



Bellarine
Bayside
Coastal Management

Northern Bellarine Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Draft for consultation December 2019

Acknowledgements

Traditional Owners

Bellarine Bayside acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the northern Bellarine, the land on which we work and live.

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

We recognise the intrinsic spiritual, cultural, economic, social and environmental connection Traditional Owners share with the land and waters.

We acknowledge the ongoing contribution of Traditional Owners in the management of the natural landscape and our built environments, and we value genuine partnerships with Wadawurrung to achieve effective management of our coastal regions.

The northern Bellarine coast is rich with Aboriginal cultural heritage and histories of Wadawurrung peoples. We are committed to the protection of significant sites as well as respecting intangible cultural heritage of Wadawurrung people.

Contributors

Bellarine Bayside recognises the invaluable contributions, support and commitment of many people who worked with us to develop this Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP).

We thank members of the northern Bellarine community, including community associations, representative groups, local residents, holiday-makers, campers and foreshore user groups, especially those who took the time to attend Listening Posts and provide feedback through the online survey.

We are grateful for contribution from agency partners including Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Parks Victoria, the City of Greater Geelong, Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation and the Marine and Coastal Council.

The contributions of many others are also acknowledged, including individuals and organisations who provided access to reports and other information or made submissions. Special thanks go to Bellarine Bayside staff, the CMMP sub-committee of Bellarine Bayside Committee of Management.

A full list of individuals that have provided input are listed in Appendix 1.

Acronyms

ACHLMA	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Management Agreement
BBV	Better Boating Victoria
CAS	Camping and Accommodation Strategy
CCMA	Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
CCCAP	Climate Change Coastal Adaptation Plan
CMMP	Coastal and Marine Management Plan
CoGG	City of Greater Geelong
CoM	Committee of Management
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
PPF	Port Phillip Ferries
PV	Parks Victoria
PWC	Personal watercraft (jet ski)
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party
RDV	Regional Development Victoria
VFA	Victorian Fisheries Authority
WAC	Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation (trading as 'Wadawurrung')

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Foreword

Chair

On behalf of Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management, I am pleased to present the Draft Northern Bellarine Coastal and Marine Management Plan, for the coastal areas along the 17-kilometre expanse of foreshore reserve from Portarlington to St Leonards.

The northern Bellarine foreshore is an area that holds a special connection for many people and is well used and loved by residents, holiday-makers and visitors. It has a long history as a popular summer holiday location, and an even longer history for the Wadawurrung people who are the Traditional Custodians of the land. The area has a proud and growing reputation for vibrant events and festivals, and as a desirable and accessible tourist destination.

This plan has been developed in consultation with our community, key partner agencies and a wide range of organisations and individuals who play a role or have an interest in the future of the northern Bellarine foreshore and Port Phillip Bay. It provides strategic guidance for the future management, use and development by articulating our vision, goals and actions for the period 2020 to 2025. It builds upon the previous plan (*Northern Bellarine Foreshore Plan 2012*) and its achievements, and is updated to meet the requirements of the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* (Victorian Government legislation). The impacts of the increasing popularity of the northern Bellarine, both residential and as a tourist destination, as well as the effects of climate change on the foreshore are a key focus of the plan. It responds to current and emerging challenges and aims to balance recreational and commercial use of the foreshore while protecting environmental and cultural values for generations to come.

The area covered by this plan contains important coastal habitat for a range of indigenous flora and fauna. The Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve is one of the last stands of native vegetation on the Bellarine and provides habitat to a variety of important species such as the endangered Growling Grass Frog. The unique coastal environment, including sheltered beaches, saltmarsh and wetlands also provides habitat for protected migratory birds and the resident Red-capped Plover. The plan guides a collaborative approach to enhancing habitats while enabling connectivity with the neighbouring marine environment and coastal reserves, with the aim of improving environmental stability and species diversity.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the creation of the plan, the many community members who provided feedback and ideas, our key partner agencies and our Bellarine Bayside staff. I am excited about seeing this plan come to life over the next five years as we work together to ensure the sustainability of Bellarine Bayside's operations, while achieving each of the goals and priorities for the benefit of the natural environment, community and visitors to the region.

Melanie Rogers

Chair, Bellarine Bayside

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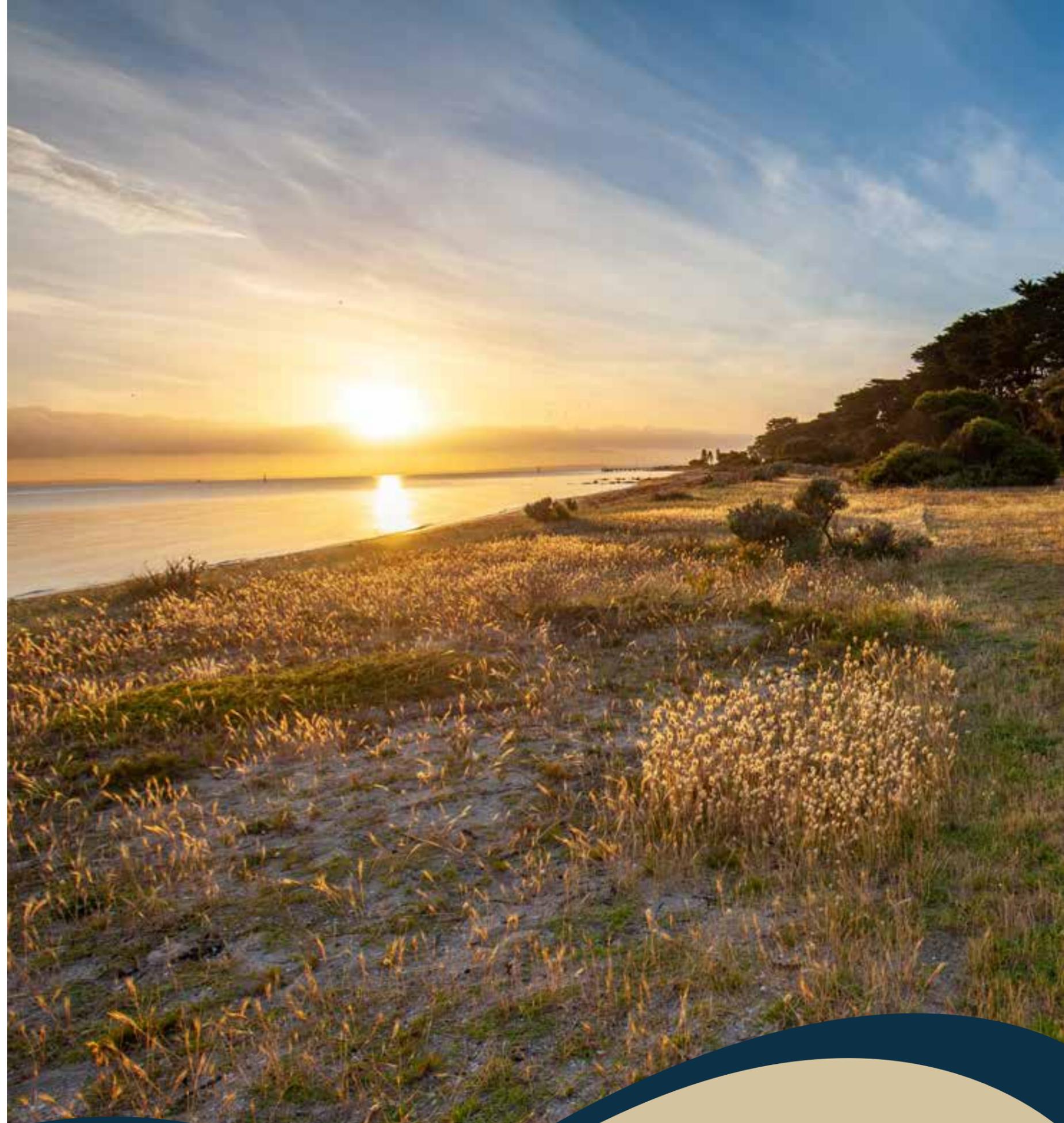
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1. Introduction

1.1. About Bellarine Bayside

Bellarine Bayside Foreshore Committee of Management (Bellarine Bayside) is a not-for-profit Committee of Management formed by the Victorian Government in 1994 to manage 17 kilometres of coastal Crown land reserves on the northern Bellarine.

Bellarine Bayside is responsible for management of the foreshore reserve in accordance with the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*, the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* and related subordinate legislation and related policy set by the Victorian state government. The reserve includes natural and built assets, holiday parks, the Coastal Trail, playgrounds, community halls, boat ramps and boat sheds. Some of the key management programs include:

- protection and enhancement of the natural environment;
- maintenance of open spaces (parks, playgrounds, car parks);
- ensuring safe access and provision of facilities;
- community education and engagement;
- maintenance of five boat ramps and associated jetties and facilities;
- accommodation provision related operations (Portarlington Holiday Park (PHP) and five seasonal camping reserves); and
- foreshore reserve use-related leases, licences and permits.

Bellarine Bayside currently generates approximately \$7 million in direct revenue annually, with approximately 90% of revenue generated as income from the six holiday parks. Other income is derived from a range of sources including lease, licence and permit fees. Revenue is supplemented by grants that are used for specific projects; however, no recurrent funding is received from state or local government. All incoming funds are utilised in the delivery of Bellarine Bayside's functions and programs.

Bellarine Bayside Committee of Management (CoM) board members are selected through a public, skills-based expression of interest process and are appointed for a three-year term by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*.

The CoM ascertains the strategic directions for Bellarine Bayside and ensures that it responds to community and state government expectations. The CoM delegates a level of authority to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to enable effective management of the day-to-day operations. The CEO is supported by a senior management team covering planning and environment, operations, finance and business management, and holiday park management. Bellarine Bayside employs 22 full-time permanent staff, which increases to approximately 48 staff being employed each year during the peak season.

