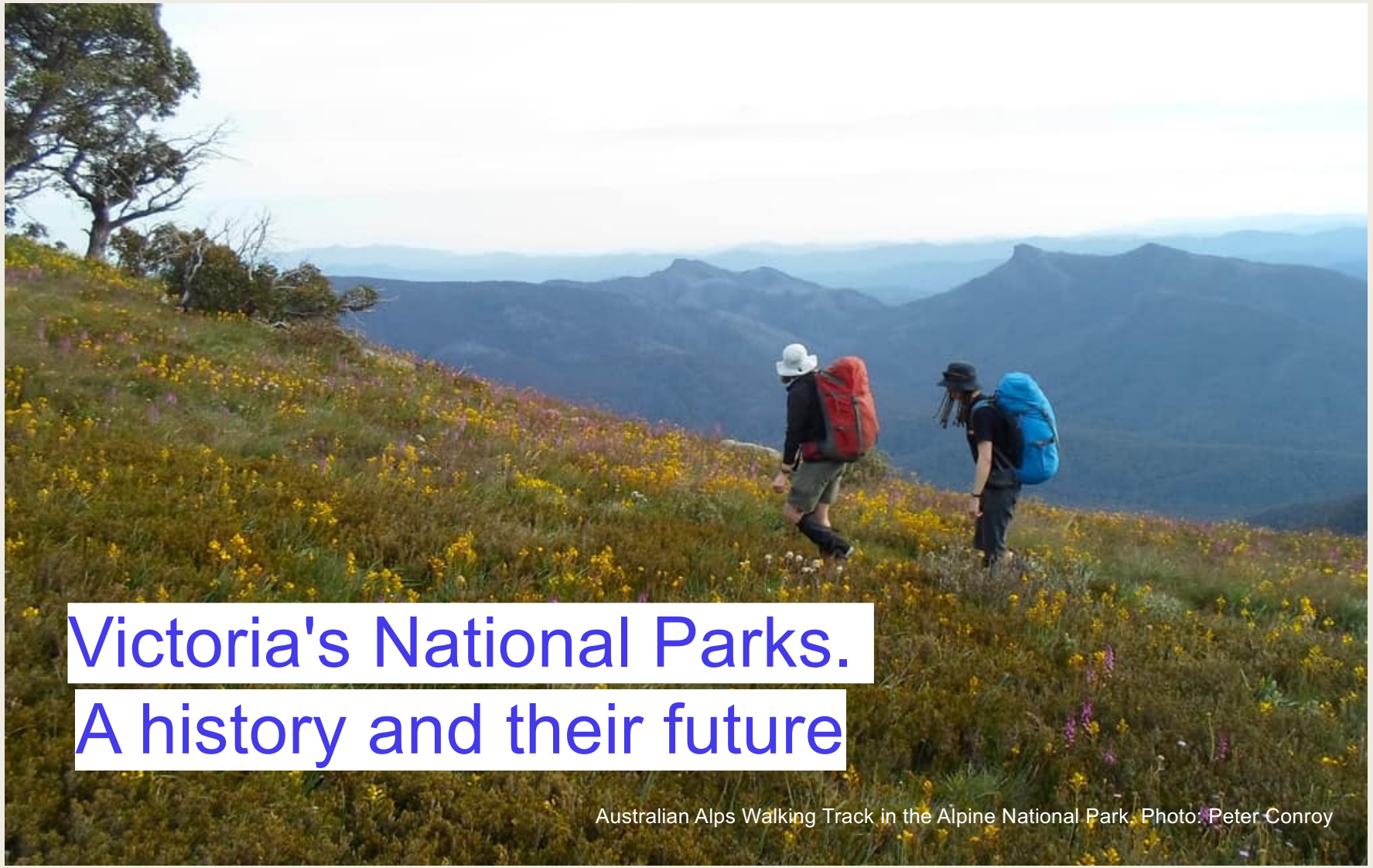


Victoria's National Parks.
A history and their future

Australian Alps Walking Track in the Alpine National Park. Photo: Peter Conroy

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the many First Peoples of the area
now known as Victoria and honor their continuing connection to
and caring for Country.

