



# **WESTERN COASTAL BOARD**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2001/2002**

## **Vision Statement**

The coast of Victoria will be a pleasure to experience by both present and future generations, respected by all and regarded as one of the nation's icons.

## **Mission Statement**

To implement the endorsed Victorian Coastal Strategy through coordinated planning achieved by negotiation and cooperation with all stakeholders.

## **Value Statements**

The Western Coastal Board will:

- Provide leadership in coastal planning.
- Encourage the conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems.
- Promote the sustainable use of natural, social and economic systems within the coastal environment.
- Facilitate appropriate development on the Western Coast.
- Recognise the importance of cultural and historic values.
- Encourage community participation.

In our dealings with the community we will:

- Be open minded and respect the views of others.
- Recognise legitimate rights and responsibilities.
- Be open, honest and transparent.

## **1.0 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The second year of this Board's operation has been an extremely busy one. A major task was the Board's role in assisting the Victorian Coastal Council in developing and implementing the revised Victorian Coastal Strategy.

The Board also gave much support to the Victorian Government's moves to establish a representative system of Marine Parks.

A special challenge was also presented to the Board through the Portland Wind Energy Project EES with the Board being asked to take part in the Directions Steering Committee and the Board's resolve to give the appointed panel some broader coastal perspective.

Partnerships have continued to strengthen within our region between the Board and numerous coastal/natural resource decision makers. Some of the main vehicles to ensure this occurred was our leadership in the South West and Central West Victoria Regional and Estuaries Coastal Action Plans and the various local Coast Action Plans.

The Board has also been active in the South West Sustainable Partnership and also with both the Corangamite & Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authorities, especially in the development of their Regional Catchment Strategies.

Our role on numerous Reference Groups, Steering Committees & the like have also given the Board the opportunity to maintain strong community links. Joint funding projects with bodies like Deakin University, the Catchment Management Authorities and Local Governments have further diversified the Board's ability to fulfil a proactive role within what is otherwise a tight budget constraint.

Future challenges include the implementation of our Business Plan, The Victorian Coastal Strategy and the regional and local CAP's. Evaluation of the CAPs will be a strong focus of the upcoming year's activities.

Planning for our section of the coast will require much ongoing effort given our growth pressures. Developing a Great Ocean Road Strategy typifies this need.

The Board has been well served by its members and I am particularly grateful for the support and dedication of our Executive Officer, Fiona Chandler.

Lynn Murrell  
Chair, Western Coastal Board

## 2.0 WESTERN COASTAL BOARD ACTIVITIES

### 2.1 Board Meetings

Ten meetings were held during the financial year as follows:

LOCATION	DATE
Torquay	10 August 2001
Warrnambool	21 September 2001
Geelong	19 October 2001
Anglesea	23 November 2001
Warrnambool	18 January 2002
Warrnambool	15 February 2002
Geelong	15 March 2002
Geelong (Annual Strategic Meeting)	15 April 2002
Port Campbell	17 May 2002
Warrnambool	21 June 2002

### 2.2 Other Meetings

The Board hosted several other meetings including:

#### 2.2.1 Joint meetings with the Boards of the Corangamite and Glenelg-Hopkins Catchment Management Authorities

In August 2001 members of the Western Coastal Board met with the Board of the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority to explore the leadership and management implications of each organisations respective Strategies and Plans. The aim of the meeting was to work towards a better coordinated management framework and more effective use of resources. It was agreed that estuaries and coastal waterways was a key area of focus for both organisations. The vision of both the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and the Western Coastal Board is to develop strategic and on-ground actions to improve the management and maintain the quality of waterways and estuarine environments.

The Western Coastal Board joined the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Board for a joint meeting to highlight the common areas of endeavour and some advantages in strengthening the partnership between the two organisations. Areas of mutual advantage were acknowledged including representation, structure and operational experience. Other areas of joint future endeavour were explored mostly around education and exploring ways to develop common GIS methodologies for measuring significant regional values (including coastal).

