

Project Update

Yallock-Bulluk trail and park improvements

September 2023

The long-term vision of the Yallock-Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park on Bunurong Country is to create an iconic trail for the Bass Coast. This will include extending and upgrading the George Bass Coastal Walk to link San Remo to Cape Paterson via a network of existing tracks along the rugged coastline, beaches and dunes.

The trail project – which will be completed in stages – includes lookouts, car parking, shorter trail options, access to towns and beaches, and facilities such as seating, signage and picnic tables.

This update provides the latest information on the planning that is underway for the trail.

Priority works

The [details of what will be included in the project](#) were recently announced.

A range of improvements, subject to cultural heritage and environmental approvals, will include three new lookouts providing spectacular views at the popular coastal visitor sites of Punchbowl, The Arch and Eagles Nest.

Trail links will be added to connect the existing network so people can walk all the way from The Punchbowl in San Remo to Cape Paterson. At this stage we expect these new sections of trail to total around six kilometres at the most. Car parking, signage and visitor information will also be upgraded.

Works within the park will be delivered in stages.

Parks Victoria is continuing to work on detailed design, delivery costings and refining what can be constructed with the \$8.33 million project budget.

We are also continuing to work closely with the Traditional Owners, the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, on the project.



Environmental and cultural heritage assessments

Detailed planning and assessments of environmental and cultural heritage are crucial in delivering a project of this scale

While some sections of trail already exist, it is still important that these assessments are done comprehensively right along the proposed trail in the event that more people are walking the track in future.

A vegetation and flora assessment is currently being done for 14 priority areas. This assessment will map

and identify the extent and condition of vegetation communities present, as well as identify habitat for threatened species and ecological communities. Targeted surveys for threatened plants, with a focus on orchids, are also being done and will continue into summer.

We are also considering habitat for threatened animals. In particular, wetland systems along and adjoining the trail need to be protected. Surveys for threatened animals will depend on the findings of these initial site assessments and the preferred alignment for new sections of trail.

Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation will be involved in the cultural heritage surveying that will be done. The surveys will identify cultural values along the extent of the trail so they are protected during construction and use of the trail.

Results of biodiversity and cultural heritage surveys will help guide and refine exactly where the trail goes and other facilities. Avoiding and minimising impacts are an important consideration for the project.



Planning progress

We are currently working to engage design services, cultural heritage and geotechnical advisors. We have gone out to tender for these services and are assessing the responses we received so we can appoint specialists in each of these areas.

What's next

Detailed designs for Stage 1 works will be developed through 2023 and 2024. Once those designs are done the community will have the opportunity to

provide feedback. This builds on previous opportunities for the community to have their say on this project.

Once those designs are finalised, we will seek the relevant approvals and planning permits. Subject to construction industry and on-ground conditions, construction work on the trail and facilities is expected to start in late 2024.

We will continue to keep stakeholders and the community updated as the project progresses.

Other news of interest

Stage 2 of the Cape to Cape Resilience Project was completed in June 2023, and the Final Draft Cape to Cape Resilience Plan is going through approvals prior to release for formal public consultation. Find out more in the [latest project update](#).

To stay updated on events and engagement activities, please register on the [project's Engage Victoria page](#), or email the team at capetocape.project@delwp.vic.gov.au

Who we are working with

This project is being delivered by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action and Parks Victoria, in partnership with the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation and the Bass Coast Shire Council.

Stay up to date

Information about the project will regularly be updated at www.parks.vic.gov.au/projects

If you haven't already, please [sign up for updates](#) to stay informed.

If you have any questions please contact us at engage@parks.vic.gov.au or call 13 1963.

