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# Twelve Apostles - Saddle Lookout Port Campbell National Park, Victoria

## Annual Compliance Report (1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022)

EPBC Approval Number 2019/8571



Version: 02

Date: 27 February 2023

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## 1 SUMMARY

Criteria	Description
EPBC number	2019/8571
Project name	Twelve Apostles Saddle Lookout
Approval holder and ABN	Parks Victoria ABN 95 337 637 697
Approved action	Construction of a lookout and associated works
Location of the project	Port Campbell National Park, Victoria
Person accepting responsibility for the report	Madeleine Bisits – Senior Project Manager
Dates for the reporting period of the report	Commencement to 30 June 2022
Date of preparation of the report	27 February 2023

## 2 DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

The activity involves the following components:

- the construction of a new Twelve Apostles Saddle Lookout (Saddle Lookout) at the area known as ‘the saddle’ of what is known as Castle Rock, adjoining the Twelve Apostles geological feature;
- new and realigned paths, elevated boardwalks, and associated rest areas;
- removal of existing lookouts and associated paths and infrastructure.

A more detailed description of each component of the proposed action below.

### The Saddle Lookout

The Saddle Lookout will consist of two parallel rectangular elements (hereafter ‘North and South lookouts’) located slightly inland to the north-east and elevated from the existing saddle lookout. The external dimensions of each lookout are 48.5 m long, 4.7 m wide and 4.6 m high. The lookouts are constructed using an internal structural steel truss with different cladding on the North and South lookouts. The North lookout adopts aluminium cassette cladding in white pearl with internal yellow blush. The South lookout is clad in vertical metal fins in muted tones of red, ochre, brown and dark brown in anodised aluminium with a matt finish with a low specular reflectance. Glass balustrading forms the narrow end addressing the sea above deck level. The vertical metal fins on the South lookout—described as its ‘feathered edge’—are splayed to various angles, provide a shifting of perceived tones depending on position both viewed from within and from another location. Each lookout is cantilevered, the North lookout by 5.5 m, and the South lookout by 18.5m. The North lookout has a 5-degree rotation in cross-section.

The Saddle Lookout provides approximately 380m<sup>2</sup> of floor area and 104m of viewing perimeter. By comparison, the previous Saddle lookout provides 113m<sup>2</sup> of lookout and path area and 63m of viewing frontage. This represents approximate increases of 330% in capacity and 165% in available viewing perimeter. The Saddle Lookout provides higher viewing locations of up to 7m above the previous Saddle lookout. Construction of the Saddle Lookout required four 900 mm piles of up to 24m deep being driven into the limestone substrate and the construction of a vehicle access path

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through approximately 350m of previously undisturbed vegetation. This vehicle access path will be partially reused as a new pedestrian access path and boardwalk to the Saddle Lookout (see further below).

### **New and realigned paths, boardwalks and rest areas**

The activity involves the upgrade of an existing path from asphalt to concrete, construction of a new concrete path and construction of a new elevated boardwalk.

From the carpark and visitors centre, visitors will access the Saddle Lookout along the existing main path. Approximately 60m of path will be upgraded on its existing alignment from asphalt to concrete, leading to approximately 70m of new rerouted concrete path that will allow visitors to access the North Lookout. Visitors exit from the South lookout via an elevated boardwalk of approximately 30m length prior to re-joining the main access path.

Parks Victoria has elected to delete an earlier proposal to construct a more extensive one-way return loop from the scope.

The existing Saddle and 'bunker' lookouts and their access pathways beyond the North lookout have been decommissioned, removed and revegetated. This includes the removal of asphalt paths, boards, seated areas, steel balustrades and wires, and at the bunker timber palisade fence and low concrete wall.

### **3 CHANGES TO THE ACTIVITY**

The following changes have been made to the activity since approval was granted by the Department on 7 October 2020:

1. It was previously proposed that the Proposed Saddle Lookout be lit internally and with minimal light levels, consistent with the precinct's objectives of being a 'dark site'; however, Parks Victoria has elected not to proceed with the lighting elements.
2. The proposed return loop (concrete path) will not be constructed as shown in the endorsed Planning Permit (and design clarification) drawings. This area will be used for construction access as contemplated by the Approval but will be revegetated rather than developed as a concrete path.
3. Drilling of the piles into the Port Campbell Limestone proceeded to a maximum depth of 23.4m, the Approval noted depths of up to 20m. The increase in depth was based on site conditions and geotechnical advice, that become apparent as the piles were being constructed.