1.2. About the northern Bellarine foreshore

The northern Bellarine foreshore is a 17 kilometre stretch of coastline from Portarlington, through Indented Head to St Leonards. It comprises of approximately 200 hectares of coastal land of significant environmental, cultural and social importance. The area is known for the unique look and feel of the foreshore with expansive views across Port Phillip Bay to the Melbourne city skyline and the You Yangs. Many community members have long-established and deep connections with the foreshore landscape, some going back many generations.

The northern Bellarine coastal environment has been significantly modified since European settlement with open, grassed areas and stands of older exotic trees having replaced native coastal vegetation. Remaining areas of native vegetation, such as Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve, provide valuable habitat for indigenous plants and animals. A number of wetlands along the foreshore serve as critical links to the internationally important Port Phillip Bay Ramsar Site, including the Indented Head wetlands and salt marsh areas.

Climate change and coastal processes, including tides, wind, waves and erosion, continue to shape the foreshore. Likewise, human modifications to the environment and increasing demand for foreshore space and access for recreational and commercial use threatens the integrity and quality of the foreshore. The impacts of erosion and inundation include loss of access and amenity, and damage to infrastructure, facilities and native habitat.

Located in Wadawurrung Country, the reserve is a culturally significant place with continuing connections for Wadawurrung people. The reserve also contains a significant number of Aboriginal places and objects registered under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. The Wadawurrung people are the Traditional Owners and custodians of the northern Bellarine and the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation (trading as Wadawurrung) is the Registered Aboriginal Party for the reserve. Bellarine Bayside recognises the importance to retain cultural heritage sites and educate visitors about the rich cultural history and traditional uses of the foreshore.

The post-European settlement history along the foreshore is also significant and includes the stories of Captain George Ward Cole, John Batman, William Buckley, the wrecking of the vessel Ozone and the development of the mussel farm industry. The management of the foreshore should continue to recognise the history and activities that occurred since European settlement.

Portarlington is an important destination supporting recreational and commercial fishing, tourism, events and festivals, with direct access to Melbourne via a ferry service. Many community facilities are located on the foreshore and it is a significant local open space resource offering diverse activities and experiences including camping, boating, fishing, swimming, walking, cycling and picnics. A range of events and festivals are held in the reserve throughout the year, providing unique opportunities for locals and visitors to connect with the foreshore. Built assets and commercial operations are an important aspect of the northern Bellarine foreshore – buildings, piers, boat ramps and amenities provide community facilities. Differing activities occasionally compete for coastal space and consequently, management objectives must consider all uses and aim to provide a balanced and sustainable foreshore to be enjoyed by all.

Bellarine Bayside's holiday parks (with 1300 individual sites) are a significant contributor to the region's economy, with an estimated annual economic contribution of approximately \$27 million. The holiday parks also provide affordable camping and roofed accommodation for visitors, attracting between 6,000–8,000 campers in the summer peak period. In addition, the eight leases and 31 licences administered by Bellarine Bayside enable a wide range of community and commercial activities to be delivered across the year.



Figure 1: Northern Bellarine Foreshore
(note: Bellarine Bayside Area of Jurisdiction is indicative.)

1.3. Community of the northern Bellarine foreshore

The three townships along the northern Bellarine foreshore – Portarlington, Indented Head and St Leonards – serve the local permanent residents, those with holiday houses, and visitors and holiday-makers. Many residents and visitors have strong connections with the foreshore and are passionate about the future directions of its management.

Community input is integral to encourage stewardship of the foreshore and provide valuable insight into coastal management options. Bellarine Bayside consults with the community on proposed works which enables residents to better understand why works are being undertaken and allows Bellarine Bayside to ensure works meet community needs.

In addition to consultation opportunities, Bellarine Bayside also fosters community input through a range of communication channels. These include the Bellarine Bayside website, social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram), Annual Report, local newspaper articles including a monthly community update column, e-newsletters, information boards and signs as well as volunteer programs. Many community groups, schools and local residents participate each year in volunteer events to clean up the foreshore or plant native vegetation.

There are also a number of formalised volunteer groups that add significant value in the day-to-day management of the foreshore reserve. Groups are established to assist with activities such as monitoring the sand profiles of local beaches, protecting and enhancing the environmental values in Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve and monitoring local beach-nesting shorebirds. These groups help create community stewardship of the foreshore and provide invaluable local knowledge to help inform decision-making.

Through this Coastal and Marine Management Plan, Bellarine Bayside will continue to involve local volunteer and community groups in the implementation of management programs. The key local volunteer and community groups include:

- Friends of Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve;
- BeachWatch – Portarlington, Indented Head and St Leonards groups;
- Local Birdlife Australia volunteers;
- Portarlington Community Association;
- Portarlington Business Development Association;
- Indented Head Community Association; and
- St Leonards Beautification Committee.

1.4. Purpose and basis of the The Northern Bellarine Coastal and Marine Mangement Plan

All appointed coastal Crown land managers, including Bellarine Bayside, are required to develop a Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP) under the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* (MACA). There are also further requirements to be considered in the development of a CMMP as detailed within the document titled, *2019–2022 Statement of Expectations for Category 1 coastal Committees of Management*, which was issued by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change in 2019. *The Marine and Coastal Act 2018* and *2019–22 Statement of Expectations for Category 1 Coastal Committees of Management* require that a CMMP must “provide direction for the future local management of an area of marine and coastal land”. The CMMP is a high-level, strategic framework used to guide the future protection, enhancement, development and management of the coastal Crown land reserve. The CMMP does not provide details of all discrete works, or ‘business as usual’ but rather it aims to describe strategic priorities, outcomes, initiatives and future programs.

Additionally, the CMMP defers to the development of master plans that will provide more detail of discrete works in key areas of particular interest to the community and areas that have been determined as a management priority.

Further purposes of the CMMP are to:

- identify important coastal values;
- identify management challenges;
- guide future use and development;
- enable informed decision-making and management;
- engage with community, groups and stakeholders; and
- develop strong working partnerships with other agencies.

In accordance with the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*, this plan has a five-year lifespan that starts from the day it is approved by the approved by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change.

1.5. Land status and management responsibility

The foreshore reserve generally encompasses the area between the low-water mark and the nearest road (e.g. The Esplanade). However, there are some points of difference, including the Portarlington Harbour, where the management boundary is the high-water mark, and the 62-hectare Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve.

Whilst Bellarine Bayside is the primary land manager of the coastal Crown land along the northern Bellarine, there are other agencies with intersecting responsibilities. The City of Greater Geelong is responsible for municipal services, including drainage and stormwater infrastructure in the region. The City of Greater Geelong is also the public land manager of some reserve areas along the foreshore, most notably Harvey

Park in St Leonards. Parks Victoria is responsible for the management of the marine environment adjacent to the northern Bellarine foreshore, including the Portarlington and St Leonards harbours and the boating and swimming zones. Parks Victoria also manages the Edwards Point Nature Conservation Reserve which adjoins Bellarine Bayside’s jurisdiction in St Leonards.

The Wadawurrung are the Traditional Owners and custodians of the northern Bellarine. The Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation is the Registered Aboriginal Party for the region, with responsibilities to manage cultural heritage on Crown land under state legislation (*Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*).





1.6. Developing the Northern Bellarine Coastal and Marine Mangement Plan

Gathering Information

Initially, an external and independent evaluation of Bellarine Bayside's previous strategic document (the *Northern Bellarine Foreshore Plan 2012* and associated *Northern Bellarine Foreshore Master Plan*) was commissioned by Bellarine Bayside to assess the status of the implementation of this plan, including its effectiveness, strengths and weaknesses. Further to the review of the plan, interviews were conducted with selected Bellarine Bayside staff and committee members, key agency stakeholders and targeted community stakeholders.

The results of interviews conducted during the initial review helped form a comprehensive *Issues and Options Discussion Paper*. This paper was released along with a survey as part of a community consultation program, which also involved six community listening posts during April-May 2019. This program sought to gather community feedback on:

- the relevance of the Foreshore Plan and associated Master Plan;
- the general demographic and usage rates of foreshore users;
- what the community values about the foreshore;
- what challenges the community think that the foreshore faces; and
- local knowledge regarding activities and changes that are occurring on the foreshore over time.

In total, 118 completed submissions were received during this consultation phase (both online and handwritten).

Preparation of the draft CMMP

The information gathered through the aforementioned independent evaluation and public consultation program was reviewed to identify the key topics, including values, management challenges and concerns to be considered. An assessment of the current management approach was also undertaken to identify any gaps and to explore additional options to better manage the key topics identified. The Bellarine Bayside CMMP project team, Senior Management Team and committee members analysed and discussed these topics and management options and determined the approach for inclusion in the draft CMMP. Further work was undertaken to develop the strategic framework, comprising vision, goals and strategic actions, and taking into consideration legislative requirements and state government policy framework. In addition to this, precinct-specific actions were further developed by also taking into consideration management priorities and resources. Those priority actions determined as being able to be completed within the five-year lifespan were short-listed and included within this draft CMMP. This work was undertaken in consultation with key stakeholders and agency partners. Figure 2 provides further detail into the stages of CMMP development.

