

6 Implementing and monitoring the plan

Strong leadership and cooperative management between GORCC, DSE, Surf Coast Shire, Parks Victoria and other organisations and community groups will be essential to the success of this plan. Implementation of this plan will also need to be integrated with other plans developed by GORCC, e.g. those related to business planning and recreational development.

6.1 Action and priorities

A broad implementation program was developed incorporating the priority, partners and performance indicators for each action identified in section 5 (see table 9). Performance indicators specify timelines by which the action will be undertaken. Many of these indicators will be quantified as further information becomes available (eg weed program developed).

GORCC will oversee implementation of this plan. Regular reports will be provided to the volunteer committee regarding progress, with management and staff coordinating all implementation activities. GORCC works closely with DSE to plan and implement projects and will maintain ongoing communication regarding implementation of the Plan. The Committee will work also closely with Surf Coast Shire, Corangamite CMA, community and coast action groups and Aboriginal organisations to implement the Plan.

Actions to be undertaken in the plan may require specific approvals where relevant. These may include:

- *Coastal Management Act 1995* consent (required for significant development works).
- Surf Coast Shire planning permit.
- European and Aboriginal cultural heritage approvals (including liaison with the Wathaurong Aboriginal Cooperative and Framlingham Aboriginal Trust for ground disturbing activities).

An annual plan will be prepared to guide implementation of the Plan, with funds allocated by the Committee as part of GORCC's annual budgeting and business planning process. The Plan will be formally reviewed in 3 years time (December 2009).

6.2 Resources for implementation

This plan identifies priorities and issues for short and longer-term action. Effective implementation will require matching capacity (financial and management) with these priorities and is dependent on the resources available to GORCC. The priorities for actions set out in this plan will also need to be ranked against other management priorities in GORCC's annual business planning cycle.

The following notes provide an overview of funding and resource opportunities.

• Funding

GORCC's financial capacity

The Great Ocean Road Coast Committee earns revenue of approximately \$4 million per annum from its various caravan park and reserve operations. This revenue is raised from GORCC's directly managed caravan parks in Torquay and Lorne, and leased parks in Anglesea and Cumberland River. In addition, a range of foreshore uses and activities currently have leases and licences which provide revenue to GORCC. A number of new facilities are under consideration.

Of this revenue, approximately \$3m is used to meet costs associated with managing the caravan parks and reserve operations and administering the organisation. A range of activities under this Plan will be funded through ongoing operational expenditure eg weed control, communication, staff training, repairs and maintenance.

GORCC invests approximately \$1m per annum in larger capital projects along the coast, including walking tracks, car parks, facility upgrades and major conservation projects. A number of capital projects are linked to priorities in the Plan – particularly the sites listed in Action 29 – and these will be funded through GORCC's capital projects budget.

In August 2006 the Committee allocated a further \$50,000 to support implementation of the Plan in 2006/07, focusing on weed control, revegetation, education and sustainability activities.

Implementation will also be supplemented through various grant applications (see below). Grant applications focusing on weed control, vegetation management, erosion control, water conservation and recycling have been lodged, as have applications to support a number of the larger capital projects.

- **Other Funding Sources**

Government grants and payments – Funding for major initiatives may receive one-off allocations where Government priorities are met.

Foreshore parking – Paying for parking is common on urban foreshores around Port Phillip and in some regional areas (eg part of Lorne foreshore over the summer). There are opportunities to introduce fees at other sites so that users contribute to the costs of foreshore and facility management.

Major events – These events should contribute on a cost recovery basis (insurance, crowd management, cleaning and restoration as appropriate) but should also contribute to the general management of the foreshore which is required all year, not just in the event period.

Community - Ratepayers in Surf Coast Shire gain substantial benefits from foreshore areas but contribute little to management costs. This equity issue requires review.

Developer contributions - Developers are required to provide land or financial contributions to councils for open space under the Planning Scheme. This may result in some funding for foreshore management.

Miscellaneous

Other revenue opportunities include filming rights, and outdoor activities including weddings and large group picnics and social functions.

