

Draft Dromana Foreshore Reserve Coastal Management Plan 2014-17



Prepared by the Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management

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Executive summary

Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management (the Committee) cares for the 3.25 kilometre length of narrow Foreshore Reserve at Dromana. The landscape character comprises distinct coastal vegetation, narrow beaches, calm water, rocky headlands, clusters of brightly coloured boatsheds and bathing boxes and Dromana Pier.

The Vision for the Dromana Foreshore Reserve is to promote Dromana by managing the foreshore to sustain and enhance the natural environment while providing a safe and attractive venue for a range of recreational opportunities.

Fees generated from boatsheds and bathing boxes and the caravan park provide income for the Committee to manage the foreshore, including funding of works to enhance recreation opportunities and protect the natural environment.

An analysis of the Committee's financial and resource position shows that the Committee's existing revenue base limits the amount of work that can be achieved in these key areas. Major capital works projects, therefore, rely on successful grant applications.

The development of the bay trail will continue to provide major new recreation opportunities in Dromana. A route for the proposed bay trail, along the beach side of the highway, is already well defined along the majority of the foreshore.

The caravan park will continue as a foreshore use. In accordance with the *Best Practice Management Guidelines for Committees Managing Caravan and Camping Parks on Crown Land* (DSE 2012) the Committee will be implementing new use and access policies to comply with the requirements to improve access to Crown land caravan and camping parks. Due to some concern that the density of caravans, annexes, cars and boat trailers severely limits pedestrian access along the foreshore, the Committee adopted a Caravan Park Masterplan in 1999/2000. A reduction in the number of campsites has begun to improve the safety of the caravan park and to ensure the facility meets the standard now expected of major public camping areas.

Key recommendations of the Coastal Management Plan include:

- Improve the function and appearance of large and small picnic areas including upgrading of picnic facilities, new fencing and improved toilet facilities.
- Interpret the rich history of Dromana with the help of the Historical Society and the Kaala Koori Association.
- Continue weed removal, protection of remnant indigenous vegetation and the reestablishment of indigenous vegetation.
- Improve maintenance of the foreshore by providing additional toilet cleaning, and undertaking additional walking track and beach access works.

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1. Introduction

1.1. *The Reserve*

The Coastal Management Act 1995 sets out requirements for the preparation of management and business plans. This coastal management plan defines the vision to be achieved by the Committee in the years ahead. The plan aims to describe how the Committee can feasibly implement change to improve the natural and recreational quality of the foreshore. The Management Plan describes the future function of the foreshore with the identification of areas for conservation, picnic facilities, boating, car parking, pedestrian access and foreshore facilities.

The foreshore edges of Port Phillip are a focus for recreational use, especially during the summer holiday period. In many locations like Dromana the recreational use is concentrated in an extremely narrow and fragile environment. In addition to providing opportunities for recreation these reserves also contain the last remnants of indigenous coastal vegetation. As such they are an essential part of the landscape character of Dromana and the Mornington Peninsula in general.

The Dromana Foreshore Reserve (Reserve) covers a 3.25 kilometre length of narrow Foreshore at Dromana, on the Mornington Peninsula. The Reserve is 28.5 hectares of publicly owned coastal Crown land reserved under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978. It consists of the foreshore land between Safety Beach and McCrae. Reservation of the Dromana foreshore was proclaimed in 1891 and is reserved for Public Purpose and Public Park. The Foreshore Reserve is generally from 35 to 50 metres wide between the edge of the road and the edge of the beach and covers an area of approximately 28.5 hectares. The landscape character comprises distinct coastal vegetation, narrow beaches, calm water, and rocky headlands. In addition, the clusters of brightly coloured boatsheds and bathing boxes and Dromana Pier are important cultural aspects of this landscape character.

The study area includes a short section of the bottom slope of Arthurs Seat. The vegetated Reserve situated between the Point Nepean Road and La Trobe Parade is referred to as La Trobe Reserve. This area is generally 100 metres wide and approximately 13.7 hectares in area. There is as little as 25 metres between the edge of the Point Nepean Road and the edge of the beach for much of this end of the Reserve. The road around Anthony's Nose runs along the water's edge.

A detailed list of the Crown land parcels included in the reserve is located in Appendix 1

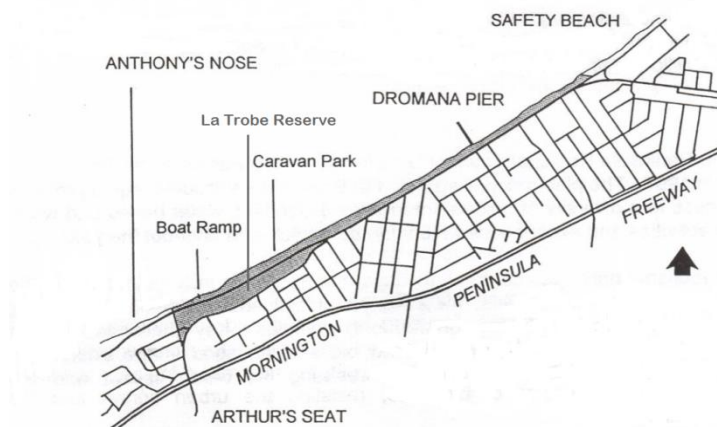


Figure 1: Location Plan of Reserve

Landscape character and views

The idyllic image of Dromana and the Mornington Peninsula is largely dependent upon the natural environment, and especially the unique colour and texture of the Coast Banksia canopy extending from the highway to the beach. Add to this the long narrow sweep of sandy beach, mirror calm water, and rocky headlands. Then finish the idyllic image with clusters of brightly coloured bathing boxes, jetties, boating and bathing. The undulating landform and the high grey-green canopy and dark twisted trunks of the Coast Banksia does much to identify Dromana as a coastal resort and also frames and filters views to the bay. These views are most valuable when the Coast Banksia is combined with an understorey of lawn areas or indigenous coastal vegetation.

There is a general dominance of buildings and car parks and a lack of canopy trees in the town centre area of foreshore. In particular the Memorial Hall and toilets do not have a coastal theme and block views and access to the bay. Low dense vegetation in this area also limits views to the bay. Mass planting of carpet roses and mixed shrub planting are a suburban landscape treatment with little relationship to the coastal setting.

Scenic drive around the bay

Approaching Dromana from Mt Martha along Marine Drive the open views across the Bay at Safety Beach give way to glimpses of the water through the coastal vegetation. When approaching along the Nepean Highway the eastern gateway to Dromana offers views of the Bay. Travelling through Dromana, the urban edge of the town along the highway contrasts with the vegetated foreshore with Bay glimpses. The centre of Dromana at the pier is reinforced by an open view out to sea. The powerlines detract from the image as one drives through the town area. While dominating the immediate landscape they also restrict the growth of trees along the edge of the Highway. The road around Anthonys Nose is one of the memorable images of the Mornington Peninsula with the steep vegetated cliff and wide views over the Bay. The wooded slope of Latrobe Reserve also forms a picturesque backdrop to Dromana and the Bay.

History of the Reserve

Throughout Victoria, the imprint of generations of Aboriginal people is evident in the landscape. Each part of Victoria has places where Aboriginal people lived; obtaining sustenance, expressing themselves artistically, passing on creation stories and cultural values, establishing social alliances and networks, trading goods, celebrating rites of passage and committing the departed to their final resting place.

Aboriginal places and objects can be found all over Victoria and are often near major food sources such as rivers, lakes, swamps and the coast. Due to the coastal location of the Reserve it is believed that the area was utilised by Aboriginal people prior to European settlement.

The historical landscape of the Reserve largely consisted of Coast Banksia Woodland, dominated by an overstorey of Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia* var. *integrifolia*) over tall shrubs of Coast Tea-tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*). Scramblers such as Bower Spinach (*Tetragonia implexicoma*) were common in the understorey with a groundcover of grasses, herbs and sedges. The Reserve also had areas of swamp scrub dominated by shrubs of Swamp Paperbark (*Melaleuca ericifolia*). The foreshore would have been dominated by vast secondary or tertiary dunes protecting the inland landscape and coastal vegetation.

The majority of the land in the Dromana Foreshore Reserve has been reserved for Public Purposes since 1873. The foreshore has a long history of recreational use and continues to be an important public resource for both the Dromana community and the wider Victorian population.

A detailed history of the Reserve is located in Appendix 2.

Climate

The area has a coastal, temperate climate with warm summers and cool, wet winters. Average yearly rainfall is 736.7mm; the wettest months are May to October, with the driest months occurring in January and February. The annual average maximum temperature in this area is 18.9°C, with an average summer maximum of 24°C.

1.2. Vision for the Reserve

The vision for the Reserve sets the framework for future planning and management. The vision for the Dromana Foreshore Reserve is:

To promote Dromana by managing the foreshore to sustain and enhance the natural environment while providing a safe and attractive venue for a range of recreational opportunities.

To achieve the vision, the Committee aims to:

- Respect the wider landscape setting of Dromana Bay, Mount Martha, Anthony's Nose and the slopes of Arthurs Seat
- Maintain and enhance the coastal views from Point Nepean Road, especially at the pier and Anthony's Nose
- Maintain and enhance the existing indigenous coastal vegetation
- Facilitate a continuous coastal Bay Trail
- Maintain a walking trail link to Arthurs Seat through La Trobe Reserve
- Support landscape works to emphasise the foreshore area around the pier head as the town focus for Dromana
- Support the integration of planning of the Dromana township with the Reserve
- Enhance the all year use of the foreshore
- Retain and enhance the amenity and safety of the existing caravan park by improving facilities and site conditions
- Promote the retention of boat launching facilities at Anthony's Nose
- Retain and enhance boatsheds and bathing boxes as a Port Phillip icon
- Continue the design themes for all elements including fences and barriers, signage, picnic facilities and paths along the foreshore
- Maintain and upgrade the existing pattern of dispersed small car parks along the foreshore
- Protect archaeological sites and provide opportunities to interpret the rich history of Dromana
- Support the continued improvement of bay water quality
- Encourage the maintenance of the existing revenue sources and encourage opportunities for alternative sources of revenue in the future



Figure 2. The scenic Point Nepean Road around Anthony's Nose with the cliffs of La Trobe Reserve on the left

1.3. *Management responsibility*

Dromana Foreshore Reserve Committee of Management

The Reserve is managed by the Dromana Foreshore Reserve Committee of Management Inc. (the Committee). The Committee is appointed under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* to manage, improve, maintain and control the land for the purposes for which it is reserved. The Committee was appointed by the Minister for Conservation, Forests and Lands in 1990 (now the Minister for Environment and Climate Change), and is incorporated. Committee members are selected to be on the Committee by the Minister's delegates through an expression of interest process. The Minister is delegated to appoint individuals based on particular skill sets that are considered valuable for the Reserve, for example, general skills such as computer skills and bookkeeping and their level of community involvement. Each Committee member is appointed for a term of three years.

The Committee is appointed to manage the Reserve by:

- Employing officers, servants and contract workers.
- Taking legal proceedings where necessary.
- Entering into licence, lease or other tenure agreements.
- Carrying out works and improvements.
- Collecting entry fees and other charges.
- Expending monies on the reserve.
- Enforcing regulations for the use of the reserve.

A Committee of Management must:

- Manage, maintain, develop and improve the land in accordance with the purpose of the Reservation.
- Provide annual statements of revenue and expenditure.
- Comply with any rule, regulation or requirement imposed by other legislation, e.g. *Coastal Management Act 1995* consents and planning permits from local Councils for works or developments.

The Committee is responsible for preserving the natural values of the foreshore and providing recreational opportunities. The Committee is largely self-funded with revenue earned from caravan park fees, boatshed and bathing box fees and other sources enabling the Committee to employ Ranger staff, provide facilities, protect the coastal environment and generally maintain the foreshore.

Department of Environment and Primary Industries

The Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) acts as the landowner of Crown land and delegates the management responsibility to the Committee. DEPI provides advice and guidance to the Committee and assists to resolve issues and build relationships with key stakeholders. Committees are eligible to apply for various grants via DEPI. Committees are required to provide financial or audited statements to DEPI and can request assistance or advice as required.

Lease/licence holders

Describe the land currently under tenure and the management responsibilities of the lease/ licence holder.

1.4. Management context

The responsibilities of the Committee sit within a wide range of legislation and policy and are guided by a range of key strategies and plans at a national, state and local level. A detailed description of the key policy, legislation and statutory frameworks applicable to the Reserve can be found in Appendix 3.

Reserve Regulations

The Reserve's Regulations were declared in 1961 (Victorian Government Gazette No. 93, page 3785) and amended in 1978 (the Victorian Government Gazette, No. 39, page 1294). The Regulations relate to the types of activities, uses, and behaviours permitted within the Reserve. The Committee has the full power and authority to enforce these regulations, and may grant permits for specific uses, with the consent of DEPI. A copy of the regulations is attached as Appendix 4.

Adjoining land use

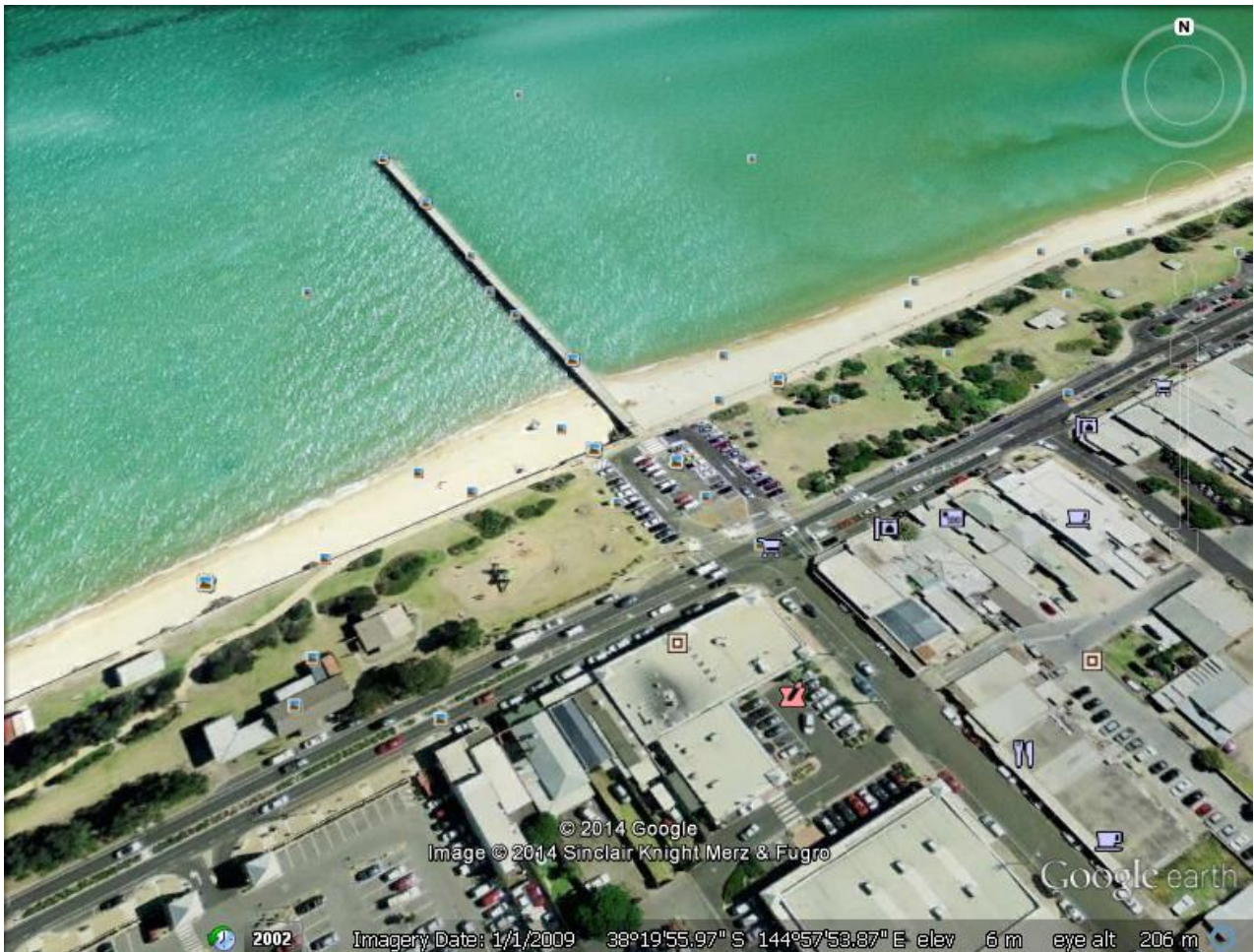
Several sections of Crown land along the Reserve are managed by other agencies. The area around Dromana Pier has a patchwork of management responsibilities. The Pier Street road reserve continues for approximately half the depth of the foreshore area. On each side of the Pier Street road reserve is a Wharfage Reserve managed by the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council (Council). Between the edge of the Council managed area and the seawall is a strip of Reserve managed by the Committee. The unmarked boundary between Council and Committee areas cuts across the middle of the lawn foreshore and pier car park (refer to Figure 3).

To the west of the Wharfage Reserve there is a Public Hall Reserve, also managed by Council. The Soldier's Memorial Hall is partly occupied by the 1st Dromana Seas Scouts. Building annexes to the Memorial Hall

extend onto the Foreshore Reserve. Between the two Council managed reserves is a portion of Foreshore Reserve on which the Council has constructed a public toilet.

Council and Melbourne Water are responsible for all storm water drains that outlet onto the beach.

Parks Victoria manage the Dromana Pier as Committee of Management. The pier is not suitable for larger boats and is mostly used for fishing and sightseeing. Parks Victoria has recently undertaken an upgrade of the pier.



Dromana Scout and Guide Hall, Dromana Lifesaving Club, Dromana Wharfage Reserve and Dromana Pier are not included in the Dromana Foreshore Reserve Committee of Management area.

Figure 3: Wharfage Reserve and associated parcels that are not part of the Dromana Foreshore Reserve

Parks Victoria as Local Port Manager is responsible for ensuring the safety, efficiency and effectiveness of operations on Port Phillip. This is achieved through the management of port infrastructure including piers and jetties, aids to navigation, moorings and berths and dredging as well as the preparation and implementation of Safety and Environmental Management Plans.

Transport Safety Victoria is the Victorian Government's agency responsible for marine safety and the administration of the *Marine Safety Act 2010*.

VicRoads is responsible for the portion of foreshore between La Trobe Parade and Anthony's Nose which is occupied by Point Nepean Road. The road is constructed through the Reserve.

When the area above Anthony's Nose was subdivided Foord Lane was constructed across the La Trobe Reserve to connect with La Trobe Parade. This has created a small portion of the reserve that is not readily identifiable as part of the reserve. The proposal to incorporate part of the road reserve into the Reserve is currently being facilitated by DEPI and the Council.

The south east of the Reserve is bordered by Point Nepean Road. Most of the surrounding parcels are freehold residential properties.

1.5 Stakeholders & community consultation

The Reserve has many stakeholders. The following stakeholders have a direct interest in the management of the Reserve:

Local residents

The local residents utilise the Reserve throughout the year for various recreational pursuits. These include walking, dog walking, sunbathing, swimming and wildlife watching. The Reserve is valued for its natural bush setting and peaceful atmosphere. The local residents have an interest in maintaining the Reserve for these purposes and ensuring that it is safe to do so.

Lease/Licence holders

Peninsula Power Boat Club Incorporated licences the boat ramp and car park at Anthony's Nose. The Power Boat Club is responsible for manning the ticket box and providing for launch and recovery of private vessels every day during the summer school holidays and then on weekends through until Easter. The club is also responsible for management of the boat ramp car park from 1 November until 30 April each year.

Bathing Box and Boatshed Licence holders

Surf Lifesaving Club

Boat Hire

Victorian public

All Crown land within the state of Victoria is managed for the benefit of the Victorian public. Crown land not only caters for the needs of those who directly use it, but also for the entire Victorian public. The Reserve acts as a protective buffer between the ocean/Bay and inland areas by reducing wind speed, reducing the impact of erosion and absorbing excess stormwater. The Reserve also provides valuable habitat to native flora and fauna to maintain biological diversity in the area.

Local Council

Council is the governing body for planning permit applications for works within the municipality. The Committee must maintain a close working relationship with Council officers to ensure that gaining approvals for works within the Reserve is a smooth process. Council also provides grant opportunities to the Committee and other community organisations.

Community Engagement

The Committee meets regularly with stakeholder groups and intends to continue to develop this relationship as part of its aim to improve dialogue between the Committee and its user groups. The Committee has a website (www.dromana.foreshore.net.au) to keep the public up to date with its activities.

The Committee has an annual display at the Dromana Australia Day Festival detailing works completed in the last year, plans for the coming year and to answer any questions. The Committee is actively assisted by a number of local community Groups. These groups include:

- Campers and Friends Association, which have historically had large working bees twice a year, and in the past have been successful in obtaining some Coast Action funding.
- Friends of La Trobe Reserve, who conduct working bees throughout the year.
- Peninsula Powerboat Club, which manages the boat ramp. The club has successfully received funding for the upgrade and development of the Anthony's Nose boat ramp
- Local School Groups
- Mornington Peninsula Beach Box Association

As part of the preparation of the Management Plan, the community were given an opportunity to input into the Plan and to raise any issues with the current management of the Reserve. The Draft Dromana Foreshore Coastal Management Plan was released for public comment in November 2014.

The plan and copies of the report were placed on display at the Information Centre in Dromana and at both the Library and Council Office in Rosebud. In addition an electronic version of the plan was available on DEPI's website. Advertisements were placed in the local newspaper and fliers were placed in shop windows in Dromana. Recipients of the "Foreshore Focus" newsletter, namely boatshed and bathing boxes permit holders and caravan park tenants were advised of the upcoming draft document and its availability for public comment. All submissions and individual replies were sent to DEPI with the Committee's comments relating to their incorporation into the Coastal Management Plan.

2. Existing conditions & management strategies

The preparation of the Coastal Management Plan includes a review of existing Reserve resources in terms of the natural and cultural history and recreation use and facilities. In the following section, key natural, cultural and recreational assets are identified and described. Issues relating to site and facility conditions, environmental and landscape impact, recreation value, public safety and ongoing management are also summarised.

Fees generated from boatsheds, bathing boxes and the caravan park form a major part of the Committee's revenue. This revenue is essential to allow the Committee to undertake management works to enhance recreation and the natural environment. The existing financial and resource position of the Committee is reviewed in the plan. Changes to the use and management of the Reserve must be economically viable to ensure that the Committee can continue to protect and maintain the Reserve. The commercial viability of the recreational uses and management in terms of capital outlay, operations costs and ongoing maintenance costs is a key consideration of the plan. The existing financial and resource position of the Committee is briefly described in Section 3.

