

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

- A. Economic Impact Assessment**
- B. Ecological and Cultural Assessment**
- C. Community Engagement Report**

A. ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT



SGS INPUTS TO DINOSAURS TRAIL MASTER PLAN



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report, by SGS Economics and Planning, considers the current economic situation in the Bass Coast region and the opportunity presented by the development of the Dinosaurs Trail for local economic development.

The Bass Coast Shire and broader Gippsland region have been experiencing economic uncertainty, with COVID-19 the latest in a series of shocks.

Economic restructuring towards the knowledge economy, the closure of Hazelwood power station, the dairy crisis, drought, timber industry closure, bushfire, and now COVID-19 have had a rolling consequential impact on the region. In the Bass Coast LGA specifically, unemployment and an aging population are also challenges.

Tourism is already one of the main economic drivers in the Bass Coast. Over one-third of the population are employed in the industry, and there are currently over 400 businesses that operate in the sector. The majority of local tourism businesses are small and typically family-owned.

During peak holiday periods, Bass Coast's population increases significantly. Prior to the closure of international borders 35 per cent of Melbourne's international visitors also visit the Bass Coast. However, the most popular tourism attractions are not evenly distributed as most are located on Phillip Island (famously known for the must-see Penguin Parade and other wildlife attractions).

The proposed Trail can add significant value to the region and Victoria

The Trail will leverage existing natural and cultural assets to attract tourists in search of new, authentic and educational experiences. Critically, the new Trail will generate enthusiasm in different parts of the region, drawing new and existing visitors deeper into the communities and economies of the Bass Coast.

The Trail will act as a demand driver and major attraction. Demand drivers create and encourage visitation to a destination and are 'must-see' attractions or host activities that promote travel (like events or exhibitions). Demand drivers act as anchors for other tourism investment including in accommodation, hospitality, retail and other attractions that cannot attract visitors to travel in isolation. The clustering of activities and attractions and the development of tourism routes are vital components of effective tourism development.

The proposed Trail will offer a new type of experience in the Victorian market. This will ensure that the Trail will complement and enhance Victoria's offer and create new demand. Critically, the Trail will be accessible to all income groups, ages and fitness levels.

The benefits of the Trail are many. The Trail will: enhance the visitor experience; protect and conserve natural and cultural heritage values; increase visitation across the year (not just in peak times); encourage flow-on private investment; raise the brand profile of the region; provide new recreational opportunities for the local population; generate employment pathways for younger residents; and allow for the development of a network of attractions and commercial partnerships.

The number of people visiting the region, along with the length of time spent per visit, will increase as a direct consequence of the development of the Trail and positioning as an iconic visitor attraction for the Bass Coast.

At present, visitor growth in the region has been hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, but even prior to that visitation to the region was growing at a slower rate than other regions of Victoria, and the state as whole. This means that Bass Coast was losing market share to other

destinations. The Trail, acting as a core piece of infrastructure to be developed around, can result in the projected visitation recovering from the pandemic quicker and visitation growing more in line with the State experience. The development of the Dinosaur Trail is expected to the sub-region increase by 74,000 per annum by 2035. This is an increase in visits of 8 per cent over a scenario where the Trail is not developed. The increased visitation will be a mix of international and domestic.

The creation of the Trail and high-quality visitor infrastructure will increase economic opportunity and create local jobs and inspire investment.

The new income injected into the local economy will be highly beneficial as the income creates a multiplier effect as businesses draw on local suppliers and workers to meet the increased demand from external customers (tourists). This multiplier effect, over time, would allow local businesses to invest in new equipment, hire more people and pay higher wages. Greater economic activity also means higher government revenues and more money to spend on better quality services for the community. New investment is critical to recover from the COVID-19 economic shutdown, which will be felt for years to come.

By 2035, the increase in tourist expenditure can be expected to generate \$36 million in direct value-added to the Bass Coast economy and support 418 FTE new and existing jobs (one job is one FTE job for 12 months) in the Bass Coast's hotels, restaurants, cafes, stores, visitor attractions and other places tourists visit.

In addition, supplier and contractor linkages lead to flow-on (or indirect) effects as the stimulus circulates through the local economy. When the flow-on effects are incorporated, this stimulus translates to a combined (direct and indirect) economic impact of \$99.2 million value-added to 2035 513 FTE annual jobs supported to 2035.

On a per annum basis, this equates to a total value-added to the economy of \$11.2 million in 2035, supporting 58 jobs in the region.

The majority of GRP and employment is captured in the accommodation and food services industry. Still, the local arts and recreation services, manufacturing, and retail sectors (amongst others) also benefit. Manufacturing is benefited by tourism through food and drink product manufacturing, for example, wineries, breweries or bakeries.

These estimates do not include the economic impact of the construction and maintenance of the Trail itself, which would make the positive economic impacts higher still.

1. INTRODUCTION

SGS Economics and Planning (SGS), as part of a team led by Hassell, has been commissioned to develop a Dinosaur Trail Master Plan. The Vision of this Plan is to grow the Bass Coast visitor economy by capitalising on the fascinating and unique Dinosaur Trail story in a sustainable and profitable way.

SGS has completed the following analyses:

1. An assessment of the **current demographics and economy** of the Bass Coast region. This was to identify any socio-economic factors that might support the development of a trail (like economic disadvantage) and particular industries that will benefit from the creation of the pathway such as hospitality, retail, tourism operators, and accommodation providers.
2. **Visitor demand assessment** to understand how many people currently visit the area. Forecasts will be made for future visitation to the area, with and without the Trail.
3. **An economic impact assessment** will be used to broadly outline the potential of economic growth through infrastructure installation and visitor attraction in terms of contribution to local GRP and employment. Economic impacts are considered both directly, and across connected experiences, additional offers and other visitor attractions and destinations in the Bass Coast Region.

2. CURRENT DEMOGRAPHICS AND ECONOMY

This chapter provides a socio-economic analysis of the Region (Bass Coast).

2.1 Socio-economic profile

Population

Bass Coast has been experiencing population growth of between 1.5% and 1.9% over the past few years, as shown in Figure 1. While there were fluctuations in population, this growth is forecasted to continue beyond 2030. The projected incline is estimated to be around 1.6% of growth per annum up to 2030. The Bass Coast Region will experience a 30.66% increase in population from 2020 to 2036.

FIGURE 1: POPULATION GROWTH IN THE BASS COAST LGA



Figure 2 considers the Bass Coast's age profile. It shows that compared to Victoria (in 2016) the proportion of people aged 0-49 in Bass Coast is much lower, particularly those aged 20 to 34. Conversely, the portion of the population aged 50 and above is higher. The data reflects an ageing population and that young people tend to leave the area in their late teens and early twenties in search of employment and education opportunities elsewhere. Approximately 30% of the resident population is over the age of 60.

The figure also shows the age profile for Bass Coast in 2006 (the dotted line). Since 2006 the Bass Coast community has become older, and the gap in the working-age population in comparison to Victoria has grown more pronounced. For Bass Coast, the median age of the population in 2006 was 46, rising to 50 by 2016. The median age is significantly higher than the median for Victoria (37 years).

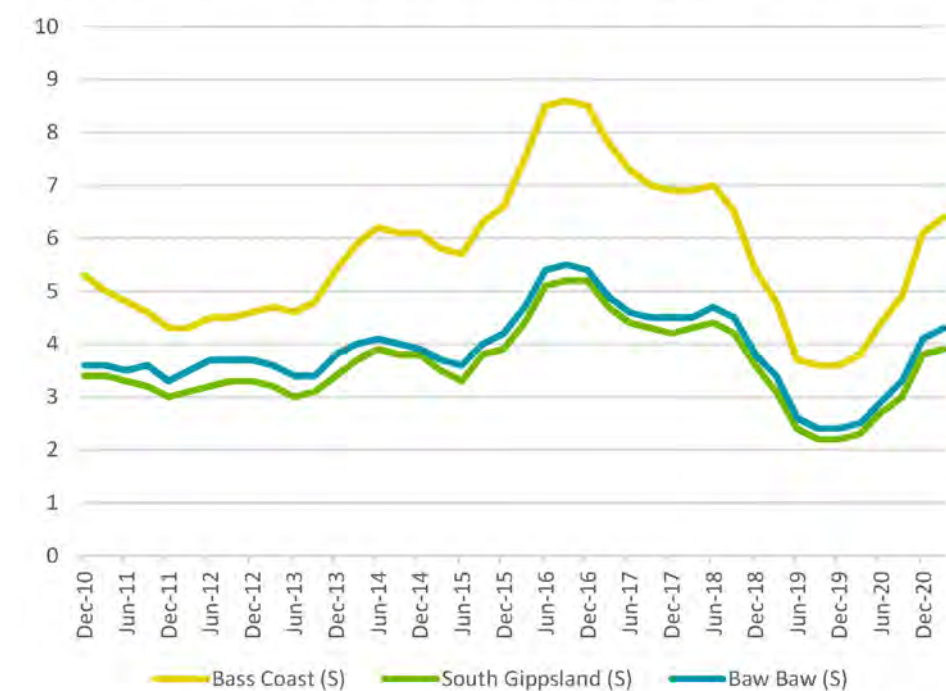
FIGURE 2: AGE PROFILE OF BASS COAST AREA IN COMPARISON TO VICTORIA



Source: ABS 2006 - 2016 Censuses - Counting Persons, Place of Usual Residence (M8). Age in Five Year Groups

The region has been experiencing rates of unemployment higher than neighbouring areas (see FIGURE 3). Unemployment rates have been rising in recent years, with the COVID-19 pandemic being a main factor. The shortage of jobs presents a challenge for the region, with a need to create economic activity (and employment) to support and enhance the quality of life of residents, particularly with the strong growth in population forecast.

FIGURE 3: BASS COAST LGA UNEMPLOYMENT RATE COMPARED TO NEARBY LGAS (2010-2020)



Source: SGS Economics and Planning (2021), Australian Department of Employment (2019) Small Area Labour Markets — March quarter 2021 (2021)

Two other demographic indicators for Bass Coast further demonstrate the need for an economic stimulus. Median household incomes are also lower than those generally across Victoria, with households experiencing a median income one third less than the average Victorian household.

TABLE 1: STATISTICS FROM THE ABS CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING 2016

Indicator	Bass Coast ^a	Victoria
Unemployed	7.1%	6.6%
Median household income	\$922	\$1,419
SEIFA Index of Relative Socio-economic disadvantage ¹	941 (Quintile 2)	

^adefined as the ABS LGA of Bass Coast

Source: ABS Census of Population and Housing 2016 and ABS Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), 2017

The SEIFA Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD) is a general socio-economic index that summarises a range of information about the economic and social conditions of people and households within an area. A low score indicates a relatively greater disadvantage in general compared to Victoria. For example, an area could have a low score if there are many households with low income, many people with no qualifications, or many people in low skill occupations. Bass Coast Region has a low IRSD score and is placed in the second-lowest 20% of areas (21-40%) for disadvantage (quintile 2) in Victoria.

If growth opportunities in tourism, or other industries, are not captured, Bass Coast risks deepening current levels of social and economic disadvantage and disengagement.

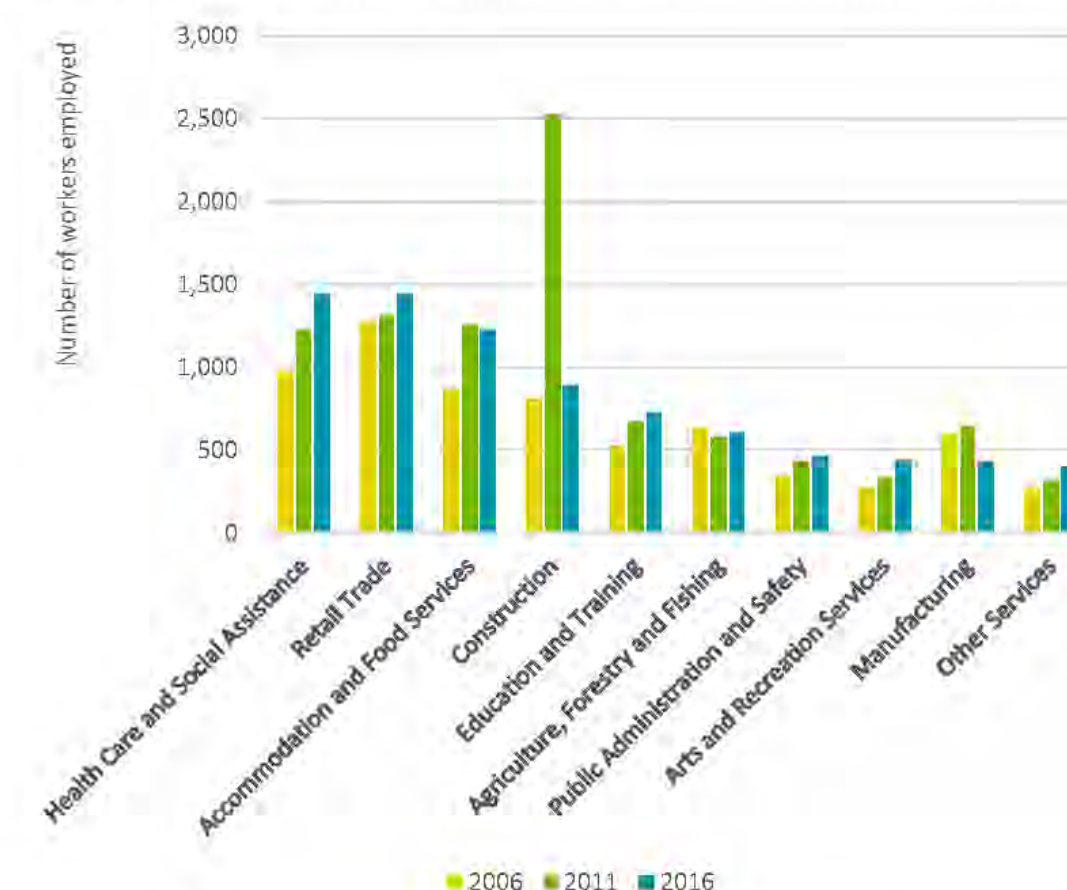
Economic profile

Major industries

The Bass Coast region has stayed relatively constant in business activity over the past decade; however, it appears to have lagged behind Victoria's overall growth.

Export industries (agriculture; forestry and fishing; manufacturing) have remained some of the largest industries for employment in the Bass Coast region (Figure 4). Historically, cattle and dairy farming has been the backbone for much of the region's GRP. Nonetheless, there is a change in economic structure with a steady transition away from traditional industries to population-serving industries, including construction, retail, and health and social assistance,, as shown in Figure 4.