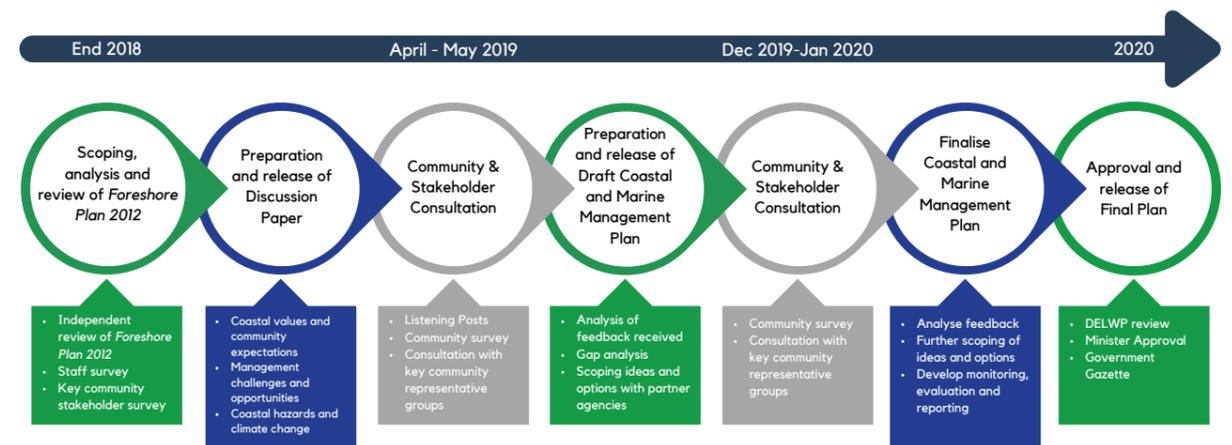


Figure 2: CMMP Development Stages

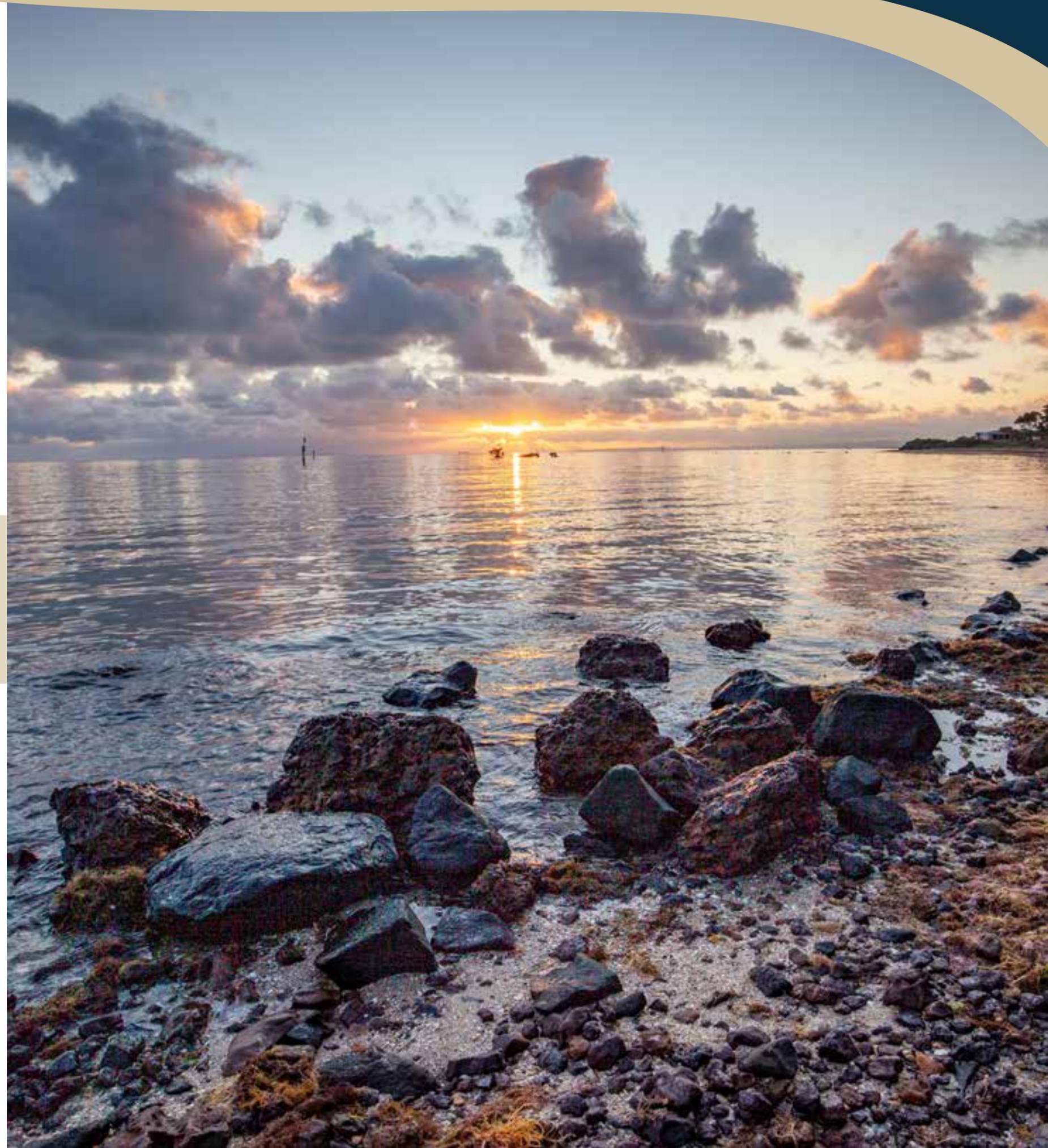
2. Vision for the northern Bellarine

The new vision reflects the objectives of Bellarine Bayside's long-term aspirations for sustainable management of the northern Bellarine foreshore. The vision has been developed through extensive input from staff, committee members, community and partner agencies, and was developed with the consideration of:

- Wadawurrung values, rights and aspirations;
- the need to protect and enhance the natural environment;
- climate change and natural processes;
- the need for sustainable management, ensuring community resources are maintained and enhanced now and for future generations;
- the unique foreshore and landscape setting;
- the need to engage and collaborate with the community and stakeholders; and
- the need for safe and equitable access.

The vision aims to inspire support and collaboration from the Wadawurrung people, the community, foreshore users, stakeholders and partner agencies.

A protected and enhanced northern Bellarine foreshore which has distinctive coastal character and highly valued cultural, heritage and environmental assets for the enjoyment of the community.



3. Achieving the Vision - Goals and Strategic Actions

It is proposed that the vision for the northern Bellarine foreshore will be realised through the eight goals described in the following pages, and the accompanying strategic actions. The eight goals and accompanying strategic actions relate to the entire 17 kilometres of coastal Crown land reserve managed by Bellarine Bayside. Where values, management challenges and actions have been identified as being limited to particular areas, these are detailed within the relevant precinct plan in Chapter 4.

Goal 1. Protect and enhance the natural environment

The northern Bellarine foreshore includes a range of important ecosystems, including coastal saltmarsh, woodlands, wetlands and habitat for a variety of significant native wildlife, in particular the Growling Grass Frog and Red-capped Plover. As the population of the local community grows, there is increased pressure on the natural environment as a result of increased human activity and the expansion of townships.

Potential impacts include:

- increased disturbance of wildlife;
- trampling or removal of vegetation;
- increased litter; and
- changes to stormwater runoff.

Since 2012, Bellarine Bayside has developed a comprehensive program to maintain and improve the natural environment. As part of this program, Bellarine Bayside will continue to enhance and restore the coastal dune, the Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve and the Lower Bluff conservation area environments through weed control and revegetation. This will be supported by the development of the Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve management plan, protecting the habitat of the Red-capped Plover and further on-ground works in priority locations.

The establishment of vegetated buffers and public-use access controls will continue to be a priority for this CMMP to provide habitat, improve amenity, manage access and contribute to coastal protection.

Ageing Trees

Trees along the foreshore, most notably the cypress, are ageing and in many places are an emerging potential risk to public safety and assets. As a part of this plan, Bellarine Bayside will undertake a staged program to remove and replace cypress, subject to the requirements of relevant planning controls. At this stage there is no single preferred replacement option for ageing cypress. The replacement options to be considered will vary depending on the location, and the views and perspectives of the community will be considered during this process. Replacement of cypress will also need consideration of the requirements to provide shade and shelter, potential risks from erosion and inundation, visual amenity and open space.

Marine environmental management

Contaminated stormwater runoff from urban areas poses a potential risk to the health of Port Phillip Bay unless effectively managed. Consequently, Bellarine Bayside seeks to work with City of Greater Geelong wherever possible in the management of discharges and stormwater infrastructure. Bellarine Bayside will also focus on management of any erosion caused by stormwater run-off throughout the reserve. Further measures to support improvements to the 'health of the bay' will be identified in partnership with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and Parks Victoria through the development of an agreed environmental management program. Such measures will include the consideration of potential impacts on important habitats, such as the intertidal zone and seagrass meadows.

Strategic Action		Agency Partner
G1.1	Undertake a program to remove and replace ageing cypress to address public safety risks (see also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans P2, P3, P5, P6, P7, P8) which includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identify tree species options that provide shade and amenity; - undertake consultation; - confirm preferred option; and - undertake preparation and planting works. 	CoGG
G1.2	Identify sensitive and valuable environmental areas, prioritise rehabilitation works and prevent access through: exclusion fencing; defining access points; and landscape design (see also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans).	
G1.3	Work with CoGG to improve stormwater management through redesign and upgrades of drainage infrastructure, in order to minimise environmental impacts on the foreshore and bay (see also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans).	CoGG

Goal 2. Protect and enhance aboriginal cultural values

Bellarine Bayside will continue to engage with the Wadawurrung in regards to the protection of cultural heritage sites and raising awareness of cultural values. As a part of this plan, Bellarine Bayside will investigate the possibility of entering into an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Management Agreement (ACHLMA) with the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation. The Agreement may address topics such as obtaining general approval for Bellarine Bayside to undertake

specific maintenance programs and regular community Aboriginal cultural heritage education events throughout the summer period. Bellarine Bayside will also further build on previous work to identify and protect culturally sensitive sites across the reserve. Additionally, Bellarine Bayside plans to deliver cultural heritage training to staff, contractors and committee members and investigate Aboriginal employment options.