The key point in this Coastal Management Plan is continued improvement of the Reserve. This plan is part of that strategy and describes changes to existing activities, new activities and other Reserve improvements. The Reserve will continue to be managed for the range of recreation activities it currently attracts as well as providing opportunities for new activities.

Key recommendations of the Coastal Management Plan are:

- The continued development of the Bay Trail as the recreational focus along the foreshore. Improved visitor facilities will be developed at key locations along the bay trail
- Maintenance of pedestrian access along the Reserve with the development of a wide promenade (Bay Trail) along the seawall on each side of the pier
- Development of the foreshore areas adjacent to the pier as the focal point of Dromana. Link Dromana town centre to the waterfront and promenade with improved visual and physical links
- Maintenance of the walking track from the La Trobe Federation Track to Foord Lane, providing a further link with the Two Bays Walking Track
- Improvement of the function and appearance of large and small picnic areas including upgrade of picnic facilities, new fencing and toilet facilities
- Interpretation of the rich history of Dromana with the help of the Historical Society and the Kaala Koori Association
- Continued weed removal, protection of remnant indigenous vegetation and the re-establishment of an indigenous understorey in key areas
- Improved maintenance of the Reserve made possible by including additional toilet cleaning, walking tracks and beach access
- Reduction in risk of wildfire as per wildfire management plan
- Implementation of the actions in the risk mitigation report

Priority	Time Frame
1. Ongoing/Essential	Budgeted works such as public risk issues, operational works, revegetation and weed control.
2. As Required	Budgeted unexpected works such as repairs to signage and emergency works e.g. wind and storm damage.
3. High	To be completed in 18 months.
4. Moderate	To be completed in the life of the plan (36 months).
5. Low	To be completed in the life of the next plan or sooner if possible (within 5-10 years).

2.1 Management Zones

Management zones have been identified which combine areas with similar site attributes including conservation values, intensity and type of use, landscape character, and management requirements. The management zones provide a framework for establishing a theme, uses and activities, future planning and works to be undertaken. Seven zones have been identified along the foreshore. The zones are identified in Figure 4 and specific zone descriptions and management actions are indicated in the following sections (Figure 5-10).

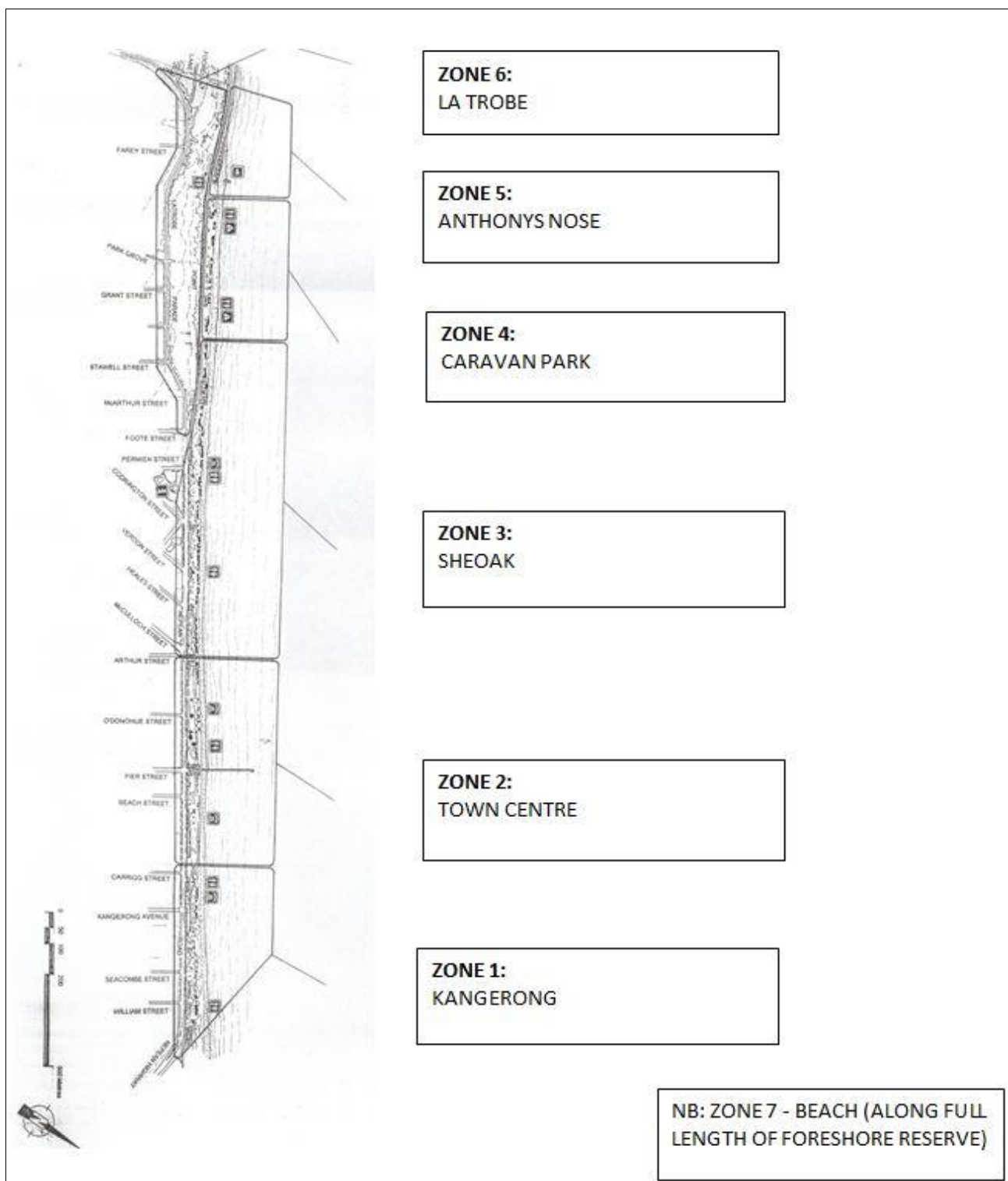


Figure 4: Dromana Foreshore Reserve Management Zones Map

Zone 1- Kangerong is located at the eastern end of the Reserve (refer to Figure 5). The Committee manages this area of the Reserve to allow for low key recreation facilities and pedestrian access, to reinforce the coastal image at the gateway to Dromana and to preserve and enhance the remnant indigenous vegetation. This area of the Reserve is used for:

- Swimming and beach activities
- Boatsheds and bathing boxes
- Walking and cycling
- Picnicking by small groups
- Bay viewing, including from a lookout suitable for visitors with disabilities



Figure 5: Zone 1 – Kangerong

Zone 2 – Town Centre is located either side of the pier (refer to Figure6). The Committee manages this area of the Reserve with the aim of reinforcing the pier area as the town centre focus, and linking the waterfront and foreshore parks with the town for day visitors promenading and pinicking. Preserving and enhancing the remnant vegetation in this zone is also important. This area of the Reserve is used for:

- Focal square of Dromana and venue for outdoor events
- Works depot
- Swimming and beach games
- Safe family beach with Dromana Bay Lifesaving Club
- Boatsheds and bathing boxes
- Pier sightseeing and fishing
- Walking, cycling and promenade
- Picnicking (small and large groups) including group bookings
- Soldier's Memorial Hall tenants (Sea Scouts and Guides)
- Playground



Figure 6: Zone 2 – Town Centre

Zone 3 – Sheoak is located to the west of the town centre (refer to Figure 7). The Committee manages this area of the Reserve to allow for low key picnic facilities and to improve pedestrian access. It is also managed to preserve and enhance the remnant indigenous vegetation through formalising access and installing barriers to protect vegetation, and to support the continued operation of the boat hire facility.

This area of the Reserve is used for:

- Swimming and beach activities
- Boatsheds and bathing boxes
- Walking and cycling
- Picnicking by small groups
- Boat hire commercial activities



Figure 7: Zone 3 - Sheoak

Zone 4 – Caravan Park is located near Anthony’s Nose, and La Trobe Reserve, at the western end of the Reserve (refer to Figure 8). Management of the Caravan Park requires ongoing maintenance and improvements to develop the facilities to a standard that provides equity of access for Reserve users with disabilities. The image and facilities also require upgrade to improve amenity and safety for Caravan Park patrons. Maintenance and improvement of native vegetation in this area is also important. This area of the Reserve is used for:

- Swimming and beach activities in close association with the caravan park
- Caravan Park with a reduced number of sites and improved equity of access
- Boatsheds and bathing boxes
- Walking and cycling



Figure 8: Zone 4 – Caravan Park

Zone 5 – Anthony’s Nose is the western most zone in the Reserve (refer to Figure 9). The Committee manages this area of the Reserve to continue the tradition of boating at the Dromana. The area must be maintained for car parking and boat launching, as well as safe vehicle and pedestrian access. There is a need to connect pedestrian access between Dromana and McCrae with completion of the Bay Trail to achieve this. The area needs work to improve the visual impact of the car park area. This area of the Reserve is used for:

- Boat ramp and associated trailer parking
- Access lane for water-skiers
- Some swimming and beach activities east and west of the boat ramp and access lane
- Walking and cycling
- Leash free dog walking area



Figure 9: Zone 5 – Anthony’s Nose

Zone 6 – La Trobe refers to the La Trobe Reserve, located on the landward side of Point Nepean Road (refer to Figure 10). The La Trobe zone contains locally significant flora and fauna communities, and is managed to protect these whilst still providing for pedestrian access and encouraging engagement, use, interaction and community participation, appreciation and education. This area of the Reserve is used for:

- Conservation of natural assets to retain, maintain and develop the Reserve
- Walking on the designated walking tracks through and around the Reserve, including linking with the Bay Trail, Two Bays walking track and Arthur’s Seat.
- Education and interpretation of the natural environment
- Future siting of a Fitness Walking Trail – using existing pathways



Figure 10: Zone 6 – La Trobe

2.2 Geology, soil types and coastal processes

Current conditions

Port Phillip was formed from land that sank during the Carboniferous period, 320 million years ago, formed between the Rowsley Fault to the west and the Selwyn Fault to the east. The uplifted blocks surrounding the sunk lands eroded and sediment was deposited below. A period of tectonic activity followed where lava flowed and magma welled up and intruded from beneath the bedrock producing the granite outcrops of Mt. Martha, Mt. Eliza and Arthurs Seat. Coastal erosion has moved the fault scarp up to 3km east from the fault producing a steep and rocky coastline around Anthony's Nose (Walker & Greening, 1996).

At the height of glaciation when the seas were at their lowest level, the water drained from the Port Phillip sunk land leaving a dry seabed. The siliceous sands and limestone deposits that had been laid down were eroded by wind and water with resultant sand being blown across the surface to produce dune systems. The Port Phillip sunk lands were re-inundated approximately 8,000-10,000 years ago (Walker & Greening, 1996).

As you move east from Anthony's Nose the base of the Arthurs Seat range is further from the shoreline. The original coastal dune system commenced as a narrow dune beside Anthony's Nose gradually widening towards Safety Beach. Development of Dromana township and a long history of foreshore works have removed most traces of the original dune system from the Reserve. The large number of small creeks which

originally fed into the dune system from the side of Arthurs Seat have all been controlled by Council drains discharging onto the beach.

Movement of sand on the east side of the Port Phillip shows a marked seasonal alteration with southward drifting of beach material in winter and northward movement in summer. This movement is in response to the relative frequency of waves generated by strong winds.

Headlands often protect beaches by impeding the movement of sediment from one part of the coast to another. Dromana Bay with its protective headland of Mount Martha facing relatively deep water acts as a sand trap. Sand generally remains within this closed cell between Mount Martha and Anthonys Nose. As Dromana Bay is virtually a closed system in terms of sand movement the two headlands of Anthonys Nose and Mt Martha/Safety Beach are optimum locations for marine structures or alterations to the coastal profile.

Shallow offshore sand bars occur along the Dromana coastline with a dominant outer bar beyond the pier end and irregular inner bars. From the beach the water deepens sharply when compared with Rosebud or Rye beaches. This is a valued quality of Dromana Beach. October equinoctial storms can result in the loss of much of the beach out to deeper water or for deposition further along the Dromana and Port Phillip. At approximately ten-year intervals a severe storm event can result in the removal of remnants of the frontal dune threatening boatsheds and bathing boxes. Occasionally sections of boatsheds and/or bathing boxes have been damaged or washed away. Boatshed and bathing box permit holders have responded by constructing ad-hoc timber or rubble retaining walls often detracting from the visual appearance of the beach. To reduce the cyclical process of the loss of the beach, timber groynes have been constructed along the beach. Many of these are now in poor repair.

To halt the loss of sand, stone sea walls were also constructed either side of the pier and around Anthony's Nose prior to and after the 2nd world war. A number of boatsheds and bathing boxes west of the pier were destroyed during storms. Construction of the wall cut beach access from many boatsheds and bathing boxes. The sea wall protects the Nepean Highway and the base of the cliffs at Anthonys Nose. These seawalls now provide an important opportunity for the development of beachfront promenades.

Seagrass is not present along the shoreline in the Dromana Bay area which makes the beach more attractive for swimming and other recreational activities. Storm events result in some seaweed being washed up on the beach, however this is removed by the regular mechanical beach cleaning.

Management of Coastal processes

The Australian coastline is a dynamic, ever-changing environment which is subject to continuous sand movement causing both erosion and accretion of the coastline in different locations and at different times of the year. During periods and areas of erosion, the primary and secondary dune systems are gradually washed away taking with them any coastal vegetation and adjoining infrastructure. Dromana Bay with its protective headland of Mount Martha facing relative deep water acts as a sand trap. Sand generally remains within this closed cell between Mount Martha and Anthonys Nose. October equinoctial storms can result in sand deposition to deeper water. Severe storm events can erode frontal dunes and occasionally sections of boatsheds and bathing boxes are damaged or washed away.

ACTIONS:

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Erosion of the shoreline	To prevent and control soil and sand erosion in beach	Survey dune system and investigate management options	1-5	

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
	and dune areas	Monitoring and evaluation of erosion	1-5	
		Maintain fencing, bollards and other natural barriers as appropriate	1-5	Ongoing
		Track maintenance, drainage	1-5	
	To reduce the impact of storm events on boatsheds and bathing boxes	Consider undertaking coastal vulnerability assessment on key boating related infrastructure assets.	5	
Seawall and groyne structures in poor condition	Improve the condition of timber groynes and sea wall on the foreshore	Groyne upgrades	1-5	When grant funding available
		Repairs to seawall structure	1-5	When grant funding available
Visual and amenity impacts of council stormwater drains on the foreshore	Improve the condition and reduce the impact of stormwater drains	Investigate improvement of drainage outlets	All	

2.3 Vegetation

Current conditions

The indigenous vegetation of Dromana Foreshore Reserve is an essential part of the landscape image of Dromana. The high grey-green canopy and dark twisted trunks of the Coast Banksia identify Dromana as a coastal resort and frame views to the bay. The vegetated slope of LaTrobe Parade also forms an important backdrop to Dromana and the bay. The Coast Banksia woodland at Dromana not only forms the last remnant of indigenous coastal vegetation but also forms an important part of a mosaic of indigenous vegetation that extends from Point Nepean to Seaford. Due to the general paucity of indigenous vegetation in the area all remnant vegetation has local significance. The LaTrobe Reserve Weed Strategy (Walker & Greening, 1996) identified a number of existing areas of indigenous vegetation which are of regional significance (see Appendix A).

Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) are the basic mapping units used for biodiversity planning and conservation assessment at landscape, regional and broader scales in Victoria. They are derived from large-scale forest type and plant community mapping and are based on the following types of information:

- Plant communities and forest types (including species and structural information)
- Ecological information relevant to the species that comprise the communities (including life-form and reproductive strategies)
- Information that describes variation in the physical environment (including aspect, elevation, geology and soils, landform, rainfall, salinity and climatic zones).
- Each EVC represents one or more plant communities that occur in similar types of environments.

The bioregional conservation significance of EVCs is determined by comparing the current extent of the vegetation to the modelled pre-European settlement (pre-1750) EVCs present at the Reserve. Although much of the pre-1750 vegetation has been removed, the remnant indigenous vegetation of the Reserve is an essential part of the landscape of the Reserve. Remnant vegetation from original Ecological Vegetation

Classes exist within the Reserve. Below is a summary of each of the communities present and their bioregional conservation status, as per DEPI vegetation mapping:

- EVC 2 - Coast Banksia Woodland - dominated by an overstorey of Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia* var. *integrifolia*) to 15 m tall over a medium shrub layer of Coast Tea-tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*). Scramblers such as Bower Spinach (*Tetragonia implexicoma*) were common in the understorey with a groundcover of grasses, herbs and sedges. Coast Banksia Woodland is restricted to near coastal localities on secondary dunes behind Coastal Dune Scrub. Soils are intermediate in calcium and iron content between the foredunes where these elements are leached from the A and B soil horizons. Soils are also intermediate in organic matter between these dune systems. Coast Banksia has a bioregional conservation significance status of Vulnerable.
- EVC 53 - Swamp Scrub - dominated by shrubs of Swamp Paperbark (*Melaleuca ericifolia*). Swamp Scrub is closed scrub to 8 m tall at low elevations on alluvial deposits along streams or on poorly drained sites with higher nutrient availability. The Swamp Paperbark (*Melaleuca ericifolia*) (or sometimes Woolly Tea-tree (*Leptospermum lanigerum*)) often forms a dense thicket, out-competing other species. Occasional emergent eucalypts may be present. Where light penetrates to ground level, a moss / lichen / liverwort or herbaceous ground cover is often present. Dry variants have a grassy / herbaceous ground layer. Swamp scrub has a bioregional conservation significance status of Endangered.

In La Trobe Reserve, which is dominated by EVC 2 Coast Banksia Woodland, there are also small areas of:

- EVC 175 - Grassy Woodland is comprised of a variable open Eucalypt woodland to 15 m tall or occasionally Sheoak woodland to 10 m tall over a diverse ground layer of grasses and herbs. The shrub component is usually sparse. It occurs on sites with moderate fertility on gentle slopes or undulating hills on a range of geologies. Grassy Woodland has a bioregional conservation significance status of Endangered.
- EVC 902 - Gully Woodland, which is woodland or open forest to 20 m tall occurring along moderately steep gullies. Soils are mostly colluvial deposits of sands and silts. Characterised by a medium dense small tree and shrub layer above a grassy/sedgy understorey, often rich in herbs within the inter-tussock spaces. Gully Woodland has a bioregional conservation significance status of Endangered.

Original vegetation

There is little record of the pre-european settlement vegetation of Dromana Foreshore. It is likely that the complexities of topography, drainage patterns, coastal exposure, soils and fire history produced a diversity of vegetation communities that is not clearly evident in the patterns of remnant vegetation. The traditional burning practices of the local Burinyung Buluk, a clan of the Boonerwung people, would have greatly influenced vegetation patterns. Pre 1750 mapping indicates that most of the Reserve was Coast Banksia Woodland, with patches of the other EVCs mentioned above. The following understanding of the original vegetation patterns is taken from the LaTrobe Reserve Weed Strategy (Walker & Greening, 1996).

Colonizing the cliff escarpments at Anthonys Nose would have been a suite of species including Nodding Saltbush (*Einadia nutans*), Ruby Saltbush (*Enchylaena tomentosa*), Coast Bone Fruit (*Threlkeldia diffusa*), Sea Box (*Alyxia buxifolia*) and Sticky Boobialla (*Myoporum viscosum*) with grasses such as Soft Spear-grass (*Stipa mollis*), Long-hair Plume-grass (*Dichelachne crinita*) and Tussock Grass (*Poa poiformis*) (Walker & Greening, 1996).

Bordering the coastline and extending up the south-westerly aspects of the gullies at Anthonys Nose was Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*) woodland. Species associated with this community include Drooping Sheoke (*Allocasuarina verticillata*), Sea-berry Saltbush (*Rhagodia candolleana*), Coast Beard Heath (*Leucopogon parviflorus*) and a scattering of Coast Tea-Tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*) close to the shoreline (Walker & Greening, 1996). The original Hairy Spinifex (*Spinifex hirsute*) community colonising the beach edge and the adjacent Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) understorey of the Banksia Woodland can still be found in one small location on the foreshore.

Along the top of the cliffs, on the exposed northerly aspects of the gullies and feeding on the aquifers below, the Drooping Sheoke (*Allocasuarina verticillata*) abounded, producing open woodland with Coast Banksia and a predominately grassy and herbaceous understorey composed of Weeping grass (*Microlaena stipoides*), Small Poranthera (*Poranthea microphylla*), the Flax Lilies (*Dianella revoluta* var. *brevicaulis* and var. *revoluta*) (Walker & Greening, 1996).

In some of the more protected, deeper gullies, at Anthonys Nose Tree-fem communities developed. They are likely to have supported a variety of ferns including the Rough Tree fern (*Cyathea australis*), Maiden-hair ferns (*Adiantum* sp.), Water Ferns (*Blechnum* sp.) and shrubs such as Prickly Currant Bush (*Coprosma quadrifida*), Snowy Daisy Bush (*Oleariablitata*). The overstorey would have consisted of the Coast Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis* subsp. *pyroriana*) with a possibility of the smoother trunked Manna Gum (*E. viminalis*) also occurring here (Walker & Greening, 1996).

At the bottom of these gullies and where the aquifers discharged from the cliffs a dense scrub of Swamp Paper Bark (*Melaleuca ericifolia*) formed, intermixed with Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) and Angled Lobelia (*Lobelia alata*) in the wetter areas; and with Tussock Grass (*Poa labillardieri*) Spiny-headed Mat Rush (*Lomandra longifolia*), Sword Grass (*Gahnia radula*) and Bracken (*Pteridium esculentum*) on the more elevated, drier sites (Walker & Greening, 1996).

Behind the cliff tops or in areas not exposed directly to the salt laden winds, an open Coast Manna Gum woodland community would have occurred. A grassy/herbaceous understorey would have predominated consisting of Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*), Tussock Grasses (*Poa* spp.), Wallaby Grasses (*Danthonia* spp), Cranberry Heath (*Astroloma humifusum*), Small St. Johns Wort (*Hypericum graminifolium*) and Wattle Mat Rush (*Lomandra filiformis*) and a host of Lilies such as Chocolate Lilies (*Arthropodium strictum*), Fringe Lilies (*Thysanotus* spp.), being just two of the few that still occur there (Walker & Greening, 1996).



Figure 11: The indigenous Coast Banksia Woodland foreshore vegetation

Historic modifications to the original vegetation

The cessation of the traditional burning practices of the Burinyung Balluk would have altered the mosaic vegetation pattern and caused over time the decline of some communities and the spread of others. However, significant damage started in the late 1830s when the commercial lime burning industry moved into the area. In 1853 all timber west of a line from Arthurs Seat to Cape Schanck was reserved for lime burning. Banksia and Sheoak were favoured for the lime burners kilns, and large areas were denuded.

