

CITY OF GREATER GEELONG

**Southeast Bellarine Coast
(4W-Collendina)
Coastal and Marine
Management Plan**

**Engagement Report
August 2022**



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What is a Coastal and Marine Management Plan?

A public document, prepared under the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* and approved by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change.

It establishes an agreement between the Victorian Government, the land manager and the community as to how an area of coastal Victoria will be managed.

The City is the land manager responsible for the Southeast Bellarine Coast foreshore reserve (part of Buckley Park Foreshore Reserve) from 4W to Collendina (from Fellows Road, Point Lonsdale to Bonnyvale Road, Collendina) – a strip of coastline that is Crown land approximately 5 kilometres long and 200m wide.

Plan overview

Vision: Ensuring and replenishing coastal and marine ecosystems to support nature, whilst fostering cultural connection and community stewardship.

OBJECTIVES					
1. Acknowledge Traditional Owners' rights, aspirations & knowledge	2. Protect & enhance the marine & coastal environment	3a. Respect natural processes	3b. Strengthen resilience to climate change	4. Use and develop sustainably	5. Promote stewardship and collaborative management
Understand, acknowledge and act upon rights and aspirations of Wadawurrung People for Country.	Protect and enhance intrinsic values, and goods and benefits, of the marine and coastal environment.	Understand dynamic natural processes in planning for, and managing, risks to people and assets.	Understand current and future stressors and assess how well marine and coastal environments can cope with, and adapt to, change, and how that can be strengthened	Consider impacts and benefits of existing, as well as new, use and development on the environment, other users and prosperity of future generations.	Take a stewardship approach, build understanding and knowledge, engage and collaborate.
VALUES, ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES: How the local context is shaping our response (refer page 20)					
OUTCOMES: What we want coastal and marine management to achieve (refer page 36)					
ACTIONS: How we will achieve the outcomes (refer page 38)					
RESOURCE NEEDS: What we need to support sustainable marine and coastal management (refer page 42)					
IMPLEMENTATION: How we will track progress and identify opportunities for refinement (refer page 43)					

Background

- 2020: Budget bid by OGCA to better protect the reserve between Ocean Grove and Point Lonsdale
- 2021: Extensive engagement to inform the Master Plan which was also used to inform the Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP) as within the scope of engagement (DELWP approved)
- 2021-22: Frequent meetings with stakeholder groups
- Feb 2022: State Government released CMMP draft guidelines
- Feb-Aug 2022: City prepared the draft CMMP in consultation with stakeholders
- Jul-Aug 2022: 30 days of engagement / Online symposium (4 sessions)
- Aug 2022: Engagement report and meetings with stakeholders
- Next: Refine and release final CMMP

