 15.08.

### General Practice Note: Managing coastal hazards and the coastal impacts of climate change

A general practice note has been prepared to provide guidance to both planning and responsible authorities to support the amendment to the SPPF and the operation of the Ministerial Direction. The general practice note provides overarching guidance and factual explanations of coastal hazards, how climate change impacts on these and outlines in general terms how planning and responsible authorities can begin to respond.

### Planning Advisory Committee

An independent Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) is to be established under section 151 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The purpose of the PAC is to provide advice to the Minister for Planning on opportunities and gaps within the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP) and to consider appropriate and necessary responses to coastal climate change issues.

### 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 VCS 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 2008/09. The development status of these plans is outlined in Table 1. Further information regarding each individual CAP is provided in Section 9 under the individual RCB reports

### 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 155 plans relating to the management of Victoria's coast in the 2008/09 period. These plans are detailed in appendix 1.

## 8.2 Protecting the Environment

Providing for the protection of significant environmental and cultural values is the first of the hierarchy of principles within the VCS 2008. This hierarchy is about identifying then protecting, conserving, improving and restoring biological, ecological, physical and cultural integrity and diversity. Part 1 of the VCS details policies and actions to implement the first principle within the hierarchy. The areas for implementation include marine biodiversity and ecosystems, wetlands and estuaries, onshore biodiversity and ecosystems, catchment management and water quality, and cultural values and heritage.

Table 1

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	Implementation
CCB	Corio Bay CAP	Implementation
CCB	Western Port CAP	Preparation on hold
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.

### Future Coasts project

The Future Coasts project is being undertaken by the Victorian Government to assess the physical vulnerability of Victoria's coast to the impacts of sea level rise and extreme storm events. Part of the project involves Digital Elevation Modelling (DEM) of the entire coast of Victoria, including both topographic data and bathymetric data of the sea floor. The topographic data has now been completed and is available on the Victorian Government's Climate Change website ([www.climatechange.vic.gov.au](http://www.climatechange.vic.gov.au)). The bathymetry of the sea floor will be available early in 2010.

Upon completion, the Future Coasts program aims to develop policy and planning guidelines to address the projected climate change risk on the coast. The DEM data collected will identify areas susceptible to the impacts of climate change.

### Coast Action/Coastcare

Coast Action/Coastcare is a partnership program funded by both the State and Federal Governments. The program is designed to support and encourage those working to protect and enhance the Victorian coast. Coast Action/Coastcare supports the efforts of more than 20,000 coastal volunteers each year by providing technical assistance, organising training opportunities, producing 'Coastlines' a quarterly magazine, and hosting the annual 'Summer by the Sea' program which was attended by over 10,000 people over the 2008/09 summer.



### State of the Environment Report.

The State of the Environment Report was prepared by the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability and released on 4 December 2008. The report details the existing condition of Victoria's natural environment in four chapters, with one chapter labelled coasts, estuaries and the sea. There are specific actions listed to improve the health of the natural environment, and ensure Victoria's future prosperity and well-being. In relation to the coastal environment, the report identifies the coast as a highly modified environment, and states that it is Victorian's love of the coast that is placing more pressure on the environment. Actions in the report include reviewing the management arrangements for the coast, providing better support for coastal Committee's of Management, utilising aerial photography to estimate coastal vegetation cover and developing indicators to monitor the impacts of urbanisation on the coastal and marine environment.

### Land and Biodiversity White paper

The Land and Biodiversity White Paper will serve as a blueprint for looking after our land and biodiversity, and for responding to the environmental challenges that lie ahead. It will shape environmental policy and identify investment priorities in managing natural resources, land and aquatic health and biodiversity for the next two decades. The White Paper will also present ways to create management linkages between catchment activities and marine, estuarine and freshwater biodiversity to be built into regional catchment planning processes. It will set the direction for Victorian Government policy and investment priorities

in natural resource management, land health and biodiversity for the next 20-50 years. The White Paper will consider integrated natural resource management from the larger regional scale to the local and farm scale. The White Paper is due to be released in 2009.

### 8.3 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 for Environment and Climate Change. In 2008/09, 303 applications for the use and/or development of coastal Crown land were received and assessed by delegates of the Minister. Of the applications received, 226 were approved (Figure 1). The total value of applications approved is \$233,855,881.

Compared to the value of consents approved for the 2007/08 period, the past year saw an increase of 392% (figure 2). The vast increase in the value of applications is due to three large projects in the Western region with a combined value of approx. \$145mil. These projects were the use and development of a wind energy facility in Portland valued at \$80mil, use and development of a road bridge and foot bridge in Barwon Heads valued at \$40mil and a berth extension and woodchip loader in Geelong valued at \$25mil.

### 8.4 Maintaining and Improving Coastal Water Quality

Coastal water quality is dependant on a range of factors, many of which occur beyond the boundaries of the coastal landscape.

The VCC advocates for the application of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) which aims to maintain and restore or improve the quality of the coastal zone. Areas which have an impact on coastal water quality include regional catchments and surrounding Crown and private lands. The ongoing facilitation of partnerships between stakeholders is essential to achieving improved coastal water quality.