FIGURE 4: EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY IN BASS COAST (TEN LARGEST INDUSTRIES RANKED BY 2016 SIZE)



Source: ABS 2006 - 2016 Censuses - Counting Employed Persons, Place of Work (POW), Industry of employment

The chart also highlights the growth in local tourism and hospitality industries, with a high number of jobs within the accommodation and food-service sector. In fact, in terms of tourism, Bass Coast is the second most dependent shire on tourism in Australia, second to Uluru (Bass Coast Shire Council, 2015). While tourism offers many advantages to regional towns, the economy is volatile to high-risk shocks. For example, the 2019-2020 summer bushfires and the fall-out from COVID19 travel-restrictions have had a negative impact on regional, tourism-reliant economics.

For at-risk regional towns, such as those in Bass Coast, support for economic recovery should include investment in new infrastructure, including tourism assets, to aid recovery.

Visitor economy profile

Tourism is one of the region's main economic drivers with over one-third of its population employed by the tourism industry. There are currently 439 businesses that contribute to this sector. It's important to note that majority of these businesses are small, typically 'family-owned' business, with approximately 75% either non-employing or have less than four employees. Only 5% of these businesses have 20 or more employees. Major employees include large resorts and attractions, such as Phillip Island Nature Parks, RACV Inverloch Resort and Silverwater Resort.

Before the pandemic, tourism was estimated to be worth \$395 million to the region's economy² (in direct and indirect Gross Regional Product), representing 34.7 per cent of the region's economy. Tourism generated employment of approximately 4,300 people or 35.0 per

² Measured for the ABS Tourism Region of Phillip Island which closely aligns with the Bass Coast LGA and includes Phillip Island, Wonthaggi and Inverloch.

A recent survey indicated that nature-based or other outdoor activities and learning something new are some of the main reasons for visiting regional Australia (Figure 5 and Figure 6). The survey also revealed that it is important, especially for domestic visitors, for the destination to be easy to travel to. These preferences, for easily accessible outdoor activities, represents an opportunity for Bass Coast. Bass Coast has excellent natural resources and is only 90 minutes away from Melbourne CBD.



9

3. REGIONAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

3.1 Introduction

The Bass Coast LGA and Phillip Island tourism region needs additional economic opportunities and jobs. As an important contributor to the local economy, the tourism industry is a priority sector for the region. Tourism is an important contributor to the sustainable development of regional areas. It is often advocated as a means for diversifying in rural and regional economies, by providing alternative sources of employment and income generation, in times of transition from traditional industries such as agriculture and forestry.

The task of economic development has become difficult for many regional towns in Victoria as traditional regionally-based industries such as agriculture and manufacturing have contracted, replaced by more knowledge-intensive professions, typically in larger cities.

Publicly-funded tourism infrastructure like the Trail should improve a destination's appeal to visitors by creating or updating unique experiences or by improving access to existing tourism attractions. Tourism infrastructure benefits not just visitors, but local communities as well through improved amenity and greater economic and employment opportunities.

In addition, the provision of publicly funded tourism infrastructure can lead to additional investment by the private sector in complementary products and services, including accommodation, attractions, and hospitality venues. This creates further employment opportunities and makes towns and regions better places to live.

Other positive impacts of tourism include:

- Helps preserve rural services like buses, local high street shops and post offices
- Increases demand for local food and crafts
- Tourists mainly come to see the scenery and wildlife, so there is pressure to conserve habitats and wildlife
- Tourist developments can provide new places for recreation
- Can diversify a region's tourist offer and relieve pressure on over-visited sites

3.2 Visitor impact

The development of the Trail presents as an opportunity to expand the visitor economy in Bass Coast, marginally improving the value of exports from the region. Exports refer to any product or service which is traded to anyone outside of the region, for example, the development of the tourism sector in this case. Tourism exports include new visitors drawn to visit the area due to the Trail who spend money in the local economy, for example getting lunch, fuel, or souvenirs etc. Capturing a larger share of passing traffic would also provide economic benefits to the region even if overall visitation does not increase.

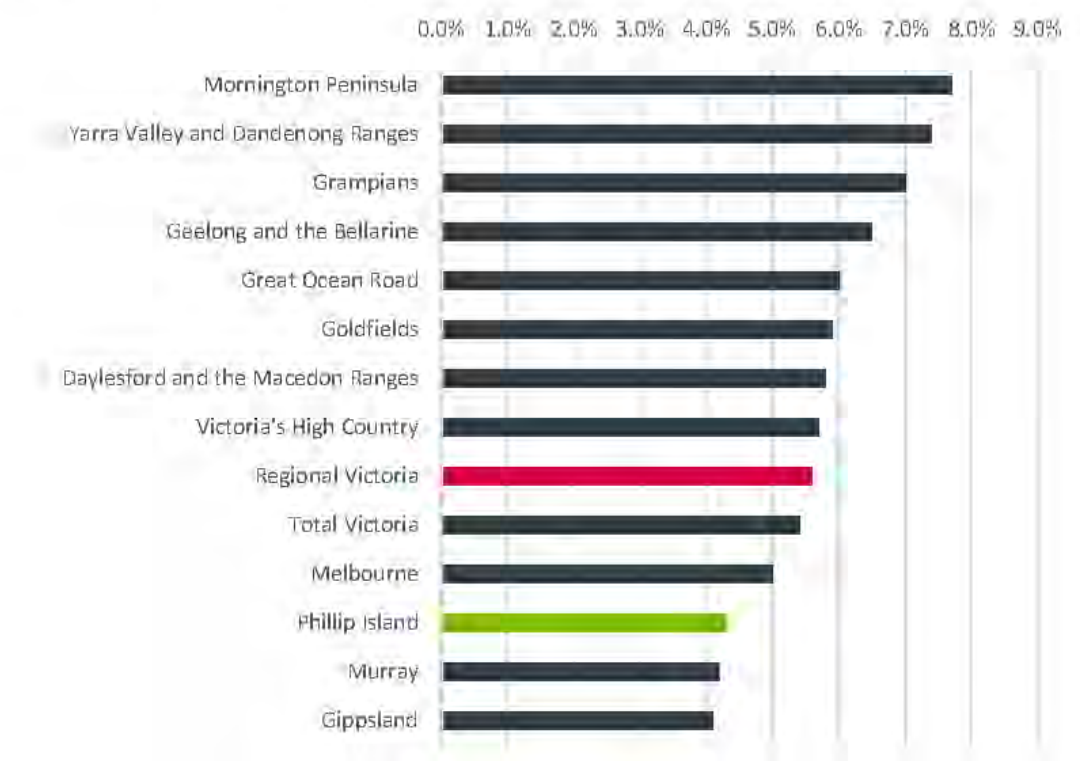
New income injected into the local economy is highly beneficial as the income creates a multiplier effect as businesses draw on local suppliers and workers to meet the increased demand from external customers. This multiplier effect, over time, would allow local businesses to invest in new equipment, hire more people and pay higher wages. Greater economic activity also means higher government revenues and more money to spend on better quality services for the community. Economic development enables a higher standard of living for people.

The proposed Dinosaur Trail and related visitor infrastructure will provide Bass Coast with a new iconic landmark attraction drawing attention. The attraction will make the area a more desirable destination for tourism and aims to assist in reducing visitor congestion and offer

support in achieving a more environmentally and socially sustainable visitor experience that is supported by the community.

Between 2011 and the end of 2020 (before COVID-19), the Phillip Island Tourism Region, including Wonthaggi and Inverloch, experienced an average annual growth rate (AAGR) in visitors of 4.3 per cent per annum (Tourism Research Australia, 2021). This growth in visits has been lower than the growth rates experienced in Victoria and Regional Victoria generally. Visitor numbers have increased by 5.6 per cent per annum over the same period in Regional Victoria. This difference means that Bass Coast has been losing market share in comparison to the rest of Regional Victoria, but also other destinations like the Mornington Peninsula, Yarra Valley and the Grampians.

FIGURE 7: ANNUAL AVERAGE GROWTH RATES (AAGR) IN VISITORS BY VICTORIAN TOURISM REGION



Source: SGS Economics and Planning using the National Visitor Survey, Tourism Research Australia (2021)

The proposed Trail and related visitor infrastructure will provide Bass Coast with a new iconic landmark drawing attention. The attraction will make the area a more desirable destination for tourism.

For the assessment, SGS made a series of assumptions to estimate the increase in new visitors to the region that could feasibly be attributed to the new Trail. Existing visitors and expected growth in the region without the Trail are not considered as these visitors would have spent money in the region regardless.

The proposed trail has been assumed to increase visitor numbers to the Wonthaggi- Inverloch sub-region of the Bass Coast in three ways:

- The COVID recession during 2020/21 has resulted in a significant decline in visitor arrivals. The development of the Dinosaur Trail will allow the region to recover quicker than if the trail is not developed.
- Adding an iconic tourist feature will increase overall visitor numbers over the medium and long-term.
- There will be an increase in visitor nights to Bass Coast as a share of the visitors will choose to stay in the region overnight

Figure 8, developed by SGS, shows historical and forecast visitor numbers in Wonthaggi-Inverloch (Phillip Island) sub-region.

The Base Case (green line) assumes that visitation will return to pre-COVID levels by 2025³. But with the development of the Dinosaur Trail, visitor numbers will return to pre-COVID arrivals earlier, assumed to be one year earlier in 2024.

After the COVID recovery, the Base Case forecast (green line) assumes that the AAGR of visitors will match current levels (80% of the Victorian growth rate (as shown in Figure 7), equivalent to 2% per annum), and Bass Coast will fall further behind the rest of Victoria as a visitor destination.

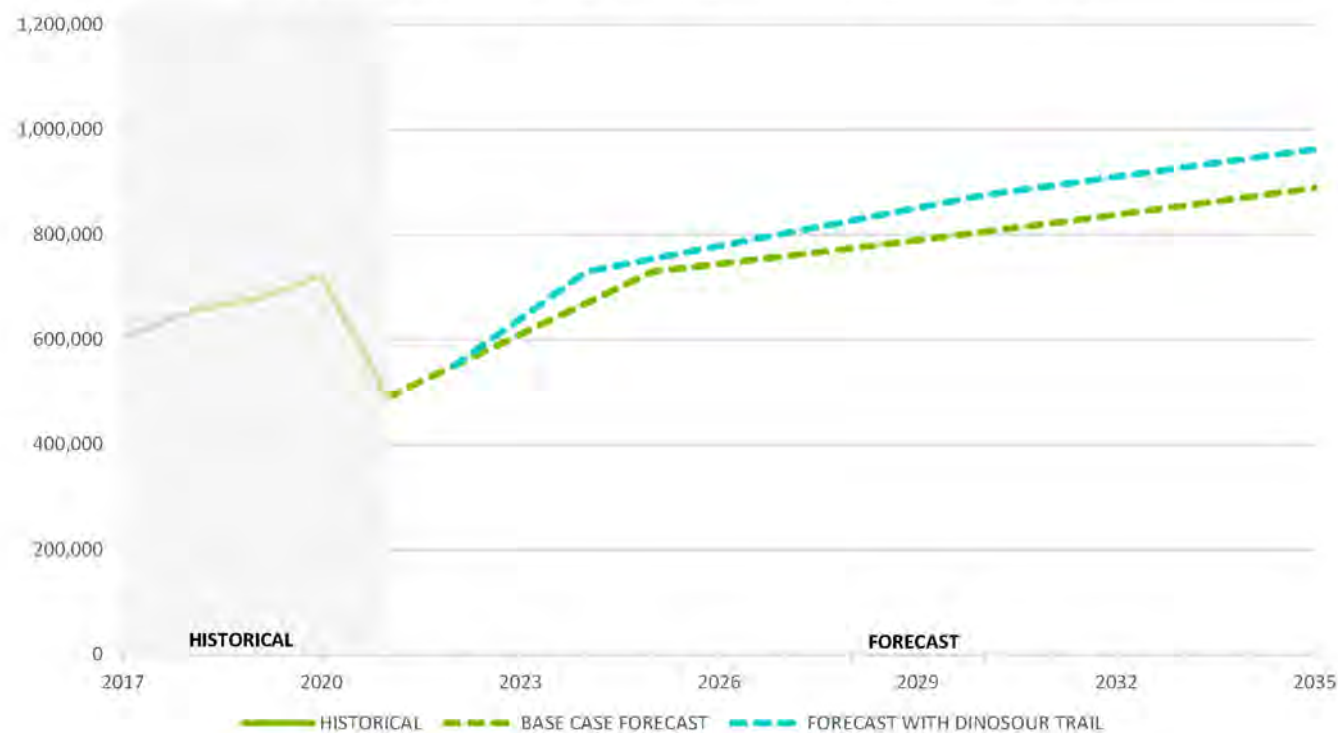
The blue line is the project scenario with the Dinosaur Trail and shows the forecast visitor numbers to the region after the Trail's development. The Bass Coast Dinosaur Tourism Master Plan outlines that:

- In the medium term (2025-2030), total visitation to Wonthaggi - Inverloch will increase to 801,900 to 874,800 based on the completion of the Dinosaurs Trail infrastructure and that the Trail is entrenched into education and school programs, and the assumption that international visitation will return to Phillip Island at pre-COVID levels (SGS has used the mid-point of this range).
- In the longer term (2030 and beyond), an additional 10% growth in visitation can be realised with a target visitation level increasing to 962,000.

If the Trail, acting as a core piece of infrastructure to be developed around, results in the projected visitation rising. The Project Case will see visitors to the sub-region increase by 74,000 per annum by 2035 over the Base Case. This is an increase in visits of 8 per cent over a scenario where the Trail is not developed. The increased visitation will be a mix of international and domestic.

These forecasts (reflected in the blue line in the chart) have been used to estimate the Trail's economic impact from increased visitation.

FIGURE 8: HISTORICAL AND FORECAST VISITS TO WONTHAGGI- INVERLOCH SUBREGION



³ 729,000 for Wonthaggi- Inverloch subregion

3.3 Visitor expenditure impacts

One of the main objectives in the creation of a demand driving signature attraction for the region is to attract an increase in overall tourist expenditure for economic development.

Visitor expenditure in the region, prior to the impacts of COVID-19, was estimated at \$578 million (TRA, 2019). The expenditure includes:

- Domestic overnight expenditure of \$416 million, with visitors spending an average of \$142 per night and \$383 per visitor.
- Daytrip visitors spent an estimated \$137 million, spending an average of \$90 a day.
- International overnight expenditure estimated to be \$26 million, with international guests spending \$451 per visitor in the region.

Using these per visitor expenditure estimates from TRA, an additional 74,000 visitors to the region per annum by 2035 (as shown in Figure 8) will result in additional visitor expenditure in the region of \$7.1 million per annum by 2035 (\$90 per person per day). Over the period from the present to 2035, this equates to an increase in expenditure of \$62.9 million.