Grants

There are a number of sources of grant revenue which are available for particular foreshore projects. These include:

- Australian Government Envirofund (environment and education projects)
- Australian Government Community Water Grants (water conservation)
- Australian Government Recreational Fishing Grants (fishing platforms, education)
- Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (vegetation, estuaries, water quality etc)
- Marine Safety Victoria - Boating Safety and Facilities Program
- Life Saving Victoria (safety signs)
- DSE Coast Risk Mitigation Program
- DSE Beach Cleaning
- DPI Recreational Fishing Grants Program
- Parks Victoria Volunteer Group Grants (projects in/near parks)
- Victorian Government Good Neighbour Program
- Victorian Government Small Towns Development Fund and other funding programs
- Sport and Recreation Victoria (various funding programs)

- **Labour resources**

GORCC has an outdoor workforce with extensive skills and experience in managing coastal reserves. GORCC's staff will play a key role in implementing various activities under the Plan. In addition, GORCC uses a range of contractors eg for weed control and other on-ground works.

Volunteer involvement is a key labour source (section 5.5). Partnership projects can also be arranged with groups such as Conservation Volunteers Australia, and Green Corp.

Table 9: Implementation program**Goal 1: Protect and conserve natural values**

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
1. <i>Develop and implement vegetation management programs focused on protecting species and Ecological Vegetation Classes</i>	Very High	DSE, CCMA, Community	Vegetation programs in place by June 2007
2. <i>Undertake assessments of vegetation condition, including habitat hectare assessments to further understanding of vegetation priorities.</i>	Very High	DSE, CCMA, Community	Improvement in condition of vegetation by June 2009
3. <i>Report annually on the status, condition, and performance activities for management of natural values</i>	High	DSE, CCMA, Community	Annual report prepared by December 2007
4. <i>Develop and implement weed control programs</i>	Very High	SCS, DSE, PV, Community	Weed programs in place by June 2007 Reduction in extent of weeds by June 2009
5. <i>Implement measures to restrict access to sensitive soils, vegetation and fauna habitat of dunes and beaches</i>	Very High	DSE	Area of land treated by June 2008
6. <i>Investigate implementation of local laws to prevent cultivation of selected weed species</i>	High	SCS	Investigation complete by December 2007
7. <i>Implement rabbit control programs</i>	High	SCS, DSE, PV	Reduction in numbers in priority areas by June 2009
8. <i>Implement control program for foxes and cats</i>	High	SCS, DSE, PV	Reduction in numbers in priority areas by June 2009
9. <i>Review dogs on beaches regulations. Investigate the need for further regulation in sensitive areas</i>	High	SCS	New dogs on beaches regulations implemented by December 2007
10. <i>Investigate potential to implement controls for domestic cats to confine to property or ideally indoors</i>	Medium	SCS	Investigation complete by December 2007
11. <i>Conduct a census and prepare and implement a management plan for Koalas in Queens Park</i>	High	DSE	Management plan developed by December 2007
12. <i>Monitor research on estuaries and liaise with other agencies regarding appropriate management actions</i>	Medium	DSE, WCB	Arrangements in place by June 2007
13. <i>Convene a meeting to determine and develop an appropriate planning and management mechanism for estuaries.</i>	Medium	SCS, DSE, PV	Management issues scoped for all estuaries by June 2007
14. <i>Work with Surf Coast Shire to implement Anglesea River and Painkalac Creek Estuary Management Plans.</i>	Ongoing	SCS	Management plans implemented accordingly.

Goal 2: Protect and conserve cultural values

i) Indigenous cultural heritage

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
15. <i>Arrange cultural awareness training for appropriate GORCC staff</i>	High	Wathaurong, Framlingham	Training events held by June 2007
16. <i>Develop and implement procedures to notify the Local Aboriginal Community of proposed site works</i>	High	Wathaurong, Framlingham	Memorandum of Understanding developed by June 2007
17. <i>Commission a study of Indigenous site stabilisation needs, methods and management needs and undertake high priority works.</i>	Medium	Wathaurong, Framlingham AAV	Study completed by December 2007