The VCS identifies the many values of Victoria's bays, inlets, estuaries and coastal waters. They provide for a range of uses including fishing, aquaculture, recreation, tourism and shipping as well as a range of ecosystem services. The VCS states that there have been improvements in the research undertaken to monitor and improve coastal water quality, but more is needed to ensure continual improvement.

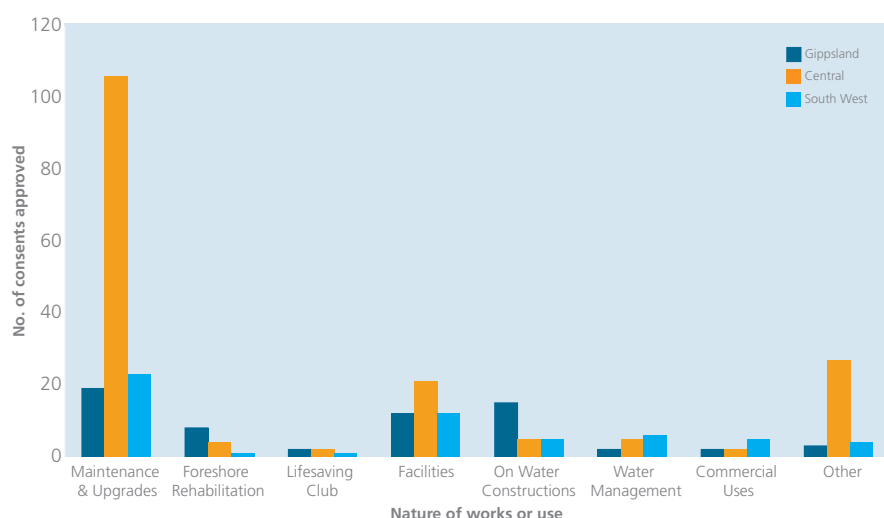
The VCS assigns a number of actions to protecting and improving the marine environment, wetlands and estuaries and catchment management and water quality. These actions include protecting, maintaining and improving coastal water quality, building our scientific understanding of the marine environment, ensuring that rivers are ecologically healthy and reducing the impact of effluent and stormwater discharge on the marine and estuarine environments.

### Coastal Acid Sulfate Soils

Coastal Acid Sulfate Soils (CASS) occur naturally and have been present for thousands of year. These soils are harmless if left undisturbed. However, increased human activity in coastal regions has lead to increased risk of disturbance of CASS. Disturbance of CASS can cause impacts on



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



#### DSE's Reef and Seagrass Program for Port Phillip Bay

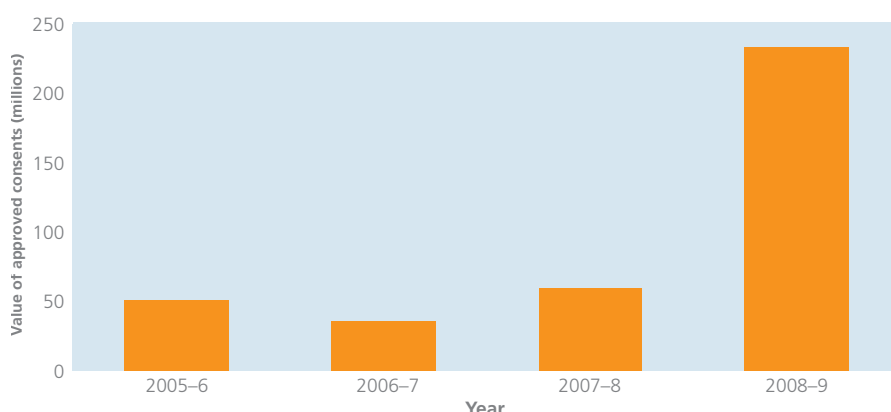
This program aims to improve the management of Port Phillip Bay's seagrass and temperate reefs by improving our scientific understanding of these natural ecosystems. The program will include a research program which will improve the knowledge and understanding of seagrass and reef habitats, and threats to them. To aid in the implementation of the program, DSE will form a Research and Science Advisory Committee (RSAC) to be an independent technical advisory group. The RSAC will incorporate members of the VCC's Science Panel.

### 8.5 Increasing Awareness and Understanding of Coastal Issues

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

- Delivering presentations at universities, conferences and meetings
- Continuing to develop and promote the Coastlinks web portal as a one-stop-shop for accessing information about Victoria's coastal and marine environment and management. Council notes that the Coastlinks website has been accessed 69,801 times in 2008\09. ([www.coastlinks.vic.gov.au](http://www.coastlinks.vic.gov.au))
- Recognising excellence through the Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence
- Hosting the Victorian Coastal Forum
- 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 105,724 times in 2008/09.

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



the environment, infrastructure and human health. CASS-related incidents are often difficult and costly to mitigate and damage is irreversible.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment released a draft CASS Strategy to protect the environment, humans and infrastructure from the effects which can

occur if CASS is disturbed. The strategy explains why CASS is a management issue in Victoria and promotes a risk identification and assessment process. The Strategy aims to protect the environment, humans and infrastructure from the harmful effects which can occur if CASS is disturbed.



BATHING BOXES – BRIGHTON BEACH (I. WALTON)

# nine: regional coastal boards

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

Regional Coastal Boards continue to play a significant role in coastal planning and management in their regions by facilitating outcomes and participating in a wide range of initiatives led by partner agencies and stakeholders.

