

NATIONAL PARKS ACT ANNUAL REPORT

2019–2020

Traditional Owner Acknowledgement

Victoria's network of parks and reserves form the core of Aboriginal cultural landscapes, which have been modified over many thousands of years of occupation. They are reflections of how Aboriginal people engaged with their world and experienced their surroundings and are the product of thousands of generations of economic activity, material culture and settlement patterns. The landscapes we see today are influenced by the skills, knowledge and activities of Aboriginal land managers. Parks Victoria acknowledges the Traditional Owners of these cultural landscapes, recognising their continuing connection to Victoria's parks and reserves and their ongoing role in caring for Country.

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Level 10, 535 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

ISSN 2652-3183 (print)

ISSN 2652-3191 (online)

Published on www.parks.vic.gov.au

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Notes

- During the year the responsible Minister for the Act was the Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change.
- In this report:
 - the Act means the *National Parks Act 1975*
 - DELWP means the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
 - the Minister means the Minister responsible for administering the Act
 - the Regulations means the National Parks Regulations 2013
 - the Secretary means the Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Cover image

Epicormic regrowth - Croajingolong National Park (image: Mark Antos)

Foreword

This report on the working of the *National Parks Act 1975* (the Act) for the 2019–20 financial year is presented to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, the Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP, under section 35 of the Act.

The Act establishes a network of national parks and other protected areas that are representative of Victoria's diverse natural environments and sets out the legal framework for their protection, use and management.

Parks Victoria manages a system of more than 100 parks and other areas under the Act totalling approximately 3.46 million hectares on behalf of the Victorian Government and works in close partnership with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) in their management.

The year was dramatically different to previous years, with some of the most extensive and severe bushfires in Victoria's recent history as well as the impacts to visitation due to COVID-19 affecting many parks.

The extreme fire intensity experienced in the 2019–20 bushfire season had devastating effects on environmental, cultural and built assets. Several parks under the Act were heavily impacted by fire: all of Alfred National Park and 96 per cent and 86 per cent of Coopracambra and Croajingolong national parks respectively. The ability of some of the impacted ecosystems, most notably rainforests, to recover from fire is very limited. The scale and severity of the fires has created challenges for vegetation types which are otherwise well-adapted to recovering after fires, such as heathlands.

The fire season was quickly followed by COVID-19 which brought new challenges to Parks Victoria and the broader Victorian community. Due to physical distancing measures put into place by the Victorian Government, several parks were closed to the public and access to facilities and assets in other parks was restricted.



Jeff Floyd
Chair
Parks Victoria

Despite these challenges, highlights of the year included:

- celebrating the inscription of the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape, including the national park, on the UNESCO World Heritage List for its Aboriginal cultural values. The cultural landscape gained global recognition for its exceptional and outstanding universal value as one of the most remarkable places on earth
- completion of the inaugural Joint management plan for Barmah National Park by the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board
- publishing the Conservation Action Plans for the River Red Gum and Mallee landscapes
- approving the *Strategic Action Plan: Protection of floodplain marshes in Barmah National Park and Barmah Forest Ramsar site 2019–2023*
- implementing large-scale control programs targeting introduced pest animals (grazers and predators) in partnership with DELWP in environments affected by fire
- actively intervening to protect threatened species both before and after fire impacted their habitats, including emergency extraction and supplementary feeding
- improving outcomes for many threatened species including the release of 74 Eastern Barred Bandicoots into French Island National Park.

The 2019–20 year brought many challenges, notably a prolonged and unprecedented bushfire season quickly followed by COVID-19.

Parks Victoria will continue to work with partner agencies such as DELWP to protect and manage Victoria's park system and enable visitors to enjoy the benefits of being out in nature.



Matthew Jackson
Chief Executive Officer
Parks Victoria

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A representative parks system

Areas managed under the Act

As at 30 June 2020 there were 139 areas with a total area of approximately 3.46 million hectares managed under various provisions of the Act. Appendix 1 lists the areas and Appendix 2 shows their location.

The 139 areas comprised:

- 124 areas listed on various schedules to the Act
 - 45 national parks (Schedule Two)
 - 3 wilderness parks (Schedule Two A)
 - 26 state parks (Schedule Two B)
 - 5 coastal parks, 3 historic parks, 1 nature conservation reserve, 8 regional parks and Haining Farm (Schedule Three)
 - 3 marine and coastal parks, 2 marine parks, 1 marine reserve, 1 national heritage park and 1 nature conservation reserve (Schedule Four)
 - 13 marine national parks (Schedule Seven)
 - 11 marine sanctuaries (Schedule Eight)
- 15 non-scheduled areas to which particular provisions of the Act apply.

The Act also defines the following areas within particular national parks:

- 19 wilderness zones (Schedule Five) in 7 national parks (see Appendix 1)
- 22 remote and natural areas (Schedule Six) in 12 national parks (see Appendix 1)
- 4 designated water supply catchment areas in the Great Otway, Kinglake and Yarra Ranges national parks.

The only change during the year to the areas managed under the Act was the addition of 16 hectares to Greater Bendigo National Park on 24 March 2020. The addition of this inlier of former water authority land helps to consolidate the southernmost section of the park.

Management planning

As at 30 June 2020 there were approved management plans for all or parts of 45 national parks, 3 wilderness parks, 26 state parks, 20 other parks and reserves, 13 marine national parks and 11 marine sanctuaries. This is consistent with the number of plans in place in 2018–19.

A highlight of the year was the completion of the first Joint Management Plan by the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board for Barmah National Park. The *Partnering with Traditional Owners* section of the report includes further information on management planning for jointly managed parks.

The amended Management Plan for the Great Otway National Park and Otway Forest Park, referred to in last year's report, was released. This amendment incorporated the Anglesea Heath into the plan and the applicable strategic directions.

Parks Victoria commenced the renewal of the management planning for the Grampians landscape, which includes the Grampians National Park and Black Range State Park as well as several other reserves not under the Act. A draft amended landscape management plan will be released for community feedback in 2020–21.

Other key planning matters included:

- commencement of the planning for changes to access and infrastructure in the proposed Yallock-Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park, which will include the existing Bunurong Marine Park
- continuation of the planning for the Yellingbo area, including most of Haining Farm, to give effect to the outcomes of the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council's *Yellingbo Investigation Final Report* (2013)
- completion of the amendments to the existing management plan for Churchill National Park and Lysterfield Park.

Managing natural and cultural values

Managing natural values

Strategic priorities for environmental management in areas under the Act are informed by Parks Victoria's State of the Parks Effectiveness Evaluation Program and relevant Conservation Action Plans (CAPs). These are developed in consultation with Traditional Owners, partner agencies and experts. On-ground works are prioritised to protect the highest environmental values at greatest risk. Examples of projects in the various environmental management program areas are provided below.

A further two CAPs were published, for the River Red Gum and Mallee landscapes, bringing the total published plans to 5 out of 18. A plan for the Great Otways Landscape was completed, and plans for the Gippsland Plains and Strzelecki Ranges, and the Western Port and South-East Melbourne park landscapes are being finalised.

Parks Victoria will continue to prepare CAPs for each of Parks Victoria's 18 park landscapes to guide investment in environmental conservation. These plans clearly define conservation outcomes and priority on-ground strategies and actions. They are designed to enable monitoring of landscape health and to guide the evaluation of conservation activities.

Threatened species and communities

Parks Victoria and DELWP continued to work with the community and key partner agencies to manage threatened species. This work included programs delivered as part of managing invasive species or habitats.

Examples of activities during the year relating to the management of threatened species and communities are discussed in detail below.

Semi-arid woodland restoration

This year's condition assessment was conducted at Pink Lakes in Murray-Sunset National Park and in Lake Albacutya Park. It found little evidence of browser damage (by rabbits, feral goats or kangaroos) and an increase in native understorey diversity at both sites, and good recovery of Slender Cypress Pine at Lake Albacutya. However, stands of Buloke and Belah trees were found to be in poorer condition. Weed cover had also increased. These findings necessitate increased attention on active restoration activities, such as revegetation

Major Mitchell's Cockatoo

Targeted on-ground activities continue to protect suitable nesting hollows at Pine Plains in Wyperfeld National Park. Work included the construction of artificial nest hollows and the management of other abundant and aggressive bird species which compete for nesting hollows with Major Mitchell's Cockatoos.

Hooded Plover

The ongoing management of foxes and human disturbance at Hooded Plover nesting sites in the Mornington Peninsula National Park was complemented by a large community artwork on the Sorrento Back Beach amenities block depicting a chick, fledgling and adult to raise awareness of the Hooded Plover.

Invasive species

The protection of habitats and species recovering from the extensive impacts of the 2019–20 bushfire season was a major focus in eastern Victoria. Large scale control programs targeting feral goats, deer, pigs and foxes were successfully implemented in partnership with DELWP in environments affected by fire. These programs will continue into 2020–21.

Investment in biodiversity protection continues to increase enabling Parks Victoria to resource and deliver high quality projects to address some of the most significant issues in high priority parks.

Control programs

Control programs most often maximise investment and effectiveness by focussing on the protection of specific environmental assets at site or landscape scale. Landscape-scale conservation programs, often cross tenure and involving several partner agencies, are the cornerstones of invasive species management in parks.

The Weeds and Pests on Public Land Program includes several long-running landscape scale programs targeting weeds (Eden projects) and introduced predators (Ark projects).