There was additional demand for firewood for baker's ovens and domestic fires in Melbourne. Between 1850 and 1930 the 'Bay Steamers' carried firewood to Melbourne. The denuded landscape was not given an opportunity to regenerate due to added pressure from grazing livestock, fire, altered drainage, ground disturbance, introduced weeds and vermin, which all limited the progression of natural regeneration.

The development of the Reserve for recreation has been another major cause of vegetation change. Deliberate clearing of the vegetation opened up views to the bay and provided open areas for recreation. Lawn areas have been established for camping and picnic facilities. Other vegetated areas were lost to boatsheds, bathing boxes, foreshore buildings, lawn areas and car parks. As a result, today there are sections of the foreshore which are almost totally devoid of indigenous vegetation.

Ongoing pressure on original vegetation

Remnant vegetation is under continuous pressure from the large number of visitors to the Reserve. Uncontrolled pedestrian access can lead to erosion, soil compaction and trampling of regenerating areas. The Committee has already placed considerable effort into fencing off many areas to improve the success of natural regeneration.

In isolated locations there is evidence of the illegal cutting or removal of indigenous vegetation by adjacent landowners to obtain clearer bay views. Other vandalism of remnant vegetation and revegetation areas by some members of the public is an ongoing issue on the foreshore.

Walking tracks cross through LaTrobe Reserve from LaTrobe Parade to Point Nepean Road and the beach. These walking tracks vary in condition but all appear to be long established. Some tracks have become the source of drainage problems and major erosion in LaTrobe Reserve.



Figure 12: Isolated Coast Banksia



Figure 13: Foreshore area with poor tree canopy and shade

Vegetation decline

The development and stability of vegetation communities can be reliant on particular species of animals and birds. Individual species may need particular mammals, birds, reptiles or insects for pollination, dispersal of seed or protection from pests. Yellow Tail Black Cockatoos were once common along the coastline, feeding on the cones, flowers and borers in wood of Coast Banksias. The loss of Cockatoo habitat has led some to suggest that the increase in borer attack on Coast Banksias (and the consequent decline in tree health and safety) may be in part due to the decline of these birds in the area (Walker & Greening, 1996).

Invasive plant species

Weed invasion now represents the greatest threat to the long-term survival of indigenous vegetation along the foreshore. Many weeds aggressively occupy disturbed ground and even invade the more open woodland. Weeds form a barrier to the slower colonising indigenous vegetation and prevent natural regeneration.

Weed species have a detrimental effect on the landscape character of the Reserve. Mirror Bush is the most noticeable weed along the foreshore as it forms dense clumps and has dark glossy leaves. The Committee has placed considerable effort into the systematic removal of Mirror Bush in recent years. Sweet Pittosporum is another common weed in the Reserve. Weed removal works have provided opportunities for the natural regeneration of indigenous species, with infill plantings where natural regeneration has not occurred.

Different soil and drainage conditions in LaTrobe Reserve attract other weed species. A recent survey of La Trobe Reserve identified 87 introduced weed species. Blackberry is common in the wetter areas. Boneseed and Polygala are found on more exposed drier sites. Sweet Pittosporum is common throughout LaTrobe Reserve.

Exotic vegetation

While most canopy trees along the foreshore are indigenous, there are a number of introduced trees in some locations. The most noticeable are the Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) widely spaced along the foreshore between the town centre and the information centre. These trees do not form part of any avenue or streetscape theme as many trees stand alone. The age and condition of these trees will limit their remaining life on the foreshore.

One group of Spotted Gum (*Eucalyptus maculata*) on the foreshore has been heavily pruned due to their close proximity to powerlines. This species is inappropriate in the Reserve. The planting of mixed Australian Native small tree and shrub species was common in the 1970s and 1980s. Dense plantations of various Acacia, Hakea, Melaleuca and other species is common in the foreshore areas adjacent to the town centre, and less frequently along the remaining foreshore areas. Many of these plantations are not visually identifiable with coastal locations. Their height and density of foliage limits views to the bay. Many specimens will soon be reaching the end of their useful life. Carpet Roses and other mixed plantings of a more suburban character are present in the Council managed Wharfage and Memorial Hall Reserves.

The introduced Marram Grass along the edge of the beach has out-competed indigenous beach colonising vegetation. The original Hairy Spinifex (*Spinifex hirsuta*) community and the adjacent Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) understorey of the Banksia Woodland can now only be found in one small location on the foreshore. Kikuyu is common as a hard wearing, low maintenance and green lawn cover for open recreation areas in the Reserve. Unfortunately Kikuyu is also a vigorous coloniser of adjoining indigenous vegetation areas.

Vegetation Management

Dromana foreshore, including La Trobe Reserve, is an important part of the wider landscape setting of Dromana Bay, Mount Martha, Anthonys Nose and the slopes of Arthurs Seat. The idyllic image of Dromana and the Mornington Peninsula is largely dependent upon the natural environment. The high grey-green canopy and dark twisted trunks of the Coast Banksia does much to identify Dromana as a coastal resort and also frames and filters views to the bay. Large exposed areas that are predominantly weeds require attention.

Assessment, remedial pruning or removal of dangerous vegetation is an ongoing task for the Committee. The age and amount of borer in many Coast Banksia requires constant attention. The condition of trees in or adjacent to picnic or other gathering areas, walking tracks or other facilities or areas frequented by the public need particular attention.

Great effort has already gone into protection of the remaining indigenous vegetation with tree surgery, fencing and removal of fire hazards. The establishment of revegetation areas ensures that there are young trees emerging to eventually replace the old existing trees. Managing such areas for conservation is a clear additional cost to the Committee.

The biggest threat to indigenous vegetation in the Reserve is the presence of weed species. Most resources for vegetation management are directed towards weed removal (especially Mirror Bush) and the subsequent revegetation where this is appropriate. Considerable time is also spent on mowing lawn areas.

The Committee aims to gradually remove the majority of invasive weed species within the Reserve over the next 3 years. Due to the amount of weeds in the Reserve, the cost associated with weed treatment cannot be met by the Committee alone and the treatment of weeds is dependant on the Committee being successful in grant applications. The introduction of weeds to the Reserve has been occurring over many years, since settlement in the area first began. One of the causes of weed introduction to the Reserve was from species planted in adjoining private residences.

The Reserve is subject to an Environmental Significance Overlay and a Vegetation Protection Overlay in the Mornington Peninsula Shire Planning Scheme. These overlays relate to the protection of indigenous vegetation. However, management of indigenous vegetation to reduce fire hazards or to remove dangerous trees or limbs is not subject to the controls.

La Trobe Reserve

A Natural Heritage grant enabled the Committee to undertake a fauna survey in 2000/01 of La Trobe Reserve, and identifies the importance of the reserve to the Committee, the Community and the Council at large. The Committee also developed a nature trail linking the walk with the La Trobe Scenic Walkway and Link and providing the visitor with a loop track around the reserve. In 2003 the Committee worked with Chisholm Institute Natural Resource Management students to develop a 10-year Habitat Restoration Plan for the La Trobe Reserve. The Committee intends this document to be a working paper, guiding the Committee in its restoration of the Reserve as a remnant bushland reserve and a way forward for the Committee in managing the removal of weed species and the regeneration of native species. A friends group has been set up and field activities will take place monthly.

AIM:

To enhance the landscape character of Dromana foreshore by preserving areas of remnant indigenous coastal vegetation, removing weed species and revegetating areas identified in the landscape plan with a mixture of indigenous coastal vegetation.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- Landscape design should maintain and enhance the coastal landscape character of the area, as expressed in existing landforms, vegetation and materials (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.2.9). Reinforce the coastal landscape image of Dromana provided by vegetation. Use canopy vegetation to frame and filter views to the bay. Provide more shaded and sheltered areas on the foreshore. Preserve and enhance remnant indigenous vegetation and break up the long linear grass areas with glades of canopy trees.
- In predominantly natural areas, natural regeneration should be encouraged where possible and indigenous species should be planted (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.2). Preserve and enhance remnant indigenous coastal vegetation. The establishment of revegetation areas ensures that there are young trees emerging to eventually replace the old remnant trees. Combine canopy trees, such as Coast Banksia and She Oaks, with an understorey of indigenous coastal species

ACTIONS:

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Potential risk of trees near picnic tables and walking tracks	Minimise risk to the public	Assess and remove dangerous vegetation on the foreshore along access tracks	All	Ongoing
		Assess the condition of trees in or adjacent to picnic or other gathering areas	All	Ongoing
		Organise regular Ranger inspection of La Trobe Reserve	6	Ongoing
Visual and amenity values provided by vegetation to be retained and improved	Develop wetlands along Point Nepean Rd	Reintroduce indigenous vegetation to the edge of Point Nepean Road, where appropriate, and where this does not interfere with the sewerage main.	6	
		Maintain and extend indigenous vegetation along Latrobe Parade where such planting does not interfere with power lines or the gas main.	6	
	Provide more shaded and sheltered areas on the foreshore	Plant canopy trees to break up the long linear grass areas, investigate where more shade trees can be planted on foreshore	1-3	
	Maintain the character of the local area with filtered bay views	Reinforce Sheoak and Tea-tree canopy with underplanting of native vegetation	3	Ongoing
		Progressively remove non-indigenous trees from the reserve and replace with indigenous varieties	3	Ongoing
		Protect and re-establish Coast Banksia in the reserve	1-4	Ongoing
Lack of natural regeneration of native vegetation	Re-establish local provenance native vegetation in areas where regeneration is not occurring.	Investigate the seed collection and propagation of plants on site and direct seeding techniques	All	
		Use local provenance species for revegetation	All	
		Planting indigenous vegetation	All	
	Protect and enhance native vegetation in the reserve. Vegetation management and revegetation as per 2009 Assessment of the	Progressively reintroduce an indigenous understorey	1	
		Manage revegetation of 'Gorse' area, above gully in upper Latrobe Parade.	All	Ongoing

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
	Vegetation with a view to the Enhancement of Biodiversity on Dromana Foreshore by Gidja Walker	Replace areas of grass westwards of Federation Track with indigenous plants Minimise areas of mown grass (limit to picnic and lookout areas) and progressively reintroduce the indigenous understorey		
	Maintain the character of the local area with filtered bay views	Reinforce Sheoak and Tea-tree canopy with underplanting of native vegetation	3	Ongoing
		Progressively remove non-indigenous trees from the reserve and replace with indigenous varieties	3	Ongoing
		Protect and re-establish Coast Banksia in the reserve	1-4	Ongoing
	Protect primary dune vegetation	Formalise access to the beach, closing informal tracks and installing fencing where required	All	Ongoing
		Conserve the remnant dune system and protect the last remaining area of foredune vegetation. Provide clear and defined access away from the foredune vegetation. Revegetation fencing until species have become established	1-5	
		Survey dune vegetation and monitor	All	Ongoing
	Revegetation and weed control	Implement the recommendations in the Walker and Greening Strategy for Dromana Foreshore Reserve	All	Ongoing

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
		Implement recommendations of the 2009 Assessment of the Vegetation with a view to the Enhancement of Biodiversity on Dromana Foreshore by Gidja Walker. Reintroduce indigenous vegetation to the edge of Point Nepean Road, where appropriate, and where this does not interfere with the sewerage main. Maintain and extend indigenous vegetation along Latrobe Parade where such planting does not interfere with powerlines or gas mains. Manage revegetation of 'Gorse' area, above gully in upper Latrobe Parade. Replace areas of grass westwards of Federation Track with indigenous plants	6	
		Implement the recommendations in the Chisholm institute 10 Year Habitat Restoration Plan	6	
Proliferation of weeds in the reserve	Remove all weeds in the reserve	Marram grass control program. Plant indigenous vegetation amongst Marram grass to remove/out compete	All	
		Restoration of weed infested areas with indigenous vegetation	All	
		Undertake weed removal and selective revegetation, Restore weed-infested areas,	All	
Nearby residents removing vegetation	Protection of remnant vegetation in the reserve	Develop an education or interpretation walk through major areas of indigenous vegetation and educate nearby residents to avoid future vegetation removal	All	
Transfer of knowledge about vegetation in the reserve	Expand on data and records kept by the committee to create accessible records of knowledge about reserve for committee and community to access	Upgrade landscape masterplan including compiling photographic data base records	All	
		Develop interpretive signage about flora of the reserve, particularly La Trobe Reserve	6	
		Carry out vegetation survey including soil profiling	All	

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Funding vegetation management	Attract external funding for specific projects in the reserve	Investigate research grants available to focus on floristic value enhancement	All	
		Pursue grant funding for vegetation projects	All	

2.4 Fauna

Current situation

The Atlas of Victorian Wildlife, produced by DEPI, records 58 native bird species and 7 native mammal species in the quadrants including the Reserve. However, many of these species would only occur in the forested areas towards Arthurs Seat. The Committee conducted a Fauna Survey in 2002 with Malcolm Legg of Mal's Environmental Care which also identified the species in the Reserve. The survey also makes recommendations for the eradication of pests in the Reserve and comments that the Reserve is in danger of being significantly impacted by these problems.

A large number of native bird species visit the foreshore areas. By contrast there are few native mammal species. Local knowledge reports that the most common native animal is the Common Ringtail Possum (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*). Short-beaked Echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*) has been sighted in La Trobe Reserve. White-tipped Snake (*Drysdalia coronoides*), Common Blue-tongued Lizard (*Tiliqua scincoides*) and various skinks have also been reported in La Trobe Reserve. Some of the drainage lines at the base of the slope in La Trobe Reserve are well populated with frogs during the wetter periods.

A list of indigenous fauna likely to be found within the reserve can be found in Appendix 6.

Pest animal species

Invasive animals can pose a serious threat to biodiversity and primary production. They are the number one cause of native animal extinctions in Australia. They contribute to the loss of native animals and can significantly disturb native vegetation, encouraging the spread of weeds.

The *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* declares certain species to be established pest animals in Victoria. These include foxes, rabbits, feral pigs, feral goats and wild dogs. The Reserve contains known populations of rabbits and foxes and, due to their large range, eradication of these species is difficult. Effective control must be undertaken at the landscape scale in collaboration with surrounding landowners, including privately owned and council managed land. Foxes are found throughout the Reserve, although rabbits are not a significant problem. Black Rats are commonly reported inhabiting boatsheds and bathing boxes and the surrounding foreshore areas.

The suppression of pest animal species can be increased by the removal of pest plant species and replacement with indigenous plant species.

Domestic Animals

Walking of dogs along the foreshore is a popular activity for permanent residents and visitors. Dogs must be on a leash at all times. During daylight saving time (the summer tourist season) dogs are not permitted on the beach between 9am and 7pm. Uncontrolled dogs on the beach are of concern to a number of beach visitors. Enforcement of the dog by-laws is the responsibility of Council, although the Dromana Foreshore Committee Ranger provides an educational role to the public and reports any problems to the Council

Ranger. In 2003 the committee established a leash free zone to the west of the boat ramp at Anthony's Nose.

Nearby horse stables currently swim their horses at the eastern boundary of the foreshore. No payment is made to the Committee for this activity. The stables do however contribute to the peninsula's economic development. DEPI are currently conducting a study into the uses of foreshore reserves by horses.

Animal management

The biggest threats to the indigenous fauna of the area are the removal of indigenous vegetation, predation by invasive species such as foxes and dogs off lead and the fragmentation of habitat areas caused by residential developments, which restricts access between habitat areas.

The removal of vegetation, both from the foreshore and from the adjoining private property removes valuable habitat and feeding grounds for indigenous fauna. The lack of food and shelter causes these animals to search in private residences for food and can become a nuisance to home owners. Maintaining coastal vegetation and revegetating with indigenous species, specifically large trees with hollows and low growing grasses which provide protection for ground-dwelling fauna should ensure the survival of the highly valued local animals. Ensuring the continuation of the indigenous vegetation into the future will also reduce the incidences of indigenous fauna invading private property in the search for food and shelter. The Committee will continue to revegetate the Reserve with indigenous species and undertake regular weed control to improve the overall health of the Reserve and increase the habitat and food supply to indigenous fauna.

The Reserve is also home to a number of invasive animal species such as rabbits and foxes. The foxes are known predators of indigenous fauna such as Antechinus and native rats. Rabbits are also an issue within the Reserve due to their ability to breed quickly and 'take over' an area. Rabbits impact indigenous fauna as they compete for food resources. The high population density of rabbits within small areas reduces food availability for indigenous fauna, causing the gradual decline of the indigenous species. Black Rats are also commonly reported inhabiting boatsheds and bathing boxes and the surrounding foreshore areas.

Domestic animals are also considered a threat to indigenous fauna, specifically cats and dogs. Cats are known predators of indigenous species, especially birds. Research shows that domestic cats can kill, on average, 54 small native species per year. By law, cats must be contained within private property limits, and penalties apply for allowing cats to roam outside the property boundary of the registered owner.

Domestic dogs can damage the sensitive coastal environment by trampling smaller plants and digging up root systems. Dogs are also a threat to indigenous fauna as they predate on smaller animals, frighten larger animals by chasing and barking, and leaving their scent which is known to reduce the reproduction rate in indigenous fauna, especially beach nesting birds and ground dwelling mammals. The Committee acknowledges the benefit of providing a dog on-lead area within the Reserve to allow dog owners to ensure their pets are getting sufficient exercise. For this reason, the Committee allows Reserve users to walk their dogs, however dogs must always be on a lead and are only permitted on the Reserve during certain times during the day.

ACTIONS:

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Community level of knowledge of indigenous fauna	Increase community knowledge of local fauna and habitat	Educate Dromana residents on native fauna through interpretive signage and newsletter	All	

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Pest animals in the reserve and predation on native fauna	To control or eradicate pest animals in the reserve	Participate in coordinated pest animal control efforts to complement those on surrounding land	All	
Dog walking and horses in the reserve	Encourage responsible pet ownership regarding dog walking in the reserve		All	
Funding for pest animal management projects	Attract external funding for specific pest management projects in the reserve	Needs to be reinforced	All	

2.5 Fire management

The threat of fire in any location is assessed based on a number of factors such as the presence of fuel breaks, the fuel hazard rating and specific site characteristics. Indigenous vegetation along the foreshore is relatively fire safe. Common succulent species such as Bower Spinach (*Tetragonia implexicoma*) and Sea-berry Salt-bush (*Rhagodia candolleana*) are fire retardant. The narrow foreshore areas with generally low fuel loads provide little fire risk. A large percentage of the foreshore has a mown grass understorey.

The foreshore has a "No Fires" regulation although visitors frequently bring their own portable gas barbecues without being aware of the regulation. Some visitors have even been observed using portable barbecues on Total Fire Ban days. Some visitors have even dumped hot barbecue heat beads in vegetated areas. The Committee provides electric barbecue units in two picnic areas.

The Reserve contains a number of fuel breaks and fuel reduced zones in the form of tracks, paths and mown areas. The overall fuel hazard level throughout the Reserve is considered low. There are areas within the Reserve that are considered to contain a high fuel hazard level, however, these areas are generally small in size and surrounded by areas of low fuel hazard rating.

Most public concern about fire safety is directed at La Trobe Reserve. The larger area of woodland vegetation and the steep slopes concern some adjoining residents. Two major fires have been recorded in this area. One fire was in the 1890s and the last fire was in 1939 and destroyed 43 houses. There is now considerably less forest in the surrounding areas than there was in the 1890s or 1939.

The main fire risks in La Trobe Reserve today, as identified by Walker & Greening (1996) are the dumping of garden waste and weed invasion. The removal and control of noxious and environmental weeds and revegetation with more fire retardant indigenous species will reduce fire risk. Actions from the Terramatrix Report 2010 indicate a fire fuel load of 11 tonnes per hectare, within the safe and medium range.

Factors that may increase the risk of fire within the Reserve during the fire danger period include the build-up of fine fuels, vegetation growing over the paths and large populations of weed species.

ACTIONS:

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Potential fire risk during the fire danger period.	Reduce fire risk as per Wildfire Management Plan (Terramatrix, 2009)	Ensure all roads and walking tracks are clear and free from debris during the fire danger period.	All	Ongoing

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
		Carry out powerlines pruning in accordance with Government regulations, Risk Mitigation and the Wildfire Management Plan	All	Ongoing
		Continue to strategically manage and remove weed species from the Reserve and revegetate with suitable indigenous species.	6	Ongoing
Funding for fire risk management	Attract external funding for fire risk mitigation	Pursue grant funding for fire risk mitigation	All	Ongoing

2.6 Cultural heritage

Indigenous cultural heritage values

Throughout Victoria, the landscape holds the imprint of thousands of generations of Aboriginal people. Each part of Victoria, from the coast to the high country and from the semi-arid Mallee to the rain forests of the east, has places where Aboriginal people lived; obtaining sustenance, expressing themselves artistically, passing on creation stories and cultural values, engaging in conflict, establishing alliances and social networks, trading goods, celebrating rites of passage and committing the departed to their final resting places.

The traditional inhabitants of the Dromana area are the Burinyung Buluk, a clan of the Boonerwung people. Robert Jamieson, writing in 1853 about Cape Schanck run, estimated that there were about 300 aboriginal people in that area in 1838. Despite the grave impact of European arrival many Boonerwung descendants still survive. Kaala Koori Association represents the original inhabitants of the Dromana. The endurance of Aboriginal society across the continent is of global significance and the cultural heritage places and objects associated with that society are a significant part of the heritage of all Australians. More importantly, they are a fundamental part of Victorian Aboriginal community life and cultural identity.

Physical evidence of Burinyung Buluk habitation of the area can be seen in the middens which exist all along the coast, rock wells, and other relics along the coast and throughout the hinterland. The traditional burning practices employed by the Burinyung Buluk would have created the original mosaic of vegetation types through the region.

The coastline towards Point Nepean contains far more Aboriginal archaeological sites than Dromana and its surrounding area. Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (AAV) holds records for one Aboriginal archaeological site, a surface scatter of artefacts, in the Reserve (AAV 7821-12). The majority of the foreshore area has not been surveyed for archaeological sites and therefore the absence of recorded sites does not indicate that the remaining foreshore area is devoid of heritage values. AAV recommend that an archaeological survey be conducted prior to any site development where works involve ground disturbance as material of cultural worth may be exposed or destroyed.

Underpinning these material aspects of Aboriginal cultural heritage are intangible places where there may be no physical evidence of past cultural activities. These include places of spiritual or ceremonial significance, places where traditional plant or mineral resources occur, or trade and travel routes.

Information about such places may be passed down from one generation to the next or may survive in nineteenth century documents and records.

State and Commonwealth legislation provide protection for Aboriginal cultural heritage. The State *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* provides blanket protection for all material relating to the past Aboriginal occupation of Australia, both before and after European occupation. Part IIA of the Commonwealth *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984*, and the *Native Title Act 1993* protect Aboriginal cultural property in Victoria.