## 9.1 Western Coastal Board (WCB)

Victoria's western coastal region covers some 476km of coast 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, Moyne Shire, Warrnambool City and the Glenelg Shire.



### 9.1.1 Strategic Coastal Planning

#### Boating CAP

The WCB progressed the development of a Boating CAP during the year. An Existing Conditions and Issues Paper was released in late 2008 and public consultation sessions were held throughout the region. The Steering Committee and Stakeholder Reference Group provided the WCB with a Draft Boating CAP in June, which the WCB endorsed for public exhibition in 2009-10.

#### CAP Reviews

Statutory 5-year reviews of CAPs were commenced in January 2009. The process included consultation with lead agents for CAP actions on the progress of actions and the qualitative aspects of CAP implementation. A call for public submissions was also made as required by the *Coastal Management Act 1995*. The reviews are expected to be completed in late 2009.

#### Regional and Local CAPs

A range of CAPs exist in the region which translate the VCS 1997 and VCS 2002 at the local level and are implemented by land managers and agencies. These CAPs are identified in Table 1.

- Two Regional CAPs for South West and Central West Victoria progress integrated coastal zone management at a sub-regional scale
- Two Estuary CAPs provide the framework for estuary management planning
- Six local CAPs apply to Glenelg Shire, Moyne Shire, Warrnambool City, Skenes Creek to Marengo, Lorne and Anglesea.

### 9.1.2 Implementation of the VCS, CAP's and Guidelines

#### Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008 Information Sessions

To build awareness and support implementation of the new VCS 2008, the WCB conducted a range of activities including:

- A regional program of awareness raising on the new VCS 2008 in March, April and May. Sessions were held throughout the region for practitioners, elected/appointed representatives and the public in each municipality.
- A dedicated VCS session with Corangamite Shire Council in March 2009
- The Chair held VCS sessions with Glenelg and Warrnambool Councils, the Glenelg Hopkins CMA Board, Opposition Whip David Koch and Sustainability Commissioner Ian McPhail.
- The Executive Officer made presentations to the Barwon South West Regional Managers Forum, the South West Sustainability Partnership and the Glenelg Hopkins Coastal and Marine Technical Working Group.
- The Coastal Priorities project included a range of workshops targeting the VCS with technical and professional officers and CEOs in November 2008

#### Other activities

Collaborative approaches to implementation of the VCS were discussed with the Coastal Partnerships Group of the WCB and the Corangamite CMA.

The Board participated on the VCS Implementation Committee.

### 9.1.3 Increasing awareness and understanding of coastal issues

#### Advice given to Minister and VCC

The WCB provided the Minister with advice regarding the process to be employed for review of CAPs, and presented the Minister with a 2006-09 Term Report on activities and achievements. The Chair held regular meetings with the Hon Michael Crutchfield MP, Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment and Water. Advice was provided to and sought from the VCC on a range of issues.

#### Responses to statutory planning issues

The WCB participates in a range of strategic and statutory land use planning issues. The views of the WCB are sought for coastal development matters through the WCB's inclusion in four of the six local planning schemes in the region, and advice was provided on a range of issues. A key formal matter was the WCB's presentation to the Panel for the Griffith Street subdivision in Port Fairy.

#### Submissions to Government documents

The WCB provided submissions and feedback to the following federal, state and local initiatives:

- National Inquiry on climate change and communities.
- Victorian Competition and Consumer Commission Inquiry into Environmental Regulation.
- Land and Biodiversity at a time of Climate Change Green Paper
- Parliamentary Inquiry into the Future of Melbourne's Water Supply
- Premier's Discussion Paper: A Climate of Opportunity

#### WCB initiatives

- The Coastal Priorities for Western Victoria: Coastal Planning and NRM project attracted significant interest and participation from stakeholders through officer and CEO workshops and a series of working groups. The project seeks to establish regional priorities and promote effective collaboration.



- Final allocations were made for the Corangamite Coastal Dune Rehabilitation Program to groups for on-ground coastal projects
- Briefings with Councillors and the public at Western Coastal Sessions events held with Surf Coast Shire (September 2008) and Corangamite Shire (March 2009)
- A regional workshop to facilitate collaboration for Caring for Our Country projects
- The EO presented to the Coast to Coast 2008 National Conference on "Social and Economic: the glass ceiling of sustainability".

#### Partnership/Stakeholder initiatives involving WCB

The WCB 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 Coast and Marine Technical Working Group
- Financial contribution to development of the Kanawinka Coast project bid with Glenelg Shire and others for Caring for Our Country funding.
- The WCB has established a Coastal Partnerships Group with Corangamite CMA
- Barwon SW Regional Managers Forum
- Active engagement with the Regional Planning Initiative and DPCD
- Committed to engaging in the Torquay 2040 initiative with Surf Coast Shire
- Members and staff attended a range of events such as the national Coast to Coast 2008 Conference, and the MAV Coastal Climate Change Forum
- CCMA Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Strategy
- Glenelg Strategic Futures Plan
- Portland Wind Energy Stage 4
- Support for funding applications to support a wide range of projects in the region

## 9.2 Central Coastal Board (CCB)

The central region of the Victorian coast spans 500 kilometres, from Breamlea to Inverloch.



It is backed by hinterland catchments of 1.6 million hectares. The region is highly urbanised with Melbourne and Geelong having a combined population of over 4 million. It includes 13 coastal municipalities.