If it is assumed that 1 in 4 of the new visitors also stay the night in the region due to the Trail, this increases expenditure further. The additional visitor nights generate an additional \$7.3 million in visitor expenditure to 2035.

The additional spending will have economic benefits for the Bass Coast in terms of size of local economy size employment.

3.4 Economic Impact Assessment

This section presents the findings of an economic impact assessment of the proposal on the Bass Coast economy in terms of contribution to gross regional product and local employment.

An economic impact assessment (EIA) differs from the CBA in that it provides no judgement on the overall benefit of the project compared to the costs. EIA does not assess the merits of a project but traces how project implementation influences overall economic activity levels over time, e.g., jobs creation and income generation.

The assessment model

An economic impact assessment (EIA) is utilised to estimate the economic impact of the stimulus generated by the Trail, which results in changes to total economic activity levels after measuring the cumulative effects of all the buyer/ supplier transactions.

The steps in undertaking an EIA include:

1. Isolating how the offer will stimulate the Bass Coast economy. These are direct impacts and include the money spent by new visitors. The capital costs of construction and maintenance are other direct stimuli, but have not been included in this analysis.
2. Tracing how visitors spend money in different industries during their trip to Bass Coast.
3. Generating region-specific econometric models and subsequently deriving economic multipliers for major industry groups, i.e. construction, food and beverage services, arts and recreation services and so on.
4. Applying these multipliers (by relevant industry group) to the direct impacts to estimate total regional impacts in terms of value-added and employment. The modelling represents how money 'flows' through the economy. For example, a visitor to the region to visit the Trail may not have to pay an entry fee but will purchase meals and beverages, equipment, petrol, and perhaps even stay the night, visit other attractions or do a tour. This money accrues to the business but also their suppliers. This chain of transactions generates further economic activity in the Bass Coast economy.

Consideration of the economic impacts is in terms of value-added to gross regional product (GRP) and employment (full-time equivalent jobs). Value-added is a broad measure of the income effect. This measure essentially reflects the sum of wage income and business profit generated. Employment is measured as annual full-time equivalent jobs (FTE).

The impacts are considered from a Bass Coast local government area perspective.

Economic Impact results

By 2035, the increase in tourist expenditure can be expected to generate \$36 million in direct value-added and support 418 FTE new and existing jobs (one job is one FTE job for 12 months) in the Bass Coast's hotels, restaurants, cafes, stores, visitor attractions and other places tourists visit.

In addition, supplier and contractor linkages lead to flow-on (or indirect) effects as the stimulus circulates through the local economy. This flow-on impact, which are shown in the table below, sum to give a total impact. When the flow-on effects are incorporated, this stimulus translates to a combined (direct and indirect) economic impact of:

- Value-added to GRP \$99.2 million to 2035
- Employment 513 FTE annual jobs supported to 2035

TABLE 2: TOTAL TOURISM IMPACTS – BASS COAST LGA

Source of Stimulus	Value-added to GRP	Employment (FTE)
Direct	\$36.2 million	418
Indirect flow on impacts	\$62.9 million	95
Total	\$99.2 million	513

Source: SGS Economics and Planning, 2021

On a per annum basis, this equates to a total value-added to the economy of \$11.2 million in 2035, supporting 58 jobs in the region.

The majority of GRP and employment is captured in the accommodation and food services industry. Still, the local arts and recreation services, manufacturing, and retail sectors (amongst others) also benefit. Manufacturing is benefited by tourism through food and drink product manufacturing, for example, wineries, breweries or bakeries.

3.5 Contributing factors to expenditure

The Trail will contribute significantly to the existing tourism offer, visitor demand and expenditure. These changes are expected to increase the number of visitors.

The above economic estimates are based on current average expenditure levels per person, but if higher spending visitors can be attracted, the expenditure per visitor, or yield, will increase. The key drivers impacting the increase in spending will be the following:

Accommodation as an experience

Many of the existing accommodation options in the region are dated and in need of a refresh and an upgrade, or new offers added. Higher quality accommodation with greater comfort, modernity and cleanliness can attract a higher price and visitors who will spend more money elsewhere.

Accommodation can represent more than a practical solution to house visitors. A unique experience for guests can be a demand attractor in their own right. A range of additional services and events offered to guests that are inaccessible to other visitors provide a premium experience, which in turn generates a premium for revenue. Provision of accommodation onsite increasing the self-containment of a tourism destination, capturing additional expenditure. The creation of a unique accommodation experience building on the

natural and cultural assets of the precincts provides a significant opportunity to build a unique experience. The provision of different experiences should be considered to capture tourists with different budgets and interests.

Improve food and drink offering

At present, the food and drink offering is limited. Any potential visitors who do not wish to self-cater have a limited range of high-quality options. Many travellers take into consideration high-quality restaurants and bars when choosing a destination.

Improved activities

Adding new attractions has the potential to encourage more visitor numbers and encourage visitors to stay longer, e.g. three nights instead of two. Potential visitors who can be assured that there are a number of activities in addition to the natural offer will feel confident booking longer stays.

Repackage the tourist offer

There is an opportunity to develop visitor itineraries and packages including accommodation, transport (personal or gear) and trail entry points that allows guests to experience a broad range of experiences easily. Visitors are willing to pay more money for convenience and well organised trips.

Partnerships with other operators and businesses can drive success for all

Partnering with nearby tourism operators and local businesses can also increase visitation across the region's attractions and develop an identity for the broader area.

Partnerships could focus on the creation of a tourism trail, linking key attractors and marketing the unique experiences of the region. Partnerships with organisations should be pursued to drive overnight and multi-night stays in the region and generating additional visitor expenditure across the region.

The financial viability of tours, café, shops etc. are dependent on a critical mass of visitors coming to the area to stay and whether they spend money. Increasing the number of people who visit connected towns will be necessary to ensure that there are sufficient visitors in the area to make these businesses viable, which will then attract additional visitors if offered at a high quality.



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B. ECOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL ASSESSMENT

28th August 2021

Adam Gardner
Landscape Architect
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Dear Adam,

Dinosaur Trail Masterplan – Cultural heritage letter of advice

Our reference: 34091

This letter of advice outlines the results of our investigation into the eight locations to be included in the Dinosaur Trail masterplan. After review of the background information and the proposed additional works, our advice is as follows:

Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

As there is presently no defined activity or Activity Area for the project, detailed advice regarding legislative obligations cannot be given at this stage. The Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC) heritage advisors have advised that a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) be prepared for the proposed works, either as a voluntary or mandatory CHMP. It is recommended that a CHMP should be undertaken for the proposed works.

Heritage Act 2017

The research has found that a number of historical sites registered on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) and the Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI) lie within the Wonthaggi 2 study area. Consultation with Heritage Victoria is recommended to determine if a consent, permit or exemption is required for the proposed installation.

Planning and Environment Act 1997

The research has found that a site on the Heritage Overlay lies in the Wonthaggi 2 study area. There may, therefore, be a requirement for a Bass Coast Shire Council permit. Consultation with the Shire Council is recommended to determine if a permit or exemption is required for the proposed installation.

Further information on these conclusions is included below. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Carpenter', with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Daniel Carpenter
Consultant Archaeologist

Definitions

'Study area' – is the eight locations marked on Figure 1. These locations will be referred to in the following manner:

- Inverloch
- The Caves
- The Eagles Nest
- Wonthaggi 1
- Wonthaggi 2
- Kilcunda
- San Remo 1
- San Remo 2

'Activity' – this letter is intend to aid the development of the Dinosaur Trail Masterplan. This document will be used as a creative brief for artists to develop installations illustrating the rich paleontological history of the area. Therefore, the actual 'activities' have yet to be defined.

Description of the study areas

The study areas are all situated on the coast between Inverloch and San Remo, approximately 100 kilometres to the south-east of Melbourne. The exceptions to this are the two Wonthaggi study areas that lie approximately 3.5 kilometres inland from the coast. The distance between the most easterly and most westerly study areas is approximately 40 kilometres.

The locations of each of the study areas are shown in Figures 1.1 to 1.5. Detailed maps of each study area with the locations of existing registered Aboriginal places and the search radius for each study area are shown in Figures 2.1 to 2.7.