The Eden programs aim to control high-threat invasive plants and include several parks:

- Central Highlands Eden (Baw Baw and Yarra Ranges national parks and Bunyip and Moondarra state parks)
- Glenelg Eden (Cobboboonee, Lower Glenelg and Mount Richmond national parks, Cape Nelson State Park and Discovery Bay Coastal Park)
- Otway Eden (Great Otway and Port Campbell national parks).

The Ark programs involve fox control and include several parks within their scope:

- Barry Mountains fox control project (Alpine National Park)
- Glenelg Ark (Cobboboonee, Lower Glenelg and Mount Richmond national parks and Discovery Bay Coastal Park)
- Grampians Ark (Grampians National Park)
- Otway Ark (Great Otway National Park)
- Southern Ark (Alfred, Alpine, Coopracambra, Croajingolong, Errinundra, Lind and Snowy River national parks, Lake Tyers State Park and Cape Conran Coastal Park).

In addition:

- the Good Neighbour Program continued to invest in controlling invasive species on the public-private land interface
- the Alps Intensive Management Program and the Hawkweed Eradication Program continued in the Alpine National Park
- the Mallee 'Bounceback' Program delivered further landscape-scale rabbit control in parks in the Mallee
- the Peri-urban Weed Management Partnership continued to target areas for weed management in Churchill, Dandenong Ranges, Kinglake, Organ Pipes and Point Nepean national parks and Arthurs Seat and Warrandyte state parks.

More recent additional investments, such as the State Government's Biodiversity Response Planning initiative, which enabled Parks Victoria to continue delivering landscape scale programs across the state. Many of these projects will continue for the next 1-2 years.

These included projects in the following parks:

- Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks – fox, feral goat, rabbit and weed control
- Croajingolong National Park and Cape Conran Coastal Park – coastal weed control
- Alpine National Park – deer, feral pig and weed control
- Barmah National Park – feral pig, deer and goat control
- Grampians National Park – Sallow Wattle and deer, feral goat and rabbit control
- Great Otway National Park – weed control
- Kinglake National Park – deer control
- Little Desert National Park – fox control
- Snowy River National Park – deer and feral pig control
- Terrick Terrick National Park – weed control
- Wilsons Promontory National Park – feral cat, fox and Sambar deer control.

Deer control in priority areas expanded, with a focus on the protection of sensitive vegetation in the Alpine, Barmah, Coopracambra, Croajingolong, Errinundra, Grampians and Snowy River national parks and Cape Conran Coastal Park. Deer control was increased in the Alpine, Grampians, and Snowy River national parks through an increase in targeted professional shooting. Programs were also funded to deliver significant increases in deer removal and monitoring in Barmah and Wilsons Promontory national parks.

Alpine National Park

The Australian Brumby Alliance (ABA) sought an injunction to stop Parks Victoria undertaking removal of feral horses from the Alpine National Park in accordance with its *Protection of the Alpine National Park- Feral Horse Strategic Action Plan 2018–2021*. Over the past 18 months, the injunction led to Parks Victoria suspending the majority of the alpine feral horse management operation. Trapping and rehoming programs that were previously implemented were put on hold, subsequently limiting the effectiveness in significantly reducing the feral horse population and environmental damage to the fragile wildlife, plants and habitats in the Victorian Alps.

Barmah National Park

Following several years of consultation and development, the Strategic Action Plan: Protection of floodplain marshes in *Barmah National Park and Barmah Forest Ramsar site 2019–2023* was approved. The plan includes a program to deal with major threats to Barmah National Park, including the management of feral horses and other invasive animals, and proposed changes to the flooding regimes.

Information on the control of marine pests can be found in the *Managing Marine Values* section of the report.

Native animals

Long-term programs to manage the impact of overabundant kangaroo and koala populations continued in several parks. Excessive numbers threaten habitats and can result in animal welfare issues. The programs are underpinned by established species management plans developed with the support of key stakeholders, including technical advisory committees.

Red and Western Grey Kangaroos were subject to population management in Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks as part of managing the total grazing pressure on the parks from kangaroos, goats and rabbits to protect regenerating woodland habitats.

Native grazers were again controlled at Wilsons Promontory National Park to reduce grazing pressure on native habitats, and at Woodlands Historic Park where habitat conditions in the fenced Eastern Barred Bandicoot sanctuary in the park has vastly improved.

Environmental water

In 2019–20 Parks Victoria continued to work in partnership with catchment management authorities and the Victorian Environmental Water Holder to support the environmental watering program by contributing to the planning and approval of proposed activities in Barmah, Gunbower, Lower Goulburn and Murray-Sunset national parks. This included the following watering events in those parks.

Barmah National Park

In alignment with the low rainfall seasonal conditions, the Barmah floodplains remained relatively dry in 2019–20. There was some low-level floodplain inundation as a result of rainfall in the upstream Ovens and Kiewa catchments in winter 2019, and inflows during September and October 2019 during the delivery of a Lake Hume to the sea environmental water event called the 'Southern Spring Flow'. These watering events were beneficial in transporting carbon from the floodplain to the river, and creating a connection for fish passage, but were of insufficient duration to stimulate colonial waterbird nesting or enable all plants to complete their lifecycle and set seed.

Gunbower National Park

The dry seasonal conditions meant no natural inflows entered Gunbower National Park from the Murray River in 2019–20 and the floodplain remained dry. However, as the Southern Spring Flow environmental delivery passed Gunbower Forest, some water was diverted from Gunbower Creek into Yarran Creek (an internal creekline) to allow native fish to move between Gunbower Creek and the Murray River. Water for the environment was also used to top up Reedy Lagoon and the wetlands in the Little Gunbower wetland complex. This supported wetland vegetation and maintained water levels for various waterbird species.

Hattah-Kulkyne National Park

The dry seasonal conditions meant no natural inflows entered Hattah-Kulkyne National Park from the Murray River in 2019–20. This resulted in the drying of wetlands that were last watered in 2016 and 2017. Periodic wetting and drying of floodplain wetlands promotes carbon and nutrient cycling and supports a range of plant communities. Environmental water was delivered to Lake Kramen during August–October 2019 to fill it for the first time since 2014–15 to provide habitat for waterbirds and improve the condition of fringing River Red Gum and Black Box trees.

Lower Goulburn National Park

Flows down the Goulburn River in the Lower Goulburn National Park are a combination of supply for irrigation and environmental water. In 2019–20 these flows remained within the channel of the river. Water for the environment was delivered to Reedy Swamp in spring 2019, which improved the condition of wetland plant communities and attracted large numbers of waterbirds given dry conditions across the surrounding areas.

Murray-Sunset National Park

Flooding in northern NSW and Queensland resulted in flows in the Darling River in April 2020. Although this contributed substantial inflow to the Murray River, the flows remained below the threshold to inundate the floodplain of Lindsay Island within the park and so dry conditions were experienced on the floodplain. Environmental water was used to deliver water through Mullaroo Creek and Lindsay River to maintain important habitat for native fish including the Murray Cod.

Marine values

Parks Victoria continues to manage Victoria's unique and diverse marine protected area system through both staff-led programs as well building effective partnerships with other agencies and the community. Well integrated approaches are particularly required to address threats to park values that emanate outside park boundaries, such as challenges associated with marine invasive plants and animals including both overabundant native species as well as exotic species.

Overabundant native species

Black-spined Urchins (*Centrostephanus rodgersii*) are being managed in the Beware Reef Marine Sanctuary through a local project with the Friends of Beware Reef, and a biodiversity response planning collaboration with the University of Melbourne and Deakin University.

Purple urchins (*Heliocidaris erythrogramma*) are being managed in the Point Cooke and Jawbone marine sanctuaries and Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park. This work is through a mix of local projects and a separate biodiversity response planning collaboration with the Victorian Fisheries Authority, the University of Melbourne and Deakin University.

Marine pests

Japanese Kelp (*Undaria pinnatifida*) are being managed at Pope's Eye (Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park) as part of an adaptive management program

Pacific Oysters (*Magallana gigas*) are being managed at French Island Marine National Park.

Work is underway to develop a new Marine Protected Area Program Plan to guide marine management in coming years. This will include a response to the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* and will have a strong focus on building partnerships with Traditional Owners in marine protected area management.

In collaboration with Deakin University, Parks Victoria is examining saltmarsh, mangroves and seagrasses for storing blue-carbon and investigating restoration options.

Marine volunteers across Victoria continue to actively support marine programs and in May 2020 a diver guidebook to the Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park was released by the Friends of Beware Reef.

A biennial forum hosted by for marine volunteers planned for April 2020 was deferred due to COVID-19 restrictions. In response, Parks Victoria partnered with DELWP's Coastcare Victoria program to develop a series of online volunteer engagement opportunities. The 'Winter by the Sea' program included fortnightly speaker events with marine experts, interactive skill enhancement workshops, and some virtual field trips to key marine habitats led by Parks Victoria rangers.

Monitoring natural values

Monitoring is vital for understanding the status of natural values and threats, and how these change over time. Monitoring by staff, contractors, researchers, students, community groups and volunteers is important for understanding the effectiveness of park management and helps inform decisions about how to better manage threats and protect biodiversity in the future.

Terrestrial environments

Monitoring natural values in terrestrial environments during the year included:

- reassessing the vegetation condition and Eastern Bristlebird habitat in Croajingolong National Park
- ongoing monitoring of native fauna as part of the Ark predator control programs
- assessing the success of the revegetation program in in Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks
- monitoring habitat structure and native fauna in Terrick Terrick National Park.
- monitoring vegetation condition in semi-arid woodlands in Murray-Sunset National Park.