It is judged that these changes will provide for a neutral or beneficial environmental outcomes when compared to the original activity.

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## 4 ACTIVITY IN THE PERIOD

The following activities have been undertaken in the period:

- Survey and site establishment
- Removal of vegetation within the activity area
- Ground excavation
- Installation of footings and piles
- Installation of concrete slabs and walls
- Off-site fabrication of structural steel elements
- Installation of a portion of the structural steel elements, and
- Secure the site for the environmental shutdown period (June/July/August).

## 5 EPBC APPROVAL CONDITIONS

The Approval contains 12 conditions. The conditions have not been varied from those originally contained in the Approval. Table 1 provides details of compliance, or otherwise, with the conditions including evidence/commentary on each condition.

## 6 NEW ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

No new environmental risks were identified during the period.

On 1 October 2021 a rockfall of approximately 1 metre wide and a few metres vertically fell from the Port Campbell limestone cliff in the vicinity of the works. A review by independent geotechnical engineers noted the failure was of the type is to be expected and does not materially affect the overall stability of the lookout, and that vibration monitoring installed at the works site confirmed vibrations were within pre-established limits. The failure was judged to arise from wave action/natural weathering. A continuation of the visual monitoring program was recommended as piling activity could not be ruled out as a contributory factor.

No further failures have been observed.

## 7 OTHER INFORMATION

The following studies are appended to this report:

1. September 2021 Pre-removal Flora Survey of Vegetation Removal Area
2. 1 October 2021 rockfall notification report
3. 1 October 2021 rockfall geotechnical review (excerpt)

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## 8 DECLARATION OF ACCURACY

In making this declaration, I am aware that sections 490 and 491 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) make it an offence in certain circumstances to knowingly provide false or misleading information or documents. The offence is punishable on conviction by imprisonment or a fine, or both. I declare that all the information and documentation supporting this compliance report is true and correct in every particular. I am authorised to bind the approval holder to this declaration and that I have no knowledge of that authorisation being revoked at the time of making this declaration.



Signed

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Full name (please print)	Madeleine Bisits
Position (please print)	Senior Project Manager – Western Region
Organisation and ABN	Parks Victoria ABN 95 337 637 697
Date	27/02/2023

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## Table 1: EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table

Condition Number/ reference	Condition	Is the project compliant with this condition? Compliant/ Non-Compliant/ Not applicable	Evidence/Comments Evidence to support claims regarding compliance or non-compliance.
Condition 1	The approval holder must take the action in the manner described in the <b>Controlled action summary information</b>	Compliant	Works have been undertaken in accordance with the EPBC Referral other than as noted in Section 3.
Condition 2	The approval holder must publish the <b>preliminary documentation</b> of the <b>website</b> from within 30 days after the date of this approval until the end date of the approval.	Non-compliant	Documents were required to be published on 6 November 2020. The documentation was originally published on 27 July 2020 as part of inviting community feedback on the proposed works. The Controlled action summary information document was subsequently republished on the project webpage at <a href="https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/western-victoria/saddle-lookout">https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/western-victoria/saddle-lookout</a> on 19 May 2022. The document <i>Saddle Lookout-showcasing Eastern Maar people and country</i> (30 June 2020) could not be located by Parks Victoria or Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation.
Condition 3	The approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing of the date of <b>commencement of the action</b> within 10 <b>business days</b> after the date of <b>commencement of the action</b> .	Non-compliant	The action commenced on 14 September 2021 requiring notification by 14 September 2021. Parks Victoria identified that it could not find evidence that the required notification had been provided. The Department formally notified of commencement on 6 December 2022. As a result, the Department issued Parks Victoria with a warning letter on 20 December 2022. Parks Victoria has updated its internal reporting mechanisms to avoid recurrence of this matter.
Condition 4	The approval holder must maintain accurate and complete <b>compliance records</b> .	Compliant	Compliance records have been maintained on Parks Victoria's internal systems. Relevant monitoring information obtained over the period is listed in Section 7 and appended to this report.
Condition 5	If the <b>Department</b> makes a request in writing, the approval holder must provide electronic copies of <b>compliance records</b> to the	Not applicable	No request has been made.