The region's coastal and marine environments facilitate a variety of highly valued uses such as attractive residential areas, coastal and water-based recreation, tourism, major and local ports, fishing and industry.

### 9.2.1 Strategic Coastal Planning

Under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, Coastal Action Plans (CAPs) are the key statutory mechanism available to the Board for implementing the VCS in the region. There are three CAPs that currently apply to the central region:

#### Boating Coastal Action Plan

The Boating CAP aims to provide a vision for the future use and improvement of the boating network within the central region.

This year the CCB undertook a comprehensive review of the Boating CAP and prepared a progress report to direct the Implementation Committee and provide input to the Bays and Maritime Initiative led by Parks Victoria. The progress report shows that overall much has been achieved. Nearly half of the actions in the Boating CAP are complete or on track. The CCB also undertook a survey to identify the location of current re-fuelling facilities in Port Phillip and Western Port.

The implementation of the Boating CAP requires significant cross-agency cooperation and also the harnessing of adequate resources to maintain existing facilities and progressively upgrade facilities in the priority locations.

#### Mount Eliza to Point Nepean Coastal Action Plan

The Mount Eliza to Point Nepean CAP addresses the challenge of managing high demands for recreational use along the Mornington Peninsula. It provides a framework for assessing coastal dependent use and net community benefit and proposes alternative traffic management and car parking options.

This year the CCB planning committee reconsidered the actions in this CAP. It will work closely with Mornington Peninsula Shire to determine the current priorities for implementing the CAP prior to undertaking a full CAP review in 2010.

#### Corio Bay Coastal Action Plan

The Corio Bay CAP is a sub-regional planning document for the coastal areas around Corio Bay. It has two key planning components – a strategic action plan and a series of 12 precinct plans. Implementation of this CAP is considered largely complete, although the CCB will meet with Council to identify any outstanding actions that may be completed in the next few months prior to a comprehensive CAP review in 2010.

### 9.2.2 Implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS)

To aid in the implementation of the VCS, the CCB hosted two major public information forums to discuss and promote the VCS in Melbourne and Geelong. The 120 participants were given the opportunity to hear from and engage with industry figures and policy makers on the strategy, consider the government agencies responses and the challenges of implementation.

The release of the VCS in December 2008 resulted in the CCB projects committee giving careful consideration of the actions that will need to be incorporated into the Board's business plan for 2009/12.

### 9.2.3 Increasing awareness and understanding of coastal issues

#### Advice given to the Minister and VCC

Fundamental to the strategic role of the CCB is the provision of advice to the Minister for Environment and Climate Change and the VCC. The CCB provided advice to the Minister on two occasions this year: the review of the Port Phillip Bay Environmental Management Plan; and, advocating for a benchmarking study of Western Port's ecology and high level steering committee to improve integration of activities.

#### CCB initiatives

The CCB undertook two significant initiatives to improve the condition and management



of Victoria's coastal and marine environments this year. It obtained Commonwealth grant funding for a two-year collaborative project to identify and manage critical habitat for waterbirds in the Western Port Ramsar site. To date, the CCB has hosted two information sessions on the project to raise community awareness and seek participation from management agencies. A steering committee has been formed to oversee the project.

The CCB was contracted by the Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority (PPWCMA) to build the capacity within the coastal community to apply for Commonwealth grant funding i.e. previously Envirofund now the 'Caring for our Country' program. As part of this project, the CCB hosted six information sessions in conjunction with Coast Action/Coastcare attended by over 60 people. The sessions provided networking opportunities and assisted in the 25 project applications submitted from the central region.

The community capacity building project was extended to focus on Western Port. Its completion this year included a forum for over 100 stakeholders highlighting Western Port's key biodiversity assets and current research.

Networking and good communication with local government representatives, stakeholders and interest groups is important to the CCB. This year the CCB upgraded its website and extended circulation of its bimonthly newsletter, 'About the Bays' to over 570 people.

### Responses to planning applications

While the Board recognises that local planning is integral to the implementation of the VCS, the CCB is not a statutory referral agency and it limits involvement at this level. Response to planning applications in 2008-09 included:

- City of Greater Geelong for Amendment C159 to the Barwon Heads Structure Plan
- Environmental Effects Statement for the Desalination Plant
- Environmental Effects Statement for the proposed Golf Club development at Point Lonsdale

- siting of the ex HMAS Canberra proposed dive site
- retention of the Tyrone Boat Ramp as an informal facility.

### Submissions to Government documents

Throughout the year the CCB provided input to a number of strategies and plans through steering committee representation and submissions. Strategies include:

- Victorian Government 'A Climate of Opportunity Summit Paper'
- Draft Strategy for Coastal Acid Sulfate Soils (CASS) in Victoria
- Better Bays and Waterways Draft Management Plan
- The Federal Panel of Inquiry into Climate Change and Coastal Communities.
- Partnership/Stakeholder initiatives involving CCB
- The CCB provided letters of support for a number of Caring for our Country – Community Coastcare grant applications to the Australian Government.

## 9.3 Gippsland Coastal Board (GCB)

The Gippsland coast extends approximately 700km between San Remo at the eastern end of Western

Port and Mallacoota near the New South Wales border. The Gippsland coast remains in a largely natural state, being characterised by diverse natural environments, including important habitat for flora and fauna species protected by national parks, reserves and public foreshore land.