Monitoring of threats to natural values in terrestrial environments included:

- foxes as part of Ark predator control programs
- feral horses in the Alpine and Barmah national parks
- rabbits in Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks
- weeds in the Grampians National Park
- deer in the Alpine National Park and Bunyip State Park
- overabundant kangaroo populations in Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks
- overabundant koalas in Budj Bim National Park
- introduced and overabundant native herbivores in Wilsons Promontory National Park
- Park Health Checks, which detect signs of threats to natural values, in Warby-Ovens National Park.

Volunteer-based monitoring of wildlife in terrestrial environments including:

- Malleefowl in Hattah-Kulkyne, Little Desert, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks and Big Desert Wilderness Park
- Hooded Plover in parks including Point Nepean, Port Campbell and Wilsons Promontory national parks, Cape Conran and Discovery Bay coastal parks and Corner Inlet and Shallow Inlet marine and coastal parks
- small mammals in the Mornington Peninsula and Point Nepean national parks
- reptiles in Hattah-Kulkyne National Park
- arboreal mammals at Heathcote-Greytown National Park
- the critically endangered Plains-wanderer at Terrick Terrick National Park.

DELWP's Victorian Forests Monitoring Program provides a platform to assess and monitor the health and condition of Victoria's public forests, support policy and management decisions and meet its reporting obligations. In 2019–20, a further 7 plots were established in areas under the Act and 30 were re-measured.

Marine environments

Work related to the monitoring of marine environments included:

- completing the Point Addis Marine National Park pilot monitoring report
- completing the review of data for monitoring seabirds, shorebirds and marine mammals in Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park
- targeted monitoring of subtidal reefs, avifauna, marine mammals, and mirror bush weed using drones, at Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park were undertaken. Contributing to long-term data assessing the parks condition. Additional monitoring of fish and macrofauna of deeper habitats had to be postponed due to COVID-19 and is planned to resume when possible.
- completing environmental DNA sampling of the marine pest Japanese Kelp at multiple sites across the state
- completing the ARC linkage collaboration with University of Tasmania (and others) - investigating functional responses of rocky reef communities to fishing and other anthropogenic stressors
- trialling or undertaking rapid health assessment monitoring in Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park and Barwon Bluff and Jawbone marine sanctuaries
- Sea Search citizen science monitoring of rocky shores undertaken in: Point Addis and Port Phillip Heads marine national parks and Barwon Bluff, Eagle Rock, Mushroom Reef, Point Cooke and Ricketts Point marine sanctuaries.

Researching natural values

Research authorisations

Research, study and investigation in areas on the schedules to the Act are authorised under section 20 or 21A of the Act, sometimes in conjunction with a permit under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*, the *Reference Areas Act 1978* or the *Wildlife Act 1975*. Research permits were again issued or renewed during the year for a range of projects in parks.

Research programs

Research is critical for addressing important knowledge gaps to help ensure decisions are based on good science. Parks Victoria's Research Partners Program continued to support and enable a range of research in areas managed under the Act. This includes both continuing and developing new collaborative research projects. This work is additional to the research projects supported by Parks Victoria each year through the research permit system.

Ongoing research in terrestrial environments included:

- developing better approaches for integrated management of fire and feral predators to protect native wildlife in Cobboboonee, Great Otway and Lower Glenelg national parks
- examining the responses of alpine plants to climate extremes in the Alpine National Park
- adaptive management of Coastal Grassy Woodland in Wilsons Promontory National Park
- investigating the survival of Buloke seedlings to improve restoration and recovery of Pine-Buloke Woodland in Wyperfeld National Park.

New research projects established in relation to terrestrial ecosystems during the year included:

- examining factors contributing to success or failure of the restoration of Pine-Buloke Woodlands in Hattah-Kulkayne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks.
- various fire ecology projects including investigating the effects of fire and predation on frogs and reptiles in Cobboboonee and Lower Glenelg national parks and plant extinction risk in Little Desert National Park

- testing the efficacy of a novel approach for collecting environmental DNA to monitor wildlife in Little Desert National Park and Mount Arapiles-Tooan State Park
- assessing the effectiveness of artificial shelters in protecting small mammals from predators in fire-affected areas in the Great Otway National Park
- modelling spatial and temporal dynamics of Plains-wanderer habitat quality at Terrick Terrick National Park as well as sites on private land
- examining factors which may be limiting the regeneration of Coast Banksia woodlands in Wilsons Promontory National Park.

Projects involving marine environments included (as well as several covered in other sections of this report):

- updating monitoring protocols for intertidal and subtidal reef monitoring (applicable to all marine national parks and marine sanctuaries)
- a Marine Pest Prioritisation workshop and report.

Managing cultural values

Aboriginal cultural heritage

Protecting Aboriginal cultural heritage values remains a priority in Victoria's parks. A new online tool for assessing risks to Aboriginal cultural heritage was developed to improve the efficiency and consistency of implementing cultural heritage protection procedures.

Parks Victoria continued to work closely with the First People of the Millewa-Mallee Aboriginal Corporation and the People and Parks Foundation to progress the Resting Places Project – *Ponnun Pugli*, which is focused on restoring and stabilising the Ancestral burial places in north-western Victoria. In the past year:

- conservation works were completed at ancestral burial places in Murray-Sunset National Park
- a program coordinator was employed by the Traditional Owners corporation, with funding from the project
- the development of a monitoring and evaluation plan for the program has commenced.

The statewide rock art monitoring program, which aims to update details of recorded rock art sites and understand the current management needs, continued. More than 70 per cent of the registered rock art places in the parks estate have now been inspected, including many in the Grampians National Park and Mount Arapiles-Tooan State Park. The surveys have revealed that the biggest impacts to rock art values are caused by visitors and goats.

Additional rock art assessments were undertaken in special protection areas within the Grampians National Park. Some rehabilitation works were completed to address impacts to known Aboriginal places, including rock art shelters. Surveys were undertaken in 12 areas of the park, resulting in the rediscovery of 36 additional Aboriginal places, including rock art sites.

Parks Victoria worked closely with Traditional Owner groups with interests in the Grampians National Park to undertake cultural heritage surveys and protection activities, as well as strategic planning for the future of the Gariwerd cultural landscape. Collaboration included a series of community workshops focused on Traditional Owner knowledge and objectives for the landscape. This provided a unique opportunity for Traditional Owners from three different communities to come together to talk about the future of an area with which they share a connection.

Parks Victoria also continued to engage with park users, tour operators and other stakeholders on managing the impacts of recreation activities on the Aboriginal cultural heritage values in the Grampians National Park.

Further information is provided in *Partnering with Traditional Owners* section of the report.

Historic heritage

The management of historic heritage in parks during the year included the following:

- Mount Buffalo Chalet – minor works and maintenance were completed
- Point Nepean National Park – a project involving park-wide interpretation and storytelling, including conservation and repair work of the historic disinfecting complex continued and the associated strategy and implementation plan was completed.

Other works undertaken included:

- protection works on alpine huts across the Alpine National Park during the fires, including wrapping 4 huts in Kevlar and Firezat foil wrap, were completed. No huts were lost during the extensive fires
- painting the interior of the Ferntree Gully Kiosk in the Dandenong Ranges National Park
- restoration works on the Keepers Quarters at the Cape Otway Lightstation in the Great Otway National Park.

Managing fire and other emergencies

COVID-19

A state of emergency was declared in March 2020 under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* due to COVID-19. Parks Victoria closed a number of parks and assets pursuant to this direction.

The closure of campgrounds, lookouts and other facilities for several weeks and restrictions on group sizes and gatherings impacted service delivery of areas under the Act. Areas impacted included the Alpine, Dandenong Ranges, Grampians, Great Otway, Mount Buffalo, Port Campbell (Twelve Apostles) and Wilsons Promontory (Tidal River) national parks.

Further information is included in the *Visits to parks* section of the report.

Fire

Bushfires

The 2019–20 bushfire season was one of the most severe fire seasons on record. After a dry winter and spring in eastern Victoria major bushfires started in mid-November 2019 and continued to burn until early March 2020. The fires burnt some 1.5 million hectares in Victoria.

A total of 310 fires were recorded as starting in areas under the Act and these burnt an area of 45,033 hectares of parks. The main ignition source of these fires included:

- lightning (99 fires or 32 per cent of all fires)
- campfire escapes (84 fires or 27 per cent of all fires)
- unattended campfires (42 fires or 14 per cent of all fires).

However, significant bushfires starting outside parks spread into parks under the Act, burning an additional 376,429 hectares. Major fires impacted parks in East Gippsland, North East Victoria and South West Victoria. The most significant impacts were at Alfred (100 per cent of the park was impacted by fire), Alpine (19 per cent), Budj-Bim (52 per cent), Burrowa-Pine Mountain (99 per cent), Cooperambra (96 per cent), Croajingolong (86 per cent) and Mount Buffalo (30 per cent) national parks and Cape Conran Coastal Park (68 per cent).

The severe fire intensity has had devastating impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem health and ecosystem services. Numerous campgrounds and facilities were destroyed in Croajingolong National Park, Cape Conran Coastal Park and other parks under the Act in eastern Victoria.

Several threatened species have had a large proportion of their range impacted by the fires including the Gippsland Banksia, Snowy River Daisy, Burrowa Grevillea, Long-footed Potoroo, Greater Glider, Southern Brown Bandicoot, Ground Parrot, Glossy Black Cockatoo, Eastern Sheoak Skink and a range of native freshwater fish and invertebrates.