The Western Coastal Board's ability to link with the networks and operational activities - especially in relation to estuary management - of both Catchment Management Authorities will prove to be quite valuable. The Catchment Management Authorities look to the Western Coastal Board for strategic planning advice in relation to coasts that can be incorporated into the development of Regional Catchment Strategies and investment plans.

### **2.2.3 South West Victoria Regional Coastal Action Plan**

The Western Coastal Board coordinated the preparation of the South West Victoria Regional Coastal Action Plan (SWCAP) which will provide improved planning and management for the coastal and marine area between Moonlight Head to the South Australian border. The Plan has been produced under the South West Victoria Coastal and Marine Planning Program with the support of the National Oceans Office through the Commonwealth Government's Coastal and Marine Planning Program.

The Executive Officer chaired the Steering Group for the South West Victoria Regional Coastal Action Plan. The development and preparation of the SWCAP drew to a conclusion in 2001 with a release of the Draft Regional Coastal Action Plan and a summary booklet for public comment from in July and August 2001.

The project Steering Committee reviewed the 246 comments received together with comments lodged from four public meetings. The majority of submissions were supportive of the Plan particularly from the local communities along the south west coast. Local community groups and individuals felt the SWCAP provided them with the opportunity to be more realistically involved in the processes used to develop directions and make decisions about the way the coastal and marine area of South West Victoria are planned and managed.

The final Steering Committee meeting was held on 12 September 2001 to sign off on the CAP before it was reviewed by the Western Coastal Board and Victorian Coastal Council and endorsed by the Minister for Environment and Conservation. The Minister signed the SWCAP along with the South West Estuaries Coastal Action Plan and these were both recorded in the Victorian Gazette.

## **2.3 Other forums**

The Chair, Members and the Executive Officer made contributions to other forums including:

- Tourism Victoria Infrastructure Workshop
- EES Technical Reference Group (Nirranda Windfarm Proposal)
- Great Ocean Road Region Strategy
- South West Sustainability Partnership
- Environmental Review Committee for the Minerva Gas Development project
- Geelong Otway Sustainable Tourism Workshop
- Victorian Economic, Environmental and Social Advisory Council
- Forums and workshops for the development of Catchment Management Strategies (Corangamite and Glenelg-Hopkins).

## **2.4 Executive Support**

The Board maintains an office in the Department of Natural Resources and Environment building in Warrnambool, which is central to the western region. Plans were made in June 2002 to move the office into joint premises with the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority in Warrnambool to reinforce the partnership opportunities with the CMA.

Executive support consists of the full time Executive Officer, Fiona Chandler who has been with the Board since January 2001. The Board hosted two Deakin workplace students who undertook specific projects as well as a 16-week program with the Community Jobs Program. Occasional administrative support was via NRE staff. The Board would like to express its appreciation to the Department for its continued support of the Boards operation.

### **3.0 REPORT TO VICTORIAN COASTAL COUNCIL**

This section of the Annual Report fulfils Section 13 of the *Coastal Management Act 1995* which requires the Regional Coastal Board to report to the Victorian Coastal Council on the status of coastal planning in the region.

#### **3.1 Status of Coastal Planning**

##### ***3.1.1 Planning System Reform***

All six municipalities in the Western Coastal Board region have now been working with their new format planning schemes over the past year. The schemes, underpinned by Council developed Municipal Strategic Statements (MSSs), aim to ensure that decision making is strategically driven and based on local policies. The challenge now has been to get the whole planning system to deliver the local strategic outcomes that have been endorsed by the community in every municipality.

The schemes are due for a three-year review from December 2001 through to October 2003 and all Councils are aware of and have contributed to a planning scheme review study undertaken by the Board as part of the CMPP Regional Coastal Action Plan development. Councils are considering these recommendations in their review of the MSSs.

##### ***3.1.2 Crown Land Management***

NRE participated and supported a number of strategic planning projects in association with the Western Coastal Board and other partners to support improved public land and coastal resource management. These projects included two sub-regional Coastal Action Plans, two sub-regional Estuary CAPs, the Bells Beach to Red Rock CAP, the Glenelg Shire CAP, the Great Ocean Road Corridor Strategy and the Corangamite and Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Strategies.