Strategic Action		Agency Partner
G2.1	Development an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Management Agreement (ACHLMA) with the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation detailing agreed approaches to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - foreshore maintenance; - conservation works; - staff, committee and contractor training and inductions; - community education and engagement programs; and - employment/contracting opportunities. Commence implementation of priority actions within the ACHLMA.	WAC
G2.2	Develop a Cultural heritage interpretive trail (linked to action 4.8 Coastal Trail upgrades) to connect reserve users to the cultural heritage of the northern Bellarine and the Wadawurrung people.	WAC



Goal 3. Plan for the impacts of climate change and coastal processes

Bellarine Bayside is working with Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, the City of Greater Geelong and other stakeholders and agencies to develop an approach to climate change coastal adaptation planning. An initial framework has been developed and, to date, a range of technical studies have been completed to understand the implications of sand movement, erosion and inundation along the northern Bellarine foreshore and the potential further effects of the predicted sea level rise of 0.8m by 2100.

The next steps will involve a risk assessment that considers the current and future impacts of both inundation and erosion. The development of a *Climate Change Coastal Adaptation Plan* (CCCAP) will take a staged approach and consider the feasibility of protecting public assets under different scenarios.

Responses to coastal erosion and inundation hotspots will be based on the level of risk presented to the foreshore reserve's assets and include options to 'protect, retreat or adapt'. Bellarine Bayside will also support the work of other agencies to consider the broader impacts of climate change on townships and settlements.

In the interim, Bellarine Bayside is continuing to monitor the foreshore and address storm-induced erosion through methods such as renourishment, where an immediate risk to an asset is presented. Longer-term monitoring is also enabling a better understanding of coastal processes such as longshore sand movement, erosion hotspots and sand accretion.

Strategic Action		Agency Partner
G3.1	Develop a Climate Change Coastal Adaptation Plan (CCCAP) to identify options to address potential risks to public assets. As part of the CCCAP, conduct a series of community education activities to raise awareness of coastal hazards and climate change risks and seek input into the development of the CCCAP. Commence implementation of the actions detailed within the final CCCAP.	DELWP, CoGG, RDV

Goal 4. Facilitate equitable access and sustainable use of marine and coastal environments

With its gentle terrain, open landscapes, well-connected coastal villages and proximity to Melbourne and Geelong, the northern Bellarine is uniquely placed to provide a range of coastal experiences and access for all abilities. Consequently, Bellarine Bayside recognises the potential to further enhance accessibility, providing coastal experiences for all.

Population growth poses additional challenges for Bellarine Bayside in its role of conserving the natural environment while pursuing equitable access opportunities along the foreshore. Increased demand has already been experienced in recent years, particularly during the peak holiday period, and this is expected to continue. Bellarine Bayside seeks to provide appropriate and quality facilities for public use while respecting and fostering the rural and peaceful amenity of the area.

Master Planning

Bellarine Bayside is committed to leading a master planning process for specific key areas to address management issues and competing uses. Within this plan, there are three priority locations identified as requiring master planning, including: Indented Head foreshore (focused on the general area of the Community Hall); St Leonards (in the area at the foot of the pier including Harvey Park); and the Portarlington Safe Harbour Master Plan (a review of the land-based components of the existing plan).

The master planning process will:

- consider the requirements for open space, access, infrastructure and provision of other services and facilities (where relevant);
- be a collaboration between relevant agencies including City of Greater Geelong and Parks Victoria; and
- be inclusive with opportunities for local residents, campers, business operators and community groups to provide input on the priorities for each master plan and feedback on design concepts.

Facilities

Bellarine Bayside will work with neighbouring land managers to develop a consistent approach to the service level and the style and types of facilities provided along the foreshore. The provision of similar styles of and types of facilities along the coast will also be considered in response to the needs of the community.

An increased demand for car parking is recognised, however it is proposed that any future formalised car parking will be developed primarily within the footprint of existing facilities, with minimal net loss of open space or native vegetation in the future improvement of car parks. Measures to manage and accommodate demand will include upgrades to enhance the efficiency of existing car parks and provide all-abilities access, connectivity with the Coastal Trail and increased provision of facilities such as picnic tables and seating in priority activity areas. Other measures will include identifying alternative car parking arrangements adjacent to the foreshore reserve (in partnership with City of Greater Geelong).

Informal car parking will not be expanded and unauthorised informal car parking that impacts on the values of the reserve will be controlled through signage, education, barriers and compliance programs.

Marine and Coastal Access

As manager of the five key boat ramps along the foreshore, Bellarine Bayside recognises its key role in facilitating access by boat owners to Port Phillip Bay. The continued maintenance and improvement of this access will be an ongoing focus. Bellarine Bayside will also continue to maintain the quality of the beaches and coastal access through programs such as litter collection, landscape gardening (including mowing and trimming vegetation) and beach grooming in high-use areas. Informal access to the beach will continue to be controlled to address risks to flora and fauna, cultural heritage and public safety.

Open Space

The northern Bellarine foreshore provides an important open-space resource that is highly valued by the community. The siting and selection of vegetation within open space areas will consider:

- views and sightlines;
- the need to provide shade; and
- the demand for sufficient open space area for recreational use.

Compliance

Bellarine Bayside will work with partner agencies to manage public impacts through compliance with relevant legislation, including regulations relating to:

- on-water activities (including personal watercraft (PWC) or jetskis);
- dog and horse access;
- lighting of open fires; and
- illegal camping.

Compliance programs will be supported by appropriate signage and education/awareness programs.

Bellarine Bayside will work with Parks Victoria to better manage PWC use in nearshore waters, including addressing issues such as public disturbance, safety and damage to the environment.

Bellarine Bayside will work with City of Greater Geelong in regards to dog controls and any future updates to the dog control orders on the northern Bellarine. City of Greater Geelong will continue to provide compliance and community liaison support in the form of regular officer patrols along the foreshore.

There has been growing interest expressed to Bellarine Bayside regarding access for horse riding along the beach and through the waters of the northern Bellarine. Access for horses is only allowed through the issuing of a permit. Given the growing demand for such a permit, an overall policy will be developed to better manage horse access and the associated risks to the natural environment and public safety.

Coastal Trail

The Coastal Trail is universally considered to be the key public asset along the length of the 17 kilometre reserve. Bellarine Bayside will continue to develop and promote the Coastal Trail. As a key component of this CMMP, there will be a focus on improving connectivity and access into towns and the provision of all abilities access to beaches from the trail. Facilities to support the use of the Coastal Trail based on the needs of all trail users will also be considered in the planning process. Additional directional and interpretive signage will also be installed along the Coastal Trail in order to connect trail users to the natural environment and history of the northern Bellarine (Aboriginal and post-European settlement).

Events and Festivals

Events and festivals are highly valued by the local community and attract many visitors to the northern Bellarine foreshore. Bellarine Bayside considers such events a way of further connecting the community and visitors to the region with the foreshore reserve.

Bellarine Bayside will work with City of Greater Geelong, event and festival organisers and community groups to develop an all-year-round northern Bellarine event and festival program. This program will focus on the promotion and facilitation of a variety of events that occur throughout the year and not just during the peak holiday season.

Sustainability

Bellarine Bayside is committed to improving the sustainability of its operations. A Sustainability Plan is being developed which will detail actions to reduce energy and water consumption. As a part of this program, Bellarine Bayside will also improve its practices to reduce waste generation through changes to operations, event management and holiday park programs and facilities.

Strategic Action		Agency Partner
G4.1	Complete the upgrade of the Coastal Trail, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – all abilities access; and – review and identification of facilities upgrades for Coastal Trail users (i.e. shade, rest areas, access and signage). 	CoGG
G4.2	Identify opportunities to connect the Coastal Trail with the Bellarine Rail Trail and improve access to beaches and into town areas.	CoGG
G4.3	Undertake Indented Head and St Leonards master planning for a 10-15-year horizon and provide a detailed plan for use and development. (See also Chapter 4 – Precincts 5 and 7) Commence implementation of actions focussed on St Leonards and Indented Head precincts as per the master plans.	CoGG PV
G4.4	Review the Portarlington Safe Harbour Master Plan and determine priority projects. Develop a Safe Harbour Implementation Plan. (See also Chapter 4 – Precinct 3).	CoGG PV
G4.5	Complete the Point Richards boat ramp precinct studies and implement recommended improvements to trailer parking and boat access, including managing the build-up of sea grass wrack and sand (See also Chapter 4 – Precinct 2).	BBV
G4.6	Develop a horse-riding and access policy.	PV
G4.7	Work with PV to review bay access zones and develop a jet ski education and enforcement program, including information activities associated with jet ski use in the near shore environment.	PV
G4.8	Develop interpretive signage, arts sculpture trail and cultural trail to raise awareness of the cultural heritage values of the coast (Linked to action 2.2 Cultural heritage interpretive trail).	WAC
G4.9	Develop a standard level of service for a beach grooming at popular beaches and ensure a consistent approach with neighbouring land managers.	CoGG
G4.10	Develop a Sustainability Plan and commence implementation of priority actions.	



Goal 5. Provide a range of quality accommodation services and coastal experiences

In 2017, Bellarine Bayside developed a *Camping and Accommodation Strategy (CAS)*. The CAS provides the vision for the future direction of Bellarine Bayside's holiday park operations. The priorities of the CAS have been incorporated into this CMMP.

Bellarine Bayside remains committed to providing a variety of affordable holiday experiences. Access to seasonal camping will remain at current levels. As a part of this CMMP, an extension to the autumn operating period at Taylor Reserve will be explored (subject to demand).

The provision and potential location of additional quality roofed accommodation at St Leonards and/or Indented Head will be investigated.

Site selection principles include:

- Consideration of coastal views and sightlines.
- Avoiding conflict with the Coastal Trail alignment.
- Minimising any potential impacts on nearby residents.
- Avoiding areas of high risk from coastal erosion and inundation.
- Minimising impacts on the natural environment.

Strategic Action		Agency Partner
G5.1	Identify and consult on potential locations and type of additional roofed accommodation (as per recommendation in the CAS).	CoGG
G5.2	Design and construct roofed accommodation considering the outcomes of the abovementioned consultation.	
G5.3	Expand the provision of Twelve-Month Permit sites in PHP on 4th Avenue, including the removal of the ageing cypress trees (as part of this development, an egress onto Boat Road will be constructed).	
G5.4	Explore options to diversify the range of accommodation services (glamping, dog-friendly, fire-friendly, group stays) to boost shoulder and low-season occupancy.	

