

The Western Coastal Board

The Western Coastal Board (the Board) is one of three regional coastal boards (RCBs) established under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*. The Board's role is to ensure co-ordination, planning and management of the coast and the marine environment in Victoria's western coastal region. The Board reports to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and works closely with the Central and Gippsland RCBs and the Victorian Coastal Council (VCC).

Functions of the Board

The Board is established under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* to:

- provide advice to the Minister and VCC
- develop Coastal Action Plans (CAPs) for land within the region
- prepare guidelines for coastal planning and management in the region
- facilitate implementation in the region of the Victorian Coastal Strategy, CAPs and approved guidelines
- facilitate consultation and involvement in the development and implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy, CAPs and approved coastal guidelines
- liaise with and encourage the cooperation of stakeholders involved in the planning and management of the region in developing and implementing strategic solutions to matters affecting the conservation and use of the region's coast.

Membership of the Board

The Board's 8 members are appointed for a three year term by the Minister from July 2015-June 2018:

Jill Parker (<i>Chair</i>)	Carole Reid
Mark Edmonds	Oliver Moles
Alex Rankin	Kim Irons
Raymond Page	Glenn Wallace

The Western Coastal Region

The region extends from the South Australian border to near Breamlea and includes the municipalities of Glenelg, Moyne, Warrnambool, Corangamite, Colac-Otway and Surf Coast.



2015-18 Business Plan



12 Apostles. Image by Sal Ahmad

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Our vision: A healthy coast appreciated by all, now and in the future.

Our mission: The Western Coastal Board is an effective, collaborative advocate and champion for the western Victorian coast.

Theme	Action	Lead and partner	Timeframe
A regional approach to coastal planning and management	Ensure there are current coastal management plans (CMPs) in place throughout the region.	WCB DELWP, LCs, CoM	Ongoing
	Support the incorporation of cultural heritage and traditional owner input into coastal and catchment planning tools and management agreements, and efforts to work with TOs in preparing multi park plans that include coastal areas.	WCB CoM, LCs, PV, TOs, CMAs	Ongoing
	Contribute to the preparation of guidelines for the development of CMPs.	DELWP WCB, CoM, LCs, PV	February 2016
	Contribute to initiatives to promote collaboration between land and water managers and develop cross-tenure planning.	DELWP WCB, LCs, CoM, PV, VicRoads	June 2016
Managing and protecting coastal values	Facilitate the organisation of regular information sharing events to build regional capacity, collaboration and resourcing.	WCB CMAs, LCs, DELWP, CoM, PV	Ongoing
	Provide opportunities for networking and knowledge exchange between coastal communities, planners, managers and other stakeholders.	WCB VCC, CoM, LCs, CMAs	Ongoing
Communities supported to care for the coast	Promote, acknowledge and support the work done by local coastal and marine community groups and its recognition.	WCB PV, CMAs, LCs, DELWP	Ongoing
	Contribute to supporting volunteers to collect data about the coast to inform local decision making.	DELWP WCB, VCC, CMAs, LCs, CoM	Ongoing
Managing regional population and tourism pressures	Develop a service-level hierarchy for visitation infrastructure.	WCB DELWP, VCC, PV	December 2017
	Document and analyse effectiveness of existing approaches to demand management.	WCB DELWP, PV, LCs, CoM	December 2017
	Identify priority areas for visitation demand management, in particular resilient and vulnerable parts of the landscape.	WCB LCs, DELWP, CoM, PV, TBs, VicRoads, TOs	June 2018
	Develop a Visitation Demand Framework to guide local decisions, support investment and communicate with users.	WCB LCs, DELWP, PV, user groups, CoM, TBs	June 2018
	Assist in mapping and categorising visitation infrastructure throughout the region and in the DELWP review of the number and types of coastal Crown land reserves.	DELWP WCB, PV, LCs, CoM, Western Ports	December 2017
Adapting to climate change and increased coastal hazards	Support local adaptation initiatives and promote best practice responses to coastal climate change impacts.	WCB	Ongoing
	Assist in delivering actions from the Western RCP that facilitate effective adaptation to climate change including: prioritisation, coastal hazard assessment and adaptation planning methodologies, hazard assessment planning, integration of planning approaches and implementation of identified adaptation responses through local decision-making.	DELWP, LCs WCB, CMAs, PV, RDV, SES, CoM	Ongoing
Policy and operations	Develop an implementation plan for the Western RCP.	WCB Regional partners	June 2016
	Facilitate implementation of the Western RCP.	WCB	Ongoing
	Provide and facilitate input to key legislation, particularly the Marine and Coastal Act.	WCB RCBs, VCC, DELWP	June 2017
	Undertake statutory 5-year review of the Boating CAP and consider strategic planning for local ports for future recreation and tourism activities.	WCB CAP lead/partners	June 2017
	Progress sun-setting of outdated CAPs.	WCB CAP lead/partners	December 2017
	Ensure WCB website is current, informative and accessible.	WCB, DELWP	Ongoing
	Prepare advice for the Minister and VCC as required.	WCB	Ongoing
	Undertake Board governance, administration, communication, collaboration and financial management activities.	WCB, DELWP	Ongoing
	Prepare an Annual Report to the VCC on the status of coastal planning and implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy, CAPs and guidelines.	WCB, DELWP	Ongoing

WCB – Western Coastal Board, DELWP – Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, PV – Parks Victoria, CoM – Committees of Management, TOs- Traditional Owners, VCC – Victorian Coastal Council, CMAs – Catchment Management Authorities, SES – State Emergency Service, TBs – Tourism boards, LCs – Local councils, RDV – Regional Development Victoria