

UPDATE DECEMBER 2017

'Connecting Coastal Champions' - the CCB Forum. One hundred and eighty people from around the state attended a one day forum on Thursday November 23 at the Novotel in St Kilda. The Forum included presentations on coastal and marine management issues and concluded with a hypothetical panel discussion set in 2027, facilitated by Rob Gel.

The Forum was successful in stimulating thinking about future coastal management and providing leading examples of current practices. A reflection on the issues arising at the Forum will be available in early 2018 and the CCB is working towards securing a coastal forum as an annual event. On the CCB website you will find presentations and a summary of the Forum including the hypothetical set in 2027 www.ccb.vic.gov.au

The evaluation suggests the Forum was highly successful in stimulating thinking about future coastal management and providing leading examples of current practices. A reflection on the issues arising at the forum will be available in early 2018. The CCB is now working towards securing the Forum as an annual event.

The new Marine and Coastal Act – An update on the progress of the new Marine and Coastal Act was provided at the Connecting Coastal Champions forum by Will Guthrie, Executive Director Land Management Policy. The update did not identify any significant variations from previous Discussion papers. The Marine and Coastal Bill has now been introduced to parliament. You can view a copy of the Bill at www.legislation.vic.gov.au The target implementation date remains 1 July 2018.

Forthcoming vacancies on the proposed Marine and Coastal Council can be found at <https://vacancies.publicboards.vic.gov.au>

Audit on Protecting Victoria's coastal assets – The Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) is conducting an audit to determine whether natural and built assets on Victoria's coastline are being effectively protected against coastal erosion and inundation. The Final Audit Report is now expected to be tabled in Parliament in February 2018.

For more information on the audit, visit: [VAGO Victorian Coastal Audit](http://VAGO.Victorian.Coastal.Audit)

The Recreational Boating Framework – The CCB has drafted its mid-term review of the Recreational Boating Plan. The review will be release on the CCB webpage in early 2018.

Summer by the Sea – More than 300 activities are planned for January 2018. The Coastcare Victoria Summer by the Sea program gives Victorians and visitors to our beautiful coast the chance to learn about the coastal environment while having fun at the same time.

Register for activities at <https://summerbythesea.vic.gov.au/>

Victorian Coastal Awards – Nominations are now open! The awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements of communities preserving and enhancing Victoria's marine and coastal environments. Nomination forms can be found at <http://www.vcc.vic.gov.au/page/awards>.

2018 Coastcare Victoria Community Grants Program – Applications are now open for the 2018 Coastcare Victoria Community Grants Program. The program supports community efforts to protect Victoria's 2,000 kilometres of coastline. The grants are available to Victorian community groups to help conserve, restore and rehabilitate Victoria's coastal and marine environment. Grants up to \$10,000 are available for one-year projects, and \$15,000 for two-year projects.

Information on Coastcare grants can be found at <https://www.coastsandmarine.vic.gov.au/coastal-programs/coastcare> Applications close on **20 February 2018**.

Phillip Bay Environmental Management Plan 2017-2027 – The Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, the Hon Lily D'Ambrosio, has formally released the Port Phillip Bay Environmental Management Plan 2017-2027 as part of a package of Port Phillip Bay related announcements. <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/media-centre/>

An implementation plan will be available early 2018 to provide details on specific activities, program partners and expected outcomes for 2018. An annual report will also be provided later in 2018. Electronic copies of the EMP and related materials can be obtained from the DELWP web page at: <https://www.coastsandmarine.vic.gov.au/coastal-programs/port-phillip-bay>

Guidelines for the preparation of Coastal Management Plans – Coastal Crown land managers now have access to a consistent framework for the preparation of Coastal Management Plans (CMPs) across Victoria – Guidelines for the preparation of Coastal Management Plans 2017. An approved CMP underpins the vision and outcomes of the Central Regional Coastal Plan 2015-2020 and the Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014. For more information visit <https://www.coastsandmarine.vic.gov.au/coastal-management/coastal-management-plans>

Moolap Coastal Strategic Framework Plan – The final plan is now scheduled for release in 2018 <https://engage.vic.gov.au/moolap>

Got something to say to the Central Coast Board? Then simply reply to this email ccb@delwp.vic.gov.au We appreciate all feedback, especially on the usefulness and value of this newsletter.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year – may you enjoy our coast with family and friends.