The Department participated in a number of Environmental Effects processes including the Pacific Hydro Portland Wind Energy Project and Nirranda Wind Energy EES. NRE has been working with BHP Billiton to implement the approved Minerva Gas Pipeline.

NRE in partnership with the Department of Infrastructure, Port of Portland and Glenelg Shire completed a sand movements and coastal processes study for Portland Bay.

The Department allocated approximately \$230,000 to risk management works, planning and project management across the South West Region in 2001-02. These works included geotechnical investigations, cliff fencing, improved access and cliff stabilisation works.

NRE's insurance provider, the VMIA, completed public risk audits for the following coastal reserves: Warrnambool foreshore, Portland Foreshore, Point Danger, Nelson, Narrawong foreshore and Port Fairy. The Department is working with the land managers to implement the recommendations of these audits.

A major land slip occurred at Jan Juc in November 2001. The Department funded a geotechnical assessment of cliffs between Torquay and Bells Beach. The report found inherent instability in some cliff areas and recommended closure of several high profile public access points. Work is underway with local committees of management to address the findings of the report.

The Department funded water safety audits and sign installation, consistent with the State Beach (Water) Safety Signing Project, for a number of beaches in the South West. Signing is completed at Warrnambool, Marengo, Apollo Bay, Wye River and Anglesea. Further audits are proposed and existing audit recommendations will be implemented during 2002-03.

The Department assigned the management of the Point Addis Coastal Reserve to the Anglesea Foreshore Committee of Management. Works completed at Point Addis in 2001-02 include replacement of the two primary access stairways.

Two new skills-based Committee of Management were appointed in 2001 for Apollo Bay-Kennett River Public Reserves and Wye River. These appointments are consistent with the reforms recommended in 1999 Victorian Coastal Crown Land Review.

Work to support the Lorne Foreshore Committee of Management to relocate the Lorne Lawn Bowls Club resulted in agreement on the relocation of the Club facilities to the Erskine House grounds. Works on the green and clubrooms are expected to be completed for the 2002-03 bowls season.

The Department has worked closely with Warrnambool City Council and Deakin University and the State government's Youth Employment Support program to improve environmental protection and public access to Middle Island, Warrnambool. At the completion of this project, approximately \$180,000 worth of work will have been completed on Middle Island and includes the construction of a raised boardwalk and the fencing of specific areas to encourage people to keep off the penguin and shearwater colonies and away from dangerous cliffs. Access stairs with a predator proof gate have also been built. Weeding and subsequent revegetation works are proposed to improve the habitat values of the island.

NRE's ports program funded the reconstruction of the Fishermans Landing at Apollo Bay Harbour. The relocation of fuel storage off the landing to a more secure location was also completed as part of the overall improvements to harbour infrastructure.

The Department has worked towards greater community engagement through providing support and advice to eight volunteer community-based committees of management for coastal reserves in the South West Region. The Coast Action/Coastcare program provided support to 48 Community Grant projects, delivered the Summer Activities Program and delivered community training and education programs including estuaries and rock platform awareness workshops.

The Department issued 62 consents for the use and/or development of coastal Crown land pursuant to the *Coastal Management Act* 1995 to 30 June 2002. The total value of the works approved was \$8,765,000. This does not include maintenance or other minor works.

## **3.2 Implementation Report**

### **3.2.1 Victorian Coastal Strategy**

The Victorian Coastal Strategy 2002 was gazetted on 25 January 2002 and officially launched by the Minister for Environment and Conservation in February 2002. Implementation of the Strategy is underway. The Board continues with its implementation focus through the completion of Coastal Action Plans (CAPs) for Activity Nodes identified in the Strategy and CAPs on issues identified in its Business Plan. The Board also contributed to the draft Victorian Recreational Boating Strategy and the Great Ocean Road Regional Strategy (both activities listing Regional Coastal Boards as lead agents).