European cultural heritage values

Dromana was developed ahead of Portsea, Sorrento and Rye due to its proximity to Melbourne. Dromana Pier was built in 1862, and extended in 1873 to become the second longest pier on the bay. The original shopping area, post office, and hotel were situated at the bottom end of La Trobe Parade, but destroyed by fire in the 1890s. The town centre was rebuilt towards the pier after the fire. Some of the rough walking tracks through La Trobe Reserve may have their origins in this period. Guesthouses were opened in the 1870's and 1880's as travellers visited Dromana, and the peninsula became a popular area for summer properties.

In 1891 a section of Dromana foreshore was temporarily reserved. A public Committee of Management was formed in 1919 to manage the Reserve. In 1921 the site of the existing Soldier's Memorial Hall was excluded from the Reserve. Recreational use and summer camping at Dromana dates back to at least 1910.

Cultural heritage Management

Almost the entire coastline of the Mornington Peninsula contains Aboriginal archaeological sites. Areas which have not yet been surveyed may also contain Aboriginal archaeological sites, even in disturbed contexts. Although the coastline has been considerably modified since European settlement, the sandy beach portion of the coast has aggraded considerably over the past 100 years, raising the possibility that buried Aboriginal archaeological sites may survive further inland from the present high water mark.

There is potential for human burial sites to be uncovered due to the area being conducive to such activity given the soft, sandy sediments located along much of the coastline, but particularly the sandy beach section between Safety Beach and Tootgarook.

The Committee consults with Aboriginal groups to determine locations of such sites prior to major earthworks and intends to develop, in consultation with the Kaala Koori Association, interpretive signs detailing the aboriginal significance in Dromana and La Trobe Reserve.

AIM

- To protect sensitive sites for the Victorian public
- To provide interpretive material to facilitate understanding of heritage values in the Reserve

ACTIONS:

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
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Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Lack of knowledge of Indigenous history of Dromana, including places and objects of significance	Gain a better understanding of the Aboriginal heritage in Reserve and to educate others through interpretation	Liaise with Council and Kaala Koori Association regarding a Cultural Heritage Assessment	All	Low
		Investigate the establishment of interpretive signage	All	Low
	Protect Aboriginal places and objects from interference or damaging activities	Respect the views of the Traditional Owners in managing the Reserve	All	Ongoing
Lack of knowledge about the European history of Dromana	To preserve the history of Dromana and to educate others through interpretation	Investigate the establishment of interpretive signage, initially focussed on the area around the Pier. Liaise with the Historical Society in development of this material.	All	Low

2.7 Access and recreation

Current conditions

The Reserve is intensely utilised for a variety of recreational pursuits. Bathing, boating and fishing are ever popular along the beach. Camping has a long history in the reserve and remains popular with a dedicated group. Lawn foreshore areas with picnic facilities, shelters, toilets and car parking provide opportunities for large numbers of local residents and holiday makers to enjoy the Reserve. All this activity occurs against the backdrop of Dromana town centre and the busy Point Nepean Road. To support these recreational activities, there are a number of walking tracks, street furniture and areas of sandy beach. In general, the Reserve is available for the public to use for passive recreational pursuits such as walking, on-lead dog walking and bird watching. These activities are authorised under the Reserve regulations.

The differing needs of local residents, beach users, campers, walkers, and various boating users often conflict. All require access to limited foreshore space, placing further pressure on the remaining areas of coastal vegetation. In addition, recreational habits and public expectations of foreshore reserves are changing. New recreation opportunities such as shared pathways, a walking track link to Arthurs Seat and other recreational opportunities need to be considered. A shared pathway (The Bay Trail) has been commenced in some sections, currently servicing approximately 95% of the total length of the foreshore reserve.

The Committee has a duty of care to ensure that the Reserve is a safe environment for all. Vehicle access, car parking, pedestrian access, visibility, obstructions and other risks need to be considered.

Swimming

Dromana Beach has retained its popularity as a family swimming beach since the early part of the 20th century. Relatively deep water and clean sand, free of rocks, stones and seaweed contribute to its attraction for swimming. Paddle boarding and windsurfing are also popular water based activities. The sandy beach is used for all of the usual activities of beach cricket, sun baking, walking dogs and picnics.



Figure 14: The clean beach and clean water at Dromana retains its popularity with local residents and visitors

From the beach the water deepens sharply when compared with Rosebud or Rye beaches. Seagrass is not present along the shoreline in the Dromana Bay area which makes the beach attractive for swimming and other recreational activities. Storm events result in some seaweed being washed up on the beach and this is removed by mechanical beach cleaning. Dromana Bay Life Saving Club patrols the beach and sets out the flagged safe swimming area immediately west of the pier.

The rocks at Anthony's Nose provide interesting beach exploring and snorkelling opportunities. Swimming is prohibited by Parks Victoria in the 'access lane' for water skiers, adjacent to the boat ramp. A reef education sign has been erected at the Anthony's Nose car park to highlight the plight of reefs in the bay.

Walking and Cycling

Walking has long been a popular pursuit on the foreshore, but there are currently limited opportunities for cyclists. The State Government announced a plan for a 200 kilometre 'around the bay' trail in 1995. Development of the Bay Trail will provide even greater recreational opportunities for local residents and day visitors alike. A route for the proposed Bay Trail is already well defined along much of the foreshore. The Bay Trail will be a major asset to the Reserve. The existing caravan park and boat ramp arrangements are being revised to accommodate the Bay Trail.

The area above the seawall on each side of the pier provides an ideal opportunity for development of a promenade as the focal point of Dromana foreshore. In some areas of the Reserve, access to the beach and facilities is not well defined.

The side roads along Point Nepean Road act as generators of Reserve visitors. Crossing the road can be difficult in the summer months due to the almost constant stream of traffic. VicRoads has recognised that Point Nepean Road can pose a significant obstacle for beach access. At present there are several pedestrian

refuges in town centre. Pedestrian refuges do increase safety but usually require the removal of car parking from one side of the road.

La Trobe Reserve

The original 'town' of Dromana was located south of La Trobe Parade until a bushfire in the 1890s. The existing rough walking tracks down through La Trobe Reserve may date back to this period. There is mention in the 1920s of steps leading to the front road at several places. At present there are approximately 4 identifiable walking tracks between La Trobe Parade and Point Nepean Road. The Committee has completed the La Trobe Reserve Scenic Walkway. This walkway has opened up La Trobe Reserve to the public, providing spectacular views, contact with the natural environment, and a link to the Two Bays Walking Track and Arthurs Seat. This track has also helped reduce erosion, by formalising access.

Picnics

Picnics on the grassy areas of the foreshore have a long history. The popularity of Dromana with large groups of visitors picnicking is evident on the foreshore, and this has increased in recent years. Ball games such as kick to kick soccer and bocce are frequently played on the grassed areas. The main picnic areas have shelters, barbecues, picnic tables and large lawn areas. The pier area is also frequently used for picnics and eating take away food purchased from the shopping centre area. Council provides picnic facilities in the Wharfage Reserve. Council also provides rubbish bins in this area.

Access and recreation management

AIM:

- To facilitate the use of the Reserve for passive recreational pursuits, the Committee will maintain the paths and surrounding vegetation for public safety and functionality. Committee will also maintain the surface of pedestrian and vehicular tracks and the functionality of street furniture.
- The Committee will improve the opportunities for safe and enjoyable walking and cycling at Dromana, and encourage more walkers and cyclists to visit Dromana.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- Provide appropriate access in a way that is safe, can be maintained in the long-term and protects the ecological integrity and biodiversity of the surrounding environment (VCS 2008 3.1.1). Developments should provide planned and controlled pedestrian access to the shoreline in appropriate locations (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.1.9b). Avoid fragmentation of vegetation by identified tracks. Provide clearly defined access tracks; close and revegetate unofficial tracks. Provide visual interest for major pathways with unfolding views, winding and undulating routes, light and shade, natural vegetation and seating. Provide access across the reserve (i.e. to the beach) and through the reserve.
- Alternative modes of transport such as cycling should be given access to the foreshore whilst not conflicting with pedestrian flows (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.1.9c). Clearly define bicycle routes in major areas. Provide a range of walking and cycling opportunities including promenades, continuous trails, walking tracks and beach access
- Provide barrier free access for visitors with disabilities between car parks, picnic facilities, toilets and areas of interest
- Provide a natural surface for paths in other sections of the foreshore. Principal paths should be designed to allow management and emergency vehicle access
- Avoid perceived personal safety risks associated with dense undergrowth and poor lighting along major pathways

- Liaise with the Council on the development of the foreshore each side of the pier as the focal point of Dromana. The Masterplan for this area may identify the need for special facilities including lighting, fencing, signs, seating and shade structures.
- Provide for picnicking by both large and small groups, provide more shaded and sheltered picnic areas on the foreshore. Encourage continued use of the pier area for picnics and eating food purchased from the shopping centre.

ACTIONS:

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Access to reserve and beach	To formalise and improve access to the beach	Investigate ways of improving access through caravan park and placement of defined walking tracks where access will not be impeded by caravan and camping structures	4	
		Investigate ways of improving access through and around boatsheds and bathing boxes, and placement of defined walking tracks	3	
		Replace existing roadside fencing with a mixture of natural barriers	1	
		Identify main access points to the beach which are separate from boatshed and bathing box access points	1-4	
		Formalise access points between groups of caravan sites and the beach	4	
		Investigate improvements to beach access relating to the seawall, particularly around the Pier area	1-4	Ongoing
	To improve access for disabled or mobility impaired people	Add picnic tables that are more convenient for the elderly and provide for wheelchair bound visitors in future installations.	All	Ongoing
	Pedestrian access to beach to be rationalised and formalised	Improve pedestrian access to the beach by identifying major beach access points which are separate from minor access points	1-4	
		Identify single walking tracks to groups of boatsheds and bathing boxes and consolidate where appropriate	1-4	
		Define beach access tracks to reduce erosion	1-4	
		Rationalise beach access tracks and upgrade	1-4	
		Ensure construction is in accordance with Australian Standards	1-4	

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Access through reserve	Improve connectivity between the reserve and surrounding areas	Identify safe crossing points for access to La Trobe Reserve	4,5,6,	Ongoing
Perceived personal safety issues	Improve safety for Reserve users	Organise regular Ranger inspection of La Trobe Reserve	6	
		Remove weeds that form dense undergrowth to address perceived personal safety issues.	All	
		Investigate improvements to lighting	All	
Completion of the bay trail and associated impacts on the reserve	Maximise benefit of the bay trail with minimum impacts on existing Reserve values	Complete remaining stages of bay trail – complete small sections with capital works funding and/or retained funds and seek sponsorship/grant funding. Prioritise sections to be completed in smaller sections	All	
		Investigate external sponsorship/donations of materials/grant funding	All	
		Consider the merits of three alignment options for the bay trail as detailed in Parks Victoria's Dromana Foreshore Bay trail Feasibility Study	All	
		Particular caravan sites and existing car parking areas may be required to be removed to construct the bay trail.	4	
		The very narrow foreshore at the boat ramp will mean construction of the bay trail reduces the available area for trailer parking.	5	
		Management signage – comply with VicRoads	All	
Diversity of recreation opportunities in the Reserve	Improve the opportunities for safe and enjoyable walking and cycling at Dromana, and encourage more walkers and cyclists to visit Dromana.	Develop walking fitness trail with fitness stations, seats, tables and signage in La Trobe Reserve	6	
		Promote connection between Dromana and McCrae	5-6	
Disabled access to facilities in the reserve	Improve disabled access and accessible infrastructure in the reserve	Investigate ways of providing disabled access to beach and boat hire	All	
Pedestrian safety to be managed around car parking and road areas	Improve access and pedestrian safety for Reserve users crossing Point Nepean Road	Retain and upgrade existing unofficial walking tracks in La Trobe Reserve which are in line with intersecting streets.	6	
In some areas there are insufficient shade trees or other shelter.		Shelters / Tree Canopy	1-5	Ongoing

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Dense vegetation provides shelter from wind and sun but also limits views to the bay and collects rubbish.	Identify areas of dense vegetation that are non-indigenous or weedy and replace with indigenous plantings	Reduce areas of inappropriate vegetation that are not in keeping with EVC Coast Banksia Woodland whilst maintaining shade and shelter.	1-4	
Public art programs to be sited in the Reserve	Siting and planning for public art programs to be completed	Investigate site requirements and identify suitable sites in the Reserve	2	
Litter and rubbish management in the reserve	Reduce accumulation of litter around storm water drains on the beach	Stormwater drains across the beach causing stagnant pools of water and litter build up.	1-5	MPSC and SE Water Responsibility
	Ensure beach cleaning is adequate	Continue to monitor beach cleaning both mechanical and manual	1-5	
	Reduce litter dumping in the reserve	Litter is still being dumped in bushes where it is easy to conceal.	1-5	
		Some visitors have dumped hot BBQ heat beads in vegetated areas.	1-5	
	Improve consistency in rubbish bin policy between Shire and Committee foreshore areas.	Public concern over the removal of rubbish bins to be addressed.	1-5	Ongoing
		Liaise with Council regarding rubbish bin policy	1-5	Ongoing
Water management	Improve water quality	Liaise with Melbourne Water and Council Develop wetlands along Point Nepean Rd	6	
		Implement water harvesting project with water captured on La Trobe Parade back into the Reserve	6	High – (Grant applied 2014)
Community and corporate partnerships	Community partnerships to be fostered	Work with the friends group	6	
	External funding and support to be sought and corporate relationships fostered	Create corporate partnerships	6	
		Liaise with stakeholders involved in reserve eg Melbourne water etc	6	

2.8 Infrastructure

The Reserve provides a range of facilities including picnic areas, public toilets, boatsheds and bathing boxes. Some public infrastructure is ageing and requires upgrade or replacement.

Picnic Areas

The Committee provides picnic facilities at four sites along the Reserve. At toilet block no.4 there is a small picnic shelter and picnic tables and a large sloping lawn area. At Norm Webb Park there is a large picnic

shelter, an electric coin operated barbecue and picnic tables set in a long lawn area. Opposite Dromana Hotel there are three picnic and barbecue shelters of various architectural styles, coin operated electric barbecue and picnic tables set in a large lawn area. There is a small picnic shelter and picnic tables in the more natural foreshore setting opposite Kangerong Avenue. The Committee has recently developed small lawn viewing areas overlooking the beach near toilet block no.8.

In recent years Reserve picnic areas have become more popular with large family groups. On certain occasions, large groups can dominate certain facilities and limit opportunities for other foreshore users. Existing picnic areas and facilities need to be reviewed to ensure the needs of Reserve visitors are satisfied. Opportunities need to be provided for the range of picnic use including both large and small groups, groups cooking food and those bringing prepared food, active and less mobile visitors. Some existing picnic tables and other facilities such as toilets, barbecues and shelters are in need of upgrade. In some areas there are insufficient shade trees or other shelter.



Figure 15: The Committee of Management provides popular picnic shelters, picnic tables and coin operated barbecues along the foreshore

Playground

The playground in the Wharfage Reserve (managed by Council) is very popular with local residents and visitors. Volunteers upgraded the playground in 2002 and Council added a fence and new furniture in 2009.

Furniture and Fencing

There are a variety of picnic shelters and furniture styles within the Reserve. The mixture of styles, materials, quality and standard of construction create a fragmented look in the Reserve. Some pieces of furniture in the Reserve are outdated or reaching the end of their useful life. Existing picnic tables are difficult for the elderly or wheelchair bound visitors to use. The Committee have replaced the traditional white painted timber fences along the foreshore with Replas (recycled plastic) bollards. A standard design theme can help reinforce the coastal character and unify the town and foreshore.



Figure 16: Community donations have enabled the installation of park benches along the foreshore Reserve

Toilets

The Reserve contains eight toilet blocks (seven managed by the Committee). The Monrington Peninsula Shire Information Centre near Permien Street provides another nearby public toilet. The Committee toilets are only open during the summer months. Some Committee and Council toilets are located near each other and rationalisation may be possible. All Committee toilets need upgrading if they are to be retained. Existing toilet blocks are not built to a standard appropriate for public use. In 2007 Toilet Block 6 was demolished and has not been rebuilt. All toilets blocks require upgrade to ensure they include vandal proof fittings and fixtures, anti graffiti finishes, access and facilities for visitors with disabilities, drainage and easy maintenance. Some toilet blocks have asbestos sheet roofs.



Figure 17: Toilet Block on Dromana Foreshore Reserve

Car Parking and Traffic

Parking is currently provided in two larger sealed car parks and eight smaller car parks along the foreshore. Additional parking is provided for the boat ramp and caravan park. Small car parks usually have informal gravel surfaces with no line marking. These car parks are adequate for non-peak usage days although tandem parking by beach groups is a problem at some car parks on busy days. Some of these car parks conflict with pedestrian access along the foreshore. The two line marked and sealed parking areas at the pier and to the east of the pier provide parking for both the foreshore and the shopping centre.

Additional car parking is available as parallel parking along the Point Nepean Road. Some of this kerb side parking has been removed for bus stops, pedestrian crossings, flared intersections and associated median strips. On peak days Vehicles Park along the side streets that join Point Nepean Road. This hierarchy of parking provides a reasonably convenient system for most beach users at different times of the year. Extension of existing foreshore car parks would result in the further loss of coastal vegetation and the dominance of the foreshore by car parks. Few opportunities for the rationalisation of the car parks have been identified. VicRoads have agreed that the Committee should maintain the Anthony's Nose car park on a regular basis in consultation with DEPI and VicRoads.

There are many vehicle entry points from Point Nepean Road. In particular, entrances to the caravan park are too numerous and not sufficiently obvious. Beach access from car parks would be improved by the provision of more clearly defined pedestrian paths.

Gravel surface car parks are located adjacent to Anthony's Nose, the Boat Hire building, opposite Permien, Codrington and Heales Streets, and at the Safety Beach end of the Reserve. There are also small car parks at Toilet Block 2 and Toilet Block 3. There are sealed car parks at the Depot and adjacent to Carrigg Street, as well as a Council car park at the Pier.

Signage

The Committee has recently installed new signs. However, few recreational facilities are adequately signed from Point Nepean Road. The boat ramp, day visitor areas, public conveniences and picnic areas are not well sign posted. Educational and interpretative signage is absent at present and ideal opportunities for these types of signs exist at Kangerong and in La Trobe Reserve.

Waste management

The Committee provides rubbish bins and recycling services in the caravan park from December until April, and at the boat ramp all year around. The removal of 60 bins across the foreshore some five years ago has significantly reduced waste collection and dumping of garden and hard rubbish. This strategy has produced a cleaner foreshore and beach areas as well as considerable cost savings, with costs saved from labour and tip fees now redirected into capital works. This move is in line with general DEPI policy for waste management. This policy has attracted criticism from the public. Council provides mobile rubbish bins in the Wharfage Reserve. The Committee continues to monitor the waste issues on the Reserve and has decided in 2010/11 to carry out a trial of provision of rubbish bins at the main bbq areas over the December/January school holidays. Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management with assistance from local / public funding, bins may be provided at selected locations during peak Christmas period.

Plastic and other non-biodegradable material washed up on the beach also creates a problem, and can be unsightly in the off season when mechanical beach cleaning is minimal. Litter transported via the storm water system builds up on the beach at drain outlets. Responsibility for beach cleaning associated with storm water drains lies with Melbourne Water and Council.

Drainage

Prior to European Settlement a number of small creeks with their headwaters on the side of Arthurs Seat entered the sea along Dromana Foreshore. Simon's Creek was the largest of these creeks and entered the bay near the eastern end of the Reserve. The Mornington Peninsula Freeway now cuts across most creeks near Anthony's Nose. The flow of all former creeks is collected in town drains which also service drainage from the built up areas of Dromana.

Melbourne Water and Council are responsible for town drains that outlet onto the beach. The two drains closest to Anthony's Nose clearly follow the alignment of former creeks although both collect street drainage from the area between LaTrobe Parade and the freeway. The location of all other drains more clearly follows the layout of the Town Street and drainage pattern than any former creek locations.

Drainage pipes vary greatly in size depending upon the size of the catchment. Some drains end at the landward edge of the beach and flow across the beach to the bay. Many drains end in the middle of the beach and one drain extends all the way across the beach. Some drains across the beach are covered by sand and others fully exposed above the sand.

There is considerable public concern about the nuisance smell, poor appearance and public safety (as a beach obstacle and for water quality). Of particular public concern are the drains at Dromana Pier, McCulloch Street, Permien Street and the two drains between Kangerong Avenue and Seacombe Street. The latter drains are of concern due to the large pools of dark stagnant water caused by low water flows and a build up of sand. The Permien Street drain is a large diameter drain sitting above the level of the beach. This drain is of concern due to its landscape impact and public safety due to beach users having to climb over the drain at high tide. The Dromana Pier drain is located directly under the pier in an area very popular for shade on hot days. Small pools of stagnant water frequently form at the end of the small diameter low flow drain. There have been some concerns expressed about other drains where small areas of "quicksand" occasionally form. Ongoing management plan with Melbourne Water and Mornington Peninsula Shire will monitor and maintain the beach after heavy rains and storms.

There are several smaller gullies or soaks which flow through LaTrobe Reserve and are caught by the Point Nepean Road grassed table drain. "The Springs" below Stawell Street is a constantly wet area that once ran into a trough and watering area (Walker & Greening, 1996). Water frequently settles in the road grass table drain and there has been some concern about putrid and algae ridden pools over the summer period. It is important to note that this road grass table drain has also become an important local frog habitat.

Some areas within the caravan park are known to periodically flood. Road runoff pools adjacent to the road where there is a natural fall away from the beach edge and insufficient road drainage.

Boat Ramp and Boat Hire Facilities

Anthony's Nose boat ramp is located in an ideal location. The dual lane boat ramp is operated under Licence by the Peninsula Power Boat Club. There is limited space between the seawall and Point Nepean Road and this is totally occupied by a large gravel parking area which does not provide a good initial impression. The road shoulder is used as a queue lane. The club oversees operation of the trailer parking area and neither VicRoads nor Council has any road traffic concerns with the existing pattern of operation. The Club has a ticket box at the ramp and has a tractor which is parked in the caravan park during high season.



Figure 18: The upgraded timber boat launching ramp at Anthony's Nose



Figure 19: Dromana boat hire business site

A boat hire business has long been associated with the Reserve. The existing building is in need of upgrade. The building occupies a prime foreshore site. The Committee has commenced works to enhance adjacent

car parking with the installation of bollards and revegetation. Any repairs meeting the Committee's requirements.

Dromana pier

The original Dromana pier was built in 1862 and extended in 1873. At 472 metres long, it was the second longest pier on the bay after St Kilda pier. Large bay steamers were frequent visitors to the pier. There was a small gable roofed wharf building at the land head of the pier. The original timber pier was removed in the 1950s and replaced with the existing smaller concrete pier. The pier is unsuitable for boating as the water depth each side is insufficient. The pier is mostly used for fishing and sightseeing. Parks Victoria manages Dromana pier.