Fire impacts have been substantial on some ecosystems which are not adapted to recover, such as rainforests. Some forest types, such as Alpine Ash, have now been burned twice in short succession and before regenerating trees were old enough to set seed. Even ecosystems which require fire, such as heathlands, have been adversely affected as the scale of the fires will result in large areas of even age classes into the future which will require management through ecological burning to achieve a fire age mosaic.

Planned burning

In 2019–20 the planned burn program was reduced from 230 000 hectares to 100 000 hectares (57 per cent decrease) following the devastating bushfires that affected large areas of eastern Victoria. Delivery of the reduced program was affected by a wetter than average autumn (the highest autumn rainfall for at least two decades recorded at many sites), which also led to a delayed commencement. However, favourable conditions in mid-March, mid-April and May saw opportunities for burning in the non-bushfire affected parts of the state. Planned burning continued through June where fuel and weather conditions were favourable, especially in the western parts of Victoria.

There were 65 burns completed in areas under the Act, treating a total area of 14 915 hectares. These included burns in the Murray Sunset (5 900 ha), Grampians (4 009 ha), Little Desert (2 291 ha), Great Otway (including Anglesea Heath) (68 ha), Greater Bendigo (393 ha) and Chiltern-Mt Pilot (314 ha) national parks.

Of the 65 burns, three burns were undertaken to meet ecological outcomes, one of these was in the Grampians National Park (211 ha) and two in Terrick Terrick National Park (66 ha).

Cool patch burning in winter is gaining use as a method to benefit high-quality fauna habitats and reduce impacts on wildlife refugia. Winter burning occurred in the Grampians National Park to promote improved habitat within heath communities for a variety of small mammals and assist in promoting variation in vegetation structure in heathlands. Similar work commenced in the Anglesea Heathlands (Great Otway National Park).

Melbourne Fire and Emergency Program

The Melbourne Fire and Emergency Program aims to improve bushfire preparedness in Melbourne's urban areas. This year, major works were undertaken in Dandenong Ranges National Park, Bunyip and Arthurs Seat state parks, Lysterfield Park and, for the first time, Kinglake National Park.

Activities completed in areas under the Act included the slashing and maintenance of fuel breaks, significant road upgrades improving access for fire vehicles, preparing planned burn edges, mechanical modification of bushfire fuel, delivering pest plant control works post-burn, and mechanical works as part of an ongoing program to improve vegetation condition to offset native vegetation losses from previous fuel break works.

There was also a significant program of community engagement aimed at promoting fire safety behaviour and community education.

Planning, monitoring and research

Planning

There was considerable input from regional fire ecology staff into the updated DELWP-led strategic bushfire management plans, which cover parks under the Act across Victoria.

Specifically, new fire ecology strategies were developed for French Island National Park and for the Western Plains grasslands and grassy woodlands, including Organ Pipes National Park.

Monitoring

There were again several bushfire Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting (MER) projects in areas under the Act, including monitoring the effects of fire on fire-sensitive threatened fauna species, such as the Greater Glider, in both the Dandenong Ranges and Yarra Ranges national parks. The outputs from these projects provide valuable information to inform bushfire management planning.

Other monitoring projects benefiting Alfred, Alpine, Coopracambra, Croajingolong, Lind and Snowy River national parks and Cape Conran Coastal Park included:

- partnering with DELWP and other agencies and knowledge holders during the bushfire emergency to take stock of potential biodiversity impacts and plan a response. A recovery plan was endorsed by the minister and secured \$17.5 million of funding for biodiversity recovery, including for recovery activities in parks under the Act
- continuing to support DELWP with the delivery of the Southern Ark fox control and native mammal monitoring program which provided valuable baseline information prior to the fires. This program is being reinstated and will provide valuable monitoring data on post fire recovery
- completing reconnaissance flights and on ground inspections (where safe) at key sites to provide better understanding of fire impacts on biodiversity and to assist with planning of future recovery actions
- supporting the Rapid Risk Assessment Teams which produced reports of the impacts of fires and provided recommendations for short- and long-term recovery actions along with estimated costs
- facilitating the modelling and monitoring of fire sensitive Alpine Ash forests, enabling informed mitigation actions, including the distribution of seed to help the recovery of Alpine Ash forests where frequent fires have killed mature seed-producing trees.
- modelling results have been received for sub-projects, and the science-based outputs have increased our understanding of the effects of bushfire and planned burning on ecosystem resilience and will be used to inform improved strategic bushfire management planning and bushfire recovery.

Research

Parks Victoria continued to lead a 'Fire and biodiversity – impacts, recovery and future planning' research project, funded through the Victorian Government's Safer Together program and involving sub-projects across seven parks under the Act (see Table 1). The research work has involved a variety of field surveys and computer modelling and, for the Northern Plains grasslands, a series of structured decision-making workshops featuring a number of partners and

stakeholders, including four Traditional Owner groups. The researchers have been largely drawn from Parks Victoria's Research Partners Panel. Research reports and modelling results have been received for sub-projects, and the science-based outputs have increased our understanding of the effects of bushfire and planned burning on ecosystem resilience and will be used to inform improved strategic bushfire management planning and bushfire recovery.

Table 1 – 'Fire and biodiversity – impacts, recovery and future planning' – research sub-projects

Park	Activity	Outputs
Budj Bim National Park (NP) and Mount Napier State Park	Refine the tolerable fire intervals for forested Stony Rises Woodland Ecological Vegetation Class and develop a preferred fire regime based on scientific evidence.	Field work, modelling and seed-bank trials and subsequent reporting improves understanding of tolerable fire intervals, and this is informing fire management in forested Stony Rises Woodland.
Alpine NP	<p>Develop decision-support tools to guide management interventions to enhance the persistence of Alpine Ash forests subject to fire and climate change disturbance.</p> <p>Collect floristic fire response data from long-term alpine monitoring plots. This data will contribute to understanding threats to fire sensitive environments and inform future management actions required to conserve subalpine and montane forests.</p>	<p>'Supercomputer' modelling work has enhanced our understanding of immaturity and fire risk in Alpine Ash forests, including under future bushfire and climate change scenarios. This work informed this year's large-scale post-fire reseeded work.</p> <p>Re-surveying of long-term alpine monitoring plots has contributed to our understanding of these fire sensitive environments. Several of the survey sites were subsequently burnt this year.</p>
Grampians NP	Understand the effectiveness of small patch size burning in providing habitat for fire sensitive small mammals.	Field work and remote sensing and subsequent report have improved understanding of the importance of fauna refugia, and the role of fire management in protecting and enhancing this habitat.
Great Otway NP	Develop improved spatial distribution maps of small mammal refuges in the Otway Ranges.	Parks Victoria's Science and Management Effectiveness specialists provided spatial analysis to help inform a broader DELWP-led research project.
Terrick Terrick NP	Build on the existing Northern Plains grasslands knowledge base and Traditional Owner and stakeholder expertise to develop evidence-based objectives for the management and application of ecological fire.	A series of structured decision-making workshops and reports, along with on-ground monitoring, have furthered our understanding of the role of ecological and cultural fire in these grasslands, and future monitoring needs.
Yarra Ranges NP	Determine the dynamics of post-fire regeneration of Cool Temperate Rainforest, the influence of pre-fire overstorey composition and fire severity on those dynamics, and the extent rainforest is likely to persist.	Field work and remote sensing and subsequent report have improved understanding of the response of rainforest to widespread bushfires in 2009, and the threat to rainforest persistence from high-severity bushfires.

Recovery from bushfires and other emergencies

Recovery Recovery programs for bushfire and storm events continued throughout 2019–20, including finalisation of programs from previous years. This is with the added and unprecedented challenges of COVID-19 as well as new emergencies resulting in new programs.

Recovery from events in previous years

Works related to events in previous years included the following:

- Wye River-Jamieson Track bushfire (2015) (impacting the Great Otway National Park) – completed works this year included the walking track from Wye River to Separation Creek and the upgrade of the Jamieson campground and lookouts
- floods and storms (2016–17) (nine separate storm and flood events between July 2016 and December 2017 affecting numerous areas under the Act, including the Alpine, Brisbane Ranges, Churchill, Dandenong Ranges, Grampians, Great Otway, Kinglake, Lake Eildon, Little Desert, Lower Glenelg, Murray-Sunset, Organ Pipes and Yarra Ranges national parks, some of which were impacted multiple times) – the \$10 million recovery program has now been completed
- storms (December 2017) (affecting the Alpine, Kinglake and Lake Eildon national parks and Cathedral Range State Park) – insurable works commenced with a revised scope
- Cathedral Range State Park bushfire (March 2018) – recovery works were completed
- floods and storms (December 2018) (affecting Chiltern-Mount Pilot, Croajingolong, Greater Bendigo, Snowy River and Warby-Ovens national parks) – insurable works commenced
- bushfires (January–March 2019) (affecting the Alpine, Morwell and Yarra Ranges national parks and Bunyip and Holey Plains state parks) – impact assessments were completed and insurable works commenced.

Recovery from events in 2019–20

The following events occurred during the reporting period:

- storms affecting the Great Otway National Park (August 2019) – recovery works were completed
- major fires in eastern and north-eastern Victoria (Alfred, Alpine, Burrowa-Pine Mountain, Coopracambra, Croajingolong, Errinundra, Lind, Mitchell River, Mount Buffalo and Snowy River national parks and Cape Conran Coastal Park) – various stages of assessment were undertaken and some works were completed
- the major fire in Budj Bim National Park – assessments were completed and recovery works commenced
- COVID-19 restrictions preventing access to parks under the Act – at the time of writing, statewide planning to recover from these was in progress.