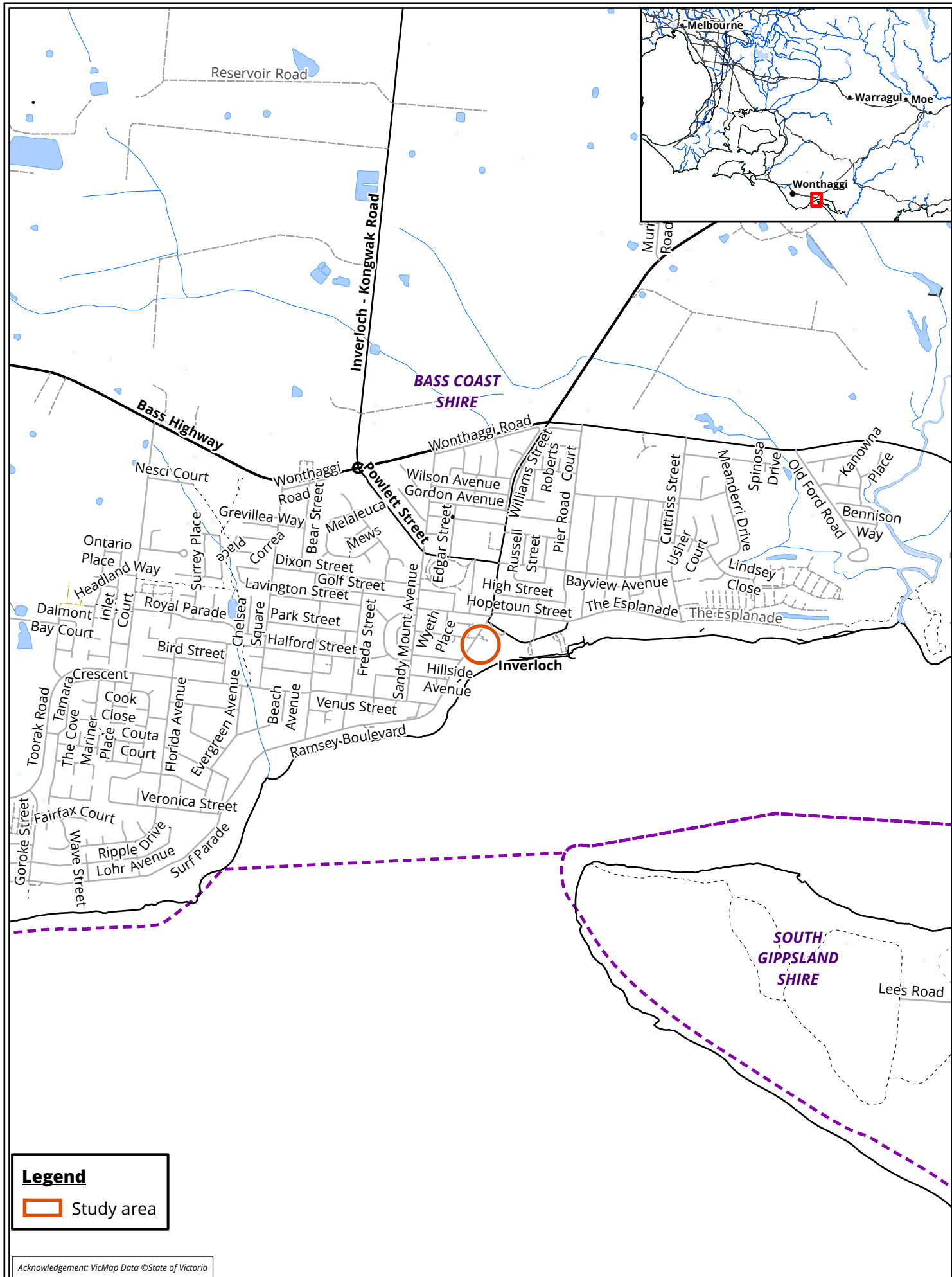


**Figure 1 Location of the study area - Bass Coast
Dinosaur Trail, Inverloch, Victoria**

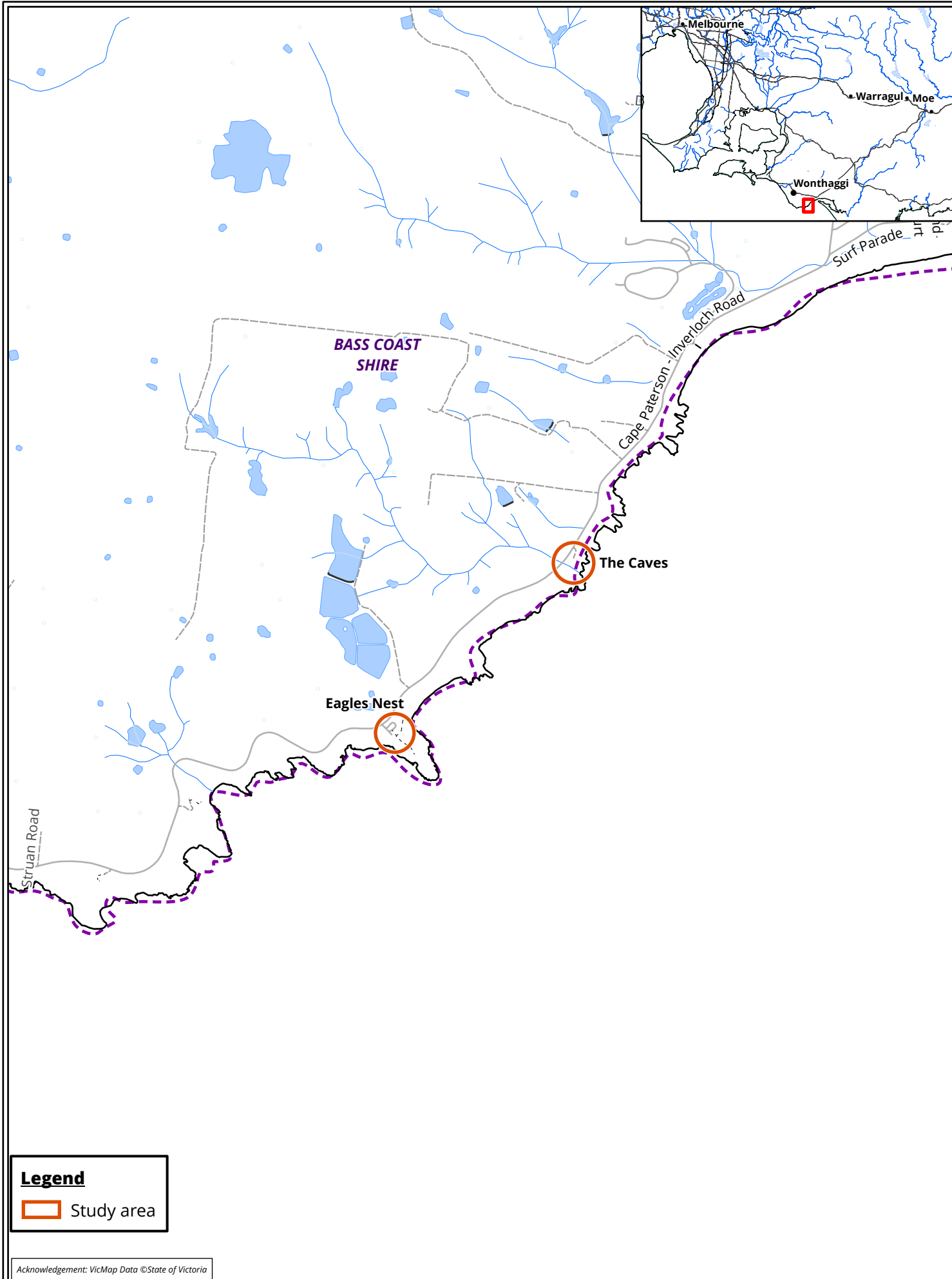


**Figure 1 Location of the study area - Bass Coast
Dinosaur Trail, The Caves & Eagles Nest, Victoria**

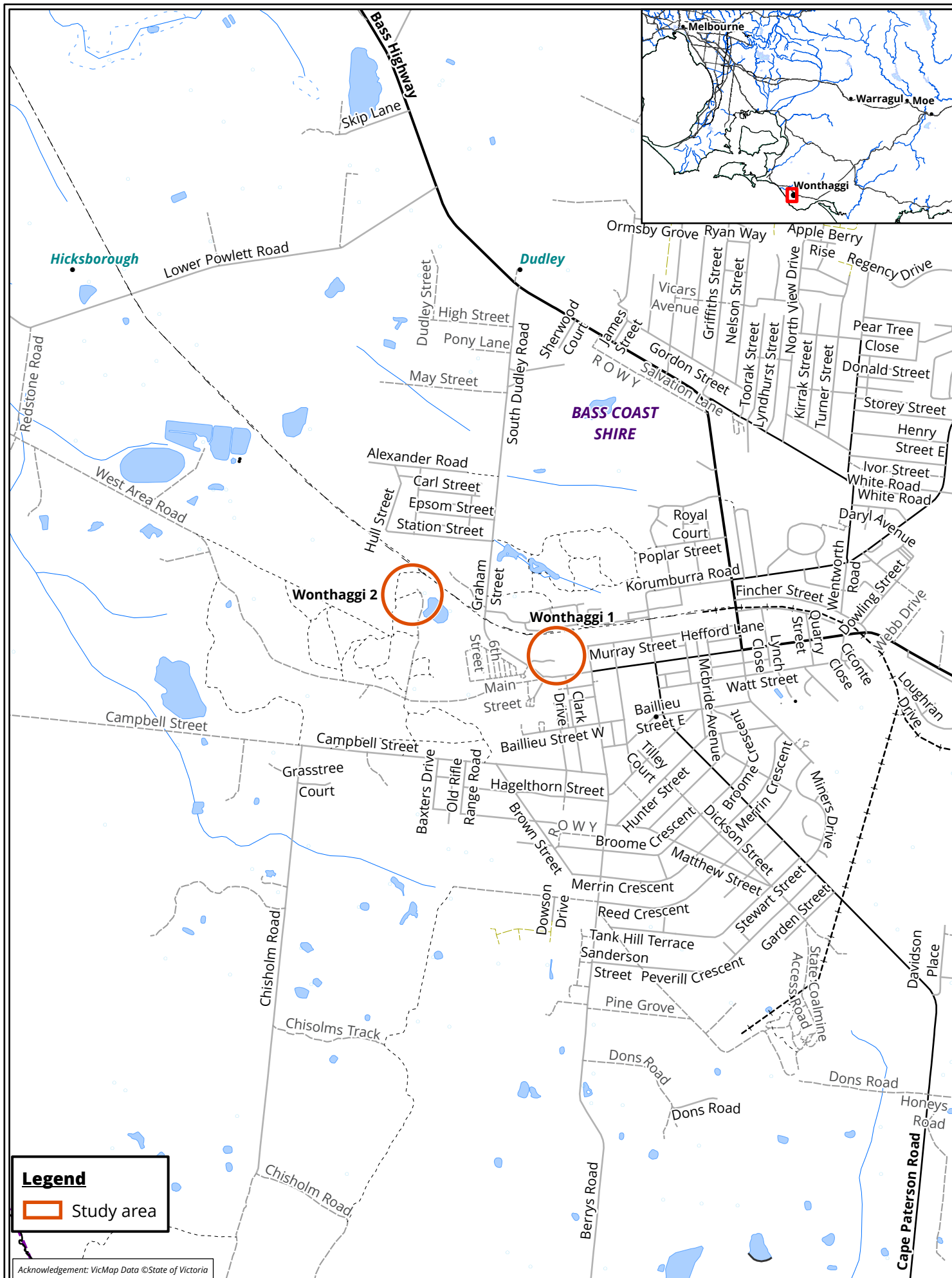


**Figure 1 Location of the study area - Bass Coast
Dinosaur Trail, Wonthaggi sites 1 & 2, Victoria**

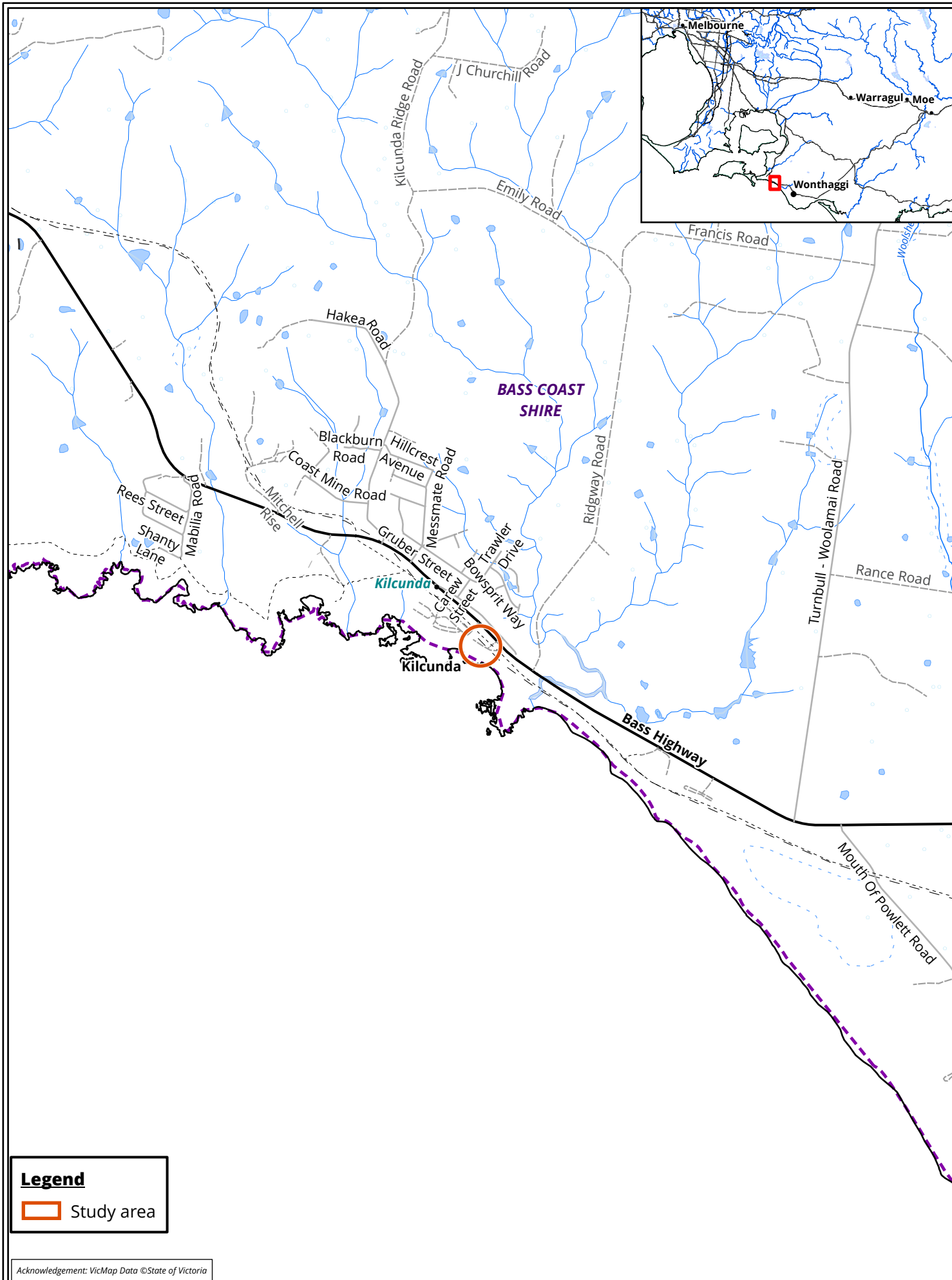


**Figure 1 Location of the study area - Bass Coast
Dinosaur Trail, Kilcunda, Victoria**

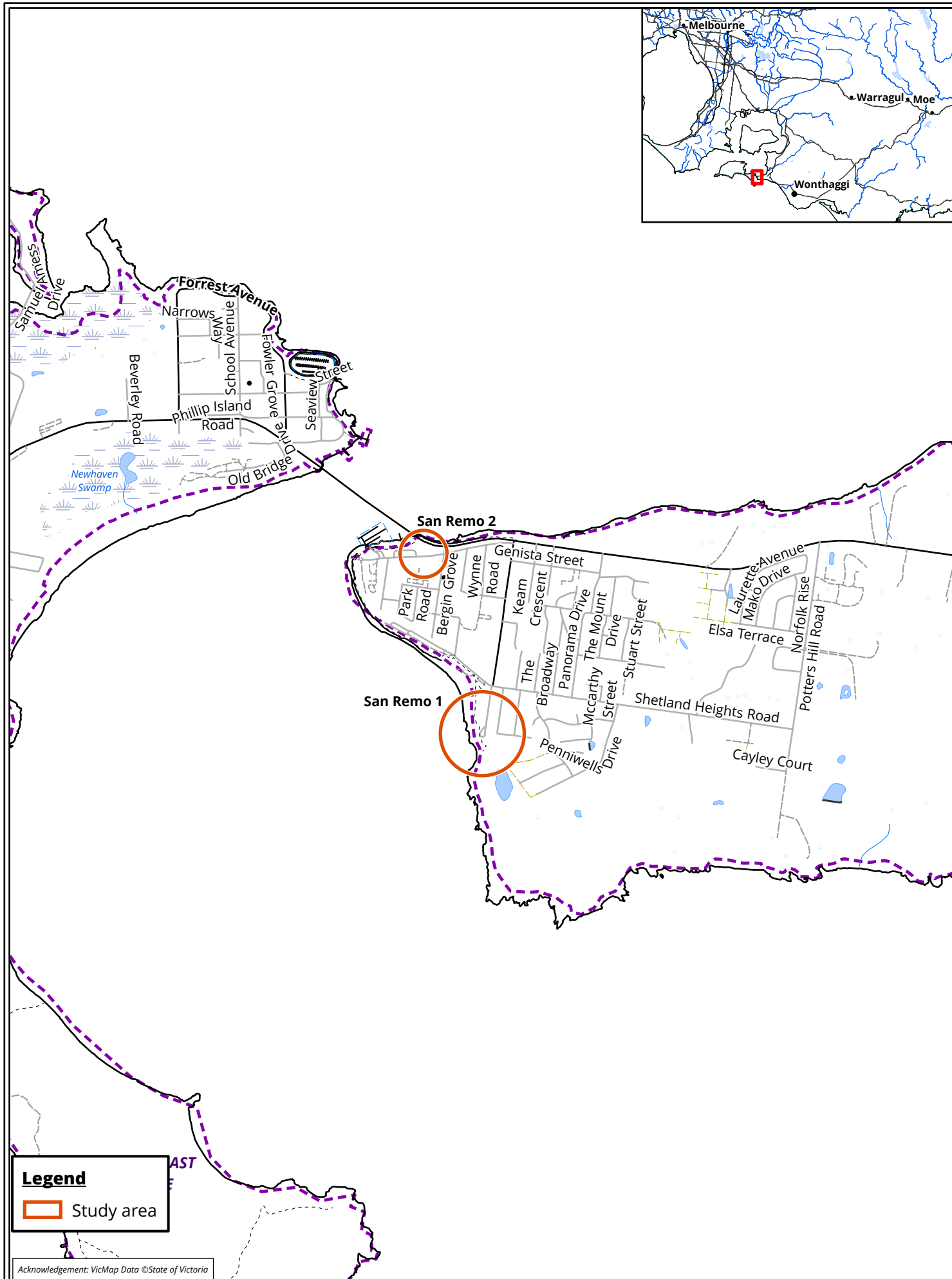
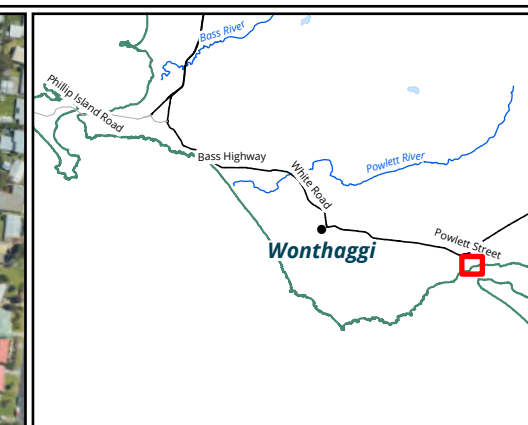


**Figure 1 Location of the study area - Bass Coast
Dinosaur Trail, San Remo sites 1 & 2, Victoria**



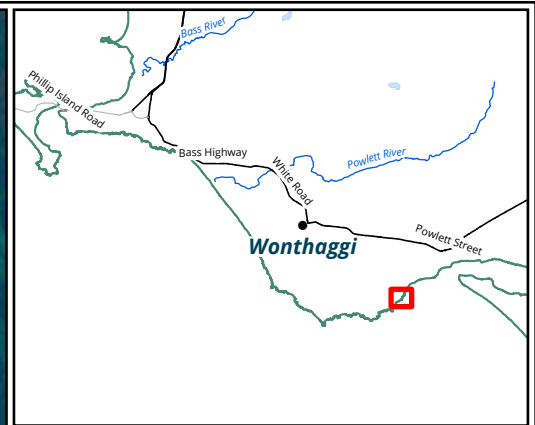
- Legend**
- Activity Area
 - Search radius
 - Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place