Memorial hall

The Memorial Hall (or Soldier's Memorial Hall) was built in the early 1920s. The hall is located on a separate Public Hall Reserve which is not part of the main Foreshore Reserve, and is managed by Council. Parts of the extensions to the building over the years have crossed the parcel boundary and are located on Foreshore Reserve. The Hall has two tenant groups. These are the 1st Dromana Scouts and the 1st Dromana Guides. The 1st Dromana Sea Scouts also have a nearby boatshed. Dromana Bay Life Saving Club once used the hall but now have an arrangement to use the Dromana Primary School boatshed. Special event camping by the 1st Dromana Sea Scouts has been permitted directly behind the hall.

Depot

Management of the Reserve is reliant on a small group of committee members, volunteers and full and part time staff. Staff are located in the Committee depot at McCulloch Street. This Depot is used as a storage area, workshop and office. The small size of the depot and screen planting ensure that the depot has little impact on the wider foreshore. The depot is considered to be in a good location and of sufficient size for foreshore management. No other sites exist which would be more suitable for this facility.

Dromana Bay Lifesaving Club operate from purpose built clubrooms completed in 2013. Events may be held here with approval from Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management.

Infrastructure Management

AIMS:

- Improve the standard of all foreshore toilets with upgraded internal toilet facilities, appearance of buildings, access to buildings and public safety.
- To improve the function and appearance of the existing Reserve picnic areas.
- To improve the function and appearance of Reserve furniture by developing a design theme for all furniture elements including picnic tables, seating, lighting, fences, vehicle barriers, signs, paths and other elements.
- To improve the function and landscape quality of existing Reserve car parks.
- To develop informative and interpretive signage across the Reserve that is easy to read and understand
- Committee are concerned with the cost of rubbish removal. They are endeavouring to educate the public to take their rubbish home.
- Committee with consultation with MPSC and Melbourne Water believe drainage to be improving.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- Structures are sited and designed to fulfil their purpose with sustainable use of resources, and must contribute significantly to public enjoyment and appreciation of the coast (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.1, 3.1.2).

- All materials and finishes should be durable and designed to minimise maintenance, satisfy the engineering constraints of the special wind and soil conditions of the coastal environment (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.1.10, 3.1.11, 3.1.12).
- The design of structures, outdoor furniture, signs and utilities in a locality should be visually coordinated (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.2.6), and aim to unify the style of all furniture elements including picnic tables, seating, lighting, fences, vehicle barriers, signs, paths and other elements. To this end, the Committee aim to provide unified identifiable colours for all foreshore furniture – pale eucalyptus green and foreshore cream
- Utilise furniture that is more convenient for the elderly and provides for wheelchair bound visitors in future installations and provide non-slip surfaces on paths, ramps and steps. Provide fences or handrails where necessary. Provide access for visitors with disabilities between car parks, picnic facilities, toilets and areas of interest. Identify additional bay viewing opportunities for visitors with disabilities.
- Buildings should be sited and designed to ensure optimal thermal performance and to utilise natural light (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.1.13). Development should be sited close and accessible to existing supplies of water and electricity or gas, and to stormwater and sewers. All sewerage should be discharged to adjacent sewers. As a more sustainable, preferred alternative, innovative environmentally friendly techniques should be encouraged (such as composting toilets, solar power etc) (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.1.7). To contribute to the landscape design unity of the foreshore the toilet blocks should be upgraded using a common design theme of colour and where possible materials. Designs should be unobtrusive and colours should blend into the landscape setting, avoiding highly reflective surfaces. Provide good quality internal fittings which are relatively vandal proof. Design access and internal facilities that are more convenient for the elderly and provide for wheelchair bound visitors. Provide well-lit and well-ventilated interiors.
- Natural vegetation should be disturbed as little as possible and protected during construction to minimise unnecessary loss (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.3.3).
- Local planning authorities should be consulted to determine traffic planning for the area and avoid duplication of car parking facilities or traffic congestion in the adjacent areas
- Development should be located to utilise existing roads and car parks.
- Car parks and roads should be minimised in sensitive coastal environments (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.1.8). Alternatives to new permanent car parks on the foreshore should be explored. Maintain the existing pattern of dispersed small car parks along the foreshore. Maintain existing 'natural' gravel surface. More clearly define the entrances to car parks and provide clear sightlines along Point Nepean Road for exiting vehicles. Improve the landscaping of car park areas including the provision of additional shade trees.

- Provide barrier free access for visitors with disabilities between car parks, picnic facilities, toilets and areas of interest. Provide opportunities at designated car parks for visitors to obtain bay views from parked vehicles.
- Make allowance for the Bay Trail to be clearly separated from car parking.

ACTIONS:

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Absence of a unifying theme or image which builds upon the natural and cultural values of the area. There is a mix of architectural styles in the picnic shelters.	Develop a unifying design theme for facilities	Develop a coastal design theme for all elements including buildings, fences and barriers, signage, picnic facilities and paths along the foreshore. This standard will guide the design of furniture constructed by the Committee and by service clubs.	All	Ongoing
Provision of recreation facilities	To provide appropriate, durable, accessible recreation facilities	Development of new BBQ area opposite Permien Street.	3	
		At Kangerong Avenue maintain the small picnic settings in the more natural foreshore setting. Provide new picnic tables, maintain existing picnic shelter, retain existing viewing areas and provide a new viewing area for visitors with disabilities.	1	
		Some pieces of furniture are outdated or reaching the end of their useful life.	1-5	Ongoing
		Upgrade major facilities including toilets, picnic shelters and barbecues.	1-5	
Picnic areas lack facilities for less mobile visitors and visitors with disabilities, especially at the pier and at the Safety Beach end of the foreshore reserve.	Improved access for less mobile visitors and visitors with disabilities, especially at the pier and at the Safety Beach end of the foreshore reserve is required.		1-4	
Maintenance of recreation facilities	To provide safe and well maintained recreation facilities		All	Ongoing
New identification and regulation signs have recently been installed but additional identification signage is still required. Visitor facilities need to be adequately signed from Point Nepean Road.	Adequate signage for wayfinding and interpretation in the Reserve	Continue to provide for education and interpretation along key walking tracks in La Trobe Reserve, the Kangerong section of the foreshore and the bay trail.	1, 6	
		Maintain signs posted along the foreshore for walking tracks and facilities.	All	

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Boat hire area is under utilised	Improve contribution of boat hire area to the foreshore	Facilitate enhancement of surrounds of Boat hire area in conjunction with XXX	3	
Toilet facilities require upgrade	Toilet blocks to be adequately sign posted along the foreshore	Develop and install signage for toilet facilities along the foreshore	1-5	
	Unify design of infrastructure in the Reserve	Develop a common design theme for the upgrading of existing buildings including colour and where possible materials including artistic embellishments	1-5	
	Progressively upgrade toilet blocks to improve look, function, accessibility and resource use	Toilet block no.1 to be retained to service the boat ramp area and the La Trobe Reserve walking track	5	
		Maintain all access toilet facilities for the general public in caravan park.	4	
		Toilet block nos. 2 and 3 at the caravan park require upgrade, better access to the toilet blocks and better separation from car parking areas. Upgrade may include new roofs, internal fittings, floor, ventilation and painting	4	
		Upgrade of toilet block no.4 may include a new roof, internal fittings, painting and ventilation	3	
		Toilet block no. 5 requires upgrade, better access to the toilet blocks and better separation from the car park. Upgrade may include a new roof, internal fittings, floor, painting and ventilation	3	
		Toilet block no. 7 has been upgraded with roof, doors and fittings. Some further upgrade of taps, pipes and cisterns may be required. Drainage is a problem when hosing out, as water doesn't drain because the concrete floor has sunk. The seaward wall is also moving		
		Toilet block no. 8 requires either upgrade or a totally new building. Upgrade may include removal of septic tank, connection to sewer, more visible entrances, and the addition of a disabled facility	1	
		Investigate the addition of disabled facilities to all toilet blocks	1-5	
Provision of adequate car parking for reserve users	Provide safe and adequate car parking for reserve users	Maintain all existing small car parks along the foreshore at their existing capacity.	1-5	

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
		Facilitate the bay trail by alterations to car park layouts. Particular car parks affected include the pier car park, boat hire car park and boat ramp car park.	2, 3, 5	
		Improve pedestrian access to toilets and the beach from the Carrigg Street car park including access for visitors with disabilities.	1	
		Provide a disabled car parking space at each car park.	1-5	
		Maintain the Beach Street car park in its present layout with an improved landscape treatment.	2	
		Safety beach carp park and car park entrance upgrade to be investigated	1	
		Verdon/Heales St car parks require upgrade	3	
		Review Mt Eliza to Pt Nepean Coastal Action Plan recommendations with respect to car parking.	1-5	
Landscaping treatment of car parking areas is lacking	Improve the visual amenity, functionality and safety of car parking areas	Improve the entrances, definition, landscape treatment and pedestrian access for the car parks at the depot, Heales Street, Verdon Street, and Permien Street.	2, 3	
		Improve the landscape treatment of all Reserve car parks including the provision of views, shade trees and landscaped edges.	1-5	
		Erect fences, bollards or other natural barriers to define car park areas.	1-5	
Provision of adequate facilities to support the activities of the Committee	Provide office space and meeting rooms at the works depot	Investigate upgrade of works depot to accommodate improvements	2	

2.9 Bathing Boxes

Boatsheds and bathing boxes

Bathing boxes and boatsheds are simple, free standing, non-commercial, non-residential structures used by private individuals and families primarily for storing beach equipment or boats and as change facilities. Boatsheds and bathing boxes are used frequently during the holiday periods and at weekends. They are used to store beach equipment and often provide basic kitchen facilities. Due to concerns about vandalism, boats are rarely stored in them.

The boatsheds and bathing boxes that line Port Phillip have become an iconic part of the bay landscape. Dromana has one of the more notable rows of boxes which are now portrayed on postcards and other local

handicrafts and artworks promoting the peninsula. The colourful doors often painted with murals add to the landscape character of Dromana.

Approximately 2000 boatsheds are found around Port Phillip and Western Port. Dromana Foreshore Reserve has approximately 10% of these (203 boatsheds and 39 bathing boxes), including a large number of powered boatsheds. The bathing boxes and boatsheds make a significant contribution to the foreshore landscape character. In 2003, the Council completed the first stage of its Bathing Box Heritage Study of bathing boxes and boatsheds within the municipality. The Reserve contains six boatsheds of historical significance, the Dromana Primary School boatshed and the boatshed belonging to the Woman Haters Club.

The areas in front of boatsheds and bathing boxes are well used by the permit holders. Some permit holders mow the grass on the foredune in front of the shed. Loss of the vegetation around boatsheds and bathing boxes may contribute to the erosion of the dune during storm events.

Boatsheds and bathing boxes around the bay have often developed a distinctive style at each beach, with single pitch roofs favoured at Mount Martha and Sorrento. At Dromana a traditional gable model repeats along the full length of the beach. Clay brick, calsil brick, concrete block and painted weatherboard are the most common materials. The severe coastal environment has caused extensive salt and other forms of erosion to the masonry walls of boatsheds and bathing boxes, requiring the repeated cement rendering of the walls. Traditionally double-ledged and braced timber doors have been used for boatsheds. In recent years these have sometimes been replaced by steel tilt up doors which quickly show signs of rusting and corrosion. The flat face of the metal tilt up doors tends to reduce the character of the boatsheds.

Today, with encouragement from the Committee, the boxes are generally kept in good repair. Standards have been adopted for the construction of bathing boxes and boatsheds by the Department of Environment and Primary Industries - Port Phillip Region (Kong and Yttrup). The standards provide a prescriptive code for the selection of appropriate materials and approved construction techniques. The standards can also be used for the repair of bathing boxes and boatsheds. However, at Dromana the continuation of the traditional gable roof form is important to the beach character.

At intervals of around a decade, severe storms deplete the beach sand and threaten boatsheds and bathing boxes. To prevent the undermining of structures, boatshed and bathing box permit holder has constructed retaining walls of stone or rubble, treated pine, railway sleepers or other recycled building material. This random process does not contribute to the attractiveness of the beach; often they are poorly maintained and can be a risk to other beach users. A standard wall detail, using one material, would enhance the appearance of the beach. Greater protection of the vegetation on the remnant foredune would also help to prevent erosion and reduce the undermining of boatsheds and bathing boxes.

The Committee has actively been promoting boatshed and bathing box permit holders' adherence to DEPI guidelines for alterations with great success. Permit holders must seek written permission before carrying out works on their boatsheds or bathing boxes. Boatsheds and bathing boxes are generally well maintained.

In recent years vandalism, including graffiti on doors and breaking and entry, has been a problem. This has been reduced through increased vigilance by the licence holders, activities of the Committee and patrolling by the foreshore ranger.

The construction of the sea walls at the pier and adjacent to Anthony's Nose cut direct access for many boatsheds to the beach.

Since the early 1960s, DEPI policy has been to prohibit connection to any drainage, sewerage, water, electricity, gas or similar service. Although existing services may be maintained, unauthorised new connections must not be permitted under any circumstances. Under the United Energy Powerlines Clearance Code of Practice, it is the responsibility of the Committee to prune trees near powerlines connected to boatsheds and bathing boxes. However it is Committee policy to protect vegetation rather than prune around powerlines.

The Committee's policy and standard forms regarding boatsheds and bathing boxes are located in Appendices 8-10. A more detailed summary of issues and policies regarding boatsheds and bathing boxes in the Reserve is provided in Appendix 11.



Figure 20: Boatsheds and bathing boxes are part of the charm and way of life of Dromana

Bathing Box Management

AIM:

To ensure that the 242 boatsheds and bathing boxes at Dromana are well maintained and retain the traditional design that contributes to the foreshore landscape character.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

Construction and renovation of boatsheds or bathing boxes requires the permission of the Committee and in many cases, *Coastal Management Act 1995* consent and a planning permit.

These works require consultation with the following policies and documents:

- Management of Dromana Boatsheds and Bathing Boxes, Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management (Refer to Appendix 9)
- Standards for Bathing Box and Boatshed Construction, Department of Environment and Primary Industries, 1996
- Boatsheds and Bathing Boxes Factfile, Department of Environment and Primary Industries, 2003
- Victorian Coastal Strategy, Victorian Coastal Council, 2008

- Boatshed and Bathing Box Heritage Study, Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2003

Management Actions

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Bathing box and boatshed tenants' compliance with regulations	Improve monitoring and compliance with regulations	Appropriate controls to monitor for inappropriate extensions or additions.	1-4	
		Connections to electricity supply	1-4	
		Maintenance of Boatsheds and Bathing Boxes	1-4	
Administration of tenancy, fees, boatshed and bathing box regulations		Maintain existing number of boatsheds and bathing boxes	1-4	
		Security of tenancy and the provision of leases/licences.	1-4	
		Equity as there are no opportunities for new boatshed or bathing boxes and prices for existing boatsheds and bathing boxes are rising.	1-4	
		Fee structure is not related to market value and consideration should be given to alternative methods of calculation of fees i.e. Size of boatshed or bathing box, based on valuation etc.	1-4	
		Seek permission to construct new boatsheds on existing footprints for public auctions to raise for foreshore infrastructure development	1-4	
Boatsheds and Bathing Boxes restrict access to the beach in some places where they are close together	Improve access to beach, minimise informal tracks	Rationalisation to provide some "access for all" tracks is required.	1-4	

2.10 Camping

In the 1870s and 1880s Dromana started its tradition as a holiday destination. Camping has been a traditional use around the southern part of the bay and Dromana was one of the first places to organise camping on the foreshore.

Camping was once more extensive than it is now. In the 1930s camping was permitted on both sides of Point Nepean Road and along the bay side of LaTrobe Parade. A bushfire in 1939 destroyed houses and led to the discontinuation of camping along LaTrobe Parade. Camping along the inland side of Point Nepean Road ceased in the 1960s. In more recent years the number of sites in the existing caravan park has been reduced from 66 to the current 46. This reduction was implemented to remove camping from inappropriate areas and improve access. The existing caravan park contains 46 sites, with the short-term aim for reduction to 45 sites through natural attrition.

Caravans have gradually become more popular than camping in tents. Today there are few requests for tent camping, and as such camping is no longer possible in the caravan park due to administrative

restrictions. There is a dedicated group of caravan park visitors, many of whom having been making the annual pilgrimage to the Reserve for over 40 years. Most of these visitors have interests in boating and also take an active interest in the Reserve.



Figure 21: Dromana Foreshore Caravan Park

Caravan park visitors value beach front sites, wonderful beach and bay conditions, the backdrop of Anthony's Nose and Arthurs Seat, boating access and conditions, proximity to Melbourne and the community of other caravaners. All sites have power connected and are occupied for the full season from 1st December until 30th April each year. Allowing camping within the Reserve provides the Committee with an ongoing funding source to continue improving the quality of the land into the future.

Unfortunately the caravan park is located where the foreshore between the road and the beach is at its narrowest. There is some concern that the area does not meet the standard now expected of major public camping areas.

ACTIONS

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Safety concerns with close proximity of caravan park to Point Nepean Rd	The speed limit along Point Nepean Road is 60 km/hr at the caravan park.	Investigate implementation of reduced speed limits, particularly in the summer months	4	
	Improve safety for users of the Reserve	Improve separation between Caravan Park and Point Nepean Road	4	
	Improve congestion of cars within the caravan park and along the road.	Reduce the large number of entrances (16) to the caravan park from Point Nepean Rd	4	

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Limited space for car parking for users of this area of the reserve			4	
Boatshed and bathing box permit holders are also competing for car parking spaces in this area.			4	
Density of caravans, annexes, cars and boat trailers severely limit pedestrian access along the foreshore.			4	
When at full capacity it is difficult to gain access to the beach, boatsheds and bathing boxes from the road			4	
Provision of vegetated areas and open space for caravan park users	There is no open space for caravan park patrons except for the beach itself.		4	
	Lack of vegetation cover gives the area a poor appearance during the non-summer months. This has improved due to extensive planting over past years although sections along the roadside are not able to be planted due to traffic safety concerns		4	
Infrastructure upgrades required for camping area	Some illegal sullage disposal to in-ground traps and to road drains is occurring	Investigate sullage connection as a mechanism for improved water conservation	4	
		Regulations do not require sullage facilities but environmentally it would be a preferred option for disposal. The traditional sullage disposal bucket is inadequate for modern caravans connected to mains water..	4	
	Improve facilities for campers	The two toilet blocks require continued upgrading to meet visitor and management needs.	4	
Enforcement of Reserve regulations and adherence to fire and safety regulations	Enforcement of the existing caravan park rules in regards to the future installation of outside carpeting, mains pressure water connections to vans, park power connection to boatsheds and bathing boxes, waste water disposal, and cars parking limits.	Improve patrols, signage and education of reserve regulations in Reserve users	4	

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
	Fire and safety regulations require 2m access between each site and its neighbouring caravan, boatshed or bathing box.	Planning to improve adherence to fire regulations	4	

2.11 Boating

The entire coastline of Port Phillip is subject to rules which govern boating activity, including the *Marine Safety Act 2010*. For the waters east of Dromana pier there is a 5 knot speed limit for all boats which extends 200 metres seaward from the shore. West of Dromana pier, the 5 knot area increases to 760 metres from the shore. The 5 knot speed limit also applies to boating within 30 metres of a swimmer or bather and 60 metres from a wharf, jetty or boat ramp. A declared access lane for water-skiers exists adjacent to the Anthony's Nose boat ramp. The 5 knot speed limit does not apply to the access lane and consequently swimming is not permitted in the access lane. Parks Victoria is the authority under the Port Management Act 1995 for Port Phillip. The Victoria water police are empowered to use radar guns to detect speeding boats.

The Boat Club has operated the boat ramp for many years as a not for profit community group, and there is a need to continually monitor the facility and upgrade the car park. There is a need to increase the public benefit of existing boating infrastructure, utilising the building all year round and visually enhancing the building.

Boating Management

AIMS:

- To explore opportunities to further develop the Boat Hire building that enhances the public's enjoyment of the coast.
- To work cooperatively with Boat Club to produce an efficient and profitable use of boat ramp and to ensure that the boat ramp is maintained to a safe and useable condition.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

- Structures should be designed to minimise maintenance, located away from unstable shorelines to obviate demands for erosion protection works in the future and particularly having regard to the special nature of coastal areas. Building should be set back in line with vulnerability assessment. Appropriate planning controls are required to protect this sensitive landscape (Landscape Setting Types, 18). No increase in footprint or increase in height. Multi use building with coastal dependent use i.e. Boat hire will have greater than 50% of business use of building. Marine structures – such as coastal structures need to recognise the natural processes and features with which they are interacting and be in keeping with the landscape setting (Siting & Design Guidelines, 3.1.15)
- Uses of land and water should be preferentially allocated to those requiring a coastal site. Only those structures associated with these activities or which contribute significantly to public enjoyment and appreciation of the coast, should be located on the coast. (Siting and Design Guidelines, 3.1.2). Provide safe access to and from the water, while ensuring impacts on the natural environment and coastal processes are minimised (VCS 2008, 3.1.2)

- Ensure nature based tourism and recreation (VCS 2008 3.3). Explore opportunities for recreation and tourism ventures which are sensitive to coastal settings and meet regional needs (VCS 2008 3.3)

ACTIONS:

Issue	Aim	Action	Zone	Priority
Car parking and boat trailer parking is limited	Access to boat ramp area	Investigate car park management issues	5	
		Investigate the parking and access demands for the entry/exit from car park to Point Nepean Road.	5	
		Renew 3 year licence for entry to boat ramp	5	
		Investigate ways of improving the amenity of the Boat ramp car parking area	5	
	Compliance with Australian Standard for trailer parking and manoeuvring areas at boat ramps	may be difficult to achieve in the existing car park footprint.	5	
	Improve the appearance of the existing gravel parking area at Anthony's Nose	Undertake landscaping in the car park and environs	5	
Vulnerability of coastal assets unknown	Assess coastal vulnerability	Existing trailer parking on the beach adjacent to boat ramp on busy days.	Investigate alternatives	5
		Consider undertaking coastal vulnerability assessment on key boating related infrastructure assets.	5	
No secure storage for boat club equipment	Provide secure storage for the club tractor and other equipment for the operation of the boat ramp	Investigate options for secure storage	5	

3. Business plan

The Committee's Management and Business Plan endorsed by the Minister of Conservation and Environment in 2007 has provided the Committee with definitive goals and objectives and a basis for grants applications since 2000. In the past the Committee has had significant income from grants, due to the formulation of a business and management plan which is a requirement of the Department of Environment and Primary Industries. Most agencies require evidence of sound financial practice in order to qualify for grants.