Regional Coastal Board's have a lead responsibility in providing direction for the location and scale of use and development on the coast. The Western Coastal Board has worked with Moyne Shire Council in developing the urban design framework for the coastal town of Peterborough using the planning scheme as the primary tool to protect the character and growth of this coastal town. With funding from the Department of Infrastructure, a project has been initiated to study community perceptions of changing town character in the Victorian coastal towns of Apollo Bay and Lorne.

### **3.2.2 Coastal Action Plans**

The Board continues on its program of preparing CAPs as the key mechanism for implementing the Victorian Coastal Strategy in the region. The Board's overall strategy is to complete the CAPs in the Activity Nodes whilst working towards regional or sub-regional CAPs to set the overall framework. Work on issues-based CAPs will proceed with the completion of the geographically-specific CAPs and the Regional CAPs.

#### **Glenelg Shire**

The Glenelg Coastal Action Plan was initiated in March 2001. The plan was developed by a Steering Committee of land managers (NRE, Parks Victoria, Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation, Glenelg-Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, the Glenelg Shire Council and Western Coastal Board) and a Community Reference Group. The Western Coastal Board and the Glenelg Shire Council manage the project. The CAP has had an extensive consultation phase with development of an Issues Paper, a draft working paper and a draft CAP that was released for public comment from January to March 2002. The Steering Committee and Community Reference group examined over 200 comments to the CAP and signed off on the draft in June 2002 before submitting it to the Glenelg Shire Council for their endorsement and subsequent approval by the Western Coastal Board and the Victorian Coastal Council.

#### **Bell's Beach-Red Rock Coastal Action Plan**

Discussions were initiated between the Surf Coast Shire Council, NRE and the Western Coastal Board in 2001 to develop a Coastal Action Plan for the Bell's Beach-Red Rock area. The Board endorsed the Terms of Reference for the CAP and an Issues Paper (developed

through stakeholder and community forums) led to the development of a draft CAP that is expected to be approved by the Steering Committee for public comment in August 2002.

### Coastal and Marine Planning Program

The Coastal and Marine Planning Program (CMPP) has been the umbrella for four regional Coastal Action Plans - South West Victoria Regional CAP, South West Estuaries CAP, Central West Victoria Regional Coastal Action Plan and the Central West Victoria Estuaries CAP.

Both the South West Victoria Regional CAP and South West Estuaries CAP were approved by the Board in 2001/02 and sent to the Victorian Coastal Council and the Minister for endorsement and gazettal.

The Central West Victoria Regional CAP and Estuaries CAP were signed off by the Steering Committee in April 2002 and approved by the Western Coastal Board in June 2002. These CAPs were forwarded to the Victorian Coastal Council for their endorsement.

#### 3.2.3 Estuary Classification Project

The Board successfully attracted funding from the Commonwealth government under the Coast and Clean Seas Program to undertake a one-year project to classify the estuaries and coastal creeks on south west Victoria. The outcomes of the project will provide accessible, local information for management of estuaries from Point Lonsdale to the South Australian border (approx. 40 estuaries in all). The project team will develop specific management advice for estuaries that can then be used by local committees of management and government agencies. The project fills a very important gap in the information and knowledge of estuaries in south west Victoria, identified in the South West and Central West Estuaries Coastal Action Plans.

The project brings together a consortium of the Western Coastal Board, Deakin University, Parks Victoria, Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority and the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority- all of who have contributed resources to the project. Subsequent to the projects inception the EPA and Department of Natural Resources and Environment have also joined in providing in-kind advice and expertise.

### 3.3 Business Plan Implementation

In May 2001 the Board initiated the development of new Business Plan for 2000/01-2003/4. It establishes two project areas to carry out the functions of the Board as defined in Section 12 of the *Coastal Management Act*. Each of the required actions from those project areas is presented below with a status report on its implementation.

