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COASTAL AREAS

Protection of coastal areas

Objective

To recognise the value of coastal areas to the community, conserve and enhance coastal areas and ensure sustainable use of natural coastal resources.

Strategies

Coordinate land use and planning with the requirements of the *Coastal Management Act 1995* to:

- Provide clear direction for the future sustainable use of the coast, including the marine environment, for recreation, conservation, tourism, commerce and similar uses in appropriate areas.
- Protect and maintain areas of environmental significance.
- Identify suitable areas and opportunities for improved facilities.

Apply the hierarchy of principles for coastal planning and management:

- Principle 1: Ensure the protection of significant environmental and cultural values.
- Principle 2: Undertake integrated planning and provide clear direction for the future.
- Principle 3: Ensure the sustainable use of natural coastal resources.
- Principle 4: Ensure development on the coast is located in existing modified and resilient environments where the demand for development is evident and any impacts can be managed sustainably.

Plan for marine development and infrastructure that is sensitive to marine national parks and environmental assets.

Ensure development protects and seeks to enhance coastal biodiversity and ecological values.

Ensure development is sensitively sited and designed and respects the character of coastal settlements.

Encourage revegetation of cleared land abutting coastal reserves.

Maintain the natural drainage patterns, water quality and biodiversity in and adjacent to coastal estuaries, wetlands and waterways.

Avoid disturbance of coastal acid sulfate soils.

Protect cultural heritage places, including Aboriginal places, archaeological sites and historic shipwrecks.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- Any applicable coastal action plan or management plan approved under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* or *National Parks Act 1975*.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Victorian Coastal Strategy* (Victorian Coastal Council, 2014)
- *Coastal Spaces Landscape Assessment Study* (Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2006)

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Coastal Crown land

Objective

To achieve coastal crown land development that provides an environmental, social and economic balance.

Strategies

Ensure that use and development on or adjacent to coastal foreshore Crown land:

- Maintains safe, equitable public access and improves public benefit.
- Protects local environmental and social values.
- Demonstrates need and coastal dependency.
- Minimises impact on the coast by locating within a defined activity or recreation node.

Policy guidelines

Consider as relevant:

- The purpose for which land is reserved under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*.
- Any relevant coastal action plan or management plan approved under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* or *National Parks Act 1975*.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Victorian Coastal Strategy* (Victorian Coastal Council, 2014)

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Bays

Objective

To improve the environmental health of Port Phillip Bay and Western Port and their catchments.

Strategies

Reduce major environmental pressures associated with urban growth and development in Port Phillip Bay and Western Port catchments by:

- Requiring growth area planning to protect significant natural assets.
- Improving the quality of stormwater entering waterways, particularly from construction sites and road development.

Improve waterway management arrangements for Port Phillip Bay and Western Port catchments.

Protect coastal and foreshore environments and improve public access and recreation facilities around Port Phillip Bay and Western Port by:

- Focussing development in areas already developed or in areas that can tolerate more intensive use.
- Requiring coastal planning and management to be consistent with the *Victorian Coastal Strategy* (Victorian Coastal Council, 2014).
- Managing privately owned foreshore consistently with the adjoining public land.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- *Victorian Coastal Strategy* (Victorian Coastal Council, 2014)