Financial and resource position

The Committee is largely self funded with revenue earned from caravan park fees, boat shed fees and other sources enabling the Committee to employ Ranger staff, provide facilities, protect the coastal environment and generally maintain the foreshore. The Committee's main sources of income are derived from various forms of leasing of buildings and land, namely caravan sites, bathing boxes, boatsheds and the boat hire building. Annual increases have been applied to all fees to bring them in line with market trends.

Administration

The Committee is responsible for maintenance and management of the facilities under its control. The Committee meets on a monthly basis to discuss management plans for the Reserve and various sub-committees that have been set up to oversee all areas concerning the Dromana Foreshore and LaTrobe Reserve. The Committee employs a full time ranger, part time rangers, a part time secretary, contract staff who provide cleaning, rubbish collection and maintenance related works, and other part time employees as required at the appropriate times. The caravan park is managed by a sub-committee and a Contract Manager. Remuneration for all staff is covered by money raised by the Committee. Public areas including the barbecues are cleaned on a daily basis by the ranger and relief contractors as well as general cleaning, maintenance, vegetation management, weed removal, power line management, etc. Further, members of the Committee regularly involve themselves in working bees to carry out works and cleaning on the foreshore area. No finance is obtained from any of the car parking areas on the foreshore by the Committee.

Expenditure

The main expenditures for the Committee are repairing and maintaining buildings, natural resource management and cleaning. The costs for repairs and maintenance have increased significantly in the last few years. Other costs of significance are risk mitigation, in vegetation management, track and building maintenance, and electricity line management.

The Committee allocates a small proportion of its expenditure to capital works projects which accounted for 15% of expenses in 2008/9. Other capital works projects are dependant upon successful grant applications.

Wages and contractors are also notable expenses. Wages represented 39% of total expenditure in 2009 (23% in 2002). Historically, equipment purchases have accounted for 20%-27% of total expenses, but had reduced to less than 1% of expenses in 2009.

Additional costs will be incurred by the Committee for upgrade of the Caravan Park. The cost involved will include administration, planning and upgrading of toilet and shower facilities.

Business review

The Committee uses the accounting program Mind Your Own Business (MYOB). This has improved efficiency of management reviews and decision making. There are a large number of reports which can be utilised to assist management in making timely and informed decisions regarding expenditure including

profit and loss reports per period, year to date with comparatives, cash flow reports, budget analysis and balance sheets. A budget is prepared annually by the Finance Subcommittee and reports are provided to the full Committee each month. A data security system has been implemented.

The projected income and expenditure of the Committee for the next three years is included in this section.

Apart from the caravan park, boatsheds and bathing boxes, visitors can use most of the facilities for free or for a token fee. The fees collected for the use of these facilities are reinvested into the maintenance of the foreshore. However, the revenue does not provide for sufficient funding to completely maintain and provide continuous improvement of the foreshore.

The Committee does not intend to charge visitors or day-trippers for the use of the public amenities or car parking. The implementation of car parking fees is expensive as it requires either meters or employing rangers. Revenue from car parking fees is generally collected by Councils, so would not be extra revenue for the Committee.

A review of the operations of the foreshore and the collection of fees has been conducted in order to ensure the Committee can continue to provide a viable community service, not just for the time being but into the future.

Income

Total income from Reserve facilities					
Year	Caravan Park	Boatsheds	Boat Ramp	Boat Hire Lease	TOTAL
2012/13	\$123,009	\$81,073	\$3,650	\$3,263	\$210,995
2013/14	\$129,160	\$83,510	\$3,833	\$3,426	\$219,929
2014/15	\$135,618	\$86,015	\$4,024	\$3,597	\$229,254

Caravan Park

Number of caravan sites has been reduced to 45 sites, fees will continue to be increased over the next five years on an annual basis to maintain the necessary revenue to cover maintenance, and, where applicable, to improve facilities and the continued upgrading and planting of indigenous plants in the area. The Committee currently offers full season sites only where all sites are occupied by a single tenant from 1st December until 30th April each year.

Boatsheds and bathing boxes

The revised Dromana Foreshore Business Plan proposes an annual increase (subject to forecast expenditure for the forthcoming year and not in excess of) of 3% for its fee structure for the next five years with powered sheds subject to a levy which will contribute to an annual electricity supply line/meter box audit, obtaining any necessary arborist report associated with maintaining safe clearances of electricity supply lines from vegetation, tree trimming and removal around power supply lines (which is the responsibility of the Committee under its Electricity Management Plan) and the regular inspections and maintenance associated with the safety of electricity supply lines to boatsheds and bathing boxes undertaken by the Ranger.

The costs associated with providing the above services will be accounted for separately in the annual report of the Committee. The Committee will review the fee for owners of bathing boxes/boatsheds who have electricity supply connected during the statutory review of the Coastal Management Plan (currently every three years) to ensure that costs remain covered. The guiding principles for setting such fees are to ensure public safety, compliance with the Committee's Electricity Management Plan and to apply fees solely on a cost recovery basis.

These fees will provide certainty for licensees and allow for forward planning by the Committee.

Individual rate increases					
	Caravan Park	Boatsheds		Bathing Boxes	
Year	Rate per site	Unpowered(87)	Powered (114)	Unpowered (32)	Powered (7)
2012/13	\$2,835.00	\$382.75	\$492.75	\$302.45	\$412.45
2013/14	\$2,977.00	\$394.25	\$504.25	\$311.55	\$421.55
2014/15	\$3,126.00	\$406.07	\$516.73	\$327.13	\$437.55

Revenue is generated from 240 of the boatsheds and bathing boxes. The remaining 2 boatsheds are licensed to local community groups at no charge.

3.1 Income, expenditure and surplus

Income		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Leased properties	Boatshed/Bathing Boxes	81,073	83,510	86,015
	BS/BB electricity management	12,100	12,100	12,100
	Boat Hire Fee	3,263	3,426	3,597
	Boat Ramp Fee	3,650	3,833	4,024
	Caravan Park Fee	123,009	129,160	135,618
Amenities	Hot water	1,600	1,700	1,700
	BBQs	500	500	0
Administration	Transfer Fees*	28,000	28,000	28,000
	Penalties	0	0	0
	Discretionary Fees	0	0	0
Interest	Interest Received	3,000	3,000	3,000
Grants	External funding	0	0	0
Donations	Community Benefits Card	500	500	500
Other	Beach Cleaning Subsidy	7,000	7,500	7,500
TOTAL INCOME		263,695	273,229	282,054

*estimated, can vary between \$12,000 and \$30,000.

Expenses		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Administrative costs	Accounting Fees	700	700	725
	Bank Charges	460	470	485
	General Expenses	1,061	1,093	1,126
	Subscription/Memberships	80	82	84
	Debt Collection	212	219	225
	Police Check	100	100	100
	Permits and Charges	250	250	250
	Web Hosting & Setup	530	546	563
	Postage	1,625	1,674	1,724

Expenses		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	Presentations & Wreaths	575	575	600
	Printing & Stationary	1,857	1,912	1,970
	Telephone	2,950	3,039	3,130
	Training & Seminars	530	546	563
	Public Meeting	530	546	563
Caravan Park	Electricity	5,305	5,464	5,628
	Gas	2,122	2,185	2,251
	Water	1,591	1,639	1,688
	Registration Fee	53	55	56
	Cleaning Contract	5,411	5,573	5,740
	Manager	4,244	4,371	4,502
	Repairs and maintenance	3,183	3,278	3,377
	Rubbish Removal	5,305	5,464	5,628
Cleaning	General contract	6,763	6,966	7,175
	Materials	3,183	3,278	3,377
	Ladysan contract	690	710	732
Grounds Maintenance	Garden Supplies	3,183	3,278	3,377
	Storm Damage	1,061	1,093	1,126
	Bob Cat	2,122	2,185	2,251
	Rubbish removal	2,122	2,185	2,251
	Plant Regeneration	2,122	2,185	2,251
	Risk Mitigation	8,487	8,742	9,004
	Graffiti removal	1,061	1,093	1,126
	Lawn Mowing Contract	3,342	3,442	3,545
	General including repairs	5,305	5,464	5,628
	Federation Track Maintenance	2,122	2,185	2,251
	Contract LaTrobe – Weeds	10,609	10,927	11,255
Motor Vehicle	Petrol & Oil	1,591	1,639	1,688
	Registration & Insurance	1,061	1,093	1,126
	Repairs & Maintenance	2,122	2,185	2,251
Operating costs general	Electrical Management	10,500	12,100	12,100
	Insurance –Building & Equip	1,061	1,093	1,126
	Light & Power –BBQs	1,273	1,311	1,351
	Rates (Water)	1,061	1,093	1,126
Plant & Equipment	Purchases	530	546	563
	Hire	106	109	113
Signage		1,591	1,639	1,688
Wages and staffing costs	Part Time Ranger	35,307	36,366	37,457
	Full Time Ranger	71,027	73,158	75,353
	Secretary	18,576	19,134	19,708
	Workcover Insurance	1,591	1,639	1,688
	Superannuation	11,242	11,579	11,927
	Annual Leave Expenses	2,652	2,732	2,814

Expenses	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Long Service Leave Exp	1,061	1,093	1,126
Safety Equip & Uniforms	849	874	900
TOTAL EXPENSES	254,047	262,897	270,432

Surplus

Predicted operating surplus, carried forward each year

Surplus	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Total income	263,695	273,229	282,054
Total Expenses	254,047	262,897	270,432
Projected surplus	9,648	10,332	11,622

3.2 Grants

The receipt of Government Grants is an important aspect of the Committee's cash flow, however planning the likelihood of funding is difficult due to the competitive nature of the grant application process. It should be noted that the pursuit of grants funding must be continued but not relied upon. There are significant works identified in the management plan some of which will not be possible without additional government grants.

Possible sources of future grant money include:

- Department of Environment and Primary Industries
- Parks Victoria
- Federal Government Grants
- Local Government Community Partnerships
- Corporate Sponsorship
- Ross Trust
- Local Service Clubs
- Bendigo Bank
- Ritchie's Community Benefit Card

Special projects requiring grant applications	
1. Latrobe Reserve weed removal and habitat restoration (as per plan)	\$50,000
2. Fitness trail in Latrobe Reserve.	\$150,000
3. Disabled access and sewerage connection to toilet block 8.	\$100,000
4. Improved beach access tracks	\$25,000
5. Upgrading toilet facilities to all foreshore toilet blocks	\$1,000,000
6. Purchase and installation of park bench seats/picnic tables	\$5,000
7. Interpretive signage	\$10,000
8. Depot reconstruction	\$250,000
9. Art installation	\$150,000
10. Seawall repairs	\$250,000
Total Funds Required	\$1,990,000

3.3 Timetable for special projects

Year	Project	Description	Cost Estimate	Funding source
Current	Latrobe reserve works	Stage 2 of works to be carried out by professional revegetators	\$50,000	Seek grant for funding of complete project (\$50,000)
Current	Fitness track in latrobe reserve	Installation of fitness track stations in a figure eight circuit through Latrobe Reserve, works to include volunteer labour, coast action field activities	\$150,000	Committee to fund and seek donation of gravel from Hillview Quarries and by donations and grants
Current	Bay trail	To be completed with donated gravel and volunteer labour, costs will depend on which bay trail option is selected	To be confirmed	Committee to continue to seek sponsorship donations grants. Undergoing negotiations with Mornington Peninsula Shire to extend the trail from Boat Hire to Anthony's Nose through Caravan Park
2013 - 15	Latrobe reserve weed removal & habitat restoration	Protect and enhance remnant indigenous flora and fauna, restore weed-infested areas, remove rubbish, expand friends' group & public involvement, redirect stormwater and develop wetlands, reduce turf grass and replace with indigenous vegetation west of Federation Track.	\$50,000	
2013 - 15	Interpretive signage	Design, preparation and installation of interpretive signage across foreshore reserve including bay trail and Federation Walk	\$10,000	Committee to seek grant funding
2013 - 15	Beach access tracks	Audit of all beach access tracks and rationalise. Will include closure of some tracks and improvements to others	\$50,000	Committee to seek funding from DEPI or via grant with some contribution from Committee capital works funds

Year	Project	Description	Cost Estimate	Funding source
2013 - 15	Disabled access at toilet block 8 to beach	Develop a disabled ramp adjacent to Toilet Block 8 to provide easier access for users with limited or no mobility	\$250,000	Committee to seek funding through disabled network of grants or sponsorship

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Appendix 1: Land Parcels – Dromana Foreshore Reserve

Parcel	Size (Ha)	Crown allotment	Township	Parish	Reservation Temporary/ Permanent	Reservation purpose
P240218	13.7	13	Dromana	Kangerong	Temporary	Public Park (Gov Gazette 1891, p2308)
P379702	0.0639	2011		Kangerong	Permanent	Public Purposes (Gov Gazette 1873, p1059)
P241390	2.3	2G		Kangerong	Temporary	Public Park (Gov Gazette 1891, p2308)
P241384	0.94	2A		Kangerong	Temporary	Public Park (Gov Gazette 1891, p2308)
P240219	8.1	14	Dromana	Kangerong	Permanent	Public Purposes (Gov Gazette 1873, p1059)
P241387	0.51	2D		Kangerong	Permanent	Public Purposes (Gov Gazette 1873, p1059)
P241389	2.9	2F		Kangerong	Permanent	Public Purposes (Gov Gazette 1873, p1059)
P383490	0.0671	2010	Dromana	Kangerong	Temporary	Public Purposes (Gov Gazette 2010, p611)
P243254	0.2350	2H		Kangerong	Temporary	Public Purposes (Gov Gazette 1995, p1624)
P384390	0.1	2010		Kangerong	Permanent	Public Purposes (Gov Gazette 1873, p1059)
P385911	0.0491	2020		Kangerong	Temporary	Public Purposes (Boat Ramp) (Gov Gazette 2012, p732)

Appendix 2: History of the Reserve

Post settlement history

Lieutenant John Murray, Captain of the Lady Nelson, entered Port Phillip Bay and named Arthurs Seat in 1802. Collin's short-lived Settlement at Sorrento followed the next year. Sealers, tan bark collectors and other transients operating from the Bass Strait islands visited the peninsula. Charles Grimes reported finding abandoned bark huts at Chinaman's Creek in 1803 (Hollingshead, 1982).

In the late 1830's a commercial lime burning industry commenced along the bay coastline. From the 1850's to the 1930's there was additional demand for firewood for the baker's ovens and domestic fires of Melbourne. Many lime burners turned to wood gathering with little adjustment. Fishermen with their beach huts also moved into the area. Only a short period of time elapsed between the advent of the lime burning industry and grazing of cattle. A survey map of 1838 locates Edward Hobson's hut on the 'Tootgarook Run' in what is now known as Safety Beach. Andrew McCrae occupied 12,800 acres on Arthurs Seat in 1844 and grazed 300 cattle. The commencement of grazing added to the pressures on the natural environment. More intensive farming took off from 1910 onwards with improved farming, especially fencing and improved pasture.

The rock promontory at Anthonys Nose barred through access except along the beach at low tide. As Dromana was on the Melbourne side of Anthonys Nose it was as far as most wheeled traffic could travel. This provided Dromana with a natural advantage for development. Consequently Dromana developed ahead of Portsea, Sorrento and Rye.

Dromana Pier was built in 1862, and extended in 1873 to become the second longest pier on the bay. Bullock wagons trading in timber gathered at the pier to load firewood for Melbourne. However, the original town did not develop around the pier. The original shopping area, post office, and hotel were situated at the bottom end of La Trobe Parade. The 'town' was largely destroyed by fire in the 1890s and the town centre moved towards the pier. Some of the rough walking tracks through La Trobe Reserve may have their origins in this period.

In the 1860s a gravel road was built to the rocks at Anthonys Nose. A rough track was continued around Anthonys Nose in 1866. It was not until 1920 that major construction was carried out on the first road. In the 1870's and 1880's, Dromana began to benefit from holiday makers and a series of guesthouses were opened. The peninsula also became popular with businessmen looking to acquire a 'picturesque' summer property.

In 1891 a section of Dromana foreshore was temporarily reserved. A public Committee of Management was formed in 1919 to manage the Reserve. In 1921 the site of the existing Soldier's Memorial Hall was excluded from the Reserve.

Recreational use and summer camping at Dromana dates back to at least 1910 and possibly earlier. Dromana was one of the first places to see tents on the foreshore. At one stage there were tennis courts in the Reserve opposite Carrigg Street and even five 5 large timber diving platforms in the bay (the last platform was removed in the 1950s).

Aerial photos from the 1920s show the Reserve to be heavily treed with mature Coast Banksia and very little understorey vegetation. The Wharfage Reserve was the only area of foreshore which was totally cleared. Boatsheds and bathing boxes were numerous along most of the foreshore by this time.

Appendix 3: Management Context

Table 1. Relevant Legislation Commonwealth legislation relating to coastal planning

THEME	ACT	PROVISION	LEAD AGENCY
Biodiversity	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	Commonwealth assessment of proposals with impacts on issues of national environmental significance Protects species of national significance	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (DSEWPC)
Cultural Heritage	<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1994</i>	Protection of Aboriginal heritage	DSEWPC
	<i>Native Title Act 1993</i>	Native Title	National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT)
Human Rights	<i>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To eliminate discrimination based on disability 	Australian Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission

State legislation relating to coastal planning

THEME	ACT	PROVISION	LEAD AGENCY
Planning	<i>Coastal Management Act 1995</i>	Strategic planning on the coast Management planning on the coast Approval to use and develop coastal Crown land	Victorian Coastal Council (VCC), Regional Coastal Board (RCB) – strategic planning DEPI – management & consents Parks Victoria – consents
	<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>	Establishes land use planning regime for private and public land	Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure Local Governments
Land Status / Management	<i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i>	Establishes power to reserve Crown land for a range of public purposes and to appoint Committees of Management to manage reserved Crown land	DEPI
	<i>Land Act 1958</i>	Establishes and manages land title and land transfer system	DEPI
	<i>Local Government Act 1989</i>	Provides legislative backing for local government and provision for local laws	Local Governments Department of Transport, Planning and Local

Environmental Protection			Infrastructure
	<i>National Parks Act 1975</i>	Provides for establishment and management of terrestrial and marine national parks, state, coastal and historic parks, and marine sanctuaries Provides for regulations for use, management and enforcement in areas covered by the Act	Parks Victoria
	<i>Victorian Environment Assessment Council Act 2001</i>	Provides for establishment of the Victorian Environment Assessment Council (VEAC) to conduct investigations and make recommendations relating to the protection and ecologically sustainable management of the environment and natural resources of public land	VEAC
	<i>Environmental Protection Act 1970</i>	Provides a framework for environment protection in Victoria	Environment Protection Agency (EPA)
	<i>Environment Effects Act 1978</i>	Provides a framework for major project environmental impact assessments	Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure
Biodiversity	<i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i>	Protection of rare and endangered flora and fauna	DEPI
	<i>Wildlife Act 1975</i>	Regulates the management and protection of native wildlife	DEPI Parks Victoria
Cultural Heritage	<i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i>	Protection of Aboriginal heritage in Victoria	Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (within Department of Premier and Cabinet)
	<i>Heritage Act 1995</i>	Protection of heritage sites in Victoria	Heritage Victoria (within Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure)
Resource / Waterway Management	<i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i>	Provides for the coordinated management of catchments and water resources	DEPI Melbourne Water Catchment Management Authorities
	<i>Fisheries Act 1995</i>	Management of coastal and inland fisheries	Fisheries Victoria (within DEPI)
Vessel / Port Management	<i>Marine Safety Act 2010</i>	Regulates vessel safety and vessel operations in Victorian waters	Transport Safety Victoria Parks Victoria
	<i>Port Management Act 1995</i>	Regulates the management of Victorian ports (commercial and non-commercial) Regulates boating in Victorian	Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure Commercial port managers

		waters	e.g. Victorian Regional Channels Authority Local port managers e.g. Parks Victoria, Gippsland Ports
Vehicles	<i>Road Management Act 2004</i>	Provides for the management of roads and vehicles	VicRoads DEPI Local Governments
	<i>Road Safety Act 1986</i>	Provides for safe, efficient and equitable road use	VicRoads
	<i>Land Conservation (Vehicle Control) Regulations 2013</i>	Provides for the management of vehicles on public land, prevention of soil erosion and damage to public land	DEPI Parks Victoria Local Governments
Emergency Response	<i>Country Fire Authority Act 1958</i>	Provides for the establishment and management of rural fire fighting services	CFA
	<i>Emergency Management Act 1986</i>	Provides a structure for coordinating emergency response	Emergency Services Commissioner (within Department of Justice)
Human Rights	<i>Disability Services Act 1991</i>	Sets out the principles to be furthered by service providers with respect to disabled persons	Department of Human Services (DHS)

Regional legislation, policy and plans

Central Coastal Board & Coastal Action Plans

Coastal Actions Plans (CAPs) are strategic planning documents prepared by the Regional Coastal Boards. CAPs are considered for endorsement by the Minister for Environment and Climate Change under Section 26 of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*. They may be geographically focused or issues based and must provide strategic direction for the protection, use and development of public and private coastal land. They are implemented by the relevant public land manager.

The Central Coastal Board (CCB) provides strategic planning advice to the Minister for Environment and Climate Change for the area of coast from Breamlea, which is the western boundary of the City of Greater Geelong, to Andersons Inlet at the eastern boundary of Bass Coast Shire. Under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, the CCB may prepare coastal action plans for its region or a part of its region.

Coastal Action Plans (CAPs) help to implement the Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS) at the regional scale. CAPs enable the broad principles and priorities identified in the VCS to be further developed and applied at a sub-regional or issue based level. CAPs provide strategic direction for the future management of an area of coast by identifying necessary priorities, actions and outcomes.

There are currently two CAPs applicable to land adjacent to Dromana Foreshore Reserve. These are the Boating Coastal Action Plan (2007), and the Mt Eliza to Point Nepean Coastal Action Plan (2005). The Boating CAP lists the Dromana Pier/Jetty as a local facility and recommends that it remains a local facility in the future. A local boating facility is described as a locally significant facility that generally caters for the local catchment area. At present the Pier/Jetty is managed by Parks Victoria.

The Mt Eliza to Pt Nepean CAP has been prepared under the Coastal Management Act 1995 and the Victorian Coastal Strategy and takes in the Port Phillip section of the Peninsula from Mt Eliza to Point Nepean. This CAP provides the mechanism for implementing the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008. The development of the CAP involves the identification of priority management opportunities for the Port Phillip Bay section of the Peninsula's coast for the next twenty years within a context of Ecologically Sustainable Development.