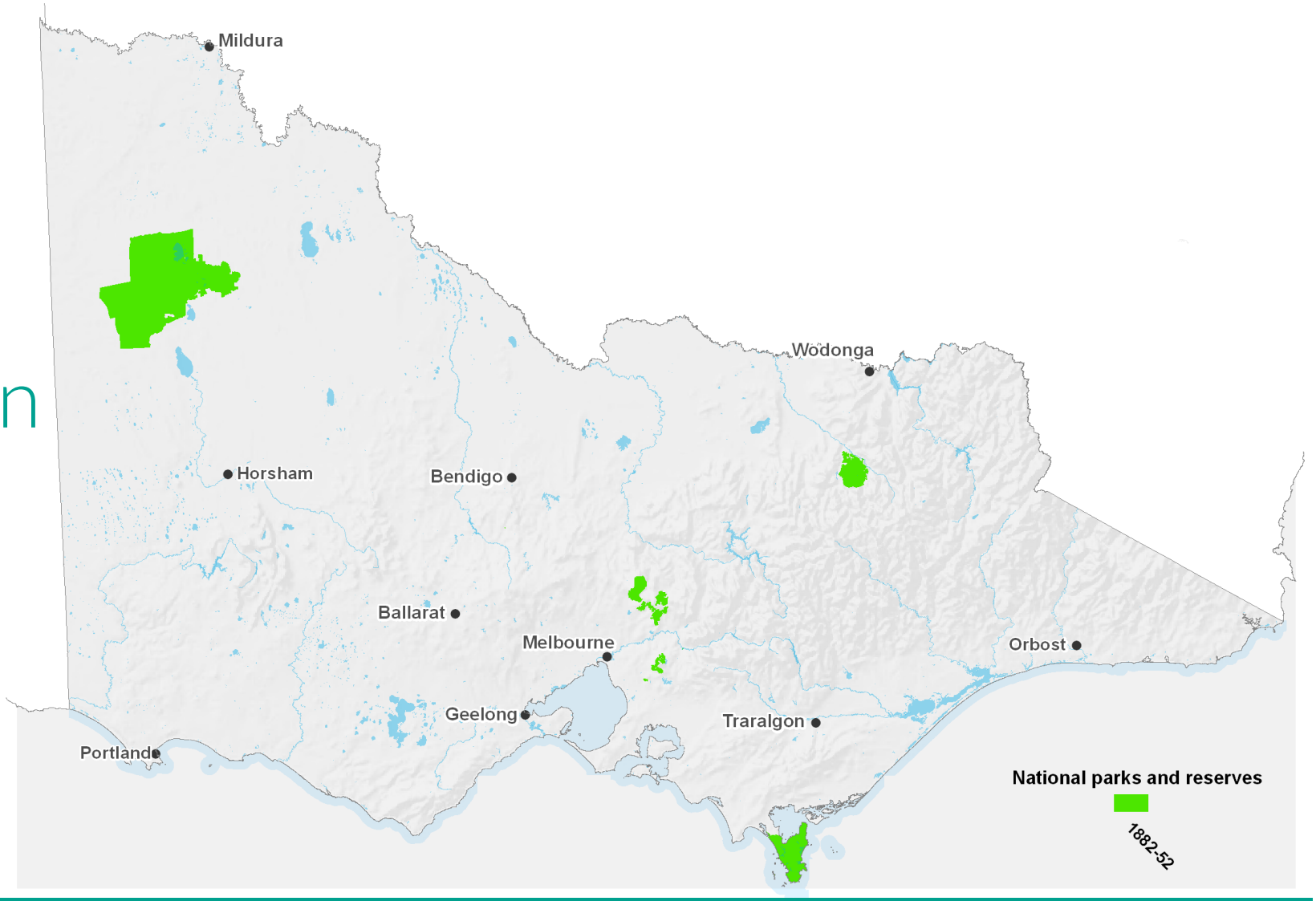
The Victorians for Nature Alliance supports Traditional Owner
Joint & co-management of parks and public land for conservation
of natural and cultural heritage.


ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES OF VICTORIA
YUYU
(Ngindadj)
Mildura
JARI JARI
LADJI LADJI
TATI TATI
WEKI WEKI
WADI WADI
NGARGAD
Ouyen
Lake Tyrrel
Swan Hill
WEMBA WEMBA
BARABABARABA
JABULAJABULA
YORTA YORTA
Yarrawonga
Albury
Djadjala
Wudjubaluk
Buibadjali
Lake Hindmarsh
WERGAIA
Bewadjali
BANGERANG
Echuca
DHUDHUROA
BINDJALI
Jagwadjali
Wimmera River
Loddon River
NGURAI-ILLAM WURRUNG
WAYWURRU
Ovens River
Mitta Mitta River
Horsham
DJA DJA WURRUNG
Jardwadjali
Benalla
NGARIGU
Bendigo
Mardidjali
JARDWADJALI
Stawell
Maryborough
TAUNGURUNG
MOGULLUMBIDJ
Bombala
Glenelg River
Knenknen wurrung
Omeo
GUNDUNGERRE (Jaithmathang)
BIDAWAL
THAWA
Goulburn River
Brabuwooloong
Nundadjali
Pirt Pirt wurrung
Mitchell River
Snowy River
Ballarat
WOIWURRUNG
BUANDIG
DJAB WURRUNG
Melbourne
Krowathunkooloong
Orbost
Wooloo woorroong
Djab wurrung
WADAWURRUNG
Brayakouloong
GUNAI / KŪRNAI
Keerray woorroong
TYAKOORT WOORROONG
DHAUWURD WURRUNG
Kee woorroong
Geelong
BOON WURRUNG
Warragul
Latrobe River
Dhauwurd wurrung
Koornkopanoot
Tatungoloong
KEERRAY-WOORROONG
GULIDJAN
Peek woorroong
Portland
Warrnambool
Wirngilgnad dhalinanong
GADUBANUD
Bratowooloong
© 2015 Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages.
Not suitable for use in Native Title or other land Claims.
VACL

Victoria's National parks and protected areas

National parks & conservation reserves

Before 1952



Saving the Little Desert ‘development’ vs ‘conservation’

In response to state government plans to clear most of the Little Desert for agriculture in 1968 a long and hard-fought campaign to protect the area was launched by locals, bird watchers and committee known as the Save our Bushland Action Committee.

Little Desert in on Wotjobaluk Country



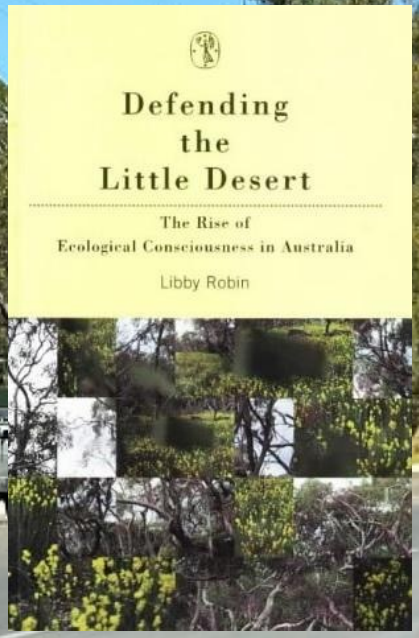
By JJ Harrison - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=146332899

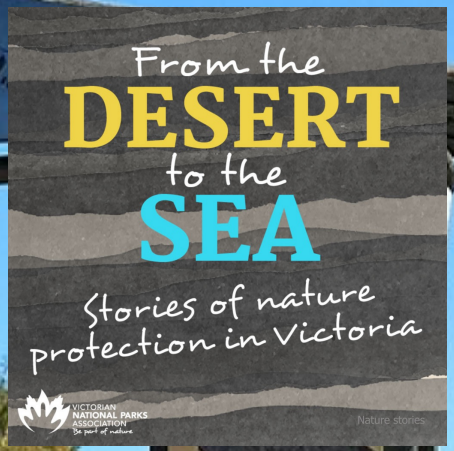
For the first time, preservation of the natural environment became an important political issue in Victorian politics.

-1969National Park expanded and again in 1980s to roughly 132,000 hectares

- 1971 Land Conservation Council (Now Victorian Environment Assessment Council-VEAC) founded by Bill Borthwick MP to protect land