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## Table 1: EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table

	<b>Department</b> within the timeframe specified in the request.		
Condition 6	<p>The approval holder must prepare a <b>compliance report</b> for each 12 month period following the date of <b>commencement of the action</b>, or otherwise in accordance with an annual date that has been agreed to in writing by the <b>Minister</b>. The approval holder must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) publish each <b>compliance report</b> on the <b>website</b> within 60 <b>business days</b> following the relevant 12 month period;</li> <li>b) notify the <b>Department</b> by email that a <b>compliance report</b> has been published on the <b>website</b> and provide a weblink for the <b>compliance report</b> within 5 <b>business days</b> of the date of publication;</li> <li>c) keep all <b>compliance reports</b> publicly available on the <b>website</b> until this approval expires.</li> </ul>	Compliant	<p>This report is the first compliance report provided in accordance with the Department's letter on 20 December 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) This report is published on Parks Victoria's website <a href="https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/western-victoria/saddle-lookout">https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/western-victoria/saddle-lookout</a></li> <li>b) The Department was notified by email on 28 February 2023.</li> <li>c) Compliance reports will be maintained on the website <a href="https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/western-victoria/saddle-lookout">https://www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects/western-victoria/saddle-lookout</a> until 30 June 2025.</li> </ul>
Condition 7	<p>The approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing of any <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance with the conditions. The notification must be given as soon as practicable, and no later than two <b>business days</b> after becoming aware of the <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance. The notification must specify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) any condition which is or may be in non-compliance;</li> <li>b) a short description of the <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance; and</li> </ul>	Compliant	Refer Condition 3 above.

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## Table 1: EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table

	c) the location (including co-ordinates), date, and time of the <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance. In the event the exact information cannot be provided, provide the best information available.		
Condition 8	The approval holder must provide to the <b>Department</b> the details of any <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance with the conditions as soon as practicable and no later than 10 <b>business days</b> after becoming aware of the <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance, specifying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) any corrective action or investigation which the approval holder has already taken or intends to take in the immediate future;</li> <li>b) the potential impacts of the <b>incident</b> and/or non-compliance; and</li> <li>c) the method and timing of any remedial action that will be taken by the approval holder.</li> </ul>	Compliant	Refer Condition 3 above.
Condition 9	The approval holder must ensure that <b>independent audits</b> of compliance with the conditions are conducted when requested in writing by the <b>Minister</b> .	Not applicable	No request has been made.
Condition 10	For each <b>independent audit</b> , the approval holder must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) provide the name and qualifications of the independent auditor and the draft audit criteria to the <b>Department</b>;</li> <li>b) only commence the <b>independent audit</b> once the audit criteria have been approved in writing by the <b>Department</b>; and</li> </ul>		

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## Table 1: EPBC Approval Conditions Compliance Table

	c) submit an audit report to the <b>Department</b> within the timeframe specified in the approved audit criteria.		
Condition 11	The approval holder must publish the audit report on the <b>website</b> within 10 <b>business days</b> of receiving the <b>Department's</b> approval of the audit report and keep the audit report published on the <b>website</b> until the end date of this approval.	Not applicable	No request has been made.
Condition 12	Within 30 days after the <b>completion of the action</b> , the approval holder must notify the <b>Department</b> in writing and provide <b>completion data</b> .	Not applicable	To be undertaken after completion of the action.

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## **Annexure 1**

Pre-removal Flora Survey of Vegetation Removal Area  
2021 September

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## 12 Apostles Saddle Lookout