Figure 2.1 Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) place locations in the vicinity of the study area, Inverloch

0 30 60 90 120 150
Metres
Scale: 1:5,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



Matter: 34091,
Date: 28 September 2021 ,
Prepared for: DC, Prepared by: MK, Last edited by: mknudsen
Layout: 34091_F2_AHIMS
Project: P:\34000s\34091\mapping\
34091_Dino_Trail_heritage.aprx



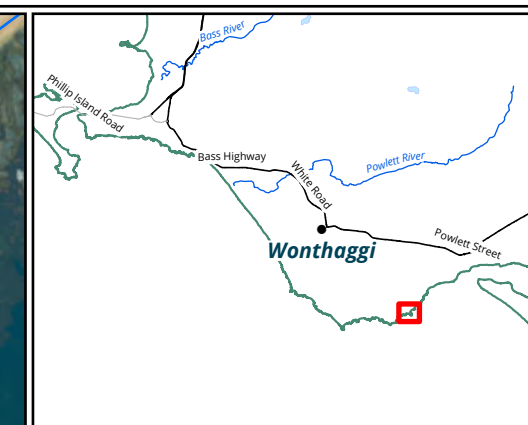
- Legend**
-  Activity Area
 -  Search radius
 -  Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place

Figure 2.2 Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register(VAHR) place locations in the vicinity of the study area, The Caves

0 30 60 90 120 150
Metres
Scale: 1:5,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



Matter: 34091,
Date: 28 September 2021 ,
Prepared for: DC, Prepared by: MK, Last edited by: mknudsen
Layout: 34091_F2_AHIMS
Project: P:\34000s\34091\Mapping\
34091_Dino_Trail_heritage.aprx



Legend

-  Activity Area
-  Search radius
-  Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place

Figure 2.3 Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register(VAHR) place locations in the vicinity of the study area, Eagles Nest

0 30 60 90 120 150

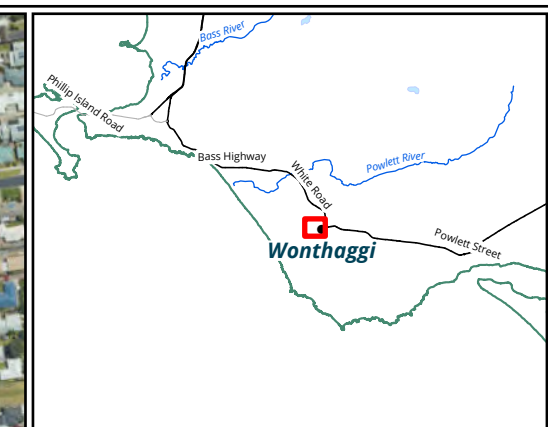
Metres

Scale: 1:5,000 @ A3

Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



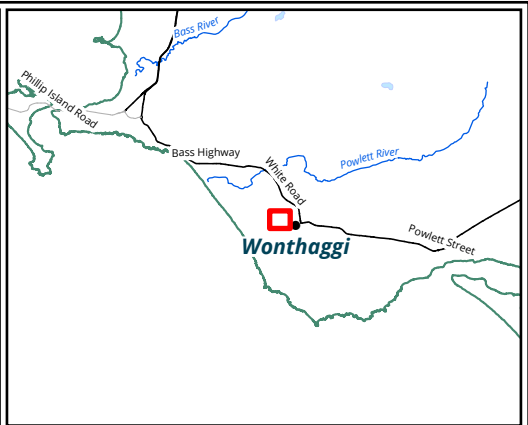
Matter: 34091,
Date: 28 September 2021 ,
Prepared for: DC, Prepared by: MK, Last edited by: mknudsen
Layout: 34091_F2_AHIMS
Project: P:\34000s\34091\Mapping\
34091_Dino_Trail_heritage.aprx



- Legend**
- Activity Area
 - Search radius
 - Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place
 - Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place

Figure 2.4 Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register(VAHR) place locations in the vicinity of the study area, Wonthaggi 1

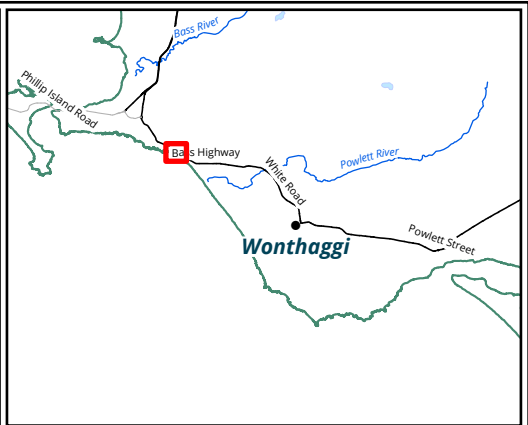
0 30 60 90 120 150
Metres
Scale: 1:5,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



- Legend**
- Activity Area
 - Search radius
 - Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place
 - Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place

Figure 2.5 Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register(VAHR) place locations in the vicinity of the study area, Wonthaggi 2

0 30 60 90 120 150
Metres
Scale: 1:5,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



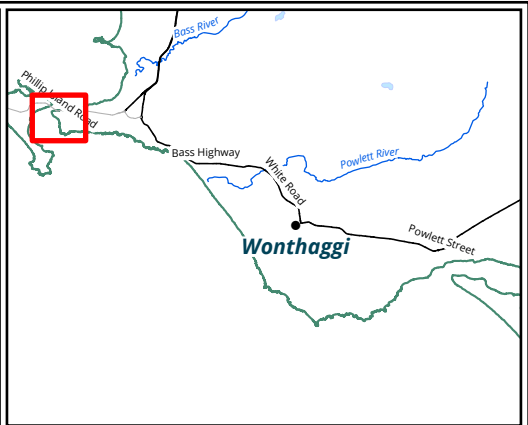
- Legend**
- Activity Area
 - Search radius
 - Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place

Figure 2.6 Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register(VAHR) place locations in the vicinity of the study area, Kilcunda

0 30 60 90 120 150
Metres
Scale: 1:5,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55



Matter: 34091,
Date: 28 September 2021 ,
Prepared for: DC, Prepared by: MK, Last edited by: mknudsen
Layout: 34091_F2_AHIMS
Project: P:\34000s\34091\Mapping\
34091_Dino_Trail_heritage.aprx



- Legend**
- Activity Area
 - Search radius
 - Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register (VAHR) Place

Figure 2.7 Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register(VAHR) place locations in the vicinity of the study area, San Remo Sites 1 and 2

0 80 160 240 320 400
Metres
Scale: 1:13,000 @ A3
Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55

Background Review

Method

A desktop review of the study area was undertaken to assess the known and potential Aboriginal cultural heritage at each location.

A search of the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Registry (VAHR) was undertaken by Daniel Carpenter on 31 August 2021 (Access Number 9632). A search radius of 500 metres was employed around each of the proposed locations to assess the nature of the Aboriginal places in the immediate vicinity and to review archaeological reports that have taken place nearby. A search radius of 1 kilometre was used around the San Remo study areas as the known burials in the area give it greater sensitivity. These searches showed the number and nature of Aboriginal places in the vicinity of the study areas as well as archaeological reports that have been conducted in the area. (See maps for each study area in Figures 1 and 2).

To understand disturbances that may have occurred to the study areas, a Dial Before You Dig (DBYD) search and an aerial image analysis was undertaken. A search of the VicPlan database was also conducted to determine if there were any registered historic places or Heritage Overlay sites in the study areas.

A meeting with heritage advisors from the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC) was undertaken on 1 September 2021 to gain their feedback on the proposed developments to inform the masterplan.

Limitations

The limitations of this report are that as there are no defined activities or Activity Areas, it is not possible to give determinations of legislative obligations.

Results

Inverloch

Aboriginal Places

The ACHRIS search showed that there are no registered Aboriginal places within the Inverloch study area, but there are five Aboriginal places within 500 metres (Table 1). One place (VAHR 8020-0289), which is relevant to this study area, has been summarised below.

Table 1 Aboriginal place types within 500 metres of the Inverloch study area

Place type	Number	
Artefact scatter	3	
Shell midden	2	

Total	5	
--------------	---	--

VAHR 8020-0289 Wyeth Place AS is an Aboriginal place with two artefact scatter components. Component 1 consists of 80 recorded artefacts with a further 320 predicted. Component 2 had 20 recorded artefacts with a further 120 predicted. The material types were coastal flint, crystal quartz and silcrete. These were recorded as part of the preparation of CHMP 13813 which is discussed below.

Archaeological reports

The ACHRIS search showed that there have been 16 reports conducted within the 500 metres search radius (Table 2). The majority of these are large regional studies that have limited bearing on the study area. One report of relevance has been summarised below.

Table 2 Archaeological reports within 500 metres of the Inverloch study area

Report Type	Total
Desktop or Paper or Due Diligence or Other	11
CHMP Complex Assessment	3
Test Excavation	1
Survey	1
Grand Total	16

Orr & Butler (2016) prepared CHMP 13813 prior to the subdivision of a residential area that intersects the western side of the Inverloch study area. Their assessment was carried out to the level of a Complex Assessment due to the high likelihood for the discovery of Aboriginal places. The authors noted a high degree of disturbance and landscape modification across their Activity Area during both the Standard and Complex assessments due to the earlier development and subsequent demolition of a hotel complex. The Complex Assessment nevertheless recorded an artefact distribution (VAHR 8020-0289) comprising 80 stone artefacts recorded within a 1m x 1m Test Pit. The most common raw material type was silcrete (86%), followed by coastal flint (13%) and one crystal quartz artefact (1%).

Aerial imagery review

An aerial imagery review was conducted of the available images of the Inverloch study area between 2000 and 2020. This shows that the study area is a public park and has likely undergone landscaping and other ground modification works but no significant changes within that time.

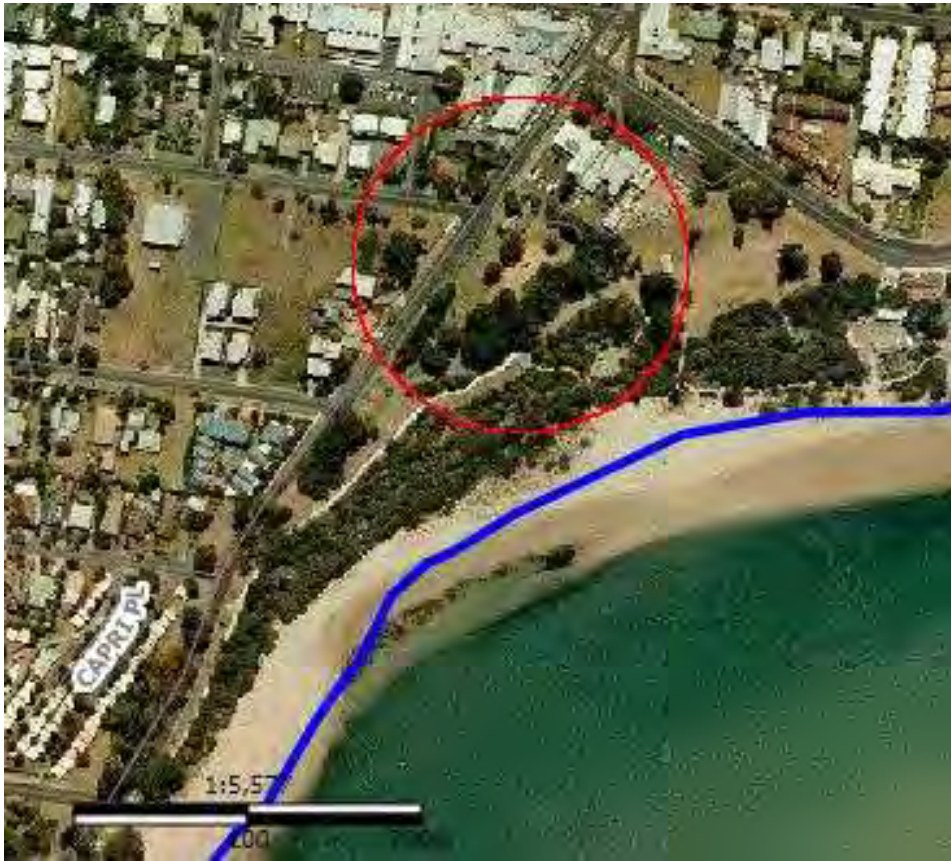


Figure 3 **Aerial image of Inverloch site 2000 (GeoVic 2021)**

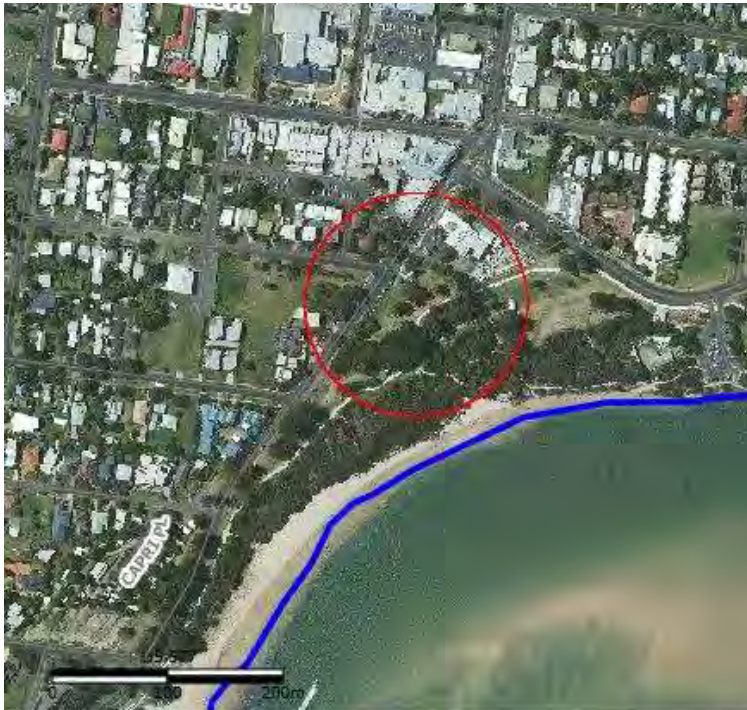


Figure 4 Aerial image of Inverloch site 2012 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 5 Aerial image of Inverloch site 2020 (GeoVic 2021)

DBYD review

A DBYD review was conducted to assess if the study area has undergone any ground disturbance from underground service installation. The review has shown that a number of underground services have been laid through the study area. Construction of the services has caused ground disturbance. The asset owners and nature of the impact are shown in Table 3.