### 9.3.1 Strategic Coastal Planning

#### Gippsland Lakes Coastal Action Plan

The Gippsland Lakes Coastal Action Plan details actions to be undertaken by a wide range of organisations, and also sets the long-term objectives and strategic direction for land managers in the Gippsland lakes region and the wider catchment. The CAP aims to provide for future commercial uses without compromising the environment that makes Gippsland Lakes so attractive. Produced in 1999, this CAP was produced to incorporate the recommendations and

policies in the 1997 VCS and is currently being reviewed.

#### Gippsland Estuaries Coastal Action Plan

The Gippsland Estuaries Coastal Action Plan was developed in order to protect and address the values and risks to the Gippsland region's estuaries and provide a strategic framework to improve the quality, consistency and efficiency of planning decisions that relate to them. The framework identifies management and planning themes and links them to specific management actions for individual estuarine areas. The CAP was produced in 2006 and incorporates the policy statements within the 2002 VCS.

#### Gippsland Boating Coastal Action Plan

The Gippsland Boating Coastal Action Plan provides a vision for the development of safe and environmentally friendly boating in Gippsland and establishes objectives for management. The CAP provides an assessment of the condition of existing boating facilities and recommends additional infrastructure or refurbishment where

appropriate. The CAP was produced in 2002. A report on boating infrastructure needs for the Gippsland Lakes - the Boating Amenity and Sustainable Infrastructure (BASIS) study – was

completed in 2008. Funds are being sought to review the CAP in the light of the BASIS report

#### Integrated Coastal Planning for Gippsland Coastal Action Plan

The Integrated Coastal Planning for Gippsland - Coastal Action Plan provides for an integrated approach to coastal planning in Gippsland and will help ensure that coastal development occurs in a sustainable manner. The CAP provides the basis for achieving integrated decisions and consistent planning outcomes by outlining a coastal policy for local Government in Gippsland and includes a vision and objectives for coastal planning and a series of policies and actions to achieve these objectives. The CAP was produced in 2002 and is currently being reviewed.



AVOCETS (GCB), ANDERSON INLET (GCB), EAGLE POINT JETTY (GCB)



### 9.3.2 Implementation of the VCS, CAPs and Guidelines

The GCB has aided the implementation of the VCS in the Gippsland region by holding practitioner and councillor consultation information sessions and workshops throughout the region. Presentations on the VCS have been given to three directly affected councils by the Chair of the GCB.

Through its representation on the Gippsland Lakes and Catchment Taskforce the GCB has supported the ongoing implementation of the Gippsland Lakes Future Directions Action Plan. This saw the allocation of \$2M in 2007/08 for a range of projects aimed at improving the water quality of the Gippsland Lakes.

In response to the launch of the newest VCS in December 2008, the GCB is currently reviewing 3 of its CAP's, the Gippsland Boating CAP, Gippsland Lakes CAP and the Integrated Coastal Planning CAP. To facilitate this process, the GCB has held a number of meetings and workshops with stakeholders. Review of CAPs is being done in consultation with traditional owners, the Gunai-Kurnai people. The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* is being observed, as will coastal aspects of the current Gunai Kurnai native title claim when settled.

### 9.3.3 Increasing awareness and understanding of coastal issues

#### Responses to planning applications

The GCB remains active in the strategic planning of the Gippsland area by keeping informed of relevant planning permit applications made to local councils. The GCB has considered the strategic implications of development proposals, and provided responses to the decision-making processes when appropriate.

#### Submissions to Government documents

The GCB presented to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Climate Change, Water, Environment and The Arts inquiry into climate change and coastal communities.

GCB responded to the following planning applications:

- Oneonta Eco Centre, Lake Tyers Beach
- Planning ammendment C68, East Gippsland Shire Council
- Planning ammendments C45 and C46, South Gippsland Shire Council
- Planning ammendment C50, Wellington Shire Council'.

Other submissions include:

- Green Paper on Land and Biodiversity at a Time of Climate Change
- Environmental Effects Statement - Wonthaggi Desalination Plant
- Climate Change summit paper.

#### GCB initiatives

The GCB has undertaken a number of projects and initiatives to deliver better outcomes for the region in the coastal and marine environments and inform the community of local issues. These include completing visual tools of flood impacts for Loch Sport and Anderson Inlet communities, hosting an interactive forum 'Options for Adapting to Climate Change on the Gippsland coast' in September 2008 and delivering presentations to a range of community groups, local governments, agencies and organisations on various coastal issues.

#### Partnership/Stakeholder initiatives involving RCB

The GCB worked closely with stakeholders to provide support for a range of projects aimed to improve the management and quality of the coastal and marine environment. These include, but are not limited to:

- Supporting Wellington Shire Council in the development of its program to address inappropriate coastal subdivisions along the 90-Mile Beach.
- Participating in the steering committee for the Lakes Entrance Integrated Planning Project (LEIPP).
- Providing representation on the Executive of the Gippsland Integrated Natural Resources Forum (GINRF), and making significant contributions to the development of GINRF's annual Natural

Resources Report Card and GINRF's submission on the Land and Biodiversity Green Paper.