Pre-removal Flora Survey of Vegetation Removal Area

2021 September

<b>PLANT SPECIES</b>		<b>AREA 1</b>
<i>Acacia longifolia</i> subsp. <i>sophorae</i>	Coast Wattle	2
<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	Bidgee-widgee	520
<i>Acrotriche serrulata</i>	Honey-pots	415
<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Drooping Sheoak	4
<i>Alyxia buxifolia</i>	Sea Box	63
<i>Austrostipa pubinodis</i>	Tall Spear-grass	12
<i>Dianella revoluta</i> s.l.	Black-anther Flax-lily	1575
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed	41
<i>Distichlis distichophylla</i>	Australian Salt-grass	38
<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>	Knobby Club-sedge	8
<i>Frankenia pauciflora</i> var. <i>gunnii</i>	Southern Sea-heath	6
<i>Gahnia trifida</i>	Coast Saw-sedge	474
<i>Lepidosperma gladiatum</i>	Coast Sword-sedge	840
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	Manuka	28
<i>Leucophyta brownii</i>	Cushion Bush	263
<i>Leucopogon parviflorus</i>	Coast Beard-heath	342
<i>Lobelia anceps</i>	Angled Lobelia	227
<i>Olearia axillaris</i>	Coast Daisy-Bush	75
<i>Ozothamnus ferrugineus</i>	Tree Everlasting	49
<i>Ozothamnus turbinatus</i>	Coast Everlasting	105
<i>Poa poiiformis</i> var. <i>poiiformis</i>	Coast Tussock-grass	1523
<i>Rhagodia candolleana</i>	Seaberry Salt bush	67
<i>Rubus parvifolius</i>	Small-leaf Bramble	18
<i>Senecio odoratus</i>	Scented Groundsel	33
<i>Senecio pinnatifolius</i>	Variable Groundsel	263
<i>Tetragonia implexicoma</i>	Bower Spinach	315
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass	841
<i>Threlkeldia diffusa</i>	Coast Bonefruit	19
<i>Veronica calycina</i>	Hairy Speedwell	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8167</b>

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## **Annexure 2**

1 October 2021 Rockfall Notification Report

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# Annual Compliance Report (1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022)

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## 1243, 2021-10-01, Environmental Incident

Project	1243 - Shipwreck Coast Saddle Lookout
Created	2021-10-08 15:24:21 AEDT by Office Simcon
Updated	2021-10-08 16:08:01 AEDT by Jim Alexander
Location	-38.3696610951205, 145.131560236865
Status	<span style="background-color: yellow;">■</span> GM or OM Action Required
Job Number	1243
Date of Incident	2021-10-01
Time of Incident	09:00
Reported By:	Tim Garrecht

## Report Category

Type of Report	Environmental Incident
Does this event involve a service strike?	No

## Is this a WorkSafe notifiable event?

<a href="#">Click here for a guide to notifiable incidents</a>	N/A
Does this event involve any of the following:	
If you have selected "yes" to any of the above, WorkSafe must be notified. Please contact the Site SQE Manager (Garry) immediately on 0439 901 832. Note: This is a requirement under the OHS Act	

## Injury

Definitions: First Aid Injury: Application of first aid treatment Medical Treatment: Requiring treatment by a Medical Practitioner beyond the scope of normal first aid. Results in less than a full shift being lost. Lost Time Injury: Resulting in time lost from work of one day/shift or more Restricted Work Injury: A Medical Treatment Injury that also requires restriction to normal duties. Non Reportable: Only to be used where an injury has occurred to a person not performing works on our site and we have offered assistance e.g. First Aid Treatment to a member of the public

## Is this an EPA notifiable event?

<a href="#">Click here for a guide to notifiable incidents</a>	N/A
Does this event involve actual or threatened:	
Adverse effect on human health or the environment?	Yes
Adverse effect on an area of high conservation value?	Yes
Adverse effect on an area of special significance?	Yes
Clean up or management of pollution costing \$10,000 or more?	No
Significant and uncontrollable release of a substance which may cause harm?	No
Significant and uncontrollable release of a dangerous or toxic substance which poses a threat to the environment or people?	No
Significant and uncontrollable release of a substance which is harmful to water or land in large quantities?	No
If you have selected "yes" to any of the above, you may need to notify the EPA. Please refer to the EPA website or call the Site SQE Manager (Garry) on 0439 901 832.	