Table 3 DBYD summary for the Inverloch study area

Service provider	Services present	Impact to study area
Bass Coast Shire	Drainage pipe running through study area	Likely that mechanical excavation has occurred at this location within study area
Multinet Gas	Underground gas pipe on opposite side of Ramsey Boulevard to study area	None
NBN	Underground cable running through study area	Likely that mechanical excavation has occurred at this location within study area
SGW Plumbing	Subsurface asset running through study area	Likely that mechanical excavation has occurred at this location within study area
Telstra	Unclear from results	Unclear
Ausnet	Underground gas pipe on same side of Ramsey Boulevard to study area	None

VicPlan search – historical places and Heritage Overlay sites

A search of the VicPlan database has shown no sites on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR), Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI) or Heritage Overlay sites within the Inverloch study area.

The Caves

Aboriginal Places

The ACHRIS search showed that one Aboriginal place (VAHR 8020-0145 – grinding grooves site) lies within the Caves study area, and a further four places lie within 500 metres of the study area (Table 4). The details of VAHR 8020-0145 have been summarised below.

Table 4 Aboriginal place types within 500 metres of the Caves study area.

Place type	Number
Stone feature – grinding grooves	1 (within the study area)
Shell midden	4
Total	5

VAHR 8020-0145 Cave Beach Axe Grinding Grooves consists of five parallel grinding grooves on a sandstone boulder located near the base of a cliff near the Cave Beach car park. This Aboriginal place is reported to have been in good condition and with no obvious damage at the time of registration, although some signs of erosion were present at the site. The grinding grooves were identified on 03/09/2002. The place lies within the Caves study area.

Archaeological reports

The ACHRIS search showed that there have been ten reports conducted within the 500 metres search radius (Table 5). The majority of these are large regional studies that have limited bearing on the study area. One report of relevance has been summarised below.

Table 5 Archaeological reports within 500 metres of the Caves study area

Report Type	Total
Desktop or Paper or Due Diligence or Other	9
Survey	1
Grand Total	10

Rhodes (2005) prepared a report of desktop research and survey conducted 500 metres to the north of the Caves study area prior to the development of a recreational facility. This was undertaken prior to the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* 2006 and does not follow the CHMP format. Rhodes identified eight Aboriginal places on the property, which included one shell midden with a hearth feature and seven lithic artefacts, which if registered today would likely be considered a low density artefact scatter (LDAD). He noted that the background research showed that there was high potential for Aboriginal places to occur in the area, including burials.

Aerial imagery

An aerial imagery review was conducted of the available images of the Caves study area between 2000 and 2020 (Figure 6, Figure 7 and Figure 8). This shows that the study area has not undergone any significant changes within that time.



Figure 6 Aerial image of the Caves site 2000 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 7 Aerial image of the Caves site 2012 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 8 Aerial image of the Caves site 2020 (GeoVic 2021)

DBYD review

A DBYD review was conducted to assess if the study area has undergone any ground disturbance from underground service installation. The review has shown no underground services in the study area. The asset owners and nature of the impact are shown in Table 6.

Table 6 DBYD summary for the Caves study area

Service provider	Services present	Impact to study area
Bass Coast Shire	No assets	None
Multinet Gas	No assets	None
Ausnet	No assets	None
SGW Plumbing	Underground service running along Cape Patterson-Inverloch Road	None

VicPlan search – historical places and Heritage Overlay sites

A search of the VicPlan database has shown no sites on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR), Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI) or Heritage Overlay sites within the Caves study area.

Eagles Nest

Aboriginal Places

The ACHRIS search showed that one Aboriginal place (VAHR 8020-0146 – isolated artefact) has been registered on the VAHR within the Eagles Nest study area (Table 7). No other places have been recorded either within the study area itself or within 500 metres of the study area. The Aboriginal place has been summarised below.

Table 7 Aboriginal place types within 500 metres of the Eagles Nest study area.

Place type	Number
Artefact scatter	1 (within the study area)
Total	1

VAHR 8020-0146 Eagles Nest Car Park Artefact is an isolated stone artefact that was discovered and recorded on 03/09/2002 on the edge of the Eagles Nest lookout car park off Inverloch-Cape Paterson Road. The artefact is described as a worked silcrete core with five flake scars visible. It is noted that the car park had previously been surveyed and excavated but that the results from these excavations are unknown. The integrity of this Aboriginal place is also unknown, however it is likely to be highly disturbed as a result of the development of the car park. The recorded place lies within the Eagles Nest study area.

Archaeological reports

The ACHRIS search showed that there have been nine reports conducted within the 500 metres search radius, all of which are 'Desktop or Paper or Due Diligence or Other'. The majority of these are large regional studies that have limited bearing on the study area. The closest report of relevance to the study area is Rhodes (2005) which has been summarised in The Caves.

Aerial imagery

An aerial imagery review was conducted of the available images of the Eagles Nest study area between 2000 and 2020 (**Error! Reference source not found.**, **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.**). This shows that the study area has not undergone any significant changes within that time.



Figure 9 Aerial image of the Eagles Nest site 2000 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 10 Aerial image of the Eagles Nest site 2012 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 11 Aerial image of the Eagles Nest site 2020 (GeoVic 2021)

DBYD review

A DBYD review was conducted to assess if the study area has undergone any ground disturbance from underground service installation. The review has shown no underground services in the study area. The asset owners and nature of the impact are shown in Table 8.

Table 8 DBYD summary for the Eagles Nest study area

Service provider	Services present	Impact to study area
Multinet Gas	No assets	None
Ausnet	No assets	None
Telstra	Unclear from results	Unclear but unlikely

VicPlan search – historical places and Heritage Overlay sites

A search of the VicPlan database has shown no sites on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR), Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI) or Heritage Overlay sites within the Eagles Nest study area.

Wonthaggi 1 and Wonthaggi 2

Aboriginal Places

The ACHRIS search showed that there are no registered Aboriginal places on the VAHR within the Wonthaggi 1 or Wonthaggi 2 study areas, but there are five Aboriginal places within 500 metres (Table 7). Three Aboriginal places (VAHR 8020-0233, 0263 and -0234) are discussed in the review of CHMP 11072 below.

Table 9 Aboriginal place types within 500 metres of the Wonthaggi 1 and 2 study areas.

Place type	Number
Artefact scatter	4
LDAD	1
Total	5

Archaeological reports

The ACHRIS search showed that there have been 35 reports conducted within the 500 metres search radius (Table 10), including six CHMPs undertaken to Complex Assessment level. The majority of these reports are large regional studies that have limited bearing on the study area. One report of relevance has been summarised below.

Table 10 Archaeological reports within 500 metres of the Wonthaggi 1 and 2 study areas

Report Type	Total
Desktop or Paper or Due Diligence or Other	20
CHMP Complex Assessment	6
Survey	5
CHMP Desktop Assessment	2
Salvage Excavation	2
Grand Total	35

Light and Schell (2011) prepared CHMP 11072 to a Complex Assessment level just to the north of the Wonthaggi 1 location and 400 metres to the east of the Wonthaggi 2 location. This was prepared prior to a residential subdivision. The Complex Assessment consisted of the excavation of 11 1x1 metre test pits where 77 lithics were found. These were part of two previously recorded Aboriginal places VAHR 8020-0233 and -0234. A new Aboriginal place was registered (VAHR 8020-0263). VAHR 8020-0234 was located within introduced fill and VAHR 8020-0233 and -0263 were located in sandy rises. Management conditions included the protection of varying percentages of the Aboriginal places.

Aerial imagery

An aerial imagery review was conducted of the available images of the Wonthaggi 1 and 2 study areas between 2000 and 2020 (**Error! Reference source not found.**, **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.**). This shows that the study area has not undergone any significant changes within that time.



Figure 12 Aerial image of the Wonthaggi sites 2000 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 13 Aerial image of the Wonthaggi sites 2012 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 14 Aerial image of the Wonthaggi sites 2020 (GeoVic 2021)

DBYD review

A DBYD review was conducted to assess if the study area has undergone any ground disturbance from underground service installation. The review has shown that services construction has occurred in the Wonthaggi 1 study area but there are no services present in the Wonthaggi 2 study area. The asset owners and nature of the impact are shown in Table 11 and Table 12.

Table 11 DBYD summary for the Wonthaggi 1 study area

Service provider	Services present	Impact to study area
Ausnet	Overhead and underground electricity cables in the vicinity.	None
Bass Coast Shire	Subsurface drainage pipes and pits in study area	Mechanical excavation has occurred.
Multinet Gas	Subsurface gas pipes connecting residential properties in the vicinity	None
NBN	Underground cables in the vicinity but none in the study area	None
SGW Plumbing	Underground pipes in the vicinity but none in the study area	None

Table 12 DBYD summary for the Wonthaggi 2 study area

Service provider	Services present	Impact to study area
Ausnet	Underground electricity cables in the vicinity.	None
Bass Coast Shire	No services in study area	None
NBN	No services in study area	None
SGW Plumbing	No services in study area	None
Telstra	Unclear from result	Unclear, but likely no impact

VicPlan search – historical places and Heritage Overlay sites

A search of the VicPlan database has shown no sites on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR), Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI) or Heritage Overlay sites within the Wonthaggi 1 study area. Three registrations are present for the Wonthaggi 2 study area which are shown in Table 13.

Table 13 Results of Vicplan search for the Wonthaggi 2 study area

Registration type	Registration name	Registration number
Victorian Heritage Registry (VHR)	Wonthaggi State Coal Mine Central Precinct	H1778
Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI)	Wonthaggi State Coal Mine Historic Reserve	H8020-0003
Bass Coast Shire Heritage Overlay (HO)	Wonthaggi State Coal Mine – Central Precinct	HO144

Kilcunda

Aboriginal Places

The ACHRIS search showed that there are no registered Aboriginal places within the Kilcunda study area, but there are seven Aboriginal place within 500 metres (Table 14). One Aboriginal place (VAHR 8020-0263), which is relevant to this study area, has been summarised below.

Table 14 Aboriginal place types within 500 metres of the Kilcunda study area

Place type	Number
Artefact scatter	7
Total	7

VAHR 8020-0263 Carew Street Kilcunda 1 was recorded as part of CHMP 11278 which is summarised below. It consisted of 21 lithic artefacts that were recovered during subsurface testing for the Complex Assessment at depths of between 150 and 400 millimetres. The material types consisted of quartz, crystal quartz and quartzite.

Archaeological reports

The ACHRIS search showed that there have been 19 reports conducted within the 500 metres search radius (Table 15), including three CHMPs undertaken to a Complex Assessment level. The majority of these reports are large regional studies that have limited bearing on the study area. One report of relevance has been summarised below.

Table 15 Archaeological reports within 500 metres of the Kilcunda study area

Report Type	Total
Desktop or Paper or Due Diligence or Other	13
CHMP Complex Assessment	3
Survey	2
Salvage Excavation	1
Grand Total	19

Barker and Hislop (2010) prepared CHMP 11278 to a Complex Assessment level prior to a residential subdivision. The Standard Assessment was hampered by poor ground surface visibility, however, evidence of ground disturbance was noted. During the Complex Assessment, a combination of mechanical and manual excavation was employed. Five Aboriginal places were registered as a result of the Complex Assessment: VAHR 7920-0263 Carew St, Kilcunda 1, VAHR 7920-0264 Carew St, Kilcunda 2, VAHR 7920-0265 Carew St, Kilcunda 3, VAHR 7920-0266 Carew St, Kilcunda 4, VAHR 7920-0267 Carew St, Kilcunda 5, VAHR 7920-0268 Carew St, Kilcunda 6, VAHR 7920-0269 Carew St, Kilcunda 7.

Aerial imagery

An aerial imagery review was conducted of the available images of the Kilcunda study area between 2000 and 2020 (**Error! Reference source not found.**, **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.**). This shows that the study area has not undergone any significant changes within that time.



Figure 15 Aerial image of the Kilcunda site 2000 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 16 Aerial image of the Kilcunda site 2000 (GeoVic 2021)



Figure 17 Aerial image of the Kilcunda site 2020 (GeoVic 2021)

DBYD review

A DBYD review was conducted to assess if the study area has undergone any ground disturbance from underground service installation. The review has shown that there are underground services (water pipes) in the vicinity of the study area. The asset owners and nature of the impact are shown in Table 16.

Table 16 DBYD summary for the Kilcunda study area

Service provider	Services present	Impact to study area
Ausnet	Underground cables in the vicinity but not in the study area	None
Bass Coast Shire	Underground water pipes in study area	Minor impact to ground surface
Multinet Gas	No assets present in study area	None
Telstra	Unclear from result	Unclear, but likely no impact
Westernport Water	Sewer and water pipes in vicinity	Unclear, but likely no impact

VicPlan search – historical places and Heritage Overlay sites

A search of the VicPlan database has shown no sites on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR), Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI) or Heritage Overlay sites within the Kilcunda study area.

San Remo 1 and San Remo 2

Aboriginal Places

The ACHRIS search showed that one Aboriginal place has been registered within the San Remo 1 study area (VAHR 7920-0205 – an artefact distribution). Three Aboriginal places have been registered within the San Remo 2 study area (VAHR 7920-0207 – shell midden; VAHR 7920-0296 and VAHR 7920-0297 – artefact distributions). A further 29 Aboriginal places have been registered on the VAHR within the 1 kilometre search area from San Remo 1 and 2 (Table 17). Also of note are two recorded burials of Ancestral Remains in the surrounding area though none has been recorded from the immediate study areas. The records for VAHR 7920-0205 and VAHR 7920-0296 are summarised below.

Table 17 Archaeological reports within 1 kilometre of the San Remo 1 and 2 study areas

Place type	Number
Artefact scatter	19
Shell midden	11
Aboriginal Ancestral Remains (Burial)	2
LDAD	1
Total	33

7920-0205 Wurrack 6 is an artefact distribution in a deflated sand dune, comprising 27 stone artefacts, including flakes, flaked and angular fragments, and cores made from silcrete and crystal quartz. This Aboriginal place is located within a swampy gully considered to be in very poor condition with only a small number of these artefacts considered to have been *in situ* at the time of excavation. An *in situ* shell midden was recorded on the other side of the gully and in close proximity to the artefact scatter. This Aboriginal place was recorded on 18/04/2001 as a part of the investigations undertaken for CHMP 15130. The place lies within the study area for San Remo 1.

7920-0296 Mary Grove AS1 is an artefact scatter comprising 43 stone artefacts made of coastal flint and silcrete. These artefacts primarily consist of angular fragments, complete and broken flakes, a pebble, and a blade. It was located in a small grassed area at the northern end of the San Remo Holiday Park and is within an urban area. The place is described as being disturbed, and despite the possibility that the scatter may extend beyond what has been uncovered so far, it is unlikely that site integrity has been maintained. This Aboriginal place was recorded on 26/03/2021 during works completed for CHMP 17804. The place lies within the study area for San Remo 2.