#### 3.3.1. Coastal Action Plans

Required Action	Due	Implemented
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<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Implemented</b>
Complete Glenelg Shire CAP	October 2001	The draft CAP has been completed and signed off by the Steering Committee. The Glenelg Shire Council, as the primary agency responsible for its implementation is further considering the CAP, before being submitted to the Board for approval.
Complete Moyne CAP	July 2001	Completed, endorsed by the Minister and gazetted in 2001.
Complete Skenes Creek to Marengo CAP	July 2001	Completed, endorsed by the Minister and gazetted in 2001.
Prepare Torquay CAP (if determined appropriate)	July 2002	No consideration by Surf Coast Shire or Torquay Foreshore Committee of Management that this CAP is required.
Review progress in implementation of approved Coastal Action Plans	Project basis	An audit has been prepared for the Lorne, Anglesea, Moyne and Warrnambool CAPs. An evaluation plan for the Moyne Shire CAP is also being prepared.
Complete Regional Coastal Action Plan for South West Victoria	August 2001	Completed, endorsed by the Minister and gazetted in 2002.
Contribute to the Regional Coastal Action Plan for Central West Victoria via Steering Committee	August 2001	Steering Committee signed off on the CAP, the Board has approved it and it has been forwarded to the Victorian Coastal Council for endorsement.
Prepare CAP for Bells Beach to Red Rocks	October 2001	Steering Committee formed (chaired by the Western Coastal Board) and draft CAP prepared for public consultation in August 2002.
Prepare coastal nature based and heritage based tourism CAP	January 2002	In collaboration with Geelong Otway Tourism, the Board directed resources into preparing a Directions Paper for Sustainable Tourism for the coastal region of south west Victoria. A collaborative, partnership approach with the peak regional tourism body is considered an effective and efficient means to contribute towards sustainable coastal tourism in the region. Further collaboration is planned in developing a project to identify coastal township character along the south west coast.

<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Implemented</b>
Prepare significant regional values CAP	June 2002	The full implementation of this activity is tied with the development of the Regional Catchment Strategies. To contribute towards the identification of significant regional coastal values an information reference database (located on the WCB website) was developed to provide a guide on the information sources of the economic, social and environmental values of the coastal area of south west Victoria.

### 3.3.2 Regional Coordination

<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Implemented</b>
Continue to implement the VCS via CAPs and cooperation with regional partners.	Ongoing	Implementation is ongoing
Review implementation status in cooperation with the Victorian Coastal Council.	September 2001	Implementation is ongoing with the development of an evaluation framework for the CAPs in the south west region.
Update and implement the three year communications strategy including website development.	September 2001	New website designed and launched. Sub-committee of the Board formed to provide input to the communications strategy.
Provide Ministerial advice as required	Ongoing	Provided advice to the Minister on windfarm development along the coast, the Portland Wind Energy Project, EES process and outcomes of the planning process.
Ensure comprehensive stakeholder and community involvement in the preparation of CAPs.	Project basis	Ongoing through the project process for the Glenelg Shire CAP and the Bell's Beach-Red Rock CAP.
Provide leadership on strategic coastal planning and management issues	Project basis	Ongoing through participation in numerous fora (see section 2.3). Developed a project assessment framework to assist Board decision making in relation to projects they may wish to initiate, lead or otherwise be involved in.
Provide leadership to facilitate the implementation of Regional Coastal Action Plan and Estuary Coastal Action Plan recommendations	Ongoing	Developed a resource allocation table for input from implementing agencies in the Regional CAP on resources committed to implement actions in the CAPs.

<b>Required Action</b>	<b>Due</b>	<b>Implemented</b>
Coordinate regular meetings of local council and agency planners to workshop coastal planning issues	Ongoing	Included coastal issues in the Department of Infrastructure's Planners Forum.
Continued involvement in the South West Victorian Partnership for Sustainable Development	Ongoing through the involvement of the Executive Officer on the Steering Committee	Ongoing.
Support the Victorian Coastal Council in strengthening collaborative research and scientific capabilities in the region	Project Basis	Contributed funds and input towards Deakin University student honours project on identifying, mapping and analysing user requirements for access points along the coast.

## 4.0 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Available funding from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment for the Western Coastal Board in 2000/2001 was \$203,722. Total expenditure was slightly over budget (0.05%).