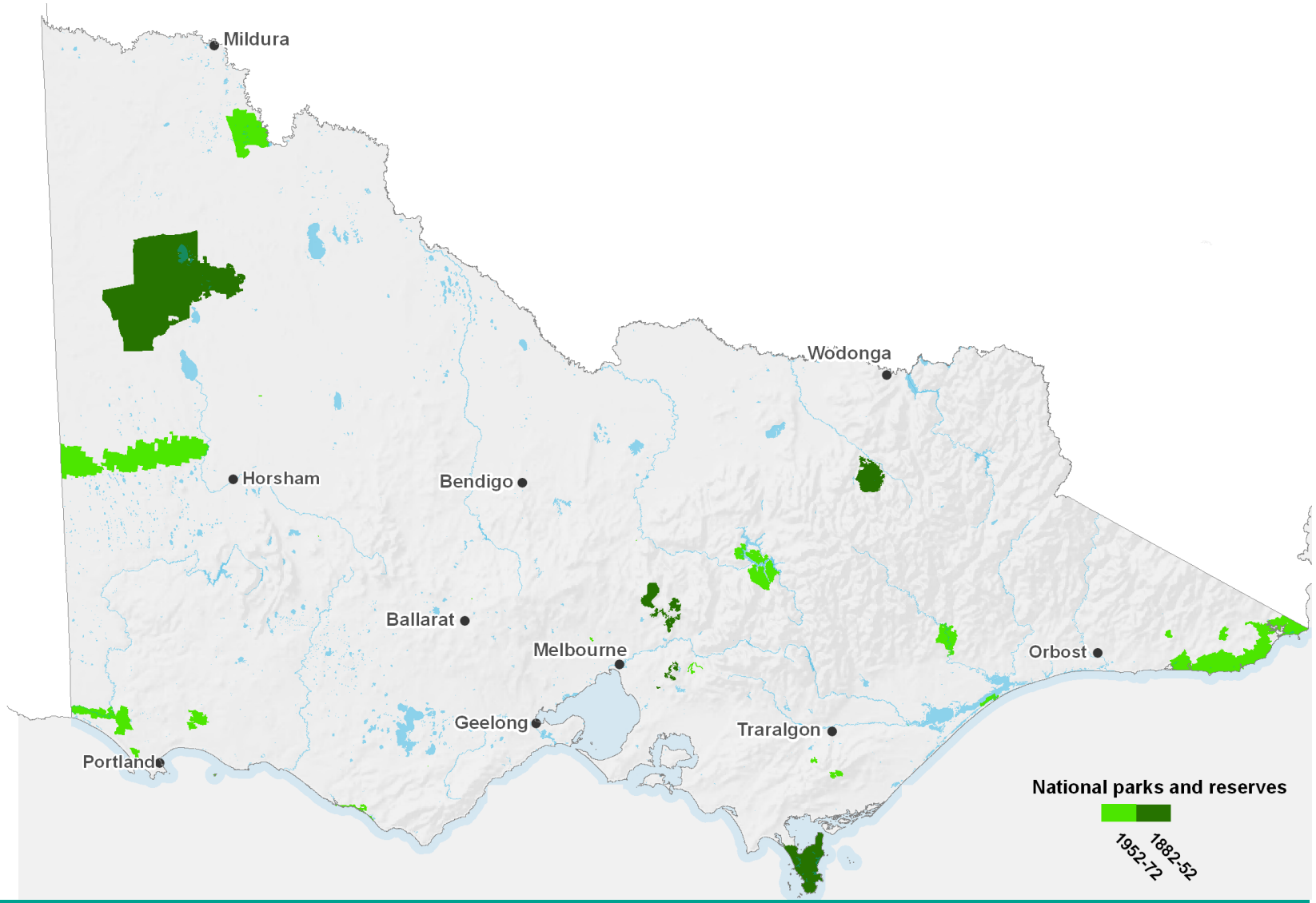
"As if for a thousand years…"