Archaeological reports

The ACHRIS search showed that there have been 24 reports conducted within the 1 kilometre search radius (Table 18), including eight CHMP to undertaken to a Complex Assessment level. The majority of these reports are large regional studies that have limited bearing on the study area. One report of relevance (CHMP 16085) has been summarised below.

Table 18 Archaeological reports within 1 kilometre of the San Remo 1 and 2 study areas

Report Type	Total
Desktop or Paper or Due Diligence or Other	13
CHMP Complex Assessment	8
Survey	3
Grand Total	24

Orr and Butler (2019) prepared CHMP 16085 to a Complex Assessment level prior to a residential subdivision of seven lots, at a location 250 metres south of San Remo 2 and 750 metres to the north of San Remo 1. During the Standard Assessment, three landforms were noted to be present; a sand dune, a former swamp and a low rise. Ground surface visibility was noted to be poor and no Aboriginal material culture was located. The Complex Assessment consisted of the excavation of four 1x1 metre test pits and two 500x500 millimetres STPs. Eleven Aboriginal lithic artefacts were identified on the low rise that were registered as VAHR 7920-0292 (Mary Grove AS).

Aerial imagery

An aerial imagery review was conducted of the available images of the San Remo 1 and 2 study areas between 2000 and 2020 (**Error! Reference source not found.**, **Error! Reference source not found.** and **Error! Reference source not found.**). This shows that the study area has not undergone any significant changes within that time.



Figure 18 Satellite image of the San Remo sites 2020 (GeoVic 2021)

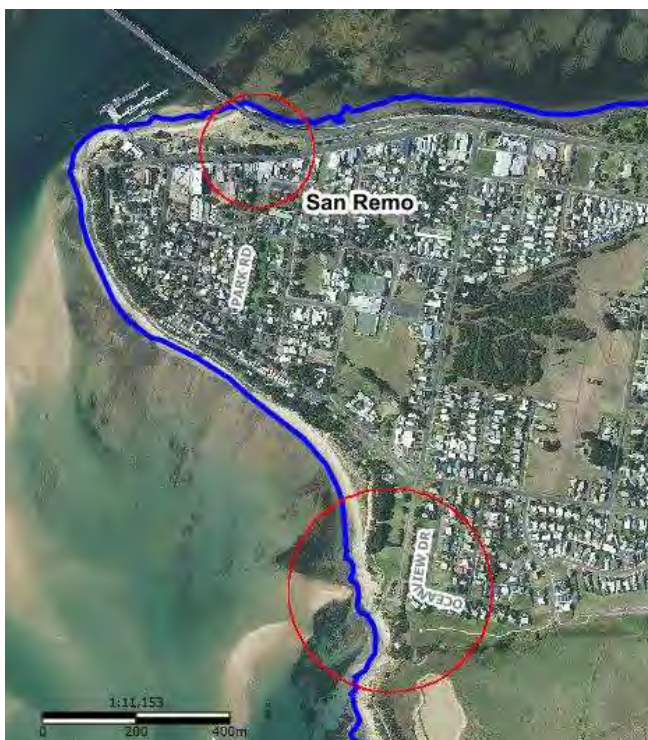


Figure 19 Satellite image of the San Remo sites 2012 (GeoVic 2021)

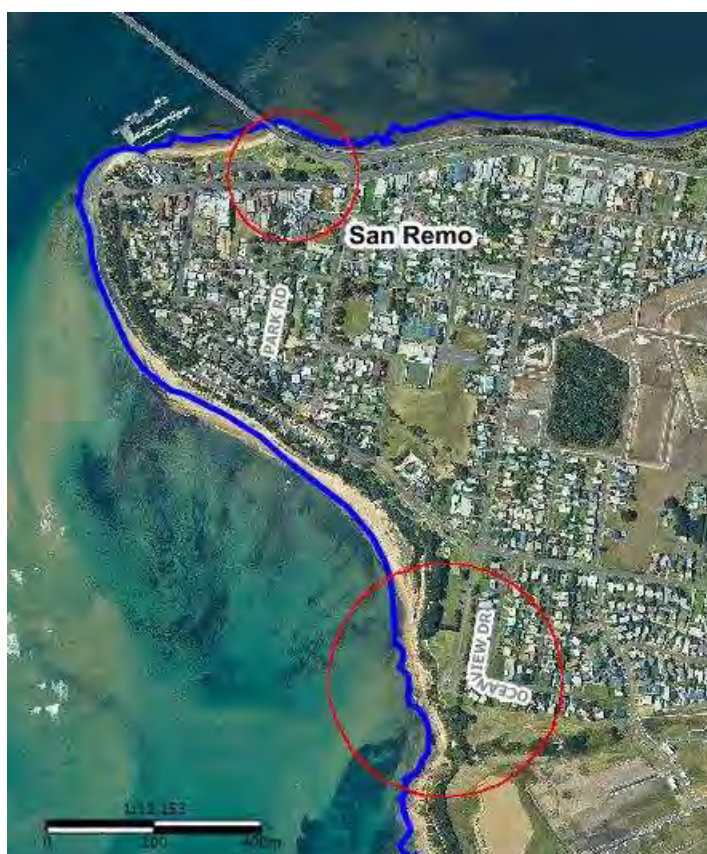


Figure 20 Satellite image of the San Remo sites 2020 (GeoVic 2021)

DBYD review

A DBYD review was conducted to assess if the study area has undergone any ground disturbance from underground service installation. The review has shown that there are no underground services present in the San Remo 1 study area but the San Remo 2 study area has undergone disturbance from the installation of underground assets. The asset owners and nature of the impact are shown in Table 19 and Table 20.

Table 19 DBYD summary for the San Remo 1 study area

Service provider	Services present	Impact to study area
Ausnet	No assets in the study area	None
Bass Coast Shire	No assets in the study area	None
NBN	No assets in the study area	None
Westernport Water	No assets in the study area	None

Table 20 DBYD summary for the San Remo 2 study area

Service provider	Services present	Impact to study area
Ausnet	Underground electricity cables on the south side of Marine Parade	None, depending on extent of proposed activity
Bass Coast Shire	Underground drainage pipes in study area	Some mechanical excavation has occurred
NBN	Underground NBN cables in study area	Some mechanical excavation has occurred
Westernport Water	Underground pipes in study area	Some mechanical excavation has occurred

VicPlan search – historical places and Heritage Overlay sites

A search of the VicPlan database has shown no sites on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR), Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI) or Heritage Overlay sites within the San Remo 1 or San Remo 2 study areas.

BLCAC meeting minutes

A meeting was held via Microsoft Teams at 1pm on the 1st September 2021. Present at this meeting were Adam Gardner (Hassell Studios), Daniel Carpenter (Heritage Advisor, Biosis Pty Ltd), Meg Haas (Heritage Advisor, BLCAC) and Brad Ward (Heritage Advisor, BLCAC). No Elders or BLCAC group members were present.

The purpose of the meeting was to gain BLCAC's feedback regarding the proposed masterplan. During the meeting Adam discussed each of the sites and presented what was proposed to be included in the creative brief. Daniel then followed this with a discussion of the results of the research relating to the archaeology and archaeological potential of each of the locations. The two BLCAC heritage advisors were then asked to give their thoughts on what was being proposed.

The BLCAC heritage advisors did not have any objections to the overall proposals but they noted the sensitivity of each of the areas that were proposed and the potential for impacts to any undetected cultural heritage which might be present. They considered that a CHMP would be the best way to properly assess and manage impacts to each of the individual locations. They also noted that the installations could provide an opportunity for interpretative information about the Bunurong people, as the Traditional Owners have been present in these locations for some tens of thousands of years. The BLCAC heritage advisors did not provide any specific information about the individual study areas.

Summaries

The investigation into the eight study areas has shown a range of disturbances and a potential for the presence of Aboriginal material culture. All of the study areas lie within designated areas of cultural heritage sensitivity under the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018. At the meeting between the client, the BLCAC and Biosis held on 1 September 2021, the BLCAC heritage advisors noted the sensitivity of the entire area and stated that a CHMP should be undertaken to assess and manage any impacts to potential cultural heritage. The BLCAC representatives also commented that the proposed installations would offer an opportunity to include information relating to the Bunurong people.

Inverloch

The Inverloch study area is located close to the mouth of Andersons Inlet and the mouth of the Tarwin River. The meeting of these bodies of water would have provided a diverse range of resources for Aboriginal people which increases the likelihood of Aboriginal cultural heritage being present. This is supported by the presence of a recorded artefact distribution immediately to the west.

The study area has been shown to have undergone disturbances from the installation of underground services. Given that it is a public park, it is likely have to have undergone disturbances from landscaping and the installation public amenities. It is located in the immediate vicinity of the Bunurong Environment Centre which was noted by BLCAC heritage advisors during the meeting on the 1st of September.

The Caves

The Caves study area is located on the coastline at the mouth of a stream lying on the north side of a promontory off the Cape Paterson – Inverloch Road. Four Aboriginal places have been recorded in the vicinity including a midden and artefact scatters, A rare occurrence of grinding grooves (VAHR 8020-0145) has been recorded within the study area itself, in sandstone rock at the base of the cliff. Rhodes noted the potential for undetected burials to occur in the general area. The DBYD review and satellite review show no major disturbances, apart from the existing Cave Beach car park.

Eagles Nest

The Eagles Nest study area is located at the neck of a coastal promontory off the Cape Paterson – Inverloch Road. One Aboriginal place has been recorded within the study area (VAHR 8020-0146 - isolated artefact). No other Aboriginal places have been registered either within the study area itself or within the 500 metre search radius. No localised studies have been undertaken of the Eagles Nest promontory, and it is likely that the paucity of registered Aboriginal places reflects the lack of archaeological investigation. The DBYD review and satellite review show no major disturbances, apart from the existing car park.

Wonthaggi 1 and 2

The Wonthaggi 1 and 2 study areas on the west side of Wonthaggi town, inland from the coast, but within an area of designated cultural heritage sensitivity defined by sand dunes. Quite a number of archaeological

reports have been conducted in the vicinity, mostly from the growing urban development in the area. The reviewed CHMP noted introduced fill and the study areas have likely been disturbed from historic and modern land modification and use. No Aboriginal places have been recorded within either study area, though a number of places have been recorded within 500 metres of these areas.

The Wonthaggi 2 study area lies entirely within three historic registrations (VHI, VHR and HO) related to historic mining. Disturbance to this area is likely and consultation with Heritage Victoria and Bass Coast Shire will be required prior to conducting works as permit, consents or exemption applications may be required.

The satellite review showed no major changes within the study area and the DBYD review showed some ground disturbing works to Wonthaggi 1, but none to Wonthaggi 2.

Kilcunda

The Kilcunda study area is located on the coastline off the Bass Highway, to south west of the town of Kilcunda, in the vicinity of a historic railway bridge. There are no historic registered places within the study area itself. No disturbance has been noted from the DBYD review or the satellite review.

No Aboriginal places have been recorded within the study area itself. Seven Aboriginal places have been recorded within the 500 metre search radius, mostly recorded in CHMP 11278 which noted ground disturbance.

San Remo

The San Remo 1 and 2 study areas are located on the coastline, to south and north of the town of San Remo. One Aboriginal place has been registered within the San Remo 1 study area (VAHR 7920-0205 – an artefact distribution). Three Aboriginal places have been registered within the San Remo 2 study area (VAHR 7920-0207 – shell midden; VAHR 7920-0296 and VAHR 7920-0297 – artefact distributions). The ACHRIS search noted that there are also shell middens and two burials in the surrounding area. The reviewed CHMP noted that swamps, dunes and rises present within the vicinity.

Both study areas are surrounded by urban San Remo with large amounts of underground and underwater infrastructure connecting to Phillip Island at the San Remo 2 study area.

Legislative Requirements

Aboriginal cultural heritage

Is a mandatory cultural heritage management plan required?

Under Section 46 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* 2006, a mandatory cultural heritage management plan is required if the regulations require the preparation of the plan for the activity. Under Regulation 7 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations* 2018, a cultural heritage management plan is required for an activity if all or part of the activity area for the activity is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity AND all or part of the activity is a high impact activity.

As the intention of this document is to inform the masterplan and there is neither defined activity nor Activity Area, it is not possible to make a determination regarding the obligations under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* 2006. However, review of the *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations* 2018 identified the following regulations relevant to the project.

This report considers that all eight study areas reviewed form part of the same proposed development activity, and the research has shown that the study areas extend into the following areas of designated cultural heritage sensitivity:

- Regulation 25(1) a registered cultural heritage place is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity; and (2) land within 50 metres of a registered cultural heritage place is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity.
- Regulation 26(1) a waterway or land within 200 metres of a waterway is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity.
- Regulation 29(1) a declared Ramsar wetland or land within 200 metres of a declared Ramsar wetland is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity
- Regulation 30(1) coastal Crown land is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity
- Regulation 31(1) land within 200 metres of the high water mark of the coastal waters of Victoria or any sea within the limits of Victoria is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity
- Regulation 40(1) a dune or a source bordering dune is an area of cultural heritage sensitivity.

As there is no defined activity, it is not possible to determine if the proposed works would constitute a high impact activity under the Regulations.

Therefore, it is not possible to determine if the proposed works meet the two trigger threshold to prepare a mandatory cultural heritage management plan.

Is there evidence of significant ground disturbance?

Under Regulations 25(3), 26(2), 29(2), 30(2), 31(2) and 40(2) if part of the area of the area of cultural heritage sensitivity has been subject to significant ground disturbance, that part is not an area of cultural heritage sensitivity. Please note that Regulation 25(3) only applies to the area of sensitivity around an Aboriginal place. The impacts of significant ground disturbance have no bearing on an Aboriginal place itself, which continues to be a sensitive area under the Regulations.

Significance ground disturbance is defined as:

5 Definitions

...

significant ground disturbance means disturbance of—

- a) the topsoil or surface rock layer of the ground; or
- b) a waterway—

by machinery in the course of grading, excavating, digging, dredging or deep ripping, but does not include ploughing other than deep ripping.

It is important to note that significant ground disturbance is not chiefly defined by the extent or depth of any disturbance, but rather by the mechanical means through which it has been caused. The application of the significant ground disturbance exemption is also unaffected by the relative likelihood of archaeological material being preserved in the activity area. Such likelihood of preservation may affect the advisability of a voluntary cultural heritage management plan, but does not bear on the criteria for a mandatory cultural heritage management plan.