Goal 6. Ensure bellarine bayside is financially sustainable, accountable and effectively manages its assets

Strong Governance / Financial Accountability

Bellarine Bayside has an asset management framework that provides a costed plan for asset maintenance and renewal over the long term. Bellarine Bayside will continue to use revenue generated through its accommodation services and leases and licensing to maintain and replace the current asset base and deliver core programs relating to community engagement, provision of facilities, environmental management and holiday park operations. Additional funding for new assets and facilities and coastal protection works will also be sought through grants and other programs.

Bellarine Bayside will continue to grow revenue by seeking funding through grant opportunities for facility upgrades, conservation programs and diversifying accommodation services. The key actions related to this are covered in Goal 5.

The proposed construction and leasing of three new boat sheds at Indented Head are also an additional source of income to assist in the financial sustainability of Bellarine Bayside's operations.

Strategic Action		Agency Partner
G6.1	Construct three new boat sheds at selected locations on the Indented Head foreshore.	

Goal 7. Ensure bellarine bayside is responsive to the needs of the community and other users of the foreshore, while considering population growth

Bellarine Bayside is committed to improving consultation and engagement processes. As a part of this CMMP, Bellarine Bayside will formalise a charter to clarify and guide community engagement and consultation processes across business operations.

As the population of Melbourne and Geelong grows, the demographics and expectations of coastal users is changing. Bellarine Bayside will seek to continue to better understand the views and perceptions of the broader community and coastal users through regular surveys and other community engagement techniques, with a particular focus on the pressures resulting from population growth and the resultant increased visitation to the northern Bellarine foreshore.

Community Education Programs

Bellarine Bayside has a comprehensive community engagement and environmental awareness program that will continue to be part of business as usual activities. Additional priorities include raising awareness of cultural heritage values and the importance and function of coastal and marine biodiversity (in particular the intertidal zone and seagrass habitats) as well as the management challenges faced resulting from population growth, coastal processes and climate change.

Strategic Action		Agency Partner
G7.1	Formalise a public Community Engagement Charter to guide consultation and engagement across Bellarine Bayside's operations.	
G7.2	Undertake a biennial survey of coastal users and holiday park campers to understand perceptions, challenges and priorities for managing the coast and holiday parks.	

Goal 8. Develop and maintain positive and collaborative partnerships with the community, stakeholder groups and agencies

Bellarine Bayside takes an integrated approach to coastal zone management. As a part of the CMMP, Bellarine Bayside will continue to work in collaboration with City of Greater Geelong, Parks Victoria to address management priorities including those focussed on: the coastal and marine environment, facilities, services and events. Bellarine Bayside will establish management arrangements that involve collaboration with partner agencies, particularly when executing projects of a strategic nature, including:

- compliance;
- master planning;
- climate change adaptation; and
- major infrastructure construction.

Bellarine Bayside recognises the importance of Traditional Owner inclusion and self-determination. Bellarine Bayside is committed to continuing to develop its positive relationship with the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation and developing agreed processes to identify Traditional Owner priorities. As a part of the CMMP, Bellarine Bayside will work to improve its cultural competency and explore options to support Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation to be involved in the management of the foreshore.

Strategic Action		Agency Partner
G8.1	Collaborate with adjacent land managers to establish priority projects addressing compliance and enforcement issues, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - management of unauthorised jet ski use and the expansion of no-boating zones in areas popular to swimming (PV); - manage unauthorised parking and dog orders (CoGG); and - manage disturbance of native wildlife and offences under the <i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i> (DELWP). 	PV CoGG DELWP



4. Precinct Plans

Previous sections of this CMMP have outlined the strategic actions that relate to all 17 kilometres of foreshore reserve that Bellarine Bayside manages. However, it is important for Bellarine Bayside also to identify the intrinsic values, challenges and actions that relate to specific locations.

To accomplish this, for the purpose of this CMMP, the northern Bellarine foreshore reserve has been divided into eight distinct precincts. These precincts are based on the common built and environmental assets and the types of recreational activities undertaken within these areas and the way that these sites are utilised by the community.

Areas within the northern Bellarine foreshore reserve are valued for different reasons and they face different challenges. Therefore, managing the foreshore reserve through precincts allows for more detailed understanding and focus on the specific values and challenges within these areas. Actions have also been developed to address the unique values and challenges of each precinct.

An overview of each precinct, with associated actions, is outlined in Chapter 4.

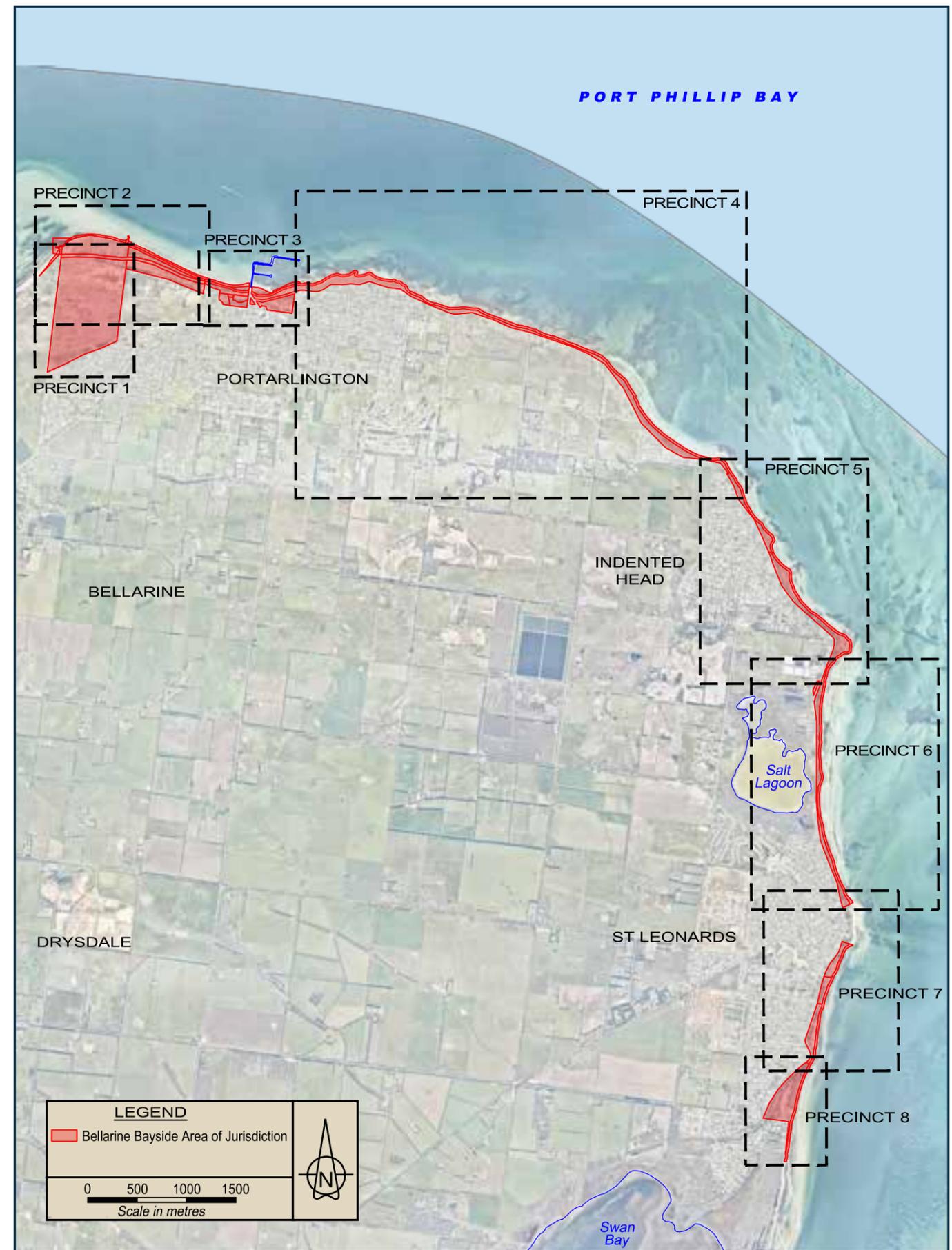
The eight precincts are:

- Precinct 1.** Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve
- Precinct 2.** Point Richards and Portarlington Holiday Park
- Precinct 3.** Sproat Street to Fisher Street*
- Precinct 4.** Fisher Street to Anderson Reserve*
- Precinct 5.** Anderson Reserve to Batman Memorial
- Precinct 6.** Batman Memorial to Harvey Road*
- Precinct 7.** Harvey Road* to The Bluff
- Precinct 8.** The Bluff to Beach Road*

*These boundaries are described using street names that intersect with 'The Esplanade' following the foreshore reserve.

The following precinct maps detail a description of the related values, challenges and actions to be complete over the next five years. These actions are generally site specific, whereas those actions detailed in Chapter 3 (above) are relevant to the entire coast, or at least multiple precincts. The actions to be implemented are generally new actions, which are not currently being undertaken as part of Bellarine Bayside's 'business as usual' programs (e.g. general vegetation rehabilitation, facilities maintenance etc.).

The precinct maps also include an insert from the City of Greater Geelong's Planning Scheme 'Land Subject to Inundation Overlay', which outlines the predicted land inundation based on a sea level rise of 0.8m by 2100. This information is vital in making future land management decisions and Bellarine Bayside will consider risks associated with the predicted rise in sea level with the aim of reducing potential impact on public assets within the foreshore reserve (where possible).



Precinct 1

Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve

The treasured Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve offers a natural amenity and passive recreation experience for the community. The 62-hectare reserve is one of the largest areas of native bushland, grassland and ephemeral wetlands on the Bellarine Peninsula and was originally allocated for the conservation of the Southern Brown Bandicoot. Bordered by Point Richards Road to the west, Boat Road to the north and the City of Greater Geelong's Portarlington Conservation and Recreation Reserve to the east, the Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve is fast becoming a beautiful and serene refuge for native plants and animals as well as the community.

