

Coastal Management Plans

Committees of Management on the Coast.

Series No: 3

Committees of Management on the coast are strongly recommended to develop coastal management plans in accordance with the Coastal Management Act 1995.

What is a Coastal Management Plan?

The coastal management plan is a public document, approved by the Minister for Environment. The plan establishes an agreement between a Committee of Management, Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) and the community as to how an area of coastal Victoria will be managed.

A coastal management plan sets out the land management requirements for an area and includes a three year business plan detailing proposed works for the site.

A coastal management plan provides direction to the committee in terms of actions and activities to take place on the reserve, planned expenditure and maintenance requirements.

Community input and participation in the development of a coastal management plan is essential.

The main objectives of a coastal management and business plan are to:

- Provide a vision for the management of the reserve for the future in accordance with the *Victorian Coastal Strategy* (January 2002).
- Identify the environmental, heritage and recreational values of the area.
- Set objectives for the protection of these values and strategies to protect and enhance them.
- Provide a prioritised list of actions and a time frame in which to achieve the actions.
- Identify resources and/or possible sources of income /grants to complete priority actions.
- Define the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders in the management of the reserve and implementation of the actions.

The Coastal Management Plan will be used to guide subsequent development of more detailed master plans and works for the area and provide support for future bids for funds from Government Agencies and other funding sources.

DSE regional coastal planning officers can guide Committees of Management in the process of development of coastal management plans.



Process for Developing Coastal Management Plans

1. Set up a Steering Committee

(eg. 2-3 Committee members, ranger, DSE rep).



2. Develop a brief for the plan.

What will be the end product?

How much money can be spent on the plan?

Time frame for plan development

Who will prepare the plan - the committee or a consultant?

What should the plan look like to ensure that it is used and implemented? The plan should be in a format that best suits the Committee.



3. Approach three or more consultants to put in a submission to the brief. (if required).



4. Appoint Consultant (if required).



5. Consult with key user groups and the community.

What are the issues in the area?

Workshop/ survey the committee, the local community, reserve users and local industry etc.

Establish links with local Council



6. Establish vision and objectives for the future management of the coastal area.



7. Draft the Coastal Management Plan



8. Exhibit the Draft Coastal Management Plan

Advertising,

Copies of the draft plan available to the public for at least two weeks comment period.

Public meetings.



9. Completed Coastal Management Plan approved by the Committee of Management



10. Completed Coastal Management Plan put to Minister for approval under Section 32 of the *Coastal Management Act 1995*.

Further information on developing a coastal management plan can be sought from your local DSE Regional Coastal Planners.

Contact the DSE Customer Service Centre on 136186 for more details.



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