The majority of the study areas have some kind of infrastructure already present, with some of them having underground services. The satellite imagery review has shown that there have been no major changes to any of the study areas since 2000. However, without clearly defined Activity Areas, it is not possible to fully assess for significant ground disturbance.

Therefore there it is not possible to make a definitive determination if any of the study areas have been subject to significant ground disturbance, and it is not possible to determine if there is an exemption from preparing a mandatory cultural heritage management plan.

Is a voluntary cultural heritage management plan advised?

See Figure 2 for location of nearby Aboriginal places.

Under Section 28 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* doing an act likely to harm Aboriginal cultural heritage is unlawful. Therefore regardless of the requirement to prepare a mandatory cultural heritage management plan, an assessment of the activity area must be made to determine the likelihood that Aboriginal cultural heritage may be present.

During the meeting with BLCAC undertaken on the 1st September 2021, the heritage advisors noted the sensitivity of all areas under review and indicated their preference for a CHMP to be undertaken.

Under Section 29 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* a person who does an act that harms or is likely to harm Aboriginal cultural heritage does not commit an offence if -

- (a) the person is acting-
 - (i) in accordance with a cultural heritage permit or approved cultural heritage management plan that applies to the Aboriginal cultural heritage

...

There is a provision under Section 45 of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* which allows for voluntary cultural heritage management plans to be prepared even if one is not required. Therefore to fulfil BLCAC wishes, to

adequately assess the activity area and eliminate the potential to cause harm to Aboriginal cultural heritage a voluntary cultural heritage management plan is advised.

Historic cultural heritage

Are historic permits or consents required?

Under Section 93 of the *Heritage Act* 2017 the Executive Director may issue a permit authorising works in relation to a Victorian Heritage Register site and under Section 124 issue a consent authorising works in relation to a Victorian Heritage Inventory site. While under Bass Coast Shire Council Heritage Overlay a permit under the *Planning and Environment Act* 1997 is required for heritage places specified on their schedule to the overlay.

A review of historical places identified historical mining places within the Wonthaggi 2 study area recorded on the Victorian Heritage Register, the Victorian Heritage Inventory, and the Bass Coast Shire Heritage Overlay. Depending on the nature of the proposed activity there may be a requirement for permits, consents or exemptions for Heritage Victoria, or permits or exemptions for Bass Coast Shire Council. Consultation with these agencies is recommended.

Conclusions

Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

Requirements

There may be a requirement under the Act for a mandatory Cultural Heritage Management Plan or for permits to disturb previously registered cultural heritage places, depending on the nature of the development activity and the extent of the Activity Area.

The BLCAC heritage advisors note the archaeological sensitivity of each of the eight study areas and advise that a CHMP should be undertaken for the proposed works, either as a mandatory CHMP or as a voluntary CHMP, in order to manage risk to known and potential cultural heritage at these locations.

Recommendations

In accordance with the advice of the BLCAC heritage advisors, it is recommended that a Cultural Heritage Management Plan should be undertaken for the proposed installations. The CHMP may be carried out either as a mandatory or voluntary CHMP, depending on the details of the proposed works and their locations. There is no difference in the form of the CHMP, whether it is mandatory or voluntary. The CHMP would be evaluated and approved by the BLCAC, which is the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) for the region. The CHMP would investigate and assess each location and provide authorisation for the project with contingency provisions and mitigation measures if required. The CHMP would be undertaken with the participation of the RAP.

Heritage Act 2017

Requirements

The Wonthaggi 2 study area lies within the site extent of places recorded on the Victorian Heritage Register and the Victorian Heritage Inventory. Therefore there may be a requirement for permits or for a historical heritage assessment depending on the nature of what is proposed at this site. There are no VHR or VHI registrations at the other seven locations.

Recommendations

As the exact nature and extent of the activity has not yet been defined, consultation with Heritage Victoria is recommended to determine if a permit, consent or exemption is required.

Planning and Environment Act 1997

Requirements

A review of the Bass Coast Shire Heritage Overlay indicate that there is a heritage overlays within the Wonthaggi 2 study area. Therefore, there may be a requirement for a permit from Bass Coast Shire.

Recommendations

As the exact nature and extent of the activity has not yet been defined, consultation with Bass Coast Shire is recommended to determine if a permit is required.

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C. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

BASS COAST DINOSAURS TRAIL

Masterplan Community Engagement 2021

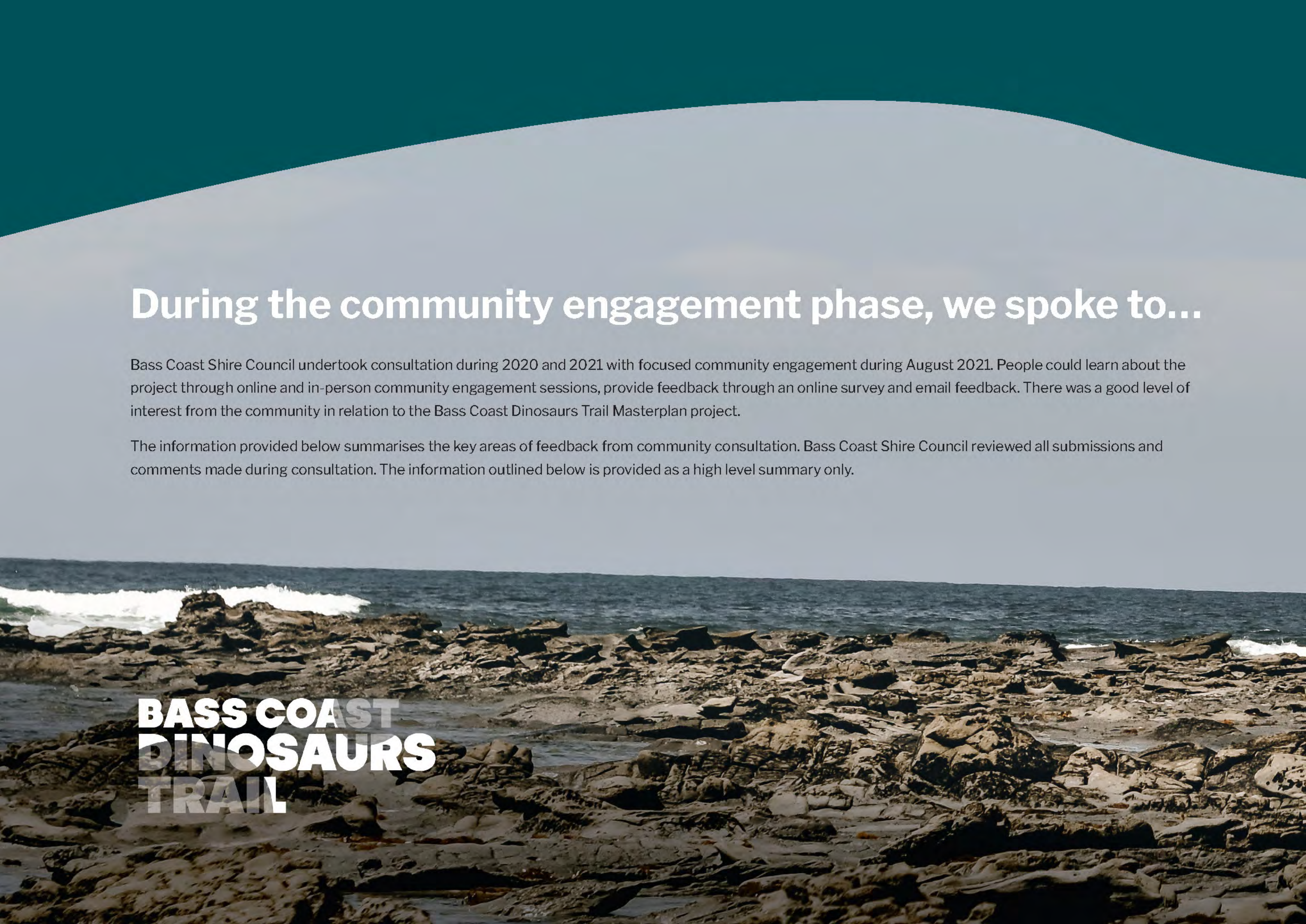
We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the first Australians and recognize they have a unique relationship with the land. We also recognize and that this site is situated on the traditional lands of the Bunurong, members of the Kulin Nation who have lived here for thousands of years. We offer our respect to their elders past and present and through them, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



During the community engagement phase, we spoke to...

Bass Coast Shire Council undertook consultation during 2020 and 2021 with focused community engagement during August 2021. People could learn about the project through online and in-person community engagement sessions, provide feedback through an online survey and email feedback. There was a good level of interest from the community in relation to the Bass Coast Dinosaurs Trail Masterplan project.

The information provided below summarises the key areas of feedback from community consultation. Bass Coast Shire Council reviewed all submissions and comments made during consultation. The information outlined below is provided as a high level summary only.



**BASS COAST
DINOSAURS
TRAIL**



Over 60 community members attended drop in sessions

100 people shared their feedback through online consultation sessions

Three targeted consultation sessions were run, with over 30 community members across history, arts & culture environment

Science and research – the Dino Hunters – have been part of the project development from the beginning and have extended analysis and input on the Masterplan document.

Meetings with partners from Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Parks Victoria and DELWP

Project Governance Groups

Project Control Group met four times over six months;

Project Working Group met four times over of six months;

Internal Reference Group met four times over six months, with additional smaller catch ups as per area of contributing expertise.



Out in the community...

Workshops

Digging for Meaning

Workshop held on 30 April 2021 discussed social context and history. Members invited were previously on the 'Museum Redevelopment Group' that was established in the early stages of masterplanning in 2020.

Organisations in attendance: Dinosaurs Dreaming; Inverloch Shell Museum; Amazon Shipwreck 1863 Incorporated.

BCSC presented the opportunities that lie within the project. In collaboration with Lesley Kool, the values arising from the social context and the people involved in the digging sites were reported. The group was positive about the project and noted the interest in 'international significance' and the project setting out a legacy for the region.

Tread Lightly

Workshop held on 21 May 2021 discussed environmental impact and considerations for the proposed sites.

Organisations in attendance: Friends of Wonthaggi Heathland and Coastal Reserve; Bass Coast Landcare Network; Wonthaggi Seedbank and Nursery.

BCSC presented the project's concept, background, context, and key milestones. Discussed the project's significance with regard to polar dinosaurs, and how scientists and researchers envisage the project as an opportunity to share a message on sustainability and good practice for safeguarding the natural environment. The conversations were extensive and included discussion on vegetation and habitat, benefits and constraints of use of boardwalks vs pathway.

Let's Imagine

Workshop held as an activity part of Bass Coast Arts & Culture Committee monthly meeting; primary brief and project presentation on 3 May 2021 and project update with concise Masterplan document presentation along with narrative development on 24 August 2021.

At initial workshop, BCSC presented the project and how it seeks to provide a journey of knowledge and creativity. Amongst the conversations, ideas included sensory responses, the unique experience of the project, a treasure hunt with simulated fossil finding. Discussion around addressing each of the sites by risk and later on in developing EOI mechanism for artists, that will envisage creativity for ensuring education, environmental and cultural purposes. At second consultation, BCSC presented the draft Masterplan document and conversations

included pressure from potential excessive development and how to seek to disperse/ use the opportunities that arise from the project. Supportive of integration and joint engagement for collaboration within this project and playground re-developments. This group would like to continue to be involved in next stages of project development.

Online Drop in Session

Held on 18 August 2021 for public consultation to hear the community feedback on the Masterplan document.

Attendance was low but provided positive outcome through generated conversation. Member of the South Gippsland Conservation Society had a shared interest in the natural environment and a local artist was present who has a background in

working through similar projects.

Enquiry as to the sensitivity of coastal constrained locations (in particular with expected increased visitation arising from YBMCP). Dino Team ensured the team share the same concerns and are/will continue to look for the best practice for conservation management, the idea of disperse and pointed to the opportunity of electric bus shuttle. Raised that distance between sites is something that can emphasise the dispersal of visitors and really supports the electric bus shuttle.

Also pointing to the Inverloch site as a great location and definitely shares the interest in the museum/discovery centre. BCSC discussed that this is something that will be continued and unpacked in the next phase.



Inverloch Drop in Session

Held on 21 August 2021 for public consultation 9am to 11am. BCSC to listen to the community feedback on the draft Masterplan document.

BCSC talked to **26 people**.

In general, the discussions were **extremely supportive and enthusiastic** about the project proposal. Questions centred around the social context and dinosaur significance (even though most were familiar with the Dinosaurs Dreaming activities, so it came to explaining how they fit together). South Gippsland Conservation Society new admin member and member of the Amazon Committee attended and noted their support, as well as eager interest in the museum/discovery centre re-development. Overall, everyone said the project is a great idea!

Kilcunda Drop in Session

Held on 21 August 2021 for public consultation from 11.45am to 1pm (cut short due to COVID restrictions enforced on this day). BCSC to listen to the community feedback on the draft Masterplan document.

BCSC talked to **36 people**.

Community members who attended the Kilcunda sessions expressed their concerns with proposed examples of the installation for the site in the draft

Masterplan document; they do not support vertical style art, but would be happy with **wayfinding and interpretation** and a creative art response that are not dismissive of the environment. We discussed the use of the project as an opportunity to advocate for infrastructure that the community has been seeking – such as improve carpark and decrease impact from increased visitation over the past year; possibility of implementing a civic green area where the current carpark is.

Additionally, **integration** with the skate and play is fundamental – and opportunities for creative response may lie within those components. Further integration should be envisaged with YMAIP (community at this instance may see ‘too much’ happening in the area that does not address their main concerns with infrastructure for example). There is a passion for the natural environment. Although the site narrative proposes messages that lie with the environment, sustainable environment messaging should be further explored and proposal would benefit from a clear interpretation and education focus on preserving nature.

Survey

Online survey open from 5 August 2021 – 31 August 2021 (total four weeks).

30 responses were collected.

The average rating for the Bass Coast Dinosaurs Trail masterplan was 3.9 out of a total high score of 5.

55.56%
scored 5 (15)

11.11%
scored 4 (3)

14.81%
scored 1 (4)

7.41%
scored 2 (2)

11.11%
scored 3 (3)

**BASS COAST
DINOSAURS
TRAIL**



Summary

Bass Coast Dinosaurs Trail - Masterplan Consultation and Engagement 2021

Monthly meetings with stakeholders
and community partners

Three workshops with community
groups for insight

18 August - Online drop in session

Over **30** online surveys completed

Over **1,000** website page viewers

50+ conversations at 2 events:

21 August:

Inverloch drop in session,
Wyeth Mc-Namara Park,
Farmers Market

21 August:

Kilcunda drop in session,
Foreshore carpark

BASS COAST DINOSAURS TRAIL

Thank you

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