The planning scheme

Planning Schemes are the primary documents for determining how land can be used and developed across a municipality. The governing legislation is the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Planning Schemes follow a standard format in Victoria, namely:

State Planning Policy Framework

Local Planning Policy Framework (including Municipal Strategic Statement)

Zones

Overlays

Provisions

When assessing permit applications, the responsible authority will generally consider these components in hierarchical order.

- **State Planning Policy Framework**

The *State Planning Policy Framework* (SPPF) is standard across all municipalities and identifies significant issues to be treated consistently across the State. In particular, Clause 12.02 (Coastal Areas) of the SPPF reinforces the need for consistency with the Victorian Coastal Strategy and outlines objectives for coastal use and development.

- **Local Planning Policy Framework**

The *Local Planning Policy Framework* (LPPF) within each planning scheme provides the opportunity for municipalities to identify key issues in their area and develop local strategies and policies to ensure orderly planning is achieved considering environmental, economic and social issues. For coastal municipalities this will include identifying objectives for protection and sustainable development of the coastal environment.

- **Zones, Overlays and other Provisions**

The planning scheme zones land for particular uses. It provides information on whether a planning permit is required and the matters that the council must consider before granting a permit. The zone also contains information relating to land uses, subdivision of land, construction of new buildings and other changes to the land. Overlays are applied to land that has some special feature such as a heritage building, significant landscape or flood risk. They may trigger the requirement to refer an application to a specified referral authority.

Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme

The Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme sets out policies and controls for the use, development and protection of land within the municipality. The Planning Scheme is based on model planning provisions for Victoria called the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPPs), which allow for each municipality to insert certain local provisions.

The Planning Scheme provides the policy and regulatory mechanisms for implementing aspects of management plans. Essentially, the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) develops a vision for the future, and provides a clear and positive statement of sustainable, long term objectives for the future use and

development of land on the Mornington Peninsula and the means by which they will be achieved. The MSS has been developed to address foreshores and coastal Areas. Objectives in the MSS include:

1. To protect and enhance the natural ecosystems and landscapes of the coast for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.
2. To achieve coordinated development of public and private facilities that increases the sustainable social, economic and recreational value of the coast and foreshore to the community.

The Dromana Foreshore is zoned as Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ). The purpose of the PPRZ is to:

- Implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies
- Recognise areas for public recreation and open space
- Protect and conserve areas of significance
- Provide for commercial uses where appropriate

The Public Conservation and Resource Zone covers the seabed of Port Phillip and immediately abuts the foreshore, extending into Port Phillip Bay. This area forms part of the Coastal Protection Zone under the Victorian Coastal Strategy.

The foreshore is also subject to an Environmental Significance Overlay: Schedule 25: Port Phillip Overlay. The environmental objectives of the overlay are to:

- Protect and enhance the natural features, vegetation, ecological diversity, landscape quality, heritage values and recreation opportunities of the Port Phillip Bay coastal area and associated intertidal and marine habitats
- Promote excellence in design of buildings, facilities and structures in the coastal area
- Promote coordinated management of the Port Phillip coastal area

Several sections of the foreshore are also covered by Environmental Significance Overlay

Schedule 17: Streamlines. The environmental objectives of this overlay are to:

- Maintain environmental flows and the quality of water within streams and watercourses
- Maintain the capacity of streams and watercourses to carry natural flows
- Prevent erosion of banks, streambeds and adjoining land and the siltation of watercourses, drains and other features
- Protect and conserve flora and fauna habitats (including those of fish and invertebrates) within and along streams and watercourses
- Ensure that development does not occur on land liable to flooding
- Ensure that subdivision and development is compatible with the environmental values of streams and watercourses
-

Dromana Foreshore Reserve Vegetation Restoration Strategy 2009

The Vegetation Restoration strategy for the reserve was funded through a Caring for our Country grant. It was prepared in 2009 by Gidja Walker to update the La Trobe Reserve Weed Strategy which now incorporates all of Dromana Foreshore (1996 by Gidja Walker and Jon Greening). The project aims were to ascertain the significant species and areas of high quality so that they may be protected and enhanced and to identify the major weed species and their method of management and control. This survey forms the basis for a two pronged approach:

- (a) Consolidating good areas

- (b) Removing and revegetating the weed infested areas

Heritage preservation was an important requirement in the 2009 Caring for our Country grants.

Fauna Survey and Management Prescriptions for Dromana Foreshore Reserve 2009

The survey, including La Trobe Reserve, was undertaken by Malcolm Legg in 2009 as a follow up to the previous document 2000-2001 which identified the fauna, their habitat and management within La Trobe Reserve. The habitat provided for fauna had been severely altered by the invasion of noxious and environmental weeds, resulting in over eighty percent of the natural vegetation (mainly middle to understorey) disappearing. Current vegetation works in the area has improved the habitat.

Fire Fuel Management Plan 2009

The Committee commissioned in 1999-2000 a Landscape Master Plan which was endorsed by the then Department of Natural Resources and Environment and Council. A Caravan Park Master Plan prepared in 1999-2000 addressed the major issues of safety, overcrowding and revegetation of the caravan park with the reduction of sites from 66 to 45 over a five-year period, currently at 46 sites in 2010.

Caravan Park Masterplan

The Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management prepared and adopted a caravan park Masterplan in 2000 to address the issues of overcrowding, safety and car parking in the Dromana Foreshore Reserve Caravan Park. The bay trail was built into the Masterplan and was prepared with public consultation.

Landscape Masterplan

The Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management prepared and adopted a landscape Masterplan as part of its overall vegetation strategy. This document addresses the removal of environmental and noxious weeds from the Foreshore Reserve and their replacement with indigenous vegetation. A planning permit was issued by Council for this document applying to the removal of weeds from the Reserve.

State legislation, policy and plans

Victorian Coastal Strategy (2008)

The Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS) is the State Government's policy commitment for coastal, estuarine and marine environments in Victoria. It provides a long-term vision for the planning, management and sustainable use of our coast, and the policies and actions Victorians will need to implement over the next five years to help achieve that vision.

The VCS 2008 is established under the *Coastal Management Act* 1995, and is the third VCS to be produced since 1997 – they are reviewed every five years.

Specific objectives identified in the strategy which relate to Dromana include:

- Manage community use of foreshore land, buildings and other assets to return the greatest public benefit while protecting environmental and social values
- Maintain access to coastal Crown land except when there is need to protect high value resources, or for safety and security reasons.
- Ensure public safety considerations are addressed where public access to the coast is provided, readily available or encouraged.
- Ensure ongoing and meaningful community engagement and active involvement in planning, management and decision-making.

- Ensure appropriate development of service infrastructure to enhance the economic and social wellbeing of the community.
- Ensure the protection and conservation of significant natural and cultural features and values.
- Conserve sites and landscapes of cultural, scientific and historical significance. Identify, protect and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage in partnership with Aboriginal communities.
- Improve user amenity and reduce detrimental environmental effects of accommodation on coastal Crown land.
- Improve and enhance tourists and visitors experience and understanding of the coast, while protecting sensitive and significant areas.
- The promotion of walking and cycling within and between settlements through well planned integrated pathways including quality connections along foreshores and to public spaces.

Siting and Design Guidelines (VCC 1998)

The Siting and Design Guidelines were prepared to assist the implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy and promote sensitive design and development in coastal areas. Their primary purpose is to define those issues which should be considered in the siting, design and construction of new structures and the improvement of existing structures in coastal areas.

Linking People and Spaces Strategy 2002

In 2002, Parks Victoria prepared Linking People and Spaces, a strategy for Melbourne's open space network which sets the strategic direction for open space planning for Melbourne for the next 20 years. Linking People and Spaces provides a vision for the continued growth and enhancement of Melbourne's network of regional parks, trails, coasts, waterways and environmental reserves. It supports the implementation of environmental priorities identified in Victoria's Biodiversity Strategy and the Port Phillip and Western Port Native Vegetation Plan.

Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority & the Regional Catchment Strategy

The Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority (PPWCMA) promotes and coordinates improved land, water and biodiversity management throughout the catchments.

The PPW Regional Catchment Strategy, written by the PPWCMA, describes the natural assets of the region, and how they are interrelated, and what needs to be done to manage and use the assets in a sustainable way.

Appendix 4: Reserve Regulations

(As printed in the Victorian Government Gazette, No. 93, dated November 1, 1961)

REGULATIONS FOR THE CARE, PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE "DROMANA", "ROSEBUD", "WEST ROSEBUD AND TOOTGAROOK", "RYE", "TYRONE", "BLAIRGOWRIE", "RYE OCEAN PARK", "SORRENTO OCEAN PARK", AND "KOONUA OCEAN PARK" FORESHORE RESERVES.

WHEREAS by section 218 of the *Land Act* 1958, power is given to the Board of Land and Works to make Regulations in respect of the care, protection and management of any Crown land which has been reserved under the Land Acts for any public purpose whatsoever and which has not been conveyed to or vested in trustees, and for the further purposes as enacted: Now therefore the Board of Land and Works, in pursuance of the power conferred aforesaid, doth hereby make the following Regulations in respect of the reserved Crown lands in the Parishes of Kangerong, Wannaeue, Nepean and Fingal and are indicated by red colour on plan marked MP/13.10.61, attached to the Lands Department correspondence C.98603, and known as the "Dromana", "Rosebud", "West Rosebud And Tootgarook", "Rye", "Tyrone", "Blairgowrie", "Rye Ocean Park", "Sorrento Ocean Park", And "Koonya Ocean Park" Foreshore Reserves (hereinafter referred to as the "Reserves").

Each Reserve has been placed under the control of a Committee of Management (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee") with the power and authority to enforce these regulations.

REGULATIONS

Rescind

1. Upon the coming into operation of these Regulations all previous Regulations made by the Board of Land and Works in respect of the Reserves shall be rescinded.

Ramps, Tracks, Cliffs.

2. No person shall enter or leave the Reserves except by means of the ramps or other openings provided, and no person shall climb the cliffs in the Reserves.

Dress, Conduct

3. No person shall enter or remain on the Reserves whose dress, language or conduct is such as in the opinion of the Committee or its authorized officer, to offend against decency.

Bathing

4. No person shall bathe from the Reserves unless wearing a bathing costume which, in the opinion of the Committee or its authorised officer, does not offend against decency.

Vehicles

5. No person shall drive, push, pull or place on the Reserves or park or leave thereon any motor car, motor cycle, bicycle, horse-drawn vehicle, water craft, trailer or other vehicle except in such places as are set aside for such purpose by the Committee, unless such a person first obtains the permission, in writing or the Committee, and no vehicle shall remain stationary within 25 yards of a children's playground.

Boats

6. (a) No person shall launch from or bring on to the Reserves any motor boat, rowing boat, yacht or other water craft except by such means and at such places as may be specified by the Committee.

(b) Water craft left, wrecked or marooned on the foreshore may be removed by the Committee, and the cost of such removal shall be borne by the owner.

Camping and Parking Fees

7. The Committee may set aside portions of the Reserves as and for the purpose of camping or parking, and may fix and collect fees and other charges for entering and using any such area.

Camping

8. No person shall camp or park any caravan or vehicle or erect any tent or any other structure on any site on any portion of the Reserves except on such portion or portions thereof as may be specially set apart for such purpose by the Committee, and then only with the consent, in writing, of the Committee first obtained and on payment of such fees and subject to such conditions as the Committee may determine.

Persons Responsible

9. The person to who permission is issued by the Committee or its authorised officer to use a site in a camping area shall be deemed to be the person who erected on such site any structure, tent or shelter thereon or who parked a caravan on such site, and such person shall keep the site thus occupied in such camping area in a clean, sanitary and tidy condition, and before vacating such site shall collect and place in the receptacle provided for the purpose all refuse, litter or garbage from the site.

Production of Permit

10. Every person holding or purporting to hold any receipt or permission, in writing, issued by the Committee shall, on demand by any member of the Committee or the properly appointed servant of such Committee or any member of the Police Force, or any bailiff of Crown lands, produce such receipt or permission in writing.

Cancellation of Site

11. Any permission issued by the Committee or its authorised officer to a person to use a camping area may be cancelled or withdrawn by the Committee or its authorised officer, and subsequent to such cancellation or withdrawal a proportionate refund of any fees or charges paid in advance may be refunded, and the Committee or its authorised officer, at its or his discretion, may deduct and retain from any such proportionate refund such sum as it or he determines will be necessary to clean up and put in order the site in relation to which the permission has been so cancelled or withdrawn.

Removal

12. No person shall neglect or refuse to remove forthwith, any tent, camping structure or vehicle erected or installed on any portion of the Reserves when directed to do so by the Committee or a properly appointed servant of the Committee.

Bathing Box, Boatshed, Buildings

13. (a) No person shall erect any bathing-box, shed, boathouse, or any other building, structure or erection or booth on any site of the Reserves without the permission, in writing, of the Committee first obtained, and such permission may be granted subject to such terms, fees and conditions as may be deemed reasonable and advisable by the Committee consistent with these Regulations.

Use of Bathing Box, &c.

(b) No person shall use or cause to be used or knowingly permit to be used any such bathing-box, boathouse, shed or any other building, structure or erection or booth for residential purposes.

Transfer or Hire

14. The Committee may, subject to the payment of a fee prescribed by it, allow the transfer of any permit, but no person shall sublet or hire any site or structure without the permission, in writing, of the Committee first obtained.

Withdrawal of Permit

15. The granting, withdrawal, renewal or allowance of the transfer of any permit or the subletting of any site or structure shall at times be at the absolute discretion of the Committee.

Removal of Non-Maintenance of Structure

16. The Committee shall have full power to order the removal from the Reserves of any bathing-box, boat-house, shed or any other building or structure, or booth which has been placed, erected or established with its consent, or which has not been properly erected or properly painted, or which in its opinion has not been satisfactorily maintained or kept in repair, or in respect of which the term of permission for the use of the site has expired or the permission to use the site for a building or buildings has expired or been withdrawn.

Removal for Non-Compliance with Conditions

17. If the owner of any other bathing-box, boathouse, shed or any other building, structure, or booth erected on any site on the Reserves neglects to pay the Committee the fee payable in respect thereof, or fails to comply with conditions specified by the Committee in relation to upkeep and maintenance of such bathing-box, boathouse, building structure, or booth, then and in any such case it shall be lawful for the Committee in such manner as it thinks fit to remove and/or dispose of such bathing-box, boathouse, shed or other buildings, structure, or booth, and to recover from the proceeds of such disposal the arrears of rent and the costs and expenses of such removal or disposal.

Notice to Remove

18. No person shall neglect or refuse or remove any bathing-box, boathouse, shed or any other building, structure or booth erected or placed by him on any site in or on the Reserves within fourteen (14) days after the Committee has sent by registered post to his last-known address, a notice requiring such person to remove such bathing-box, boathouse, shed or other building, structure, erection or booth. Such notice may be signed by either the Chairman or Secretary for the time being of the said Committee.

Disposal of

19. In the event of any such neglect or refusal as mentioned in Regulation 18 hereof continuing after the expiration of the said fourteen (14) days, the Committee may pull down and/or remove and/or dispose of such bathing-box, boathouse, shed or other building, structure, or booth and recover the costs and expenses of such pulling down, removal or disposal from the person so neglecting or refusing to remove the same but without prejudice to proceedings by way of information for breach of these Regulations being taken against such person so neglecting or refusing.

Deposit

20. Any person or persons renting or hiring any stand, building, enclosure or any portion of the Reserves on the occasion of any fete, sports or holiday amusements may be required to deposit any sum which the Committee may from time to time determine not exceeding one hundred dollars, by way of guarantee that due care shall be taken of such stand, building, enclosure or portion of the Reserves or any thing contained therein or thereon during such occupancy or hiring and may deduct the cost of

making good loss or damage from the sum of money deposited by way of guarantee without prejudice to any damage in excess of one hundred dollars. And each and every person or persons so renting or hiring shall abide by these Regulations, and by any order given by the Committee.

Missiles

21. No person shall carry any firearms or airguns in the Reserves, and no person shall throw, fire, shoot, aim or discharge any firearms, airguns, spearguns, or other explosive substance in the Reserves without permission, in writing, of the Committee first obtained.

Fauna

22. No person shall shoot, trap, maim, injure, kill or destroy any birds or native game in the Reserves.

Flora, Grass, Trees and Fixtures

23. No person shall injure, damage or alter in any way whatsoever any trees, shrubs, grass, flora, living or dead timber, or wood or any building, fence, table, seat, post, tap, sign, light or any other structure or thing whatsoever within the Reserves without the permission of the Committee, in writing, first obtained.

Signs

24. No person shall erect or display any signs, advertising material or notices within the Reserves without the permission of the Committee, in writing.

Removal from Reserve

25. No person shall remove from the Reserves any wood, debris, or bottles without the permission of the Committee first obtained, in writing; provided that nothing in this Regulation shall affect any right which any person would otherwise have to deal with or alter any such property the subject of private ownership.

Soil

26. No person shall dig or remove from or take on to the Reserves any gravel, stone, shell grit, sand, loam, soil or any part or parts of the land or sea-bed within the Reserves without the permission, in writing, of the Committee first obtained.

Plantations.

27. No persons except employees of the Committee and authorised officers of the Committee shall enter any plots therein which may be enclosed for plantations of young trees, shrubs, or other flora.

Fires

28 (1) No person shall, in the Reserves –

(a) light or use fires except in fire-places provided by the Committee, or except by special permission or direction of the Committee;

(b) break glass of any kind; or

(c) deposit or leave any bottle, glass, tin can, orange peel, waste paper, fish, fish offal, garbage, obstacles or litter of any kind, except in a receptacle provided for that purpose by the Committee.

(2) No person shall bring on to the Reserves any waste paper, fish offal, garbage, obstacles or litter of any kind.

Nuisance

29. No person shall commit or create or knowingly permit or allow to continue any public or private nuisance or any annoyance to the public in the Reserves, whether such nuisance or annoyance takes place in a public or private building, tent, or other structure, or in any enclosed or unenclosed space in the Reserves.

Noise

30. No person shall on portion of the Reserves cause or permit any outcry, sound or noise to be emitted from an amplifier, loud speaker, public address system or like instrument without first obtaining the written permission of the Committee, and such permission may be granted subject to such terms, conditions and restrictions as may be imposed by the Committee.

Public Address

31. No person shall take part in any public entertainment, public address or public meeting of any sort in the Reserves without the permission, in writing, of the Committee first obtained.

Sport

32. No person shall play, practice, or engage in any organised game or sport within the Reserves unless by consent of the Committee.

Conveniences

33. All persons using any conveniences provided on the Reserves by the Committee shall, on demand, pay to such Committee such fee as shall from time to time be indicated.

Use of Facilities

34. No person shall use any electric installation or the water closets, urinals or taps in the Reserves or any portion of such water closets, urinals, or taps for any purpose other than that for which the same are constructed.

35. No person other than those duly authorised to camp on the Reserves shall use any of the laundry facilities provided thereon, and no person other than a person authorized to camp or who is picnicking on or using the Reserves for swimming puposes shall use the shower facilities thereon.

Playgrounds

36. No person above the age of fourteen years shall use or play with any of the swings, fixtures or other equipment erected or provided in any children's playground.

Sale or Hire

37. No person shall offer for sale or for hire or distribute by way of gift any article or vehicle within the Reserves or within any structure thereon without the permission of the Committee, in writing, first obtained.

Cattle

38. No person shall bring into the Reserves any cattle, horses, sheep or other animals without the permission, in writing, of the Committee first obtained.

Dogs

39. (1) No person shall, without the consent in writing of the Committee first obtained, cause or suffer or knowingly permit any dog belonging to him or in his charge –

(a) to enter or remain in the Reserves unless such dog be and continue to be under proper control on a chain, cord, or leash, and unless such dog be effectively restrained from causing annoyance to any person or from damaging or interfering in any way with the property of the Committee; or

(b) to be brought into the Reserves for training or exercising for coursing or for any other purposes of sport.

(2) Any dog found in the Reserves otherwise than in accordance with Sub-Regulation (1) of this Regulation may be seized and/or destroyed by the Committee, and the owner or any person having the custody of any dog so found shall be liable to pay compensation to the said Committee for any damage done to the property of the said Committee by such dog.

40. Every person who shall fail to comply with, or commit any breach of, these Regulations or any conditions determined by the Committee may be removed from the Reserves or from any place therein or directed forthwith to leave the Reserves or the said place by any member of the Committee or any properly appointed servant of the Committee or any member of the Police Force or any bailiff of Crown Lands, and every person who shall fail to comply forthwith with any such direction shall be guilty of an offence against these Regulations. – (C.98603)

The common seal of the Board of Land and Works was hereto affixed this 26th day of October, 1961, in the presence of –

KEITH TURNBULL, President

F. H. KLENNER, Member

Every person who contravenes or fails to comply with these Regulations shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 218 of the Land Act 1958, for each offence be liable to a penalty of not more than Five pounds, and every person who contravenes or fails to comply with any such Regulations, and who, after he has been warned by any bailiff of Crown lands or by any member of the Police Force, does desist therefrom, may be forthwith apprehended by such bailiff or member of the Police Force and taken before some justice to be dealt with according to the law, and shall be liable to a penalty of not more than Ten pounds.

(As printed in the Victorian Government Gazette, No. 39, dated May 17, 1978)

**AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS FOR THE CARE, PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE
“DROMANA”, “ROSEBUD”, “WEST ROSEBUD AND TOOTGAROOK”, “TYRONE”, AND “BLAIRGOWRIE”
FORESHORE RESERVES**

Whereas by section 218 of the Land Act 1958 the Minister of Lands is empowered to make Regulations as to any land which under the provisions of that Act or of any other Act relating to Crown lands has been reserved for any public purpose whatsoever and which has not been conveyed to or vested in trustees; And whereas certain Crown lands in the Parishes of Kangerong, Wannaeue, Nepean and Fingal and are indicated by red colour on plan marked MP/13.10.61, attached to the Lands Department correspondence C.98603 were reserved pursuant to the provisions of the Land Act and known as the “Dromana”, “Rosebud”, “West Rosebud And Tootgarook”, “Tyrone”, “Blairgowrie”, “Rye”, “Rye Ocean Park”, “Sorrento Ocean Park”, and “Koonya Ocean Park” Foreshore Reserves: And whereas such lands (hereinafter called the “Reserves”) have not been conveyed to or vested in trustees but each of the Reserves has been placed under the control of a Committee of Management (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”) pursuant to the provisions of section 221 of the Land Act 1958: And whereas Regulations for the care, protection and management of the Reserves were made on the 26th October, 1961 (vide Government Gazette of the 1st

November, 1961): And whereas the Crown lands known as the "Rye", "Rye Ocean Park", "Sorrento Ocean Park", and "Koonya Ocean Park" Foreshore Reserves are no longer subject to the aforesaid Regulations: And whereas it is expedient that the said Regulations be amended: Now therefore I, William Archibald Borthwick, Her Majesty's Minister of Lands in and for the State of Victoria, in pursuance of the powers aforesaid, do hereby amend the said Regulations for or with respect to the remaining Foreshore Reserves covered by such Regulations as follows: -

Regulation No. 39 shall be amended to read: -

39. (1) No person shall, without the consent in writing of the Committee first obtained, cause or suffer or knowingly permit any dog belonging to him or in his charge -

(a) to enter or remain in the Reserves unless such dog is and continues to be under proper control on a chain, cord or leash and is effectively restrained from causing annoyance to any person or from damaging or interfering in any way with the property under control of the Committee; or

(b) to be brought into the Reserves for training or exercising for coursing or for any other purpose of sport;

provided, nevertheless, that all dogs shall be prohibited from the Reserves between the hours of 9am and 5pm each day during the period from the 1st November to the 30th April each year.

