



Central Coastal BOARD



About the Bays

The Newsletter of the Central Coastal Board

Edition 53 - June 2009

ISSN: 1447-7270

Coastal Issues in Port Phillip and Western Port

FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to Edition 53 of the Central Coastal Board's *About the Bays* newsletter.

This month saw an opportunity to contribute to the Federal Panel of Inquiry into Climate Change and Coastal Communities. It is interesting to note that Victoria's coastal governance arrangements were assessed as being comprehensive and amongst the best in the country. The contribution of the Victorian Coastal Strategy in establishing the policy of planning for a sea level rise of not less than 0.8m by 2100 was also considered instrumental in providing clear direction.

Recommendations for assistance or leadership from the Federal Government, as well as research and leadership in marine and oceans policy, include development of a defined and universally accepted climate change overlay to assist coastal planning - taking into account vulnerability and the type and timeframe of the risk to inform decisions about use and development.

The CCB also advocated for Federal input in community and professional education, providing tools to assist us in responding to climate change and a commitment to regional planning for adaptation. The need for Commonwealth leadership in the protection of the marine environment and for mitigation, as well as adaptation was stressed.

*Liz Johnstone
Chair*

CURRENT PROJECTS

Community Capacity Building Forum

The CCB is holding a forum in Hastings to assist information sharing and collaboration and strengthen partnerships focusing attention on Western Port's key biodiversity assets. The morning consists of a series of presentations covering current research and work on topics such as coastal remnant EVCs, saltmarsh & mangrove communities, and seagrass communities.

The afternoon format includes a panel session and a choice of concurrent workshops to allow participants time for in-depth discussion and how best to engage and support volunteer involvement in projects.

Date: Monday 15 June 2009

Venue: Hastings Harbour View Motor Inn
126 Marine Parade, Hastings

Time: 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

RSVP: To Lyndel McLennan by Wednesday 10 June, ph. 8627 4724 or lyndel.mclennan@dse.vic.gov.au

Boating CAP Progress Report 2009

The Progress Report on the implementation of the Boating Coastal Action Plan has been completed. Detailing actions taken to date and areas in need of further work, the report will form the basis of the CAP Implementation Committee's work program over the next year.

The report identifies four key priorities to progress implementation of the CAP and improve the boating network.

- Implement demand monitoring (Action 1.5 - Boating CAP Implementation Committee)
- Audit car and trailer parking for boating facilities (Action 3.1 - Local Government)
- Develop an investment and funding model (Action 8.1 - CCB)
- Prepare an annual work program that aligns with and supports the investment programs of responsible agencies (Action 8.4 - Boating CAP Implementation Committee).

The report also recommends that the CCB update the Boating CAP asset register and make some changes in assigning actions to appropriate agencies.

If you would like to obtain a copy of this report please contact Catharina Greve ph. 8627 4748 or catharina.greve@dse.vic.gov.au

PREVIOUS INFORMATION SESSIONS

Victorian Coastal Strategy

Thank you to those who attended the information sessions on the Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS) hosted by the CCB. Held in Geelong and Melbourne, the sessions provided opportunities to hear from and engage with key industry figures and policy makers on the strategy, the key government agencies responses to it and the challenges of implementation.

Both sessions were well attended and resulted in excellent discussions with the panel.

Western Port Welcomes Waterbirds Information Sessions

Another thank you goes to attendees of the two information sessions on the new *Western Port Welcomes Waterbirds* project, funded through *Caring for our Country*. Held at Hastings and Phillip Island Nature Park, the sessions aimed to inform and involve key stakeholders and potential contributors. Interest in the workshops was high and a total of 60 delegates attended, including representatives from government, community Natural Resource Management groups and interested members of the public.

The preliminary phase of the project is progressing well. The Project Steering Committee is established and has held its first meeting. Issues around project governance and scope were discussed and agreed.

The CCB website will include a regularly updated segment on this project www.ccb.vic.gov.au

AROUND THE COAST

Wetlands

The Victorian Catchment Management Authority Wetland Network held an interesting forum on 13-14 May in Geelong. Entitled *'Managing wetlands in a drying environment'* the forum hosted a number of speakers from research institutions, natural resource management agencies and private consulting firms, with experiences across Australia in the challenges of and solutions of managing wetlands in a drying climate.

Frankston 'safe boat harbour' approved

Frankston's Safe Boat Harbour has been given planning approval by the Minister for Planning.

The development creates boating and marina facilities in Port Phillip Bay adjacent to Oliver's Hill cliff face where breakwaters will be built to provide a safe harbour.

The project includes boat ramps, dual landing platforms, up to 300 permanent wet berths for boat owners, public moorings and other services for fisherman and boat users. Short-stay accommodation, outdoor recreation facilities, retail and commercial facilities are also planned.

There remains some community opposition to the proposal given its size and possible impacts on the local and surrounding beaches.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Working with Climate Change: An Adaptation Symposium

The Victorian Government is bringing together some of the best international and Australian minds working in climate change adaptation for a two day symposium in Melbourne.

ABOUT THE BAYS

The symposium will highlight some of the key adaptation issues for business, government and the community; explore solutions and examine opportunities.

Date: 3-4 June 2009

Venue: Grand Hyatt, 123 Collins Street, Melbourne

Further Information & Registration is available at:
www.climatechange.vic.gov.au

World Premier 'Western Port - The Movie.' Well....almost.

Western Port Seagrass Partnership Ltd invites those interested to see and hear about the important new Western Port DVD & web site.

Date & Time: Wednesday 10 June 2009, 3.00 pm to 4.30 pm

Venue: Lady Nelson Room, Hastings Marina, Mullet Street, Hastings.

Entry: Free

RSVP/Bookings: recommended, please email info@seagrass.com.au

University of Melbourne - 'The Costs of Climate Change'

The Sustainable Society Institute and the Office for Environmental Programs, in association with the Victorian Government's Department of Sustainability and Environment, are hosting this special event featuring international experts speaking on the topic of climate change and its likely costs for businesses, governments, and communities.

Date & Time: Tuesday 2 June 2009, 5.30-7.00 pm

Venue: Basement Theatre, 'The Spot', New Economics & Commerce Building, 198 Berkeley Street, Carlton.

Entry: Free

RSVP/Bookings: recommended, please email cprebble@unimelb.edu.au

About the Bays is published on a monthly basis. To receive a copy of the newsletter contact:

Central Coastal Board
10/535 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Ph: 8627 4724 Fax: 8627 4791

E-mail : ccb@dse.vic.gov.au

www.ccb.vic.gov.au

GENERAL DISCLAIMER: This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

© The State of Victoria, Central Coastal Board, 2007