National parks & conservation reserves

1952-72



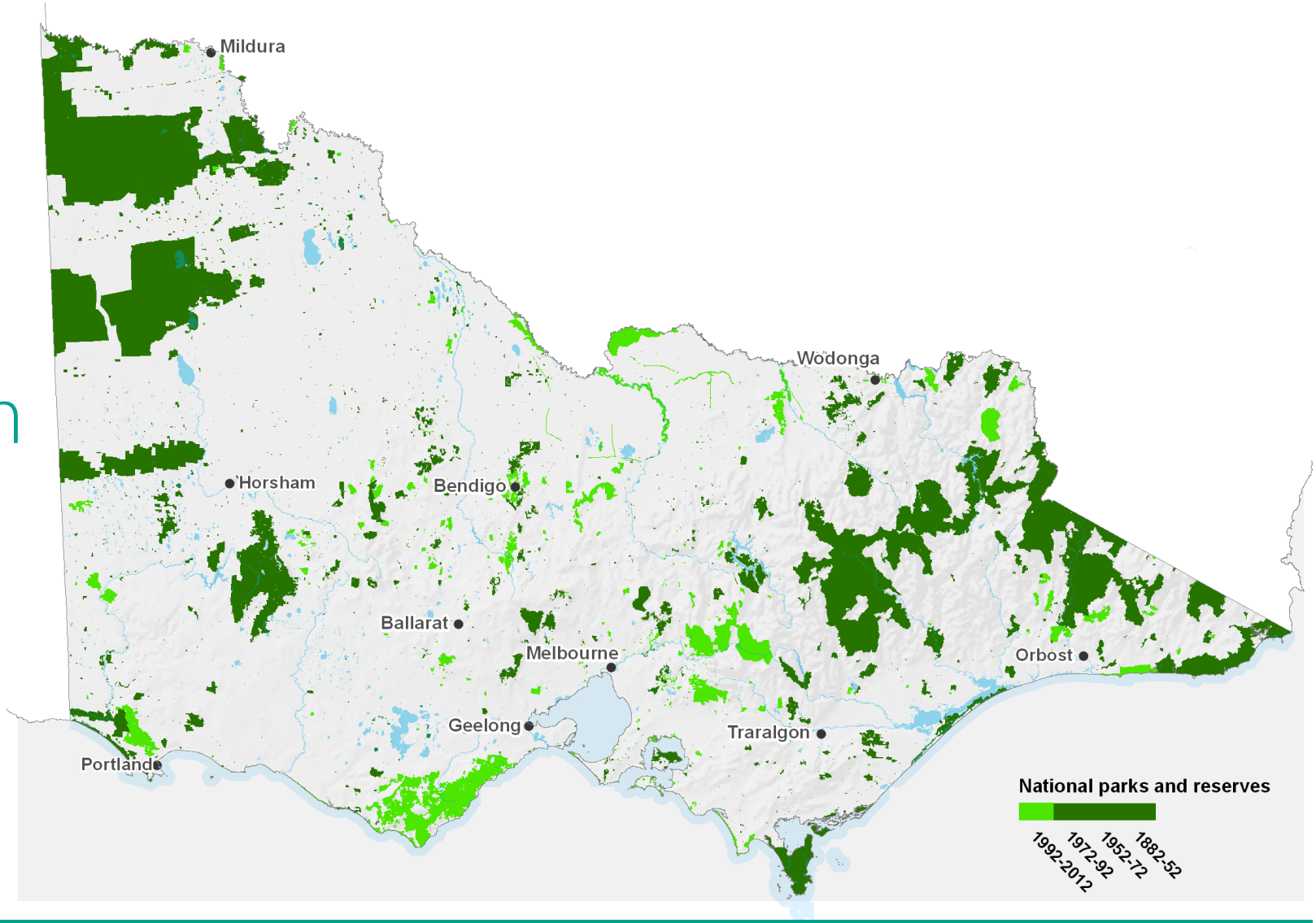
National parks & conservation reserves

1972-92



National parks & conservation reserves

1992-2012

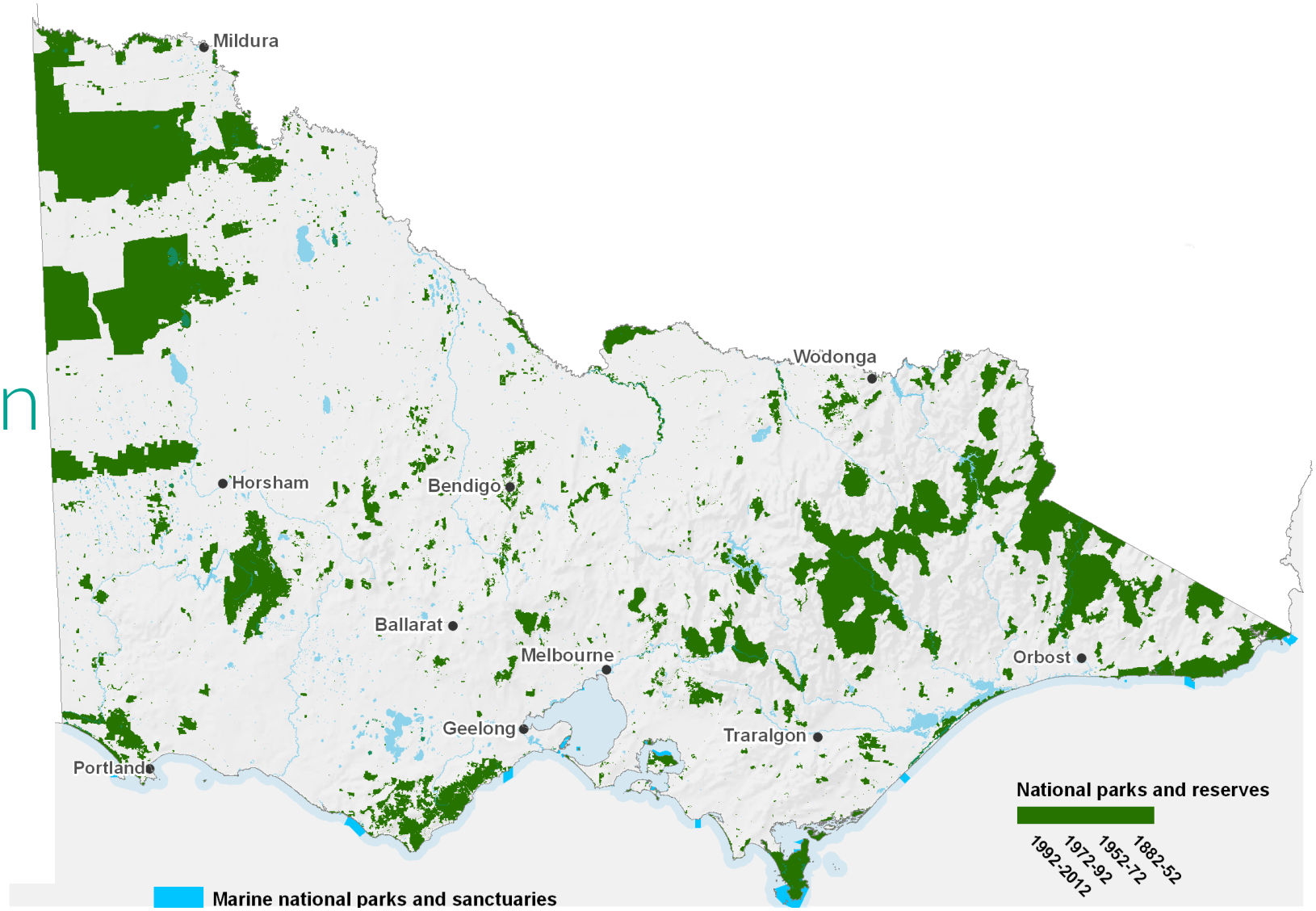


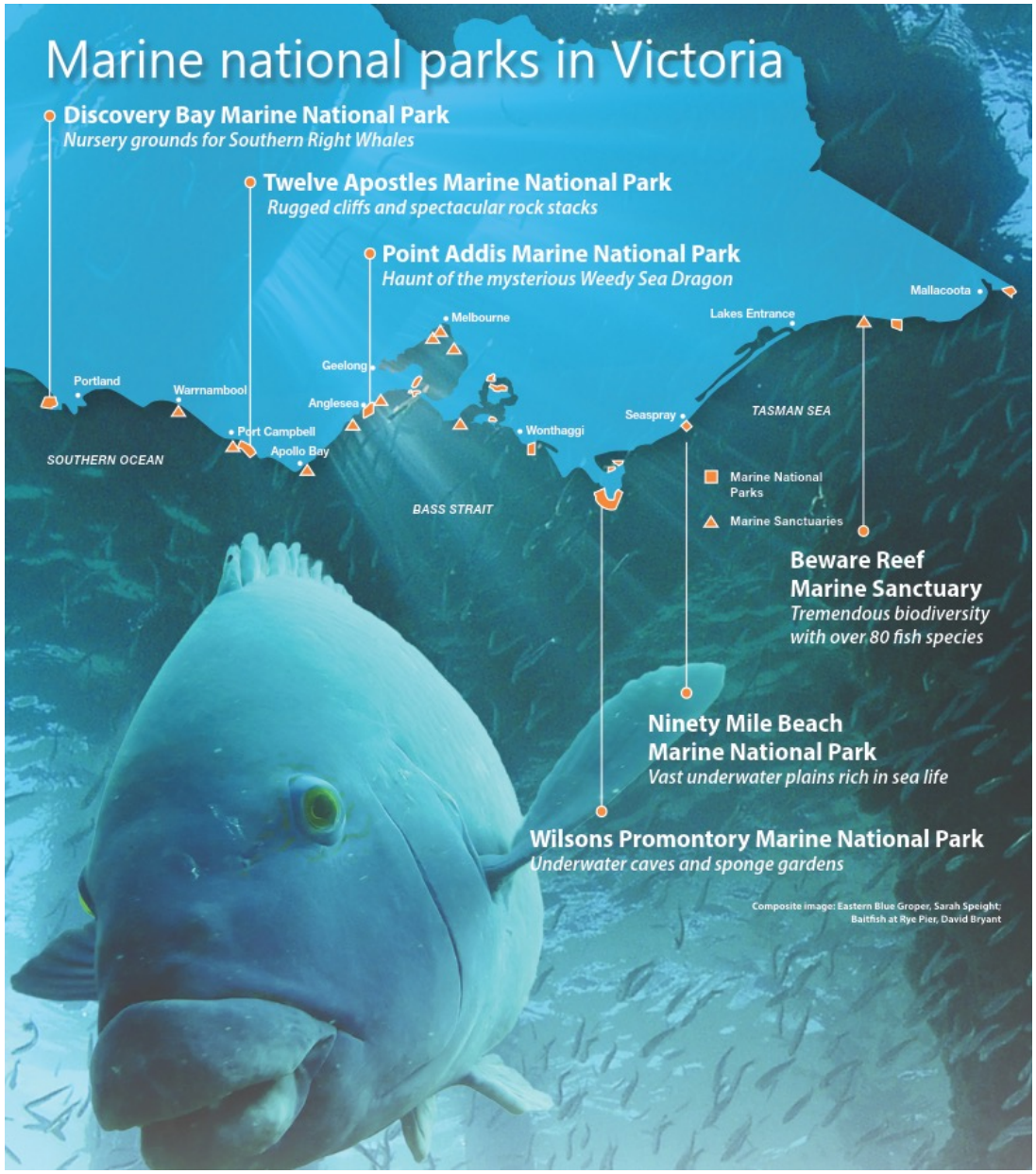
National parks & conservation reserves

1992-2012

2002: Marine National Parks & Sanctuaries

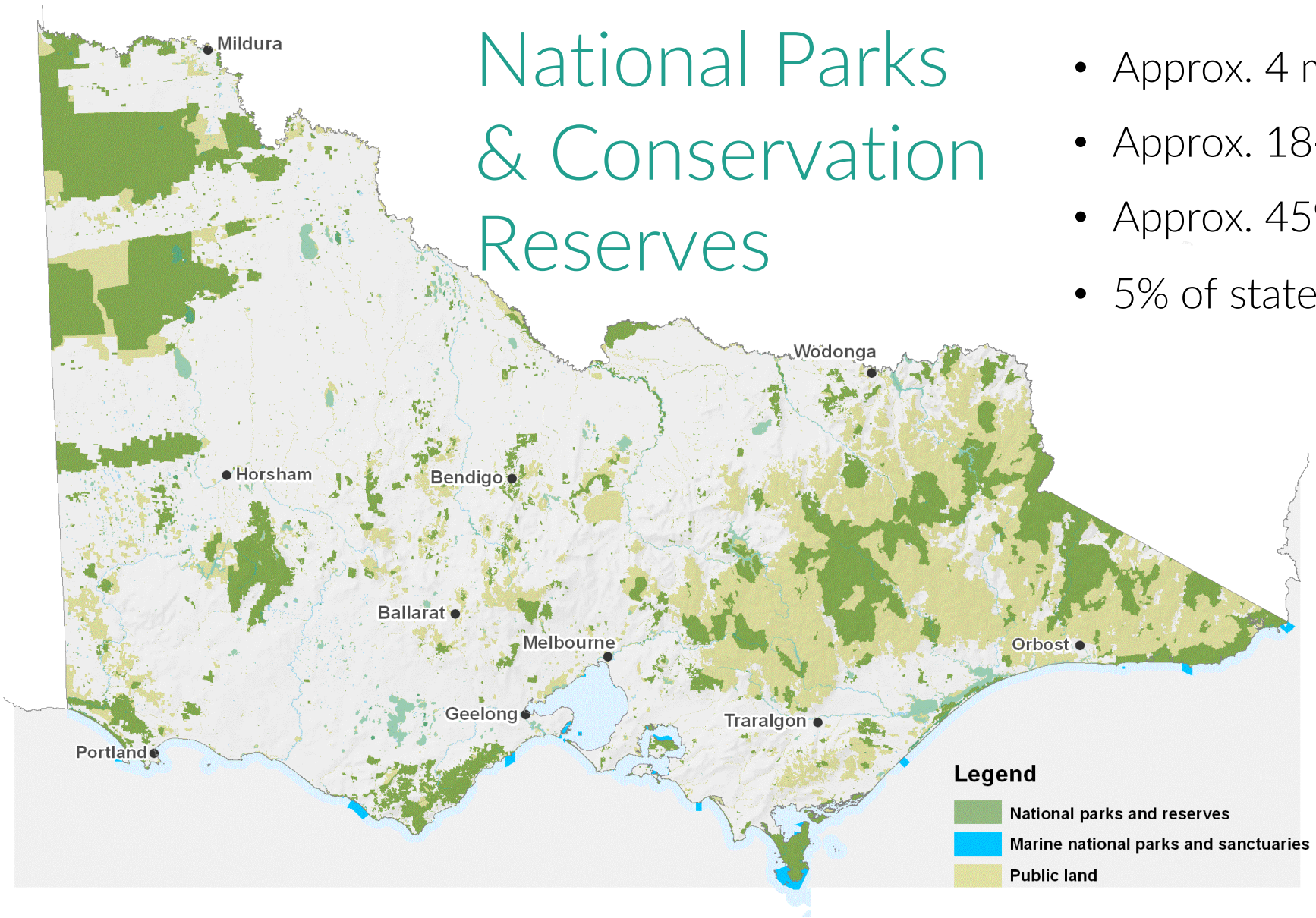
5% of state waters




Marine national parks in Victoria
Discovery Bay Marine National Park
Nursery grounds for Southern Right Whales
Twelve Apostles Marine National Park
Rugged cliffs and spectacular rock stacks
Point Addis Marine National Park
Haunt of the mysterious Weedy Sea Dragon
Mallacoota
Lakes Entrance
Melbourne
Geelong
Portland
Warrnambool
Anglesea
Port Campbell
Apollo Bay
Wonthaggi
Seaspray
TASMAN SEA
SOUTHERN OCEAN
BASS STRAIT
Marine National Parks
Marine Sanctuaries