ii) Non-indigenous cultural heritage

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
18. <i>Adopt the principles for management of non-indigenous cultural heritage places and apply in site planning and management.</i>	Ongoing	SCS, DSE	Increase in number of sites with management plans by June 2009
19. <i>Monitor the condition of, and threats to, significant non-Indigenous cultural heritage places and take timely action to minimise loss of heritage values</i>	High	SCS, DSE	Increase in number of sites with management plans by June 2009
20. <i>Carry out urgent repairs to deteriorating fabric of locally significant structures: Teddy's Lookout shelter (rafters), and Queens Park Caravan Park Entrance Lodge (log structure)</i>	High	DSE, Heritage Victoria	Improved condition of structures by December 2007.
21. <i>Explore potential to conserve, reinstate and interpret the Lorne Pier crane</i>	Low	DSE	Future of crane resolved by June 2007
22. <i>Prepare a Conservation Management Plan for the group of c1930s rustic-style structures in Lorne</i>	Medium	DSE, Heritage Victoria, SCS	Plan completed by December 2007

Goal 3: Ensure recreation and development minimise impacts on landscape and associated natural values

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
23. <i>Close and rehabilitate surplus tracks, review parking locations and upgrade fencing and signs</i>	Very High	DSE	Review of surplus tracks and car parks completed by December 2007
24. <i>Minimise signage clutter</i>	Ongoing	SCS	Review of signage completed by December 2007
25. <i>Implement siting and design guidelines.</i>	Ongoing	PV, DSE	Guidelines implemented in priority projects by December 2007
26. <i>Develop design manual with specifications for furniture, facilities, signage etc</i>	Medium	PV, DSE, SCS	Design manual developed by June 2008
27. <i>Improve landscaping development and maintenance activities.</i>	Ongoing		Best practice used in all projects by December 2007
28. <i>Undertake a formal environmental effects assessment before proceeding with major new developments.</i>	Ongoing	DSE	Assessments completed for major new projects as required
29. <i>Demonstrate high quality landscape design and management at six priority sites. Promote to increase community awareness and involvement: (BELOW)</i>	See below		Site works implemented by June 2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Torquay: Develop and implement master plan to redevelop boat ramp/club area at Fishermans beach.</i> 	High	Angling & Sailing Club TMRS, SCS, DSE	Site works implemented by June 2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anglesea: Implement master plan to upgrade Point Roadknight precinct</i> 	Very High	DSE, SCS, Anglesea Coast Action	Site works implemented by June 2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Aireys Inlet: Implement walking track proposal near Painkalac Creek.</i> 	High	Friends of Fairhaven, SCS, DSE VicRoads,	Site works implemented by June 2007
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eastern View: Implement Great Ocean Road Arch precinct upgrade</i> 	Very High	DSE, SCS, VicRoads	Site works implemented by June 2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lorne: Upgrade walk and enhance adjacent land from SLSC to Point Grey. Upgrade Point Grey.</i> 	Very High	Friends of Queens Park, DSE	Site works implemented by June 2008
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cumberland River: Undertake rehabilitation</i> 	Very High	DSE, PV, lessee	Site works implemented by December 2007
30. <i>Maintain high quality viewing opportunities for visitors with associated environmental improvements</i>	Ongoing	DSE	Priority viewing sites upgraded by June 2008
31. <i>Advocate for appropriate land management and planning decisions in adjacent areas:</i>	Ongoing	SCS, DSE	Increase in level of advocacy by December 2007