Values

- Natural environment
 - Ecological Vegetation Class 3: Damp Sands Herb-rich woodland
 - Wetlands (permanent and ephemeral)
 - Wildlife
 - One of the last publicly accessible stands of bushland on the Bellarine
 - Biodiversity and habitat to support local fauna (including endangered Growling Grass Frog)
- Passive recreation (including walking tracks and picnic tables).

Management Challenges

- Low public awareness
- Compliance issues (including dogs, horses and motorbike access)
- Weeds and pest animals (including foxes, cats, rabbits)
- Stormwater and pollutants
- Habitat modification (including lack of old, large trees)

Key Actions specific to Precinct 1 are listed below. Goals and strategic actions that also are applicable to this precinct are: Goal (Actions 1.1, 1.3, 1.4), Goal 2 (2.1, 2.4) and Goal 4 (4.8). The full list of strategic goals and related actions can be found in Chapter 3.

Key Actions to be delivered within this precinct		
No.	Action	Agency Partner
P1.1	Develop a Management Plan for Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve in coordination with relevant agencies and stakeholders.	DELWP, CoGG, WAC, CFA



Precinct 2

Point Richards and Portarlington Holiday Park

This precinct is one of high visitor use for a variety of recreation and leisure pursuits. It borders Point Richards Road to the west, Boat Road to the south and Sproat Street to the east. It comprises Point Richards Boat Ramp and foreshore, Portarlington Holiday Park and foreshore as well as the miniature railway site and wetland/park area adjoining Boat Road.

Values		Management Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Portarlington Holiday Park (PHP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Safe camping and recreation for kids and young families adjacent to foreshore ▪ Aboriginal cultural heritage ▪ Coastal amenity and views ▪ Coastal Trail ▪ Natural environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ecological Vegetation Classes 1: Coastal Dune Scrub/Coastal Grassland Mosaic and 3: Damp Sands Herb-rich woodland (highly degraded) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intertidal zone habitat - Wetland ▪ Water-based clubs ▪ Water-based activities (including snorkelling, swimming, boating, fishing and two boat ramps, kayaking/paddle boarding) ▪ Open space and recreation ▪ Safe beaches ▪ Miniature railway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintenance and ongoing popularity of PHP ▪ High growth in demand for camping within PHP ▪ Increased demand for use of Point Richards Boat Ramp ▪ Pest animals ▪ Area of risk of erosion and inundation ▪ Compliance issues (including dogs and horses) ▪ Habitat modification through visitor use ▪ Balancing natural processes with amenity (including community education, beach grooming, removal of sea grass wrack) ▪ Provision of all abilities access

Key Actions specific to Precinct 2 are listed below. Goals and strategic actions that also are applicable to this precinct are: Goal 1 (Actions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3), Goal 2 (Actions 2.1, 2.4) Goal 4 (Actions 4.2, 4.5, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9) and Goal 5 (Actions 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4). The full list of strategic goals and related actions can be found in Chapter 3.

Key Actions to be delivered within this precinct		
No.	Action	Agency Partner
P2.1	Provide improved egress from Ramp Road to Boat Road from within the PHP.	
P2.2	Upgrade access to Point Richards boat ramp and address issues from sand and seagrass build-up and improve provision of trailer parking.	BBB, DELWP
P2.3	Develop facilities to improve visitor use and beach amenity to the area between Point Richards Boat Ramp and Portarlington Sailing Club.	
P2.4	Contribute to CoGG's Recreation Reserve Master Plan to improve connections to PHP.	CoGG
P2.5	Work with CoGG to promote use of the Portarlington Recreation Reserve for events during the peak holiday period.	CoGG



Precinct 3

Sproat Street to Fisher Street

This precinct is one of high visitor use for a variety of recreation and leisure activities, including a holiday park with 890 sites. It comprises the Portarlington foreshore beginning at Sproat Street to the west, the Portarlington Bowls Club, S.S. Nash Reserve and W.G. Little Reserve to the south and Fisher Street to the east. This area is one of the most popular tourist site precincts on the northern Bellarine and the site where many events, festivals and markets occur throughout the year, including the National Celtic Festival, the Portarlington Mussel Festival and the Lions Club Market. The precinct is also home to Parks Hall, the Portarlington CFA, a variety of recreational facilities and venues, as well as the Port Phillip Ferry daily services to and from Melbourne.

Values

- Coastal Trail
- Coastal amenity, green open space and views
- Shaded beach access and safe swimming (including Swimming-only zone)
- Access for ferry terminal
- Event space, playground, skate park, Parks Hall, Portarlington Bowls Club, CFA and Cenotaph

Management Challenges

- Increased demand for access and facilities resulting in congestion and informal parking issues
- Compliance issues (including dogs and parking)
- Area at risk of erosion and inundation
- Ageing cypress trees
- Habitat modification through visitor use

Key Actions specific to Precinct 3 are listed below. Goals and strategic actions that also are applicable to this precinct are: Goal 1 (Actions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3), Goal 2 (Actions 2.1, 2.4) and Goal 4 (Actions 4.2, 4.4, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9). The full list of strategic goals and related actions can be found in Chapter 3.

Key Actions to be delivered within this precinct		
No.	Action	Agency Partner
P3.1	Implement W.G. Little Reserve landscape upgrades to provide improved facilities for day-use and events.	CoGG
P3.2	Complete interim traffic management and parking improvements along Foreshore Road.	CoGG, Vic Roads
P3.3	Support the development of interim landside infrastructure for the ferry terminal.	PPF, PV
P3.4	Work with CoGG to improve the function and condition of the carpark adjacent to the Senior Citizens centre.	CoGG
P3.5	Provide new opportunities and events during the off-peak period in W.G. Little Reserve.	CoGG
P3.6	Replace ageing staircase leading up to W.G. Little Reserve from the foreshore.	DELWP
P3.7	Improve landscaping in S.S. Nash Reserve to promote amenity and entrance to Portarlington commercial precinct.	DELWP

Master Plan	Agency Partner	Timeframe
Review the Portarlington Safe Harbour Master Plan.	CoGG, PV, WAC	
Priorities to be addressed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness and understand community views on land based proposals. Protect open space; no new development that reduces current net area of open space. Identify priority actions and projects. Commence initial priorities. Work with CoGG to develop long-term management arrangements for Parks Hall. Remove the Scout Hall and adjoining disused toilet block (subject to heritage assessment). 		



Precinct 4

Fisher Street to Anderson Reserve

This precinct offers a natural amenity and passive recreation experience for the community. This part of the foreshore reserve provides a range of important habitats such as rocky outcrops, seagrass meadows, wetlands and Coastal Saltmarsh (Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) 9). These special environments are home to an array of marine life, including resident bird species such as the beach nesting Red-capped Plover and migratory species such as the Ruddy Turnstone. This precinct comprises the Portarlington and Indented Head foreshore from Fisher Street to the west, The Esplanade to the south/south west and Anderson Reserve in the south/south east.

Values

- Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Coastal amenity and views
- Coastal Trail
- Natural environment
 - Ecological Vegetation Classes 161: Coastal Headland Scrub, 1: Coastal Dune Scrub/ Coastal Dune Grassland Mosaic and 9: Coastal saltmarsh (endangered in the Corangamite region)
 - Wildlife
 - Intertidal zone habitat
 - Wetland
 - Habitat for Red-capped Plovers and other beach-nesting birds
- Access for water-based activities (including fishing, boating and swimming)

Management Challenges

- Compliance issues (including dogs and horses)
- Area at risk of erosion and inundation
- Stormwater and pollutants
- Increased demand for access to beach
- Habitat modification through visitor use
- Balancing revegetation of coastal dune with provision of grassed open areas for recreation

Key Actions specific to Precinct 4 are listed below. Goals and strategic actions that also are applicable to this precinct are: Goal 1 (Actions 1.1, 1.3, 1.4), Goal 2 (Actions 2.1, 2.4) and Goal 4 (Actions 4.1, 4.2, 4.7, 4.8). The full list of strategic goals and related actions can be found in Chapter 3.

Key Actions to be delivered within this precinct		
No.	Action	Agency Partner
P4.1	Continue to improve coastal vegetation to protect the primary dune system by planting indigenous species in selected locations linked to the primary and secondary dune systems.	CCMA
P4.2	Continue to work with Birdlife Australia to investigate and monitor the long-term changes to Red-capped Plover habitat to implement seasonal public awareness campaigns and undertake habitat restoration.	Birdlife Australia
P4.3	Develop a landscape plan for Steeles Rock car park. Priorities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - drainage and associated erosion; - improving access (stairs and beach); - parking; - cultural heritage management; and - review of toilet facilities. 	DELWP, CoGG, WAC



Precinct 5

Anderson Reserve to Batman Memorial

This precinct is one of high visitor use for a variety of recreation and leisure activities, including camping. It comprises the seasonal campgrounds, namely Anderson Reserve, Taylor Reserve and Batman Park (including Half Moon Bay and historic boat sheds), Indented Head Boat and Yacht Clubs and the Indented Head Community Hall as well as Wrathall Reserve, Indented Head boat ramp and the Batman Memorial. Anderson Reserve is the northern boundary of this precinct and it extends generally south east to the Batman Memorial site.