(2) Any dog found in the Reserves except as hereinbefore provided may be seized and/or destroyed by the Committee, and the owner or any person having the custody of any dog so found shall be liable to pay compensation to the said Committee for any damage done to the property under the control of the said Committee by such dog - (C.98603).

Given under my hand at Melbourne on the 11th Day of May 1978.

W. BORTHWICK

Minister of Lands

Every person who contravenes or fails to comply with this regulation shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 218 of the Land Act 1958, for each offence be liable to a penalty of not more than Fifty dollars, and every person who contravenes or fails to comply with any such Regulation, and who, after he has been warned by any Bailiff of Crown lands or by any member of the Police Force and taken before some justice to be dealt with according to the law and shall be liable to a penalty of not more than One hundred dollars provided that every person who contravenes any Regulation made under the said section for or with respect to prohibiting the depositing and leaving of any unwanted material or thing or rubbish of any kind on any land to which such Regulation relates shall for each offence be liable to a penalty of not more than Two hundred dollars.

Appendix 5: Dromana Foreshore Reserve Significant Vegetation

Due to the general paucity of indigenous vegetation in the area, all remnant vegetation has local significance. However, the LaTrobe Reserve Weed Strategy (Walker & Greening, 1996) identified a number of existing areas of indigenous vegetation which are of regional significance, these are:

SPECIES		NOTES
<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Drooping Sheoke	Severely depleted regionally
<i>Atriplex simibaccata</i>	Berry Saltbush	While common to the north and west of Melbourne this species is far less common on the Mornington Peninsula
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i> <i>var. macrophylla</i>	Sweet Bursaria	Far less common than the variety <i>spinosa</i>
<i>Cyathea australis</i>	Rough Tree Fern	The only known existing occurrence on the shores of Port Phillip
<i>Dianella longifolia</i>	Pale Flax-lily	
<i>Einadia nutans</i>	Climbing Saltbush	Becoming depleted regionally
<i>Enchylaena tomentose</i>	Ruby Salt-bush	Becoming depleted regionally
<i>Eutaxia microphylla</i> <i>var. difflisa</i>	Small-leaf Eutaxia	Coastal cliff areas
<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i> <i>var. Laterale</i>	Variable Swordsedge	A narrow leaf form with leaves 2-3mm wide & shorter panicles.
<i>Myoporum viscosum</i>	Sticky Boobialla	Regionally restricted to Coastal cliffs and rocky outcrops
<i>Thysanotus patersonii</i>	Twining Fringe Lily	
<i>Tricoryne Elatior</i>	Yellow Grass-lily	Considered regionally significant

Appendix 6: List of fauna likely to be found within the Reserve

Common Name	<i>Scientific Name</i>
Mammals	
Short-beaked Echidna	<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>
Marsupials	
Common Ringtail Possum	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>
Birds	
Reptiles	
White-tipped Snake	<i>Drysdalia coronoides</i>
Common Blue-tongued Lizard	<i>Tiliqua scincoides</i>

Appendix 7: Glossary of Terms

“annual licence fee” means the annual fee payable to the Committee appointed under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 by the licensee to use a bathing box or boatshed;

“bathing box” and “boatshed” means a structure erected on a foreshore managed by the Committee of Management and used for the purpose as provided in this document.

“committee” means the Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management;

“DEPI” means the Department of Environment and Primary Industries;

“direct family” means immediate family members, which includes children, siblings, parents or grandparents of permit holder;

“existing ratepayer” means current ratepayer of the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council prior to purchase of boatshed or bathing box licence;

“foreshore” means any land managed by the Committee in accordance with the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 which includes land from low water mark to Point Nepean Rd;

“licence” means a licence to use the site issued by Committee;

“council” means Mornington Peninsula Shire Council;

“site” means land allocated by the Committee to a licensee whether or not the site has any structure on it;

“structure” means a boatshed or a bathing box and includes any stairs, ramps, decks etc.

Appendix 8: Boatshed Transfer Form

Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management Inc
P O Box 107, Dromana 3936
Email: dromana@foreshore.net.au

Transfer of Buildings

Bathing Box/Boatshed No: _____

From

Mr/Mrs
/Ms _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Signed _____

Dated _____

To

Mr/Mrs
/Ms _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Mobile _____

Peninsula _____

Address _____

Signed _____

Dated _____

Purchase Price: \$ _____

See Note 2

Transfer Fee

payable: \$ _____ 5% of purchase price +\$ _____ GST =\$ _____

Note 1 : Family transfer fee is to be a flat rate of \$275 inc GST per transfer. Family members will be defined as relations within a direct family and/or their spouses. This will be subject to proof of relationship (ie. Statutory Declaration) from past to new owners. The transfer from family name to a "Trust" within that same family will also apply to these criteria. Transfer of ownership resulting from inheritance irrespective of relationship will be treated in the first instance only as a family transfer. Copies of death certificate and will are required.

Note 2: Standard Transfer fee of 5% of sale value applies to all 'common' sale purchases of boatsheds/bathing boxes. Where a boatshed/bathing box has 'Tenants in Common' (shared ownership/partnership – non commercial) then a standard transfer fee shall apply. As businesses have an obligation to comply with declarations under the Corporations Act the transfer of boatshed/bathing boxes in and out of companies or registered businesses will also apply to this criteria.

CONDITION OF BUILDING: (office use only)

Appendix 9: Boatshed/Bathing Box Policy

A. Payment of Annual Licence Fees

1. The charges on this invoice notice are made under the authority of the Regulations gazetted on 31st October, 1974.
2. The issuing of the licence is renewed every three years on the approval of the Committee of Management as manager of Crown Land for DEPI. Annual licence fee provides licence holder with the annual right of use of the boatshed/bathing box but does not constitute ownership as all assets on Crown land are the property of the Crown.
3. The Licence holder must be a householder/ratepayer in the Mornington Peninsula Shire.
4. The Licence is personal to the Licence holder and not transferable without permission of the Committee.
5. Committee of Management must be advised of change of address within 30 days.
6. The Licence holder shall keep the site clean and tidy and maintain and keep all buildings and improvements for the time being thereon in good repair, order, and appearance, to the satisfaction of the Committee.
7. Under no circumstances shall any person be permitted to camp, sleep or light fires in or around a boatshed or bathing box. Offenders are liable to prosecution under legislation administered by MPSC.
8. The licence shall lapse upon breach of any part of the foregoing conditions.
9. All buildings or improvements on the site shall become the property of the Committee unless removed within 14 days after lapsing, surrender, or determination of the licence.
10. The Committee may by resolution at any time either generally or in a specific case vary, modify, alter or add to these conditions.

B. Transfer of Ownership

1. The signing of a transfer form by the vendor and the purchaser does not of itself legally constitute transfer of ownership of the annual licence of the property described herein. Ownership is transferred following:
 - (a) payment of transfer fee in full; proof of sale/receipt to be provided
 - (b) approval by Committee of Management of the transfer, and
 - (c) subsequent advice in writing by Secretary of CoM to the purchaser of this approval.
2. Transfer of licence is also subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management Inc.
3. The Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management Inc. reserves the right to amend the transfer fee if it is in the opinion that the sale price does not represent a true valuation of the purchased licence of the property.
4. It is the purchaser's responsibility to also notify the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council of change of ownership. Mornington Peninsula Shire Council charges are applicable to purchaser.
5. Transfer will not apply until all conditions, as set by the Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management Inc. on inspection, have been complied with.

C. Alterations

Under no circumstances should any improvements be made to boatsheds/bathing boxes until, and following adherence to all the above procedures, written request has been received from the new purchaser, including details of alterations proposed. Consent in writing from the Committee of

Management and the Department of Environment and Primary Industries is the point at which alterations may be commenced and not before then. Planning and building permits may also be required by the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council. It is the responsibility of the licence holder to ensure that all permits and consents are obtained before any works have commenced. These documents must be available for viewing

if requested by Council or Committee of Management.

At its April 1999 meeting the Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management agreed the following:

1. that Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management accept the DNRE draft Standard 1996 for boatshed and bathing box construction and maintenance. That this document be accepted as an interim measure until a standard is approved.

Copy of the draft recommendations are available from the Ranger upon payment of a \$10.00 deposit refunded on return in good condition.

2. that only timber construction or reconstruction be approved.

3. that a plan of any proposal be submitted for approval showing plan, elevation, cross section and location relative to adjoining sheds.

4. that floor levels be shown relative to adjoining sheds.

5. type of finish to be detailed.

6. that any deck be limited to 1.8m seaward from the point of the shed and no wider than the shed.

7. that the attention of boat shed and bathing box permit holders be drawn to the Victorian Coastal Management Act 1995 and in particular Sections 37 and 38 stating:

"37. Consent required to use or develop Crown land.-A person must not use or develop coastal Crown land unless the

written consent of the Minister has first been obtained. Penalty: 40 penalty units.

38. Application for consent

- (1) An application for consent to use or develop coastal Crown land must be made in a form and manner approved by the Minister.

- (2) If the responsible authority under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 gives the Minister, the Secretary or the

Department of Environment and Primary Industries, as a referral authority under that Act, a copy of an application under that Act for a permit for a use or development of coastal Crown land, that application is deemed also to be an application under this section for consent to that use or development unless consent has already been given under this Division for that use or development."

Appendix 10: Boatshed Exterior Condition Report

Dromana Foreshore Committee of Management BOATSHED EXTERIOR CONDITION REPORT – 2014

BOATSHED NO: _____

The Foreshore Committee actively encourages Dromana's Boat Shed and Bathing Box license holders to maintain their asset and to retain the heritage view of Dromana beach.

Under the terms of your License agreement we inspect boatsheds and bathing boxes annually to ensure compliance.

PERMISSION IS REQUIRED IN WRITING FROM THE COMMITTEE FOR ANY EXTERNAL STRUCTURAL REPAIRS TO BE PERFORMED ON YOUR BOATSHED OR BATHING BOX.

This excludes exterior painting.

Area	OK	Repair	Repaint	Comments	
Roof					
Door					
Wall (s)					
Base					
Window					
Deck					
Boatshed Number	Visible	Missing – Please Affix	Powered	Yes	No
Remove these items:	Rubbish	Decking	Verandah	Other:	
Removal to be carried out within 30 days of the date of this notice, or fees charged by our contractors for removal and tipping costs will be at your expense.					
<p>*If your Boat Shed or Bathing Box has a damaged or broken Asbestos roof, you must attend to it immediately. Broken or damaged roofs must be removed by a licensed Asbestos removalist. Permission must be granted by the Committee for removal and replacement of roofing materials</p>					

Let's keep working together to make Dromana Foreshore the best collection of boatsheds/bathing boxes on the Mornington Peninsula.

Appendix 11: Bathing boxes and boatsheds issues

11.1 INTRODUCTION

Bathing boxes and boatsheds are simple, free standing, non-commercial, non-residential structures used by private individuals and families primarily for storing beach equipment or boats and as change facilities.

The Foreshore Reserve is home for 203 boatsheds and 39 bathing boxes that make a significant contribution to the foreshore landscape character. Approximately 2000 boatsheds are found around Port Phillip and Western Port. Dromana Foreshore Reserve has approximately 10% of these, including a large number of powered boatsheds. In 2003, the Council completed the first stage of its Bathing Box Heritage Study of bathing boxes and boatsheds within the municipality. The Reserve contains six boatsheds of historical significance, the most notable being the old lock up of the Dromana Police station, the Dromana Primary School boatshed and the boatshed belonging to the Woman Haters Club.

11.2 PERPETUATION, REMOVAL AND RELOCATION

Perpetuation

The existence of boatsheds and bathing boxes within the Reserve should be continued and supported where their presence is appropriate to the:

- Use and amenity of the Reserve as a whole;
- Physical characteristics of the area where the boatsheds and bathing boxes are located – boatsheds and bathing boxes may remain on site where they are not at risk from adverse coastal processes, do not cause adverse impact on the Reserve which may contribute to erosion or loss of amenity and, do not create a public risk;
- Historical and/or cultural significance of the foreshore.

Removal

Boatsheds and bathing boxes should be removed from the foreshore reserve where:

- The structure is dilapidated, beyond repair, abandoned or represents a public risk and the licensee fails to respond to notification by the Committee;
- The area is vulnerable to coastal processes which result in the structures being at risk and/or may contribute to the instability of the area;
- Access to the beach within the vicinity of the structure is unsafe or access to the structure is unsafe;
- Removal is in accordance with an approved Coastal Management Plan or policy relating to the area or directive of the landowner (represented by DEPI) or Minister for Environment and Climate Change;
- The structure does not meet with minimum construction standards as specified by DEPI and/or Council.

Relocation

Boatsheds and bathing boxes will be relocated on the foreshore reserve where:

- The area is vulnerable to coastal processes which result in the structures being at risk and/or may contribute to the instability of the area.

Other factors that will be taken into consideration include:

- Availability of appropriate locations;
- improved amenity and safety of the area by realigning boatsheds and bathing boxes;
- granting of consent under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* ;
- planning permit under the *Planning & Environment Act 1987* by the relevant authorities.

11.3 CONDITIONS OF USE

Types of Uses

A boatshed or bathing box may be used for:

- Storage of boats and/or boating equipment;
- Storage of beach accessories;
- Convenience and comfort associated with beach use (kitchens, toilets and showers are prohibited).

A boatshed or bathing box may not be used:

- In any way that interferes with the enjoyment and use of the beach by others;
- For habitation or overnight accommodation;
- For shower or toilet use;
- For commercial purposes unless a commercial lease/licence is arranged with the Committee.

Services to boatsheds and bathing boxes

For several years DEPI has enforced a number of policy decisions such as maintaining the existing building footprints and not allowing new connection of services to boatsheds and bathing boxes.

The rationale for not allowing connections to services has been to reduce the proliferation of problems associated with services to boatsheds and bathing boxes. Some of the problems that services create include:

- Encouraging the use of the structures for purposes to which they are not intended (late night or residential use, excessive noise);
- Creating a visual intrusion to the foreshore landscape eg. Overhead powerlines;
- Restricting the ability of structures to be removed or relocated;
- Exposing, in the case of underground services, in areas with the potential for erosion. Such hazards create a risk to public users of the foreshore;
- Creating a fire hazard where there is a conflict between powerlines and foreshore vegetation;
- Creating an electrocution hazard when storm damage is inflicted upon boatsheds and bathing boxes connected to power;
- Conflict between vegetation and powerlines affecting ability to revegetate parts of the foreshore reserve; and
- An element of public risk to foreshores thus increasing DEPI's and the Committee's exposure to public liability claims.

Electricity is the only form of service connected to boatsheds and bathing boxes. Requests to connect or reconnect to electricity require consent under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* and have, in the past, been refused based on the long-standing policy of no new connections or reconnections and the issues detailed above.

New applications to connect to services and applications to reconnect to services will continue to be refused. The Committee will conduct an annual safety audit of boatsheds and bathing boxes to ensure the foreshore remains a safe enjoyable environment for all users of the foreshore. Powered boatshed and bathing box permit fees will remain at \$100 above non-powered structures which will contribute to an annual electricity supply line/meter box audit, obtaining of any necessary arborist report associated with maintaining safe clearances of electricity supply lines from vegetation, tree trimming and removal around power supply lines which is the responsibility of the Committee under its Electricity Management Plan and the regular inspections and maintenance associated with the safety of electricity supply lines to boatsheds and bathing boxes undertaken by the Ranger. However, it is Committee policy that vegetation retention/protection takes precedence over supply of power.

Reconstruction and Alterations

Under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*, all use and development on coastal Crown land requires the written consent of the Minister for Environment and Climate Change or delegate. Consent is not required for repair or maintenance of a structure where the external design is unchanged. However, consent is required for any alteration or reconstruction of boatsheds and bathing boxes. Alteration and reconstructions also require a planning permit from Council and written authorisation from the Committee.

In addition, the following criteria must be met:

- improvements must enhance the external appearance of the structure, such as exterior finishes including painting, openings, structural features, historical restorations and changes of roofing angle from a flat to a pitched roof, and lawful removal of asbestos;
- reconstruction and alteration must be consistent with DEPI Standards for Bathing Box and Boatshed Construction 1996 or any updated version of the standards which may be issued by any relevant authority;
- sheds must be replacing existing sheds that have been damaged through vandalism, weather or fire, and must be rebuilt within one year;
- no increase in the footprint of the boatshed or bathing box;
- any deck is limited to 1.8m seaward from the point of the shed provided there is no increase in footprint;
- no increase in enclosed or covered areas;
- side doors must open inwards preferably
- no permanent exterior fixtures (eg., light fittings, TV antennae, etc);
- no new service connections of any kind;
- no removal or damage to native vegetation.

Maintenance

The permit holder must maintain:

- The exterior of the bathing box or boatshed in good condition to the satisfaction of the Committee;
- The bathing box or boatshed in a manner which ensures that the use or condition of the structure does not create a public risk or safety issues to its users or other foreshore users; and
- display the number of the boatshed or bathing box on the outside of the structure so that it is visible.

Inspections of boatsheds and bathing boxes are made annually and permit holders are advised in writing of the result of these inspections. In order to maintain the high standard of appearance that is required,

permit holders are notified if works are required to be completed by a set date. Painting is the only alterations/repair works that may be done without written permission from the Committee.

11.4 TENURE

Public liability is a requirement of the licence. Value of cover must be \$10 million in accordance with DEPI requirements. The Committee offers coverage through an independent insurer and licensees will be required to provide evidence of their cover.

Forfeiture

A licence may be revoked without compensation if:

- the licence holder breaches these management guidelines;
- the licence holder breaches the terms and conditions of the permit/licence;
- the licence holder breaches the Mornington Peninsula Planning scheme;
- the licence holder fails to comply with a legal directive of the Committee, DEPI or the Minister for Environment and Climate Change;
- there is a requirement for the area to revert to a public use.

If the licensor is satisfied, after giving the Licensee a reasonable opportunity to be heard, that the licensee has failed to comply with any terms or conditions of the licence, the Licensor may, by notice published in the Government Gazette, declare that the licence is cancelled, and upon cancellation the licensee will not be entitled to any compensation whatsoever.

Transfer of Licences

The licence will be personal to the holder and is not transferable without the permission of the Committee. The licence holder must be an existing resident or ratepayer of MPSC. Only one licence may be issued in regard to any one rate notice. The Committee must be advised of change of address within 30 days.

A licence holder wishing to surrender a licence to use a bathing box or boatshed shall do so in writing to the Committee. All buildings or improvements on the site shall become the property of the Crown unless removed within 14 days after lapsing, surrender or termination of the permit/licence. If, after 14 days, the improvements have not been removed, the Committee, on behalf of the Crown, may offer the structure for sale or public tender, for short-term hire, or may demolish the structure.

The prescribed Transfer form must be used and forwarded to the Committee with the appropriate transfer fee. The signing of the transfer form by the current licence holder and new holder does not of itself legally constitute transfer of ownership of the licence. The licence is transferred following:

- Payment of transfer fee in full; proof of sale or receipt to be provided;
- Proof of residential/ratepayer status ie. Rates notice of property in Council;
- Committee inspection and notification to current and new permit/licence holder of any defects;
- Subsequent advice in writing by the Secretary of the Committee to the new licence holder of this approval.

Transfer of licence is also subject to the rules and regulations of the Committee relating to the Foreshore Reserve under the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*.

A standard transfer fee of 5% of sale value applies to all 'common' sale purchases of boatshed and bathing box licences. Where a boatshed or bathing box licence has

'Tenants in Common' (shared ownership/partnership – non-commercial) then a standard transfer fee shall apply. As businesses have an obligation to comply with declarations under the *Corporations Act 2001*, the transfer of licence in and out of companies or registered businesses will also apply to these criteria.

Family transfer fee is to be a flat rate of \$250 plus GST per transfer. Family members will be defined as relations within a direct family and/or their spouses. This will be subject to proof of relationship (ie. Statutory Declaration) from past to new permit/licence holders. The transfer from family name to a "trust" within that same family will also apply to these criteria.

Transfer of ownership resulting from inheritance irrespective of relationship will be treated in the first instance only as a family transfer. Copies of death certificate and legal proof of inheritance are required.

The Committee reserves the right to amend the transfer fee if it is the opinion that the sale price does not represent a true valuation of the purchased licence.

Licence Fees

An annual fee is payable, which provides the licence holder with the annual right of use of the boatshed or bathing box, but does not constitute ownership. All buildings or improvements on the site shall become the property of the Crown unless removed within 14 days after lapsing, surrender or termination of the licence.

The annual fee is made under the authority of the Regulations gazetted on 31st October 1974 and is set as part of the management and business plan as a requirement for Coastal Management plans prepared under the *Coastal Management Act 1995*.

The basis for determining the annual fees for boatsheds and bathing boxes should reflect the privilege that is enjoyed by those who obtain a permit/licence, but should not be elitist or out of reach from the family users.

The revised Dromana Foreshore Business Plan proposes an annual increase of 3% for its fee structure for the next five years with powered sheds subject to a levy which will contribute to an annual electricity supply line/meter box audit, obtaining of any necessary arborist report associated with maintaining safe clearances of electricity supply lines from vegetation, tree trimming and removal around power supply lines which is the responsibility of the Committee under its Electricity Management Plan and the regular inspections and maintenance associated with the safety of electricity supply lines to boatsheds and bathing boxes undertaken by the Ranger.

The costs associated with providing the above services will be accounted for separately in the annual reporting of the Committee of Management. The Committee will review the amount of the fee owners of bathing boxes/boatsheds that have electricity supply connected should pay during the statutory review of the Coastal Management Plan (currently every three years). The guiding principles in setting such fees is to ensure public safety, compliance with the Committee's Electricity Management Plan and to do so solely on a cost recovery basis. These fees will provide certainty for licensees and allow for forward planning by the Committee.

The changes in the fee structure are outlined in the business plan of this section of the Management Plan. Rates are payable to the MPSC on boatsheds and bathing boxes in accordance with the provision of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

11.5 REVIEW

This management of boatsheds and bathing boxes document will be a part of the Coastal Management Plan review process every three (3) years as required under Section 30 of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*.

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