Encouraging visitors, tourism and community involvement

Enhancing visitor enjoyment and tourism

Parks Victoria continued to be a lead driver of visitor and tourist access into and enjoyment of regional areas while maintaining park values and reducing risks.

Works to enhance visitor enjoyment and increase nature-based tourism opportunities included:

Grampians National Park

There was significant progress on Stage Two of the Grampians Peaks Trail, a world-class walking experience of 160 kilometres, which can be enjoyed in sections or one 13-day walk, with upgrades now completed to approximately 111 kilometres of existing trail, an increase of 51 kilometres from last year. Works to construct hiker camps are underway, and the trail construction is continuing.

Great Otway National Park

Funding of \$2.5 million was announced in September 2018 to improve visitor facilities in the more than 100,000 hectare park, one of Victoria's largest and most important environmental and tourism locations.

Works are now complete as follows:

- Maits Rest (which receives 150,000 visitors each year) – the popular short walk has been upgraded to a contemporary design that has improved access to key features including the boardwalk, pedestrian bridges and viewing platform
- Melba Gully – a new BBQ and a picnic shelter were constructed to enhance the visitor experience and enable greater visitation.

Mount Buffalo National Park

The upgrade of the Mount Buffalo Chalet parking and the installation of a new lookout were completed.

Port Campbell National Park

Implementation of Stage One of the Shipwreck Coast Master Plan progressed with completion of the new Port Campbell Creek pedestrian bridge and adjoining escarpment stairway. This provides year-round connection between the Port Campbell township and the Discovery Trail in Port Campbell National Park.

Construction commenced on the sewer and potable water pipelines and associated infrastructure that will connect the Twelve Apostles Visitor Centre with the Port Campbell township sewer and water services

Wilson's Promontory National Park

Various improvement works were undertaken this year to the waste water treatment plant so that it is compliant with EPA conditions. Works as follows:

- upgrading the filtration processes to improve the quality of the treated wastewater discharge to the ponds, thus ensuring a high-quality wastewater discharge and environmental impact reduction
- installing water saving devices to reduce wastewater volumes in campground ablution blocks
- introducing a water saving visitor education campaign.

Arthurs Seat State Park

A new playscape at Seawinds Gardens and an overflow car park at the Arthurs Seat lower station were completed.

Licensed tour operators

Tour operators are licensed to run organised tours and recreational activities for profit on Victorian public land. As at 30 June 2020 there were 436 operators licensed to operate in areas under the Act (up from 414 in 2018–19).

Visits to parks

The fires over January and February 2020 had an impact on visitation regionally, with the closure of most parks in the far east of the state during the peak summer season.

Several parks saw decreases in annual visitation in 2019–20 due to the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions and related closures. Overall national park visitation will be measured again in 2020–21 and was last recorded in 2018–19.

The Twelve Apostles (Port Campbell National Park) was once again the most visited site in Victoria with an estimated 1.6 million visits in 2019–20. However, annual visitation was down 20 per cent from 2018–19 due to the closure of the site in April and May 2020, and the ceasing of international tourism in March 2020.

Ferntree Gully Picnic Area (Dandenong Ranges National Park) was on track to overtake the Twelve Apostles as the most visited site in 2019–20. However, due to the site's closure from May 2020 through to the end of June 2020 annual visitation was reduced by 19 per cent.

On the other hand, some parks saw significant increases in visitation following the lifting of the initial COVID-19 related restrictions. Mason Falls (Kinglake National Park) received an estimated total of 79,000 visits, a 23 per cent increase from 2018–19. May and June showed a 180 per cent increase compared to 2018–19.

Parks Victoria played a critical role in applying government directives by actively restricting visitation at sites identified as high risk during COVID-19 restrictions. Alternative locations were promoted to spread visitation across the landscape and further support the implementation of physical distancing measures.

Visitor satisfaction

In 2019–20, Visitor Satisfaction Monitoring was conducted at 31 parks across the state, including 13 parks (national and coastal parks) under the Act. Visitor satisfaction is measured on an index out of 100, with an overall satisfaction of 85.3 in 2019–20 (compared to 85.2 in 2017–18). Nearly all park visitors (98.6 per cent) were satisfied with their overall experience while visiting a Parks Victoria park (including those under the Act). The scenery, views, natural environment and unspoiled/untouched environment remained the most positive aspects of parks for visitors. The Great Otway and Mount Buffalo national parks both achieved significant increases in visitor satisfaction when compared with 2017–18 results.

Supporting visitors with disabilities

Parks Victoria will continue to build on the range, breadth and depth of initiatives, infrastructure and planning to ensure parks are more accessible for people with a disability and to encourage greater inclusion for people of all abilities across the life course.

During the year Parks Victoria:

- offered training and resources via both webinars and face-to-face delivery for Parks Victoria staff across business units and regions. This training improved knowledge and expertise around accessibility, inclusion and Universal Design
- provided specialist, inclusive and accessible tourism services in various parks including some under the Act and received an award at the Victorian Tourism Awards

- completed the Tracks and Trails Assessment guidelines for all abilities TrailRider chairs and mobility equipment. These guidelines were presented to the 2019 Parks and Leisure Australia National Conference in Perth
- completed audits for disability access for parks including the Dandenong Ranges, Organ Pipes and Yarra Ranges national parks
- developed a procedure and guideline for assistance dogs in national parks.

Parks for health and wellbeing - benefits for all

A variety of activities was carried out to reduce barriers and encourage new visitors to parks for physical and mental health and wellbeing, including:

- producing a new 'mindfulness' virtual walk (video) at Kinglake National Park to promote the mental health benefits of spending time in nature
- implementing and evaluating Healthy Choices Nutrition guidelines at Port Campbell and Wilsons Promontory national parks
- continuing partnerships with organisations including the South-Eastern Melbourne Primary Health Network and Victoria Walks to promote the Park Walks program, including at Lysterfield Park
- strengthening the commercial relationship with the Park Run organisation and supporting the growth in the number of sites where Park Run operates, including in some suitable national parks. All Victorian Park Runs were suspended due to COVID-19 restrictions on events.

Informing, interpreting and educating

Information, interpretation and education services relating to areas under the Act were provided to encourage visits, manage risks, increase knowledge and understanding of parks and biodiversity, and to encourage visitors to develop a stronger connection with the environment.

Information about parks continued to be provided to the public through Parks Victoria's Information Centre (13 1963), the Parks Victoria website, social media, Park Notes and Visitor Guides.

Face-to-face interpretation and education activities were delivered to 13,956 adults and children in 45 parks under the Act. This included engagement with 6,120 school students (+ 838 teachers) across 23 parks, some of these sessions were delivered on non-Parks Victoria land including school incursions and online.

Junior Ranger program

The Junior Ranger program was greatly affected by bushfires in eastern Victoria and COVID-19, which impacted both attendance rates and the number of face-to-face activities that were able to be delivered.

Despite these challenges, the program was delivered to 5 717 participants (children and adults) in 44 parks. This is 4 304 less than 2018–19.

Further digital content was developed and promoted through the Junior Ranger subscription channels and social media. An increased uptake of digital Junior Ranger activities was achieved, with 12 322 unique downloads of 'Make and Do' activity sheets throughout the year compared to 5 307 the previous year. These activities encourage families to explore nature and develop a sense of connection and care for protected areas.

Digital nature education

Sixteen schools across the state were actively engaged in the Park Explorers program in 2019–20. Park Explorers, a curriculum-aligned inquiry program for Years 3–6, encourages participation in learning outdoors for low socioeconomic and regional schools.

Volunteers

A large array of passionate and enthusiastic volunteers from over 110 different volunteer groups ranging from Friends groups, community organisations, Landcare, research and recreational user groups as well as individuals, made a very significant contribution to the management of many areas under the Act during the year. They contributed 62,116 volunteer hours across 77 parks under the Act. This outstanding volunteer contribution is valued at just under \$2.5 million dollars of in kind support this year.

A wide variety of activities were undertaken with environmental monitoring, habitat restoration, pest management and trail maintenance the most frequent.

Parks Victoria's highly successful Volunteer Track Ranger program was expanded to meet the shifting trends in volunteering and high demand with the introduction of one day track maintenance events. The first event was launched at Cape Schanck in Melbourne's south-east within the Mornington Peninsula National Park.

Parks Victoria, along with DELWP, Natural Decisions and the University of Western Australia, embarked on a pioneering research project that aimed to accurately quantify, represent and recognise the true economic value of environmental volunteering in Victoria using two pilot national park sites including the Alpine and Dandenong Ranges national parks. This research will be vitally important for the industry for: advocacy, establishing a new standard for data collection and evaluation, recognising and valuing volunteer effort and recruitment, retention and succession planning.

Parks Victoria engaged an external advisory group made up of seven peak volunteering organisations to work together to implement a volunteering manual that will support, grow and diversify volunteering in parks.

Partnering with Traditional Owners

Parks Victoria and DELWP continued to work with Traditional Owners across the state to implement joint and co-operative management arrangements and to support the involvement of Traditional Owners in park management.

Following the devastating fires in eastern and north-eastern Victoria, Parks Victoria and DELWP have worked closely with Traditional Owners to undertake Aboriginal cultural heritage surveys and plan for recovery of these important cultural landscapes.

Joint management

Implementation of joint management continued for parks under the Act with the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation (north central Victoria) and the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (Gippsland).

The Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board along with the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation continued its oversight of implementation of the *Joint Management Plan for the Dja Dja Wurrung Parks* (which include Greater Bendigo and most of Kara Kara national parks and Kooyoora and Paddys Ranges state parks). The Dja Dja Wurrung and Parks Victoria rangers collaborated across a range of park management functions. Improvements have been made to works planning and notification processes to strengthen Dja Dja Wurrung decision-making on Country.

Specific initiatives during the year included:

- the shortlisting of sites for a \$2 million upgrade to the Greater Bendigo National Park, as part of the Victorian Great Outdoors Package to be delivered by Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation
- the establishment of a project under the Native Vegetation Initiative for monitoring pest plants and animals in Kara Kara National Park
- support for a ranger exchange program between Dja Dja Wurrung and Gunaikurnai joint management rangers to share skills, knowledge and perspectives.

The joint management partnership with Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation and the Gunaikurnai Traditional Owner Land Management Board has continued across the Gunaikurnai parks (including Mitchell River, Tarra-Bulga, The Lakes and Snowy River (New Guinea Caves) national parks, Lake Tyers State Park and Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park).

Actions undertaken by the joint management partners have included:

- working with the Victorian Fisheries Authority to prepare for public engagement on the Lake Tyers Camping and Access Strategy
- completing predictive modelling to support cultural mapping and analysis of historical records for The Lakes National Park and Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park
- pest plant and animal control in Mitchell River National Park, Lake Tyers State Park and Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park
- maintenance of visitor and camping areas and walking tracks across the jointly managed parks, with considerable effort put into managing visitor access to areas of sensitivity
- development of a landscape design plan for the Angusvale camping area in Mitchell River National Park.

Joint management implementation commenced with the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation for Barmah National Park, following the release of the *Joint Management Plan for Barmah National Park* in early 2020. Developed by the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board, the Plan incorporates the aspirations and expertise of the Yorta Yorta People into strategic directions for the park and will guide its management for the next 10 years. The management plan is supported by the *Strategic Action Plan: Protection of floodplain marshes in Barmah National Park and Barmah Forest Ramsar site*, which outlines a four-year plan of actions to address the threats to significant native plants and animals in the Barmah Forest.

Preparations are underway for the commencement of joint management with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council Aboriginal Corporation following the finalisation of a recognition and settlement agreement under the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010* between the corporation and the Victorian Government in 2018. The agreement provides for the granting of aboriginal title and joint management of the following parks under the Act in central east Victoria Act: Heathcote-Graytown, Lake Eildon and Mount Buffalo national parks, parts of the Alpine and Kinglake national parks and Cathedral Range and Mount Samaria state parks.

Co-operative management

Parks Victoria continued to work co-operatively with the Budj Bim Council and Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation in the management of Budj Bim National Park. In July 2019, the Budj Bim Cultural Landscape, including most of the national park, was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List, which recognises the outstanding universal value of this exceptional cultural landscape and its aquaculture systems. It is the first Australian site to gain this level of recognition solely for its Aboriginal cultural values. Damaging bushfires in the national park in early 2020 saw Parks Victoria and Traditional Owners working closely together in both the emergency response and planning for recovery in the cultural landscape.

Collaboration continued throughout the year with the Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation in the management of Little Desert and Wyperfeld national parks, Mount Arapiles-Tooan State Park and Lake Albacutya Park. The co-management partners collaborated on surveys of rock art sites in Mount Arapiles-Tooan State Park, which contributed to important rediscoveries of rock art in the park. The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs placed an interim protection declaration over one of the rediscoveries, which is the first declaration of its kind in the state's history.

Co-operative management with the Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation in the management of Lower Goulburn National Park included collaborating on protecting Aboriginal cultural sites on sandhills along the Goulburn River, controlling pest plants as part of the Biodiversity Response Planning program and considering of road and track rationalisation. Community education programs that include Aboriginal cultural components were also held in the park, including a Bush Kinder for Yorta Yorta people and a Reedy Swamp Environmental Day for primary school students.

Other Traditional Owner partnerships

Several priority Aboriginal cultural heritage conservation partnership projects were progressed during the year, including two focused on protecting ancestral burial sites and conserving rock art (see also *Managing Aboriginal heritage*).

A Strategic Partnership Committee with the Barengi Gadjin Land Council, Eastern Maar and Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporations continued to provide high level direction for management over the Gariwerd cultural landscape, which includes the Grampians National Park. The committee ensures Traditional Owner perspectives are incorporated into the development of the Grampians Peaks Trail, and it partners with Parks Victoria on assessments of Aboriginal cultural values in order to inform future management and use of the park, including for rock climbing.

The committee is also guiding the transition of the Brambuk Cultural Centre back into Traditional Ownership. The three Traditional Owner groups are represented on the Project Control Board for the Greater Gariwerd Landscape Management Plan, setting strategic directions for the park and taking a cultural landscape approach to park management planning.

Parks Victoria, DELWP and the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation worked together to recognise Traditional Owner interests in the proposed Yallock-Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park (which includes the existing Bunurong Marine Park) including facilitating its naming.

Parks Victoria and DELWP supported the Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation with data and analysis on parks and reserves on their Country, including an assessment of the suitability of different parks for joint management. The Eastern Maar Traditional Owners are using this information in the negotiation with the Victorian Government of a settlement package under the Traditional Owner Settlement Act.

Supporting park management

Management arrangements

Parks Victoria is responsible under the Act for ensuring that the parks and other areas to which the Act applies are controlled and managed in accordance with the Act. DELWP and other organisations contribute to the parks program, and DELWP provides strategic policy advice to the minister and the Secretary of DELWP.

Parks Victoria's 2019–20 business plan set out the management services and strategic priorities to be delivered for the year. Its annual report contains information on the organisation and its operations for the year.

Legislation

Amendments to the Act

During the year there were minor amendments to the Act relating to terminology as a result of the *Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019* and the *Transport Legislation Amendment Act 2020*.

On 12 November 2019 the Parks and Crown Land Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 was introduced into Parliament. The amendments relating to the Act will:

- create Yallock-Bulluk Marine and Coastal Park (3535 hectares) between San Remo and Inverloch, incorporating the existing Bunurong Marine Park together with several Crown land reserves and other Crown land
- establish landscape conservation areas as a new category of park and create Yellingbo Landscape Conservation Area (1790 hectares), which will incorporate most of Haining Farm as well as several nature conservation areas and a natural features area
- provide for additions to three national parks – Errinundra (3220 hectares), Greater Bendigo (40 hectares) and Great Otway (131 hectares)
- make other, minor amendments or corrections.

Amendments to the Regulations

On 19 February 2020 the National Parks Amendment (Fisheries) Regulations 2020 amended the Regulations to update references to the categories of fishery access licences arising from the Fisheries Regulations 2019. These relate to the description of those commercial fishing vessels allowed to travel through Cape Howe Marine National Park.

Authorities under the Act

Leases, licences and other authorities

The following leases and licences were granted under the Act during the year:

- Great Otway National Park – a 3-year lease under section 19G to Cape Otway Lighthouse Tourism for the provision of food and accommodation and visitor services at the lighthouse
- Yarra Ranges National Park – a 10-year lease under section 19G to the Melbourne Walking Club for the use of Briggs Hut on Mt Donna Buang
- Alpine National Park – a 7-year lease under section 25A to the Ski Club of East Gippsland for the operation and management of Johnston's Hut near Mount Nelse
- Point Nepean National Park – a 7-year licence under section 30AAC to the OCS Memorial Rye RSL to design, construct and maintain a memorial statue
- Mount Buffalo National Park – a 7-year licence under section 30I to enable two residents whose property adjoins the park to have access through the park.

Other authorities granted under the Act or the Regulations included:

- permits under section 21(1AA)
 - 70 permits for commercial filming and photography
 - 2 permits for a Mountain Tucker mobile trading van to operate in the Yarra Ranges National Park
 - 1 trade permit for Alfies Fast Food mobile trading to operate in Baw Baw National Park
 - 1 permit to Ventura Bus lines to conduct a shuttle service within Point Nepean National Park

- 381 new or renewed tour operator licences under section 27D (an increase from 345 in 2018–19)
- 6 authorisations under section 45A(4) to 4 individuals to permit particular commercial fishing vessels to transit Cape Howe Marine National Park
- 73 event permits under regulation 69 of the Regulations, with 27 of those subsequently cancelled due to COVID-19.

Consents to public authorities

Table 2 lists the consents granted under section 27 of the Act to enable public authorities (as defined in the Act) to carry out works, subject to conditions, in various parks.

The Governor in Council determined that the consent in relation to Haining Farm should be given. The area involved is proposed to be excised from the park (see *Legislation*).

Enforcement

There were 10 individuals successfully prosecuted during the year for committing offences under the Act (14) or the Regulations (3).¹ The most numerous offence was possessing or using a gun or other weapon (10).

There were 187 infringement notices issued during the year for prescribed offences against the Act (41) or the Regulations (146).² The most numerous offences related to dogs (53), lighting or maintaining a fire (27),

Table 2: Consents to public authorities

Park	Public authority	Purpose
Croajingolong National Park (NP)	NBN Co.	Install, operate and maintain telecommunications infrastructure.
Great Otway NP	VicRoads	Carry out rock armour works on the Great Ocean Road.
Murray Sunset NP	Telstra Corporation Limited	Install, operate and maintain telecommunications infrastructure as part of the mobile and radio network.
Point Nepean NP	Telstra Corporation Limited	Upgrade a network site of the telecommunication located on Badcoe Hall.
Port Campbell NP	Wannon Water	Water and sewage infrastructure.
Haining Farm	Department of Education and Training	Establish a new campus of The Alpine School.