- Ongoing contributions to project development for RCIP bids relating to coastal and marine management.
- Attending meetings and engaging with DSE Wildlife Officers in issues relating to the health of the resident dolphin populations in the Gippsland Lakes.
- Contributing and participating in a steering committee to develop foreshore dune management/protection strategies for the Seaspray dunes
- Meeting with East and West Gippsland Catchment Management Authorities to discuss a coastal and marine inventory VIF project proposal.
- Working with DSE, East Gippsland and Wellington Shires on identifying appropriate opportunities for improving boating facilities around the Gippsland Lakes through the BASIS study.
- Participated in the Metung Marina steering committee.
- Providing direction and advice as part of the Steering Committee developing the Gippsland Lakes Environmental Water Reserve project that seeks to determine the fresh water flow requirements for the Gippsland lakes.
- Being instrumental in establishing and supporting the development of a Corner Inlet Coordination Committee that will allow the alignment of strategic directions of NRM agencies operating in the Corner Inlet catchment and the opportunity to improve the delivery of services that will improve catchment and inlet health.
- The Board provided substantial support for the handling of the extensive Gippsland Lakes algal bloom via the East Gippsland Blue Green Algae Regional Response Group.

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](mailto:enquiries@vcc.vic.gov.au)

Website [www.vcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.vcc.vic.gov.au)

**Chair** Libby Mears

**Executive Officer** David Harper

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

Employment	2008–2009			2007–2008		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
Type						
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
Total	1.5	1	2.5	1.5	1	2.5

**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 the VCC 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 and Contracts

In 2008/09 the VCC engaged one consultant with a total cost of \$20,000.

During 2008/09 the VCC did not enter into any major contracts as defined by the Department of Treasury and Finance guidelines.

## 10.4 Publications

Council produced the following publications during the year:

- Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008 – available on the VCC website
- Annual report 2007/08 – available on the VCC website
- Media releases – available on website

During 2008/09 the VCC's major promotional activities were the tenth Victorian Coastal Awards for Excellence (April 2009) and the Victorian Coastal Forum (April 2009).

## 10.5 National Competition Policy

The VCC 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 VCC has no competitive advantages.

## 10.6 Freedom of Information (FOI)

The Freedom of Information Act 1982 allows the public a right of access to documents held by the VCC. The VCC 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 for 2008/09 is payable. No FOI requests were made to the VCC in this business year. 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: [privacy.enquiries@dse.vic.gov.au](mailto:privacy.enquiries@dse.vic.gov.au)

## 10.7 Employment and Conduct

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*.

## 10.8 Women, Youth and Indigenous Affairs

The VCC is committed to involving Victoria's community, including women, youth and indigenous Victorians in the management and enjoyment of the coast. The VCC identifies actions to implement Indigenous cultural outcomes and to improve communications with Aboriginal communities in coastal areas, while VCC's business plan includes actions to strengthen community involvement in coastal planning and management. In addition, the VCC operates in an environment ensuring equity in processes and participation with stakeholders.

## 10.9 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 VCC 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 Berenson, Manager, Privacy and Ombudsman liaison

Department of Sustainability and Environment

PO Box 500, East Melbourne Vic 3002.

Email: [privacy.enquiries@dse.vic.gov.au](mailto:privacy.enquiries@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 2008/09.

## 10.11 Overseas travel

No overseas travel was conducted in 2008/09.

## 10.12 Building Act 1993

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



# eleven: council expenditure

## 11.1 Expenditure

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

Financial operations of the VCC 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 2009 and it is considered unnecessary for the VCC to have a separate audit committee.

The table below shows the operating expenditure of the VCC for the 2008/09

financial year, compared with the 2007/08 financial year.

Expenditure	2008– 2009	2007– 2008
Council Operation (includes all sitting fees and reimbursements, secretariat expenses, training and items such as annual report, consultants and events).	\$212,125	\$179,096

## 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 2008/2009 Annual Report of the VCC is prepared in accordance with all relevant Victorian legislation. This index has been prepared to facilitate identification of the VCC's compliance with statutory disclosure requirements.

Legislation	Requirement	Page Reference
<b>Ministerial Directions</b>		
<b>Report of Operations – FRD Guidance</b>		
<b>Charter and purpose</b>		
FRD 22B	Manner of establishment and the relevant Ministers	7
FRD 22B	Objectives, functions, powers and duties	7
FRD 22B	Nature and range of services provided	7–9
<b>Management and structure</b>		
FRD 22B	Organisational structure	8
<b>Financial and other information</b>		
FRD 10	Disclosure index	22
FRD 12A	<i>Disclosure of major contracts</i>	20
FRD 15B	<i>Executive officer disclosures</i>	NA
FRD 22B	Operational and budgetary objectives and performance against objectives	12–15
FRD 22B	Employment and conduct principles	20
FRD 22B	Occupational health and safety policy*	22
FRD 22B	Summary of the financial results for the year	Not disclosed
FRD 22B	Significant changes in financial position during the year	21
FRD 22B	Major changes or factors affecting performance	21
FRD 22B	Subsequent events	21
FRD 22B	Application and operation of <i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>	20
FRD 22B	Compliance with building and maintenance provisions of <i>Building Act 1993</i>	20
FRD 22B	Statement on National Competition Policy	20
FRD 22B	Application and operation of the <i>Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001</i>	20
FRD 22B	Details of consultancies over \$100 000	N/A
FRD 22B	Details of consultancies under \$100 000	20
FRD 22B	Statement of availability of other information	22
FRD 24C	Reporting of office based environmental impacts	DSE Report
FRD 25	Victorian Industry Participation Policy disclosures	21
FRD 29	<i>Workforce Data disclosures</i>	20
SD 4.5.5	Risk management compliance attestation	Not disclosed
SD 4.2(j)	Sign-off requirements	7
<b>Legislation</b>		
	<i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>	20
	<i>Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001</i>	20
	<i>Victorian Industry Participation Policy Act 2003</i>	21
	<i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>	22
	<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 one: other coastal plans