Scope of plan

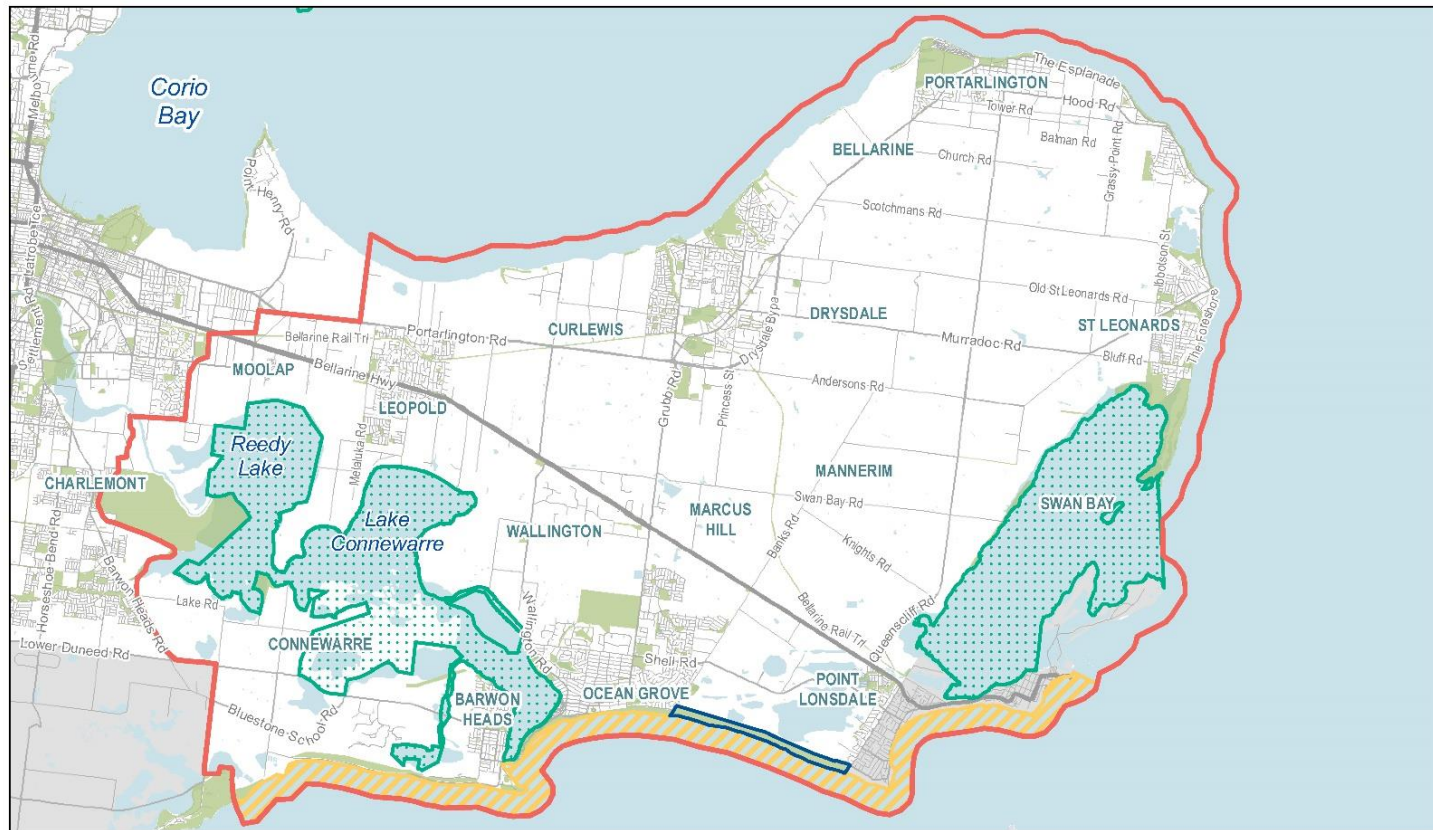


Coastal Crown land areas:

- *Corio Bay CMMP (commenced)*
- *Southeast Bellarine Coast (4W – Collendina) CMMP*

Please note: The CMMP applies *only* to the public land foreshore areas managed by the City on behalf of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

Scope of area



REGIONAL VALUES OF THE BELLARINE PENINSULA
Southeast Bellarine Region

-  CMMP Area
-  Bellarine Distinctive Area Landscape Boundary - Draft
-  State Significant Landscape - Draft
-  Ramsar Wetland



Prepared by City of Greater Geelong - 28/04/2022
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How we engaged

1st Round – prior to draft CMMP (values, issues and opportunities)

- Have Your Say page – survey/usage map
- Social and print media, postcards, brochures, landholder letter
- Frequent stakeholder group meetings
- Land manager and landholder surveys
- 3 x Online open houses (covid restrictions)
- 3 x Site tours
- 4 x Educational videos
- 1:1 meetings

2nd Round – feedback on draft CMMP

- Have Your Say page – survey
- Social and print media Victoria-wide, Government Gazette
- Stakeholder group meetings
- 4 x Online symposium sessions (covid restrictions)
- 1:1 meetings

Who we engaged with

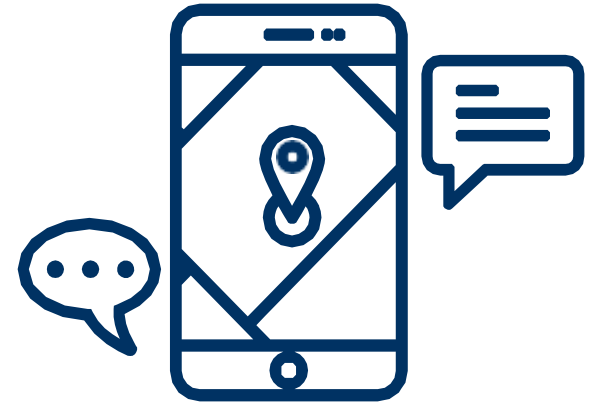
- **City of Greater Geelong Community / Stakeholders**
- **Project Steering Group (PSG):** Wadawurrung Traditional Owners, DELWP, Parks Victoria, CCMA, Barwon Coast, Borough of Queenscliff, Barwon Water, City of Greater Geelong
- **Community Representative Group (CRG):** 1 x representative from 16 community groups
- **Private Landholders (LHG):** individuals directly engaged
- **Victoria-wide:** Draft CMMP engagement notifications