Values

- Cultural heritage (aboriginal and non-aboriginal)
- Coastal amenity and views
- Coastal Trail
- Natural environment
 - Ecological Vegetation Classes 1: Coastal Dune Scrub/Coastal Dune Grassland Mosaic and 858: Coastal Alkaline Scrub
 - Wildlife
 - Intertidal zone habitat
- Seasonal campground
 - Close proximity to beach, safe and convenient swimming beach
- for children and young families, swimming (including swimming-only zone) and boating
- The Ozone shipwreck
- Historic boatsheds and precinct
- Indented Head Community Hall
- Tennis court
- Water-based clubs
- Water-based activities (including snorkelling, boating/boat ramp/boat hire, kayaking/paddle boarding)

Management Challenges

- Compliance issues (including dogs, horse access and PWC operations)
- Habitat modification through visitor use
- Area at risk of erosion and inundation
- Ageing cypress trees
- Increased demand for access to the beach and open space
- Congestion and traffic management during peak periods

Key Actions specific to Precinct 5 are listed below. Goals and strategic actions that also are applicable to this precinct are:

Goal 1 (Actions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4) Goal 2 (Action 2.1, 2.4), Goal 4 (Action 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.7 4.8, 4.9) Goal 5 (Action 5.1, 5.3, 5.4) and Goal 6 (Action 6.1). The full list of strategic goals and related actions can be found in Chapter 3.

Key Actions to be delivered within this precinct		
No.	Action	Agency Partner
P5.1	In collaboration with CoGG and the Indented Head Community Association, actively publicise and market the Indented Head Community Hall for greater community use.	CoGG
P5.2	Develop and implement a landscape plan for the Wrathall Reserve picnic area. Priorities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - car parking upgrades; - all-abilities access; and - picnic, BBQ and playground equipment. 	
P5.3	Support the Indented Head Community Association to replace the Wrathall Reserve tennis court.	CoGG
P5.4	Investigate demand to extend the autumn camping season at Taylor Reserve.	
P5.5	Seek camper and community input to develop, design and implement the replacement of the central amenity block at Batman Holiday Park.	
P5.6	In collaboration with PV and CoGG, actively publicise and market the Ozone wreck as a destination for shoulder-season snorkelling and tourism.	PV, CoGG

Master Planning	Agency Partner	Timeframe
Development of an Indented Head Master Plan	CoGG	
Priorities to be addressed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand for public open space. • Expansion of the Indented Head Yacht Club and Boat Club facilities. • Coastal Trail alignment at the Indented Head Community Hall precinct. • Camping and visitor car parking. • Provision of a public toilet as part of the Indented Head Community Hall. 		



Precinct 6

Batman Memorial to Harvey Road

This precinct offers a natural amenity and passive recreation experience for the community. Extending south from the Batman Memorial site, this precinct extends to Harvey Road to the south and to The Esplanade to the west.

Values

- Cultural heritage (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal)
- Coastal amenity and views
- Coastal Trail
- Natural environment
 - Ecological vegetation Class 1: Coastal Dune Scrub/Coastal Grassland Mosaic and 858 Coastal alkaline scrub
 - Wildlife
 - Intertidal zone habitat
 - Seagrass meadows
- Public area (Including open space, beach access and picnic areas)

Management Challenges

- Area at risk of erosion and inundation
- Ageing cypress trees
- Compliance issues (including drag netting, illegal boat access, dog and horse access)
- Conflicting uses on the Coastal Trail and no verge along road for cyclists
- Habitat modification through visitor use

Key Actions specific to Precinct 6 are listed below. Goals and strategic actions that also are applicable to this precinct are: Goal 1 (Actions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4) Goal 2 (Action 2.1, 2.4), Goal 4 (Action 4.1, 4.2, 4.7 4.8). The full list of strategic goals and related actions can be found in Chapter 3.

Key Actions to be delivered within this precinct		
No.	Action	Agency Partner
P6.1	Work with VicRoads to identify a solution to address safety risks associated with road cycling.	VicRoads
P6.2	Targeted education program to address illegal storage and launching of vessels.	PV, VFA



Precinct 7

Harvey Road to The Bluff

This precinct is one of high visitor use for a variety of active recreation, including camping. It comprises seasonal campgrounds, Bengalat Reserve and Karrong Reserve and St. Leonards boat ramp. The northern boundary of this precinct is Harvey Road and its border and it extends to The Bluff (Millers Boys Memorial) to the south and Bluff Road to the west.

Values

- Cultural heritage (including Aboriginal)
- Coastal amenity and views
- Coastal Trail
- Natural environment
 - Ecological vegetation class 858 Coastal alkaline scrub
 - Wildlife
 - Intertidal zone habitat
- Open space and recreation
- Seasonal campground
 - Close proximity to beach, safe and convenient swimming beach for children and young families, swimming (including swimming-only zone) and boating
- Water-based activities (including snorkelling, boating/boat ramp, kayaking/paddle boarding, pier and harbour)
- Picnic areas
- Adjacent to town commercial area

NOTE: CoGG-managed land including Harvey Park playground, toilet block, tennis court, carpark, Buckley labyrinth.

Management Challenges

- Increased demand for access to beach and open space resulting in congestion and traffic management during peak period
- Balancing natural processes with amenity (including community education, beach grooming, removal of sea grass wrack)
- Compliance issues (including dogs access and PWC operations)
- Area of risk of erosion and inundation
- Ageing cypress trees
- Habitat modification through visitor use

Key Actions specific to Precinct 7 are listed below. Goals and strategic actions that also are applicable to this precinct are: Goal 1 (Actions 5.1, 5.2, 5.3) (Action 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4), Goal 2 (Action 2.1, 2.4), Goal 4 (Actions 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9) and Goal 5 (Action 5.1, 5.3, 5.4). The full list of strategic goals and related actions can be found in Chapter 3.

Key Actions to be delivered within this precinct		
No.	Action	Agency Partner
P7.1	Continue program to upgrade visitor access and facilities and retain area for low-key visitor use at St Leonards open recreation space (previously Area 5).	

Master Planning	Agency Partner	Timeframe
Work with CoGG and PV to develop a St Leonards Pier Precinct Master Plan.	CoGG, PV	
Priorities to be addressed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demand for open space/recreation and change-room facilities at Harvey Park; • Realignment and upgrade of Coastal Trail; • Landscape and amenity improvements; • Aligning Bellarine Bayside, City of Greater Geelong and Parks Victoria level of service to ensure a consistent approach to maintenance and repair of public facilities, beaches, park lands and reserves; and • Provision of all-abilities access between car parking, pier, beach, Coastal Trail and township. 		



Precinct 8

The Bluff to Beach Road

This precinct offers a natural amenity and passive recreation experience for the community. It comprises the St Leonards Yacht Club and Motor Squadron and the Lower Bluff Conservation area. From The Bluff at the northern end of this precinct, it extends to Beach Road and Perrett Street in the south and Bluff Road to the west.

Values

- Aboriginal cultural heritage
- Coastal amenity and views
- Coastal Trail
- Natural environment
 - Ecological vegetation class 858
 - Coastal Alkaline scrub
 - Wildlife
 - Intertidal zone habitat
- Open space and passive recreation
- Safe beach access and swimming (including swimming only zone) for children and young families
- Water-based club
- Water-based activities (including snorkelling, swimming, boating/boat ramp, kayaking/paddle boarding)
- Picnic areas
- Low-key beach access (in addition to more populated main beaches)

Management Challenges

- Weeds and pest animals (including cats and foxes)
- Habitat modification through visitor use
- Ageing cypress tress
- Area at risk of erosion and inundation
- Human activity impacts (including dogs and horses)
- Increased demand for access to beach and open space.
- Compliance issues (including dogs, golf practice)

Key Actions specific to Precinct 8 are listed below. Goals and strategic actions that also are applicable to this precinct are:

Goal 1 (Actions 1.1, 1.2, 1.3), Goal 2 (Action 2.1, 2.4), Goal 4 (Actions 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.7, 4.8).

The full list of strategic goals and related actions can be found in Chapter 3.

Key Actions to be delivered within this precinct		
No.	Action	Agency Partner
P8.1	Undertake enhancement planting and control invasive weeds to improve the diversity and structure of native vegetation within the Lower Bluff conservation/bushland area.	
P8.2	Upgrade Lower Bluff car park areas and provide all-weather access.	
P8.3	Work with the community to identify options for low-key community use of the large open space area.	
P8.4	Replace and relocate the ageing public toilet at Lower Bluff to the other side of road.	WAC



5. Implementation Plan

The Marine and Coastal Act 2018 requires that Coastal and Marine Management Plans incorporate an implementation plan. Based on input from key stakeholders, agency partners, Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation and the community, many actions have been developed that will be complete within the next five years. Those actions still considered relevant as detailed within the previously developed Foreshore and Master Plan were also included in this CMMP.

The strategic and precinct scale management actions recommended in Chapters 3 and 4, are included in Tables 1 and 2 of this implementation plan. In accordance with the Marine and Coastal Act 2018, relevant agency partners (where applicable) and the timeframes for completion are also detailed within these tables against each action.

Table 1 Strategic Actions

Strategic Action No.	Strategic Action Description	Agency Partner	Timeframe (Year 1-5)
Goal 1 - Protect and enhance the natural environment			
G1.1	Undertake a program to remove and replace ageing cypress trees to address public safety risks which includes the following: (see also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans P2, P3, P5, P6, P7, P8) - identify tree species options that provide shade and amenity; - undertake consultation; - confirm preferred option; and - undertake preparation and planting works.	CoGG	1-4
G1.2	Identify sensitive and valuable environmental areas and prioritise rehabilitation works and prevent access through: exclusion fencing; defining access points; and landscape design (see also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans).	CoGG	1-5
G1.3	Work with CoGG to improve stormwater management through redesign and upgrades of drainage infrastructure, in order to minimise environmental impacts on the foreshore and bay (see also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans).	CoGG	4-5
Goal 2 - Protect and enhance aboriginal cultural values			
G2.1	Development an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Land Manager Agreement (ACHLMA) with the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation (WAC) detailing agreed approaches to: - foreshore maintenance; - conservation works; - staff, committee and contractor training and inductions; - community education and engagement programs; and - employment/contracting opportunities. Commence implementation of priority actions within the ACHLMA.	WAC	1-3
G2.2	Develop a Cultural heritage interpretive trail (linked to Goal 4.2 Coastal Trail upgrades) to connect reserve users to the cultural heritage of the northern Bellarine and the Wadawurrung people.	WAC	2-4
Goal 3 - Plan for the impacts of climate change and coastal processes			
G3.1	Develop the Climate Change Coastal Adaptation Plan (CCCAP) to identify feasible options to address risks to public assets. As part of the CCCAP, conduct a series of community education activities to raise awareness of coastal hazards and climate change risks and seek input into the development of the CCCAP. Commence implementation of the actions detailed within the final CCCAP.	DELWP, CoGG, RDV	1-3 (Develop) 2-5 (Implement)
Goal 4 - Facilitate equitable access and sustainable use of marine and coastal environments			
G4.1	Complete the upgrade of the Coastal Trail, including: - all abilities access; and - review and identification of facilities upgrades for Coastal Trail users (i.e. shade, rest areas, access, and signage).	CoGG	1-2
G4.2	Identify opportunities to connect the Coastal Trail with the Bellarine Rail Trail and improve access to beaches and into town areas.	CoGG	5+

Table 1 Strategic Actions (Cont.)