Region	Title of plan	Status	Developed by
Western	Colac and Apollo Bay Car Parking Study	Developing – Expect completion 2010	Colac Otway 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	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation C55 (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Completed	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Colac Otway Shire Rural Living Study	Developing	Colac Otway Shire
Western	Colac Structure Plan – PSA Implementation C55 (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Colac Otway 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	Curdies River Estuary Management Plan	Developing	Corangamite and Moyne Shire Councils
Western	Corangamite Region Wetland Strategy	Complete	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA)
Western	Corangamite Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Strategy	Draft	Corangamite CMA
Western	Corangamite Native Vegetation Plan	Complete	Corangamite 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	Painkalac Creek Environmental Flow Determination	Complete	Corangamite CMA
Western	Southern Victorian Native Fish Strategy	Complete	Corangamite CMA leading on behalf of five coastal CMA's and Melbourne Water
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Not commenced	Corangamite Shire
Western	Princetown Urban Design Framework (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Developing	Corangamite Shire
Western	Corangamite Fishery Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Department of Primary Industries
Western	Glenelg Hopkins Fishery Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Department of Primary Industries
Western	Portland Aquaculture Fisheries Reserves Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Department of Primary Industries
Western	Kooyang Sea Country	Complete	Framingham Aboriginal Trust and Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation
Western	Flood Study for Port Fairy	Developing	GHCMA & Moyne
Western	Fitzroy Estuary Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Glenelg Hopkins River Health Strategy	Completed/Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Glenelg River Estuary Management Plan	Completed/ Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Hopkins River Estuary Management Plan	Completed/ Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Merri Estuary Management Plan	Completed/ Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	South Warrnambool Flood Study PSA Implementation C44	Complete	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Surry Estuary Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Surry River Flood Study	Complete	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Yambuk Lake Estuary Management Plan	Completed/Approved	Glenelg Hopkins CMA
Western	Coastal Hazards and Engineering Study (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Developing	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Commenced	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Environmental Strategic Framework	Developing	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Glenelg Environment Strategy	Developing	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Glenelg Strategic Futures Plan	Seeking public comment	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Portland Bay Coastal Infrastructure Plan	Complete	Glenelg Shire Council
Western	Futurescapes – Climate Change Demonstrator Project	Commenced	Glenelg Shire Council and Department of Primary Industries
Western	Environment and Land Management Plan	Complete	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Western	Torquay Foreshore Masterplan	Complete	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Western	Weed Control and Native Vegetation Action Plan	Complete	Great Ocean Road Coast Committee of Management
Western	Belfast Lough Environmental Management Plan	Complete	Moyne Shire
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation C29 (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Public exhibition complete.	Moyne Shire
Western	Environmental Sustainability Strategy	Complete/approved	Moyne Shire
Western	Peterborough UDG Amendment	Developing	Moyne Shire
Western	The Crags Management Plan	Complete	Moyne Shire
Western	Tower Hill Design Guidelines (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Underway	Moyne Shire
Western	Port Fairy East Beach Coastal Erosion Engineering & Feasibility Study	Developing/Rec'd by Council subject to technical peer review	Moyne Shire & DSE
Western	Discovery Bay Marine National Park Draft Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Great Otway National Park and Otway Forest Park Management Plan	Developing	Parks Victoria
Western	Indigenous Partnership Strategy	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Marengo Reefs Marine Sanctuary Draft Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Merri Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Point Addis Marine National Park, Point Danger Marine Sanctuary and Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Twelve Apostles Marine National Park and The Arches Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Complete	Parks Victoria
Western	Anglesea River & Estuary Management Plan	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Anglesea Riverbank Master Plan	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Bells Beach Masterplan Review	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via ESAS)	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Deep Creek Master Plan	Completed/Approved	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Painkalac Creek Estuary Management Plan	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Pathway strategy	Complete	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Pollution Source Investigation for Lorne	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Spring Creek Structure Plan	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Torquay / Jan Juc Structure Plan – PSA Implementation (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Complete/ PSA C37 on exhibition	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Torquay North Development Plan	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Torquay West Growth Area (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Underway	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Waste Water Management Plan	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
Western	Wastewater Management Plan – Moggs Creek	Developing	Surf Coast Shire
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	Water Supply Demand Strategy 2007 - 2055	Completed June 2007	Wannon Water
Western	50 year Biodiversity and Land Management Strategy	Completed May 2009	Wannon Water
Western	Sustainability Strategy	Completed June 2008	Wannon Water