Beware Reef Marine Sanctuary
Tremendous biodiversity with over 80 fish species
Ninety Mile Beach Marine National Park
Vast underwater plains rich in sea life
Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park
Underwater caves and sponge gardens
Composite image: Eastern Blue Groper, Sarah Speight; Baitfish at Rye Pier, David Bryant

National Parks & Conservation Reserves

- Approx. 4 million hectares
- Approx. 18-20% of the state
- Approx. 45% of public land
- 5% of state waters



Types of parks & conservation areas

National Parks Act 1975

- National Parks
- Wilderness Areas
- Remote Natural Areas
- State Parks
- Marine National Parks
- Coastal Parks
- Some regional parks
- Landscape Conservation Areas

National Parks Act 1975

- Preserve and protect the park in its natural condition for the use, enjoyment and education of the public.
- Preserve and protect indigenous flora and fauna in the park.
- Exterminate or control exotic fauna in the park. Eradicate or control exotic flora in the park.
- Preserve and protect wilderness areas in the park and features in the park of scenic, archaeological, ecological, geological, historic or other scientific interest.
- Prepare a plan of management in respect of each national park and state park.

Long standing national policy



Current national policies





Context and opportunities

Global & national

- Signatory for 30x30: protection & management of 30% of world's terrestrial, inland water, coastal & marine areas by 2030

Australia and Victoria

- *Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*, an international commitment to better protect the planet that sustains us all.

Over 190 countries (Dec 2022)

Enviro ministers meeting

21 Oct 2022

All environment ministers agreed to:

