



WCB News

December 2016

The Western Coastal Board (WCB) would like to wish you a very happy festive season, and to welcome you to the December 2016 issue of our new quarterly newsletter.

Connect with the Western Coastal Board

We are now on Twitter – please follow us [@WCBVictoria](https://twitter.com/WCBVictoria). Or, visit our website at wcb.vic.gov.au to see what's new, including our latest annual report and business plan.

New Marine and Coastal Act

Following the release of the [Marine and Coastal Act Consultation Paper](#), members of the WCB attended a number of public and practitioner workshops in Torquay, Warrnambool and Portland. The WCB is pleased to have submitted its thoughts and ideas on improving marine and coastal management in Victoria to the Expert Panel – view the WCB submission on the [WCB website](#).

CoastAdapt release

The WCB Chair recently attended a workshop on [CoastAdapt](#), an information delivery and decision support tool helping coastal managers in Australia adapt to climate change and sea-level rise. Developed by the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF), CoastAdapt includes tools and information on the science of climate change, risks, effective response options, and likely costs of action. It makes use of national data sets and research outputs developed over the past five years by Australian scientific organisations and includes clear guidance on good practice and links to case studies.

You are encouraged to visit coastadapt.com.au, have a go and provide any feedback to NCCARF.

Have your say on the future of Victoria's waterways

The *Safe and Accessible Waterways discussion paper* has been prepared to help understand current safety and access opportunities and challenges facing the recreational use of Victorian waterways. View the discussion paper and have your say on the future of Victorian waterways by following the links and instructions at economicdevelopment.vic.gov.au/transport/ports. Submissions close on Wednesday 14 December 2016.

Future for Belfast Coast Beaches

The dispute between the racing industry, residents and environmental groups continues. View the Victorian Government response to managing commercial horse training on beaches in the state's far south-west on the [DELWP website](#).

Protection of Victoria's iconic beaches and coastline program

The \$21.4 million 'Protection of Victoria's iconic beaches and coastline program' was announced as an initiative in the May 2016 state budget. As part of this program, the Regional Coastal Boards have been asked to lead the consultation on the allocation of funds for the Coastal Asset Protection Infrastructure Upgrade (\$15m). More information will be sent to our stakeholders as it becomes available.

Summer by the Sea 2017

School holidays are fast approaching and so is Summer by the Sea 2017. From 2-26 January 2017, experienced coastal volunteers and skilled local providers will be delivering hundreds of free guided activities along our coast. For news and updates, visit the [DELWP website](#) or like the [Summer by the Sea Facebook page](#).

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