What we asked

Round 2 Engagement – Aug 2022

Feedback on draft CMMP – HYS page survey

1. Do you live on the Bellarine
2. How often do you use this reserve/beach
3. Do you belong to a local group/organisation
4. How supportive or you of the overall draft CMMP
5. Consider the marine environment values, issues and opportunities in the draft CMMP. Have we missed anything
6. Additional comments
7. Additional information (upload)



Written submissions / Symposium contributions / Stakeholder meeting contributions / 1:1 meeting contributions

What we heard

Round 1 Engagement Summary:

The details of Round 1 have been reported prior.

Full report available on the Have Your Say page:

<https://yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/SBCS>

What we heard

Round 2 Engagement:

- >1000 visits to HYS page
- 26 survey contributions
- 2 written submissions
- Online symposium contributions
- Stakeholder meetings contributions
- 1:1 meeting contributions



What we heard

Round 2 Engagement Summary:

- Traditional Owners, Land Managers (PSG) – 100% very supportive of the draft CMMP, no changes suggested
- Community Representatives (CRG) – 100% very supportive of the draft CMMP, no changes suggested
- Landholders (LHG) - varied support of draft CMMP included 2 written submissions, survey responses + suggested changes.
- Online survey (26 people) – 73% very supportive or supportive, 8% not supportive, 19% neither + suggested changes.
- Online Symposium – supportive of draft CMMP + suggested changes

Scope of feedback

Note: Some responses were outside the scope of the CMMP including areas adjacent which will be covered in the precinct plan: Southeast Bellarine Biolink Master Plan.

This feedback (lakes, water flow, private land etc) will be included to inform the draft Master Plan

Based on this feedback the City will endeavour to make the CMMP area and scope clearer in the final Plan.

Suggested areas for improvement

Changes to way report is written:

- 1 x person responded - Clearer language
- 1 x Support statements with data
- 1 x Too many objectives
- 1 x Dates too far into the future
- 1 x Outcomes are not tangible or measurable enough
- 1 x Title is confusing - segment of coast
- 1 x Improve landholder connections in stewardship section
- 1 x Some specific rewording/deletion suggestions



Suggested areas for improvement

Issues to address in more detail:

- 1 x person responded - Unclear implications on landholders
- 1 x Support for a trail inside the area
- 1 x Better inclusion of all wildlife/migratory birds using this area
- 1 x Address plastic waste along beach
- 2 x Improved mapping of marine environment
- 1 x Confirm settlement boundaries (waiting on the State Bellarine Peninsula Distinctive Areas and Landscapes Statement of Planning Policy – due for release shortly)



Suggested areas for improvement

Content to address in adjacent areas:

- 3 x people responded -Better outline of access road, walking access points, private access
- 2 x Better description/differentiation of adjoining land use, public use
- 1 x Better outline of carparking and facilities that service this area
- 1 x Suggested safe trail connection between 6W and 7W



Feedback in support of draft CMMP

The overwhelming majority of contributions from all engagement activities supported the draft CMMP. A few comments below:

- *‘Draft management plan looks like a great approach to managing this space into the future.’*
- *‘Reading the draft, I find I agree with many of the actions, outcomes and principles’*
- *‘I am pleased that there is an awareness of the environmental, cultural value of this very special area.’*
- *‘Great engagement, good research, identified appropriate values and risks, listed relevant actions though master plan is needed to see what some of this will look like’*
- *‘I very much appreciate the amount of work which has been put into the draft plan. Its immediate implementation is essential to the future of this part of the Peninsula.’*

Review of Suggested Changes

Changes to the Draft Southeast Bellarine CMMP has been drafted in response to the suggested changes. Please find the details of the document on top of the Have Your Say page.

Next Steps

1. Finalise plan
2. DELWP review
3. Council approval
4. Minister approval
5. Implement 2023

For more information and to receive updates on the CMMP visit and follow this project <https://yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/CMMP>

Draft Southeast Bellarine Biolink Master Plan (in production)

<https://yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/SBCS>

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