Goal 4: Ensure coordinated and sustainable management of coastal land

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
32. <i>Review land management responsibilities and negotiate with Surf Coast Shire and DSE to rationalise GORCC boundaries.</i>	High	SCS, DSE	Review of boundaries completed by June 2007
33. <i>Provide strong leadership and effective management of GORCC areas</i>	Ongoing	DSE	Training and skills enhancement by December 2007
34. <i>Meet regularly with other key agencies to review the implementation of strategic plans, opportunities for cooperation, and new issues.</i>	Ongoing	DSE, SCS, Vic Roads, Barwon Water, CFA, PV	Coordination meetings held by December 2007
35. <i>Arrange environmental audits of caravan parks and other GORCC facilities</i>	Very High	Waste Wise	Audits complete by December 2007
36. <i>Install more efficient lighting and heating, increased insulation and low-energy design for all new structures, and solar water heating at least in new buildings</i>	High		Reduction in energy use by June 2008
37. <i>Fit water efficient appliances in all facilities.</i>	High	Barwon Water	Reduction in water use by December 2007
38. <i>Use rainwater tanks (where practicable)</i>	High	Barwon Water	Reduction in water use by December 2007
39. <i>Plant only indigenous species with the exception of plantings in formal areas</i>	Ongoing		Increase in level of indigenous plantings by December 2007
40. <i>Ensure effective recycling and rubbish facilities in caravan parks and visitor areas</i>	High	SCS	Increase in recycling facilities by December 2007
41. <i>Assess the environmental impacts of using natural materials in construction.</i>	High	DSE, SCS, PV	Adoption of natural materials in landscaping projects by December 2007
42. <i>Ensure good water quality and conservation of water by following water sensitive urban design principles.</i>	Ongoing	SCS	Adoption of water sensitive design in landscaping projects by December 2007
43. <i>Promote sustainable practices in the community by developing and interpreting sustainable practices</i>	Medium	DSE, SCS	Increase in interpretation activities by December 2007
44. <i>Support studies into the potential impacts of climate change on the west coast.</i>	Very High	WCB, DSE	Initial study complete by December 2007
45. <i>Identify and monitor areas of foreshore at risk of sea level rise or other impacts of climate change</i>	High	WCB, DSE	Monitoring program in place by June 2008

Goal 5: Increase community involvement and appreciation

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	PRIORITY	PARTNERS	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
<i>46. Substantially expand, coordinate and recognise volunteer group environmental activities</i>	Very High	SCS, Coast Action.	Effective volunteer program in place by December 2007
<i>47. Liaise with local schools and visiting education groups.</i>	Medium	Local schools, SCS	Effective schools program in place by June 2008
<i>48. Provide regular information on GORCC activities for local communities and caravan park users</i>	Very High		Increase in communication activities by December 2007
<i>49. Educate local landholders, land managers and lessees to inform them of the importance of control and prevention of environmental weed invasion.</i>	High	DSE, SCS, PV	Weed education program implemented by December 2007
<i>50. Review all interpretive materials and activities and consider developing an interpretive plan.</i>	High	Parks Victoria, SCS, DSE	Interpretation plan complete by December 2007
<i>51. Establish an annual coastal achievement awards program to promote individuals, groups and organisations helping to manage coastal reserves</i>	High	DSE, SCS	Awards program established by June 2007

6.3 Monitoring success

Monitoring is essential to determine whether the goals of the plan are achieved. In addition to the various performance indicators for each management action listed in table 9, a number of overall plan indicators have been developed. These overall indicators focus on (DSE, 2006):

- Efficiency (activity) indicators – are quantitative measures of management actions in terms of quantity of activities, timeliness and cost. Many of the performance indicators in table 9 are efficiency indicators. These will be regularly monitored.
- Effectiveness (output) indicators – are quantitative or qualitative measures of the outcomes of the various management actions listed in table 9, and may take several years to show a response (e.g. the reduction in density of weed species over time).
- Outcome (condition) indicators – also called resource condition targets, are quantitative or qualitative measures of the effects of environmental outcomes of management actions on natural and cultural values, including environmental, social and economic assets. Trends may only be discernible in the longer term. Improved condition of a vegetation community or threatened species as a result of weed treatment may take many years to detect.

A number of proposed plan indicators are listed below. These will require further review once more detailed assessment of key assets and issues are completed, notably in relation to native vegetation and weeds (see section 5.1):

Efficiency:

- Level of implementation of actions in this Plan
Target: 75% of very high, high and ongoing actions implemented by June 2009.

Effectiveness:

- Effectiveness of measures to protect priority Ecological Vegetation Classes
Target: 50% increase in vegetation protection measures by June 2009
- Reduction in extent of priority weed species
Target: 25% reduction in extent of priority weed species by June 2009
- Increase in level of community participation in coastal management
Target: 50% increase in community participation by June 2009
- Satisfaction of stakeholders with GORCC's coastal management
Target: 75% satisfied or very satisfied by June 2009

Outcome:

- Improvement in condition of Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVC)
Target: 25% improvement in condition of priority EVCs by June 2009
- Level of protection of priority natural and cultural assets
Target: 75% of priority assets protected by June 2009