

Assessment of Victoria's Coastal Reserves

Draft report for public comment



Community information sessions and workshops

October 2019

The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council invites you to community information sessions and workshops on the draft report

Are you interested in Victoria's coastal reserves?

The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) is carrying out an assessment of Victoria's coastal reserves. The aim of the assessment is to assist the Victorian government's future planning and decision making for Victoria's coasts. The assessment does not recommend changes to the current uses of coastal reserves.

Following the release of its draft report on the Assessment of Victoria's Coastal Reserves VEAC is holding five community information sessions in October 2019. Come and find out more about the assessment and talk to VEAC.

The sessions will run from 2pm to 7pm. The sessions are organised as a presentation at 2:15pm followed by a workshop discussion addressing key components of the assessment.

From 4pm anyone with an interest can drop in to find out more, view maps and other information, and provide input into the assessment.

Registration is not required.

You can also make a written submission until **Monday 11 November 2019**.

Inverloch

Wednesday 23 October 2019 2pm – 7pm
Inverloch Community Hub, Community Hall,
16 A'Beckett Street, Inverloch

Lakes Entrance

Thursday 24 October 2019 2pm – 7pm
Lakes Entrance Mechanics Hall,
18 Mechanics Street, Lakes Entrance

Frankston

Monday 28 October 2pm – 7pm
Frankston Mechanics Institute
1N Plowman Place, Frankston

Warrnambool

Wednesday 30 October 2019 2pm – 7pm
Pavilion Café - La Bella Function Room,
50 Viaduct Road, Warrnambool

Geelong

Thursday 31 October 2019 2pm – 7pm
Geelong West Town Hall
153 Pakington Street, Geelong West

www.veac.vic.gov.au



Assessment of Victoria's Coastal Reserves

What is VEAC?

VEAC provides the Victorian government with independent and strategic advice on matters related to public land.

VEAC carries out its investigations and assessments and provides advice at the request of the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Together the Act and terms of reference provided by the Minister describe how an investigation or assessment must be conducted, including the number of reports to be prepared, matters to be taken into account, timeframes and public consultation.

VEAC is a five-person council appointed by the Victorian government. The members are Ms Janine Haddow (Chairperson), Ms Joanne Duncan, Ms Anna Kilborn, Dr Charles Meredith and Dr Geoffrey Wescott.

What is an assessment?

The *Victorian Environmental Assessment Council Act 2001* was amended in 2016 to allow the Minister to request the Council to conduct an assessment or provide advice in relation to a matter that, in the opinion of the Minister, does not require an investigation, having regard to the matter's limited scale or scope or its technical nature. This assessment of Victoria's coastal reserves is requested pursuant to the new section 26B of the Act.

Terms of Reference

Pursuant to section 26B of the *Victorian Environmental Assessment Council Act 2001*, the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change hereby requests the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (the Council) to carry out an assessment of Victoria's coastal reserves.

The purpose of the assessment is to:

- a) review the number and types (reservation status) of coastal reserves in Victoria;
- b) identify reserves with high environmental, cultural heritage, social and economic values and identify values at risk from the impacts of climate change;
- c) identify current and emerging uses of the coastal reserves; and
- d) compile an inventory, including spatial distribution, of values and uses of the coastal reserves.

As a first step, the Council is required to publish a definition of coastal reserves to be used in the assessment, including a diagrammatic representation and map of Victoria's coastal reserves.

The assessment and associated inventory will assist the Victorian Government's future planning and decision-making for Victoria's coasts.

The Council must take into account relevant agreements under the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010*.

As part of the assessment, the Council must produce a draft report and seek public comment on it.

The Council must report on the completed assessment by 6 December 2019.

¹ For the purposes of this assessment, Victoria's coastal reserves include any Crown land along Victoria's coast (including the coast of any bay, inlet and estuary and the Gippsland Lakes) that is:

- a) reserved under section 4(1)(ze) of the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* for the protection of the coastline or is otherwise reserved under that Act and is landward of low water mark; or
- b) unreserved Crown land under the *Land Act 1958* that is landward of low water mark.

For clarity, Victoria's coastal reserves do not include any Crown land described as a park or marine sanctuary in Schedule 2, 2B, 3, 4, 7 or 8 to the *National Parks Act 1975* or any unreserved Crown land from low water mark to the outer limit of Victoria's coastal waters (mostly 3 nautical miles).

Contact details

Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
Level 39, 2 Lonsdale St
GPO Box 527
Melbourne, Victoria, 3001
Phone (03) 9637 9902 or
1800 134 803 (toll free from landline)
Email veac@delwp.vic.gov.au

How can I keep up to date?

To keep informed about the progress of the assessment, check the VEAC website for updates, like us on Facebook or register your interest by filling in the form on the VEAC website, sending an email or phoning VEAC.

We will email or post out bulletins during the assessment to inform you of progress and next steps.