Table 4.1.

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTUAL BUDGET</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>
<b>PROJECTS</b>		
Coastal Action Plans and consultancies	\$23,500	\$21,907
VCS review/Annual Report printing	\$2,000	\$2,000
<b>PROJECT TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,500</b>	<b>\$23,907</b>
<b>OPERATIONAL</b>		
Board Members Fees & Travel	\$42,973	\$28,560
Executive Support	\$131,527	\$151,348
<b>OPERATIONAL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$174,500</b>	<b>\$179,908</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$203,815</b>
Additional Income	3,722	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$203,722</b>	<b>\$203,815</b>

## 5.0 PRIORITIES FOR THE YEAR 2002/03

The overall challenge facing the coastal and marine environment in western Victoria remains the same as it has in the past – balancing the protection of natural resources with human use of those resources. Particular challenges that have been identified lie in the following areas:

- Incorporating a strong coastal focus in the Regional Catchment Strategies
- Updating the planning schemes for coastal shires to ensure appropriate development of coastal towns and villages
- Managing new developments in alternative energy (wind power, wave power) and traditional energy (oil and gas exploration and development)
- Ensuring strong input to the management plans being developed for the new marine parks and protected areas along the south west coast, and
- Managing strong growth in tourism, particularly on the Great Ocean Road
- Actions and activities outlined in the Victorian Coastal Strategy and Coastal Action Plans are implemented successfully and evaluated to capitalise on successful implementation and focus efforts and resources where most appropriate.
- Collaborative partnerships to achieve integration of coastal planning and management decisions are facilitated.

### 5.1 Evaluation

Each year the Western Coastal Board devotes one meeting to strategic development. In April 2001 output of the strategic development workshop was fundamental to the development of the Board's Business Plan (2001-2003) and instrumental in providing guidance to the preparation of the Coastal Action Plans (regional and local) developed in 2001-2002. One of the key aspects arising from that meeting, and that has continued to arise over the past year, has been the matter of evaluation and assessing the 'success' of the Coastal Board and its program of work.

Evaluation is important for several reasons:

- It can bring about improved outcomes
- When conducted with the involvement of the team, it can help develop a more fully shared vision and foster a commitment to program improvement.
- It can lead to greater accountability to stakeholders.
- It can help provide sound information about our stakeholders, both their requirements and how well these are being met.

An evaluation framework has been trialed at an operational level for the Coastal Action Plans and will be used as an ongoing tool for monitoring and evaluating the CAPs that are being implemented. The evaluation framework being assessed for this work is recognised as being of benefit to the Board in assessing its own work and contribution towards strategic coastal planning in the region. Therefore the topic explored at the 2002 strategic planning meeting was "evaluation" and the output was the development of an evaluation plan for the Board to determine where the Board are going and how we know if we are successful. The purpose of the evaluation program is to show how the Board's work is contributing to better coastal planning and management in the region. It is not intended to be used as a means to perpetuate the Board itself. The Board aims to have the results of its first year evaluation appended to the Annual Report for 2002/03.

## **5.2 Collaboration and Partnerships**

Since the advent of the *Coastal Management Act 1995* and the adoption of the Victorian Coastal Strategy, planners and managers along the south west coast of Victoria have been engaged with communities in developing strategies and plans to guide the protection, use and development of the coastal zone in the region. A key component of all of these plans has been the integration and collaboration required to successfully implement the recommended actions. In many cases there has been some success in achieving the level of cooperation required however it is recognised by communities and land managers that integrated coastal zone management could be more effective thus leading to better outcomes of the work undertaken in coastal planning and management.

The Board proposes to hold a one and a half day congress to invited participants (decision makers in state, local and community organisations from across the region who can best influence outcomes) to share and learn about opportunities and challenges in working collaboratively to implement coastal strategies and plans in south west Victoria. A sub-committee of the Board is working with the Executive Officer to plan this congress which will be held in February 2003.

