

**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)