1. The numbers of prosecutions refer to those for which successful results were obtained during the year regardless of when the offences occurred.
 2. The numbers of infringement notices refer to those issued during the year regardless of when the offences occurred. They do not take into account any notice that may subsequently be withdrawn following an internal review in either this or the next financial year (this also applies to previous years' reports).
 3. The numbers of official warnings and warnings refer to those issued during the year regardless of when the offences occurred (this also applies to previous years' reports). The numbers of official warnings in this year's report do not include any issued following the withdrawal of an infringement notice.

camping (23), recreational fishing in a marine national park or marine sanctuary (20), firewood collection (19) and using or operating a vehicle on a vehicle track closed to the public (18).

There were also 12 official warnings and 3 warnings issued during the year in relation to offences under the Act (2) or the Regulations (13).³ These related to offences including using or operating a vehicle on a road or track closed to the public (5), entering or remaining in a temporarily closed area of a park (3) and camping in an area not set aside for camping (2).

Interstate cooperation

Australian Alps cooperative management program

The *Memorandum of understanding in relation to the cooperative management of the Australian Alps national parks* (the MOU) covers – in Victoria – the Alpine, Baw Baw, Mount Buffalo and Snowy River national parks, the Avon Wilderness Park and the Lake Mountain unit of the Yarra Ranges National Park.

The purpose of the MOU is to promote cross-border cooperation in the protection and management of this highly significant conservation area. The four agencies involved in the MOU are Parks Victoria, the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, the ACT Parks and Conservation Service and Parks Australia.

The 2019–20 financial year was a challenging one for the Australian Alps Program and, like many others park management programs, was heavily impacted by a prolonged and intense bushfire season closely followed by the impacts of COVID-19.

These events have had a significant impact on the delivery of the Australian Alps Program, with many projects being delayed or postponed due to the inability to carry out field work components, or conduct travel or face to face meetings, forums or workshops and the like.

The program has however continued to adapt and deliver where possible. Including by moving to online video/tele-conferencing for committee and reference group meetings and continuing to provide a critical liaison function between partner agencies on issues such as bushfire recovery efforts and feral horse management.

Projects and initiatives aimed at benefiting mountain catchments, ecosystems, heritage and communities across the Australian Alps parks included:

- monitoring Sambar deer using GPS collars (Year 3 of 3)
- completing a project relating to hygiene and biosecurity (Year 2 of 2)
- assessing deer control options using drone modelling technology (Year 2 of 3)
- producing a technical report on aerial surveys of feral horses and an independent peer review
- researching the ecological impact of the European Wasp in the Alps
- researching the genetic rescue of the Guthega Skink
- researching snow gum dieback in the Alps
- continuing the Dr Alec Costin scientific legacy archiving project (Year 2 of 2)
- developing a communications plan for the Alps Program.

Advisory bodies

National Parks Advisory Council

The National Parks Advisory Council is appointed under section 10 of the Act. Its main functions are to advise the Minister generally in relation to the administration of the Act and on particular matters in relation to which its advice is required under the Act or is sought by the Minister.

The council comprises eight non-government members. As at 30 June 2020 the members were:

Convenor:	Mr Doug Humann AM
Members:	Associate Professor Ursula De Jong
	Ms Judith Dixon
	Mr Michael Fendley
	Ms Anna Foley
	Mr Adam McLean
	Dr Mary-Jane Rogers
	Mr Chris Rose

The council's annual report for 2019–20 provides information on the council and its activities during the year. Several non-statutory advisory groups also provided advice on the management of various parks.

Appendix 1

Areas managed under the National Parks Act

The only change during the year to the areas managed under the Act was the addition of 16 hectares to Greater Bendigo National Park.

A National Parks (Schedule Two)

	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1 Alfred	3 050
2 Alpine	661 777
3 Barmah	28 505
4 Baw Baw	13 530
5 Brisbane Ranges	8 885
6 Budj Bim	8 565
7 Burrowa-Pine Mountain	18 400
8 Chiltern-Mt Pilot	21 650
9 Churchill	271
10 Cobboboonee	18 510
11 Coopracambra	38 800
12 Croajingolong	*88 525
13 Dandenong Ranges	3 535
14 Errinundra	39 870
15 French Island	*11 160
16 Grampians	168 235
17 Greater Bendigo	**17 577
18 Great Otway	*110 332
19 Gunbower	9 330
20 Hattah-Kulkyne	49 975
21 Heathcote-Graytown	12 700
22 Kara Kara	13 990
23 Kinglake	23 210
24 Lake Eildon	27 750
25 Lind	1 370
26 Little Desert	132 647
27 Lower Glenelg	26 430
28 Lower Goulburn	9 320
29 Mitchell River	14 395
30 Mornington Peninsula	*2 680
31 Morwell	565

	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
32 Mount Buffalo	31 020
33 Mount Richmond	1 733
34 Murray-Sunset	665 400
35 Organ Pipes	153
36 Point Nepean	*578
37 Port Campbell	*1 830
38 Snowy River	114 600
39 Tarra-Bulga	2 015
40 Terrick Terrick	6 390
41 The Lakes	2 390
42 Warby-Ovens	14 750
43 Wilsons Promontory	*49 049
44 Wyperfeld	359 445
45 Yarra Ranges	77 185
Total – National Parks	2 912 077

* Area includes the area of the national park located beneath a marine national park.

** Parts of Greater Bendigo National Park extend only to 100 metres below the land surface.

B Wilderness Parks (Schedule Two A)

Wilderness Park	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1 Avon	39 650
2 Big Desert	142 300
3 Wabba	20 100
Total – Wilderness Parks	202 050

C State Parks (Schedule Two B)

State Park	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1 Arthurs Seat	565
2 Black Range	11 700
3 Broken-Boosey	1 010
4 Bunyip	16 655
5 Cape Nelson	210
6 Cathedral Range	3 616
7 Dergholm	10 400
8 Enfield	4 400
9 Holey Plains	10 740
10 Kooyoorra	11 350
11 Lake Tyers	8 680
12 Langi Ghiran	3 040
13 Leaghur	2 050
14 Lerderderg	20 185
15 Moondarra	6 330
16 Mount Arapiles-Tooan	7 470
17 Mount Buangor	2 400
18 Mount Granya	6 140
19 Mount Lawson	13 150
20 Mount Napier	2 800
21 Mount Samaria	7 600
22 Mount Worth	1 040
23 Paddys Ranges	2 010
24 Reef Hills	2 020
25 Warrandyte	689
26 Werribee Gorge	575
Total – State Parks	156 825

D Other Parks (Schedule Three)

Other Park	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1 Bay of Islands CP	950
2 Beechworth HP	1 090
3 Cape Conran CP	11 700
4 Cape Liptrap CP	4 320
5 Discovery Bay CP	*10 460
6 Gadsen Bend Park	1 620
7 Gippsland Lakes CP	17 688
8 Haining Farm	66
9 Kings Billabong Park	2 195
10 Lake Albacutya Park	8 300
11 Langwarrin FFR	214
12 Lysterfield Park	1 397
13 Murray-Kulkyne Park	4 555
14 Nyah-Vinifera Park	1 370
15 Steiglitz HP	430
16 Tara Range Park	7 620
17 Tyers Park	1 810
18 Woodlands HP	820
Total – Other Parks	76 605

CP Coastal Park

FFR Flora and Fauna Reserve

HP Historic Park

* Area includes the area of the park located beneath a marine national park.

E Other Parks and Reserves (Schedule Four)

Other Park or Reserve	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1 Bunurong MP	*1 660
2 Castlemaine Diggings NHP**	7 590
3 Corner Inlet MCP	*18 000
4 Deep Lead NCR (No. 1)**	1 120
5 Nooramunga MCP	15 000
6 Shallow Inlet MCP	2 000
7 Wilsons Promontory MP	
8 Wilsons Promontory MR	*10 000
Total – Other Parks and Reserves	55 370

MCP Marine and Coastal Park

NCR Nature Conservation Reserve

MP Marine Park

NHP National Heritage Park

MR Marine Reserve

* Area includes the area of the park or reserve located beneath a marine national park.

** Castlemaine Diggings NHP and Deep Lead NCR (No. 1) extend only to 100 metres below the land surface.

F Wilderness Zones (Schedule Five)

Wilderness Zones are located within several national parks, as set out below. The areas of the Wilderness Zones are included in the areas of the relevant parks in Part A of this appendix.

	National Park	Wilderness Zone	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1	Alpine	Mount Darling-Snowy Bluff	40 400
2	Alpine	Razor-Viking	15 700
3	Alpine	Indi	13 800
4	Alpine	Cobberas	10 000
5	Alpine	Buchan Headwaters	30 000
6	Alpine	Tingaringy	7 900
7	Coopracambra	Genoa	19 400
8	Croajingolong	Sandpatch	15 600
9	Croajingolong	Cape Howe	7 100
10	Murray-Sunset	Sunset	126 900
11	Murray-Sunset	Minook	38 700
12	Murray-Sunset	Galpunga	35 700
13	Murray-Sunset	Mount Cowra	23 500
14	Snowy River	Snowy River	27 000
15	Snowy River	Bowen	17 500
16	Wilson's Promontory	Wilson's Promontory	21 800
17	Wyperfeld	North Wyperfeld	97 900
18	Wyperfeld	South Wyperfeld	61 300
19	Wyperfeld	Chinaman Flat	29 800
Total – Wilderness Zones			640 000

G Remote and Natural Areas (Schedule Six)

Remote and natural areas are located within several national parks, as set out below. The areas of the remote and natural areas are included in the areas of the relevant parks in Part A of this appendix.