## **5.3 Regional Catchment Strategies**

A key focus for the Board in 2002/03 will be involvement in the development of the two Regional Catchment Strategies (RCSs) in the region (Glenelg Hopkins and Corangamite). These documents are intended to be the 'umbrella' strategy for planning and management of natural resources in the region incorporating all components of natural resources including coastal resources. The RCSs are also going to be the primary vehicle for funding natural resource management initiatives and as such the Board and the Executive Officer will be working closely with both Catchment Management Authorities on ensuring coastal issues are well articulated in the RCS documents.

## 6.0 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

### Chairman

*Lynn Murrell*

Lynn is the Chair of the Western Coastal Board and the Victorian Coastal Council representative on the Board. He is a farmer and operator of a Bed and Breakfast at Cape Nelson, a member of the Board of the Glenelg-Hopkins Catchment Management Authority, a member of the Area Consultative Committee and the Premier's Victorian Economic Environmental and Social Advisory Council.

### Members

*Rachel Faggetter*

A former President of the Airey's Inlet and District Association and a long time member of the Anglesea and Airey's Inlet Environment Association, Rachel has lived in the coastal township of Airey's Inlet for over 20 years. Rachel currently lectures in Natural and Cultural Heritage and Interpretation and Ecotourism at Deakin University.

*Rob Freemantle*

Rob is the Regional Manager for VicRoads in the South West Region. Rob is based at the Geelong office of Vic Roads.

*John Kennett*

John has lived at Skenes Creek since 1989, following years in farming and retail trade. He has been active in the local community including being a Councillor on the Colac-Otway Shire (and Mayor in 1997-98), a member of the Apollo Bay – Kennett River Foreshore Committee and a member of the Colac-Otway Tourist Association.

*Joan Lindros*

Joan brings a long history of active involvement in environmental and conservation issues, and has been a member of several Government advisory Councils and committees dealing with land use and planning issues. Joan has undertaken Presidency roles in organisations such as the Geelong Environment Council, the Victorian National Parks Association and the Conservation Council of Victoria. In June 2001 Joan won the United National Association of Australia award for her services to the environment. Joan currently resides in Highton, Geelong.

*Henry Love*

A Lorne resident his entire life, Henry is heavily involved in the local districts of the western coastline of Victoria. Henry has provided leadership in many areas, including Mayor and Councillor of the Surf Coast Shire, a member of the Geelong Otway Tourism Board of Directors and the Victorian Commercial Fisherman's Association Executive.

*Rachel Robertson (joined the Board in June 2001)*

Rachel currently occupies the position of Chief Ranger - South West Coast with Parks Victoria and lives in Anglesea.

*Kim McGough*

Kim is the Manager of the South West Region of the Department of Infrastructure. He has 20 years of professional work experience and a bachelor of Town and Regional Planning (Hons).

He was formerly Executive Officer of the Loddon-Campaspe Regional Planning Authority and Town Planning Manager with the former Shire of Broadford. Kim was initially appointed to the Western Coastal Board in 1996.

*Ian Hastings*

Ian is employed by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) as the Manager of Regional Policy in the South West Region. Ian is currently located at the Ballarat office of the Department and represents NRE's Regional Manager on the Board.

*Margaret O'Toole*

An active scuba diver and marine researcher, Ms O'Toole has been living in Port Campbell since 1984. Margaret currently runs an environmental interpretation and education business with her husband and is an active member of a number of environmental groups, including the Port Campbell Environment Group, the Marine Education Society of Australia and the Aquatic Naturalists Club of Victoria.

*Vivian McWaters*

Viv currently lives in Torquay where she runs her own business as a freelance facilitator and trainer specialising in conservation and rural industries. She has completed a Masters in Applied Science (Agriculture and Rural Development) and is a former Statewide co-ordinator for Landcare and secretary of the Australian Soil and Water Conservation Association.

**Executive Support**

*Fiona Chandler*

Fiona joined the Board as Executive Officer in January 2001. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Coastal Management and a Masters Degree in Environmental Management and Development. Fiona has extensive experience in natural resource management both internationally (Southeast Asia, Canada, Africa) and nationally.

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