Western	Allansford Structure Plan (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Underway	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Beach Cleaning Management Plan	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Coastal Design and Logans Beach Review	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Environmental Sustainability Strategy	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Hopkins Point Road Structure Plan (Coastal Spaces Funded via RDV)	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
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	Merri Street Design Guidelines	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Rural Settlement Strategy	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	South Warrnambool Wetlands Management Plan	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Warrnambool Coastal Landscape Review	Developing	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Warrnambool Foreshore Management Plan	Completed	Warrnambool City Council
Western	Port Fairy – Warrnambool Rail Trail	Developing	Warrnambool City Council & the Moyne Shire
Central	Abalone Fishery MP (2002)	Review	DPI Fisheries
Central	Anderson Inlet Fisheries reserve Coastal MP (2006)	Implementation	DPI Fisheries
Central	Balnarring Foreshore reserve Coastal MP	In preparation	Balnarring Foreshore and Parks Reserve CoM
Central	Barwon Bluff Marine Sanctuary MP (2007)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Barwon Coast Coastal MP (2008)	Implementation	Barwon Coast CoM
Central	Bellarine Bayside Landscape MP (1998)	Implementation	Bellarine Bayside Foreshore CoM
Central	Bellarine Bayside Draft Strategic Plan (2009)	Draft	Bellarine Bayside Foreshore CoM
Central	Brighton Foreshore MP	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Central	Buckley Park Coastal MP Vegetation Strategy (2005)	Implementation	City of greater Geelong
Central	Bunurong Marine national park MP (2006)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Capel Sound Coastal MP (2008)	Implementation	Capel Sound Foreshores Reserve CoM
Central	Corangamite Fishery MP (2008)	Implementation	DPI Fisheries
Central	Clifton Springs Coastal MP (2008)	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Eastern Port Phillip Bay Aquaculture Fisheries MP (2005)	Implementation	DPI Fisheries
Central	Flinders Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve MP (2005)	Implementation	DPI Fisheries
Central	Flinders Foreshore Reserve Coastal MP (2008)	Draft	Parks Victoria
Central	French Island National Park MP (1998)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Geelong Arm Aquaculture Fisheries reserve MP (2005)	Implementation	DPI Fisheries
Central	Hampton Foreshore Master Plan	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Central	Hastings South Foreshore Coastal MP (2009)	Draft	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Central	Jawbone Marine Sanctuary MP (2007)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Kingston Coastal MP (2008)	Implementation	Kingston City Council
Central	Limeburners Bay MP Stage 1 Review (2008)	Draft	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Mornington Coastal MP (2009)	In preparation	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Central	Mornington Peninsula National Park MP (1998)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Mt Eliza Foreshore Reserve Coastal MP (2004)	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Central	Mushroom Reef Marine Sanctuary MP (2007)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Pinnace Channel Aquaculture Fisheries Reserve MP	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Point Adias Marine National Park, Point danger and Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary MP (2005)	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Point Cooke Marine Sanctuary MP (2007)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Point Henry Foreshore MP (2006)	Implementation	City of Greater Geelong
Central	Point Nepean National Park and Point Nepean Quarantine Station MP (2009)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park MP (2006)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Port Phillip (Western Shoreline) & Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar Site Strategic MP (2003)	Implementation	DSE
Central	Port Phillip – Local Port Safety and Environment MP (2005)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Portsea Foreshore Reserve Coastal MP (2004)	Implementation	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Central	Queenscliffe Coastal MP (2006)	Implementation	Borough of Queenscliffe
Central	Rosebud Coastal MP (2009)	In preparation	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Central	Ricketts Point Marine Sanctuary MP (2005)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Central	Sandringham Foreshore Master Plan (1998)	Implementation	Bayside City Council
Central	Victorian Giant Crab Fishery MP (2003)	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Victorian Rock Lobster Fishery MP (2009)	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Central	Williamstown Foreshore Strategic Plan (1999)	Implementation	Parks Victoria & Hobsons Bay City council
Central	Western Port marine National parks MP (2007)	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Eastern	Andersons Inlet Fisheries Reserve Management Plan	Implementation	DPI Fisheries Victoria
Eastern	Beware Reef Marine Sanctuary Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Eastern	Cape Howe Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Eastern	Corner Inlet Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Eastern	East Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy	Under Review	East Gippsland CMA
Eastern	Lakes Entrance Integrated Planning Project	Developing	DSE/EGSC *
Eastern	Lake Wellington Wetlands Management Plan	Under Review	Parks Victoria
Eastern	Loch Sport Crown Reserves Management Plan	Developing	DSE/CoM
Eastern	Mallacoota Inlet Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DSE/EGSC
Eastern	Marlay Point Foreshore Management Plan	Developing	DSE/CoM
Eastern	Metung Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DSE/EGSC
Eastern	Newlands Arm Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DSE/EGSC
Eastern	Ninety Mile Beach Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Eastern	Point Hicks Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Eastern	Sandy Point Foreshore Management Plan	Developing	DSE/CoM
Eastern	Shallow Inlet Foreshore Management Plan	Developing	DSE/CoM
Eastern	Tamboon Inlet Foreshore Management Plan	Implementation	DSE/EGSC
Eastern	Walkerville Foreshore Management Plan	Under Review	DSE/CoM
Eastern	West Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy	Under Review	West Gippsland CMA
Eastern	Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park Management Plan	Implementation	Parks Victoria
Eastern	Woodside Beach Foreshore Management Plan	Developing	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)