	National Park	Remote and Natural Area	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1	Alpine	The Governors	8 100
2	Alpine	Macalister	33 300
3	Alpine	Dandongadale	3 700
4	Alpine	Bundara-Cobungra	13 700
5	Alpine	Bogong	16 300
6	Alpine	Davies Plain	10 500
7	Alpine	Suggan Buggan	17 800
8	Alpine	Upper Snowy	11 800
9	Baw Baw	Baw Baw Plateau	6 500
10	Burrowa-Pine Mountain	Mount Burrowa	6 200
11	Coopracambra	Mount Kaye	8 100
12	Croajingolong	Rame Head	9 800
13	Errinundra	Brodribb	7 700
14	Grampians	Victoria Range	14 000
15	Grampians	Serra Range	11 200
16	Grampians	Major Mitchell Plateau	6 900
17	Little Desert	Little Desert	16 400
18	Mount Buffalo	North Buffalo	6 500
19	Murray-Sunset	South Sunset	24 000
20	Wilson's Promontory	Wilson's Promontory Islands (12)	469
21	Wilson's Promontory	Southern Wilson's Promontory	14 400
22	Wyperfeld	Hopping Mouse Hill	32 100
Total – Remote and Natural Areas			279 469

H Marine National Parks (Schedule Seven)

Marine National Park*	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1 Bunurong	2 100
2 Cape Howe	4 050
3 Churchill Island	670
4 Corner Inlet	1 550
5 Discovery Bay	2 770
6 French Island	2 800
7 Ninety Mile Beach	2 750
8 Point Addis	4 600
9 Point Hicks	4 000
10 Port Phillip Heads	3 580
11 Twelve Apostles	7 500
12 Wilsons Promontory	15 550
13 Yaringa	980
Total – Marine National Parks	52 900

I Marine Sanctuaries (Schedule Eight)

Marine Sanctuary	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1 Barwon Bluff	17
2 Beware Reef	220
3 Eagle Rock	17
4 Jawbone	30
5 Marengo Reefs	12
6 Merri	25
7 Mushroom Reef	80
8 Point Cooke	290
9 Point Danger	25
10 Ricketts Point	115
11 The Arches	45
Total – Marine Sanctuaries	876

* Marine national parks extend only to 200 metres below the land surface. Some partly overlay parts of other parks under the Act.

J Other Areas (non-scheduled)*

Area	Section of Act	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
1 Bald Hills BR	19B	1
2 Collins Settlement Historic Site	19B	1
3 Flinders NCR	19B	1
4 Flinders Natural Interest Reserve	19B	4
5 Long Forest NCR	19B	283
6 Lower Glenelg PPR and SLR	19B	24
7 Main Ridge NCR	19B	64
8 Moreep BR	19B	10
9 Nyerimilang Park	19B	200
10 Wychitella NCR	19B	3 780
11 Mt St Gwinear access road	19C	35
12 Commonwealth land adjacent to Woodlands Historic Park	19D	31
13 Picnic area at McKenzie's Flat (Lerderderg State Park)	19E	0.1
14 Blackwood Ranges Track (Lerderderg State Park)	19E	0.1
15 Glenample Homestead	32AA	8
Total – Other Areas		4 442

BR Bushland Reserve

NCR Nature Conservation Reserve

PPR Public Purposes Reserve

SLR Scenic Lookout Reserve

* Only specific sections of the Act apply to these areas.

K Summary – Areas managed under the Act

Category	No. of Areas 30 June 2020	Area (ha) 30 June 2020
A National parks (Schedule Two)	45	2 912 077
B Wilderness parks (Schedule Two A)	3	202 050
C State parks (Schedule Two B)	26	156 825
D Other parks (Schedule Three)	18	76 605
E Other parks and reserves (Schedule Four)	8	55 370
H Marine national parks (Schedule Seven)	13	52 900
I Marine sanctuaries (Schedule Eight)	11	876
J Other areas (non-scheduled)	15	4 442
Total	139	3 461 145

L Unproclaimed Additions

As at 30 June 2020 the following legislation provides for future additions to the parks system.

Act	Provision of Act	Park	Area (ha)
1 <i>National Parks Act 1975</i>	79	Great Otway National Park	*88
2 <i>National Parks Act 1975</i>	Schedule One AA clause 20	Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park	*2
3 <i>National Parks (Amendment) Act 1989</i>	29(3)	Moondarra State Park	178
Total – Unproclaimed Additions			268

* Area will become part of the park on surrender of the title or lease to the Crown.

Appendix 2

Location of parks and other areas

National and other parks and areas	Map ref				
Alfred NP	102	Hattah-Kulkyne NP	2	Shallow Inlet MCP	85
Alpine NP	77	Heathcote-Graytown NP	29	Snowy River NP	98
Arthurs Seat SP	46	Holey Plains SP	93	Steiglitz HP	37
Avon WP	78	Kara Kara NP	23	Tara Range Park	41
Bald Hills BR	48	Kinglake NP	60	Tarra-Bulga NP	91
Barmah NP	68	Kings Billabong Park	105	Terrick Terrick NP	27
Baw Baw NP and Mt St Gwinear access road	79	Kooyoora SP	24	The Lakes NP	95
Bay of Islands CP	38	Lake Albacutya Park	6	Tyers Park	81
Beechworth HP	71	Lake Eildon NP	64	Wabba WP	75
Big Desert WP	4	Lake Tyers SP	110	Warby-Ovens NP	69
Black Range SP	10	Langi Ghiran SP	20	Warrandyte SP	57
Brisbane Ranges NP	36	Langwarrin FFR	52	Werribee Gorge SP	33
Broken-Boosey SP	67	Leaghur SP	26	Wilson's Promontory MP	87
Budj Bim NP	18	Lerderderg SP		Wilson's Promontory MR	88
Bunurong MP	83	and associated leased areas	31	Wilson's Promontory NP	86
Bunyip SP	55	Lind NP	101	Woodlands HP and adjacent Commonwealth land	59
Burrowa-Pine Mountain NP	74	Little Desert NP	7	Wychitella NCR	25
Cape Conran CP	103	Long Forest NCR	32	Wyperfeld NP	5
Cape Liptrap CP	84	Lower Glenelg NP		Yarra Ranges NP	62
Cape Nelson SP	17	and Cobboboonee NP	13		
Castlemaine Diggings NHP	30	Lower Glenelg PPR and SLR	15		
Cathedral Range SP	63	Lower Goulburn NP	109	Marine National Parks and Marine Sanctuaries	Map ref
Chiltern-Mt Pilot NP	70	Lysterfield Park	54	Barwon Bluff MS	I
Churchill NP	53	Main Ridge NCR	47	Beware Reef MS	V
Collins Settlement HS	44	Mitchell River NP	96	Bunurong MNP	R
Coopracambra NP	100	Moondarra SP	80	Cape Howe MNP	X
Corner Inlet MCP	89	Moreep BR	35	Churchill Island MNP	Q
Croajingolong NP	104	Mornington Peninsula NP	45	Corner Inlet MNP	T
Dandenong Ranges NP	56	Morwell NP	92	Discovery Bay MNP	A
Deep Lead NCR (No. 1)	12	Mount Arapiles-Tooan SP	8	Eagle Rock MS	F
Dergholm SP	9	Mount Buangor SP	21	French Island MNP	P
Discovery Bay CP	14	Mount Buffalo NP	76	Jawbone MS	L
Enfield SP	34	Mount Granya SP	72	Marengo Reefs MS	E
Errinundra NP	99	Mount Lawson SP	73	Merri MS	B
Flinders NCR	49	Mount Napier SP	19	Mushroom Reef MS	N
Flinders NIR	50	Mount Richmond NP	16	Ninety Mile Beach MNP	U
French Island NP	51	Mount Samaria SP	65	Point Addis MNP	G
Gadsen Bend Park	106	Mount Worth SP	82	Point Cooke MS	K
Gippsland Lakes CP	94	Murray-Kulkyne Park	3	Point Danger MS	H
Glenample Homestead	40	Murray-Sunset NP	1	Point Hicks MNP	W
Grampians NP	11	Nooramunga MCP	90	Port Phillip Heads MNP	J
Great Otway NP	42	Nyah-Vinifera Park	107	Ricketts Point MS	M
Greater Bendigo NP	28	Nyerimilang Park	97	The Arches MS	C
Gunbower NP	108	Organ Pipes NP	58	Twelve Apostles MNP	D
Haining Farm	61	Paddys Ranges SP	22	Wilson's Promontory MNP	S
		Point Nepean NP	43	Yaringa MNP	O
		Port Campbell NP	39		
		Reef Hills SP	66		

BR	Bushland Reserve	MNP	Marine National Park	NIR	Natural Interest Reserve
CP	Coastal Park	MP	Marine Park	NP	National Park
FFR	Flora and Fauna Reserve	MR	Marine Reserve	PPR	Public Purposes Reserve
HP	Historic Park	MS	Marine Sanctuary	SLR	Scenic Lookout Reserve
HS	Historic Site	NCR	Nature Conservation Reserve	SP	State Park
MCP	Marine and Coastal Park	NHP	National Heritage Park	WP	Wilderness Park

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