Strategic Action No.	Strategic Action Description	Agency Partner	Timeframe (Year 1-5)
Goal 4 - Facilitate equitable access and sustainable use of marine and coastal environments (Cont.)			
G4.3	Undertake Indented Head and St Leonards master planning for a 10-15-year horizon and provide a detailed plan for use and development. (See also Chapter 4 - Precinct 5 and 7). Commence implementation of actions focussed on St. Leonards and Indented Head Precincts as per the master plans.	CoGG, PV	1-3 (Develop) 3-5+ (Implement)
G4.4	Review the Portarlington Safe Harbour Master Plan and determine priority projects. Develop a Safe Harbour Implementation Plan. (See also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans P3)	CoGG, PV	3-5+
G4.5	Complete the Pt Richards boat ramp precinct studies and implement recommended improvements to trailer parking and boat access, including managing the build-up of sea grass wrack and sand (See also Chapter 4 - Precinct 2).	BBV	1-4
G4.6	Develop a horse-riding and access policy.	PV	4
G4.7	Work with Parks Victoria to review bay access zones and develop a jet ski education and enforcement program, including information activities associated with jet ski use in the near shore environment.	PV	2-3
G4.8	Develop interpretive signage, arts sculpture trail and cultural trail to raise awareness of the cultural heritage values of the coast. (Linked to action 2.2 Cultural heritage interpretive trail.)	CoGG, WAC, DELWP	3-5
G4.9	Develop a standard level of service for a beach grooming at popular beaches and ensure a consistent approach with neighbouring land managers.	CoGG	2-3
G4.10	Develop a Sustainability Plan and commence implementation of priority actions.		1 (Develop) 2-5+ (Implement)
Goal 5 - Provide a range of quality accommodation services and coastal experiences			
G5.1	Identify and consult on potential locations and type of additional roofed accommodation as per recommendation in the Camping and Accommodation Strategy (CAS). (See also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans P2, P5 and P7).	CoGG	2-4
G5.2	Design and construct roofed accommodation considering the outcomes of the abovementioned consultation (See also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans P2, P5 and P7).	CoGG	4-5+
G5.3	Expand the provision of Twelve-Month Permit sites in PHP on 4th Avenue, including the removal of the aging cypress trees. (As part of this development, an egress onto Boat Road will be constructed).		1-2
G5.4	Explore options to diversify the range of accommodation services (glamping, dog-friendly, fire-friendly, group stays) to boost shoulder and low season occupancy. (See also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans P2, P5 and P7).		2-5+
Goal 6 - Ensure Bellarine Bayside is financially sustainable, accountable and effectively manages its assets			
G6.1	Reconstruct 3 x boat sheds using the footprint of former boat sheds in Half Moon Bay: - undertake community consultation; - construct buildings and associated civil works; and - complete licensing sale. (See also Chapter 4 Precinct Plans P5)		1-3
Goal 7 - Ensure Bellarine Bayside is responsive to the needs of the community and other users of the foreshore, while considering population growth			
G7.1	Formalise a public Community Engagement Charter to guide consultation and engagement across Bellarine Bayside's operations.		1
G7.2	Undertake a biennial survey of coastal users to understand perceptions and priorities for managing the coast.		2-4
Goal 8 - Develop and maintain positive and collaborative partnerships with the community, stakeholder groups and agencies			
G8.1	Collaborate with adjacent land managers to establish priority projects addressing compliance and enforcement issues, including: - management of unauthorised jet ski use and the expansion of no boating zones in areas popular to swimming (PV); - manage unauthorised parking and dog orders (CoGG); and - manage disturbance of native wildlife and offences under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 (DELWP).	CoGG, PV, DELWP	1-5+

Table 2 Precinct Plan Actions

Precinct Action No.	Precinct Action Description	Agency Partner	Timeframe
Precinct 1 - Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve			
P1.1	Develop a Management Plan for Point Richards Flora and Fauna Reserve in coordination with CoGG and CFA.	DELWP, CoGG, WAC	4
Precinct 2 - Point Richards and Portarlington Holiday Park			
P2.1	Provide improved egress from Ramp Road to Boat Road from within the PHP.		1-2
P2.2	Upgrade access to Point Richards boat ramp and address issues from sand and seagrass build up and improve provision of trailer parking.	BBV, DELWP	1-4
P2.3	Develop facilities to improve visitor use and beach amenity to the area between Point Richards Boat Ramp and Portarlington Sailing Club.		4-5+
P2.4	Contribute to CoGG's Recreation Reserve Master Plan to improve connections to Holiday Park.	CoGG	1-2
P2.5	Work with CoGG to promote use of the Portarlington Recreation Reserve for events during the peak-period.	CoGG	2-3
Precinct 3 - Sproat Street to Fisher Street			
P3.1	Implement W.G. Little Reserve landscape upgrades to provide improved facilities for day-use and events.	CoGG	3-5
P3.2	Complete interim traffic management and car parking improvements along Foreshore Road.	CoGG, VicRoads	1-3
P3.3	Support the development of interim landside infrastructure for the ferry terminal.	PPF, PV	1-5+
P3.4	Work with CoGG to improve the function and condition of the car park adjacent to the Senior Citizens centre.	CoGG	2-3
P3.5	Provide new opportunities and events during the off-peak period in W.G. Little Reserve	CoGG	1-5+
P3.6	Replace ageing staircase leading up to W.G. Little Reserve from the foreshore.	DELWP	3-4
P3.7	Improve Landscaping in S.S. Nash Reserve to promote amenity and entrance to Portarlington commercial precinct.	DELWP	5+
Precinct 4 - Fisher Street to Anderson Reserve			
P4.1	Continue to improve coastal vegetation to protect the primary dune system, by planting indigenous species in selected locations linked to the primary and secondary dune systems.	CCMA	1-5+
P4.2	Continue to work with BirdLife to investigate and monitor the long-term changes to Red-capped Plover habitat in order to implement seasonal public awareness and habitat restoration to protect the Red-capped Plover.	Birdlife Australia	1-5+
P4.3	Develop a landscape plan for Steeles Rock car park. Priorities include: - drainage and associated erosion; - improving access (stairs and beach); - parking; - cultural heritage management; and - review of toilet facilities.	DELWP, CoGG, WAC	4-5

Table 2 Precinct Plan Actions (Cont.)

Precinct Action No.	Precinct Action Description	Agency Partner	Timeframe
Precinct 5 - Anderson Reserve to Batman Memorial			
P5.1	In collaboration with CoGG and the IHCA, actively publicise and market the Indented Head Community Hall for greater community use.	CoGG	1-5
P5.2	Develop and implement a landscape plan for Wrathall Reserve picnic area. Priorities include: - car parking upgrades; - all abilities access; and - picnic, BBQ and playground equipment.		4-5
P5.3	Support the IHCA to replace the Wrathall Reserve tennis court.	CoGG	1-3
P5.4	Investigate demand to extend the autumn camping season at Taylor Park.		2-3
P5.5	Seek camper and community input to develop, design and implement the replacement of the central amenity block at Batman Holiday Park.		1-3
P5.6	In collaboration with PV and CoGG, actively publicise and market the Ozone shipwreck as a destination for shoulder-season snorkelling and tourism.	PV	4-5
Precinct 6 - Batman Memorial to Harvey Road			
P6.1	Work with VicRoads to identify a solution to address safety risks associated with road cycling.	VicRoads	4-5
P6.2	Targeted education program to address illegal storage and launching of vessels.	PV	3-5
Precinct 7 - Harvey Road to The Bluff			
P7.1	Continue program to upgrade visitor access and facilities and retain area for low-key visitor use at St Leonards open recreation space (previously Area 5).		1-5
Precinct 8 - The Bluff to Beach Road			
P8.1	Undertake enhancement planting and control invasive weeds to improve the diversity and structure of native vegetation within the Lower Bluff conservation/bushland area.		1-5
P8.2	Upgrade various Lower Bluff car park areas and provide all weather access.		2-3
P8.3	Work with the community to identify options for low-key community use of the large open space area.		3-4
P8.4	Replace and relocate the ageing public toilet at Lower Bluff to the other side of road.	WAC	5

6. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

This Coastal and Marine Management Plan gives strategic management direction and detailed strategic and precinct management actions for the next five years and beyond.

Guided by this plan, on an annual basis, Bellarine Bayside will:

- a) Review management actions and evaluate progress against the timeline commitments.
- b) Provide to the Committee a Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting document (the 'MER report') on the review which details actions that may be at risk of not being implemented in accordance with timelines, along with justification for any delays. Actions to address the reason for delays will also be developed in consultation with the Committee.
- c) Compile data on key indicators of reserve condition based on agreed Key Performance Indicators (e.g. erosion and coastal processes monitoring, weed distribution, community and visitor feedback) and include a summary of this information within the abovementioned annual MER report.



Appendix 1.

List of Contributors in the development of the CMMP

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