## Reporting



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Has the Project Manager been notified?	Yes
Please notify the PM	
Has the Site SQE Manager (Garry) been notified?	Yes
Please notify Garry	
Has the Client been notified?	Yes
Reported to EPA	No

## Event Details

WorkSafe Incident Report	N/A
In the event of positive case, follow the COVIDSafe Plan and ensure compliance with DHHS requirements.	
Supporting Documentation	N/A

## Event Description

Activity being completed at the time	The actual time of the rock fall is unknown. Piling works were being conducted onsite during this period
Description of the event	During our piling works onsite a section of rock has been dislodged on the south cliff face off Castle Rock. We notified the design Geotech and Client as soon as we knew. Additional inspections were completed by a drone to see if any additional cracks or issue were present before work was allowed to commence.
Had the risk of the event been considered prior to it occurring?	Yes
What controls had been put in place ?	Vibration monitoring of the piling works was being conducted through each day, with specified limits imposed by designer ARUP. We didn't see vibration levels rise much above .5m/s during our works. Regular cliff inspections were completed and photos sent to ARUP for review. Due to high winds and high tides along the south beach, photos were not able to be taken every day. ARUP completed an assessment prior to works starting, comparing photos from 2018 to current day photos. A Geotech onsite inspected the pile bore and vibrations
Which SWMS number was relevant / covered this activity?	02
Approximate cost of rectification?	0

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Photos and Attachments



Investigation & Actions

**Cliff failure**

Problem	Cliff failure
Why 1	Wave action, vibration, earth movement, cliff deterioration

**Unknown, but could be vibration from earth moving equipment**

Cause Factor	Unknown, but could be vibration from earth moving equipment
New Control to be implemented	ARUP to confirm

**Regular inspections of cliff face, check the type of equipment being used onsite and seek approval from the client before proceeding with heavy equipment**

Action	Regular inspections of cliff face, check the type of equipment being used onsite and seek approval from the client before proceeding with heavy equipment
Person to Action	Noel O'Connell
Action by Date	2021-10-12
_emailed_pm	2021-10-08





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## Project Manager Close Out

Please alert SQE Staff

Project Manager Name

Tim Garrecht

Project Manager closing comments

Parks Vic and ARUP are conducted some additional research to determine what precautions we should be following during our work onsite. Once these have been received we will action them accordingly

Project Manager Signature



Signed 2021-10-08 16:07:26 AEDT

\_emailed\_gm

2021-10-08

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## **Annexure 3**

1 October 2021 Rockfall Geotechnical Review (excerpt)

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04/10/2021, 18:50

Aconex

## Saddle Lookout

Shipwreck Coast - 12 Apostles

Shipwreck Coast

VIC Australia

# ARUP

### MAIL TYPE

General Correspondence

### MAIL NUMBER

OveArup-GCOR-000011

### REFERENCE NUMBER

SIMCON-GCOR-000004

Re: 12 Apostle Cliff Photos for Review

Sent

Monday, 4 October 2021

### MESSAGE

Hi Tim,

Here is a summary of the discussions and advice relating to this matter:

1. We have reviewed the provided photographs in detail. We note that the area that has failed is just above sea level and represents a overhanging bulge at the base of the cliff. It appears the width of the failure is approximately 1 m wide and extends over a few metres vertically and horizontally.
2. A failure of this type and magnitude is to be expected and the position and size of the failure does not materially effect the overall stability of the piling pad or stability of the lookout structure
3. The toe of the closest pile is about 30 m from the position of the failure. We note that you have installed vibration monitoring equipment that is reading vibrations typically less than 1 mm / sec at a position offset 10 m from the drilling rig.
4. We would therefore expect vibrations and stresses inducing by the drilling process to be very low at the point of failure of the cliff
5. The trigger for the cliff failure is therefore most likely related to wave action and natural weathering mechanisms and we believe it is unlikely that the failure has been induced by vibrations and stresses induced by the piling activity.
6. Nevertheless we cannot rule out that the piling activity may have influenced the failure and we recommend the following moving forward:
  - A detailed visual inspection should be undertaken of both cliff faces (southern and western) prior to the mobilisation of the piling rig into position tomorrow. The visual inspection should confirm whether there have been any further failures beyond last weeks photographs. If

<https://au1.aconex.com/Logon>

1/3

04/10/2021, 18:50

Aconex

further failures are evident we recommend no further works are undertaken until a further assessment is completed. Please provide a photographic record of this inspection.

- When the weather permits, we suggest flying your drone to obtain further high resolution photographs of the cliff face. Please obtain photographs as best as practicable of the cracking that is observed immediately above the most recent block failure. If these cracks are found to widen with time - then we recommend no further works are undertaken until a further assessment is completed.

Please don't hesitate to contact me tomorrow if you would like to discuss further.

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