- Protect and conserve 30% of Australia's landmass and 30% of marine areas by 2030.
- Establish a national nature repair market...


2024-01-31 02:38:53 M 1/3 12°C
Brush-tailed Phascogale
HYPERFIRE 2 COVERT
RECONYX



Grevillea montis-cole -
Mount Cole grevillea

ENVIRONMENT 10/09/2025 12:30

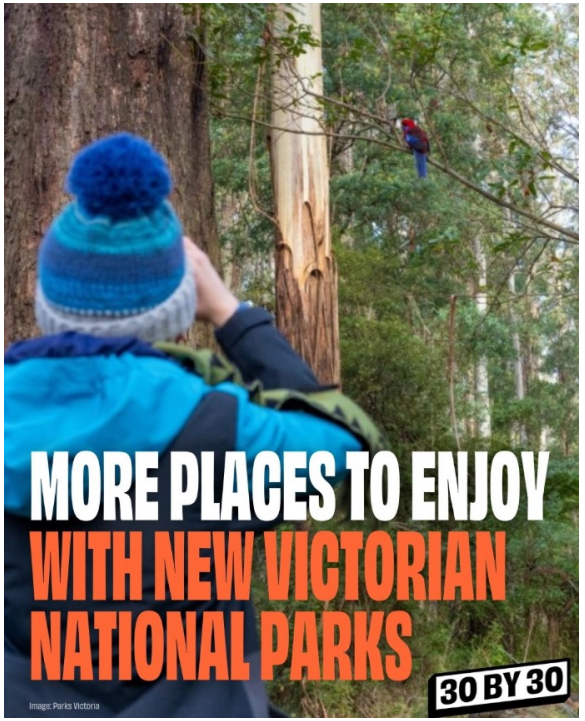
HISTORIC NATURE MILESTONE: LONG-AWAITED NEW NATIONAL PARKS LEGISLATION TABLED IN VICTORIA



Australasian Leisure Management Magazine

New National Parks announced for central west Victoria

New national parks have been announced for central west Victoria following legislation passed in Victorian Parliament upper house.



Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Victoria set to have first new national parks in more than a decade

Conservation groups are celebrating proposed legislation for three new national parks in Victoria but not all bush users are happy.

14 Sept 2025

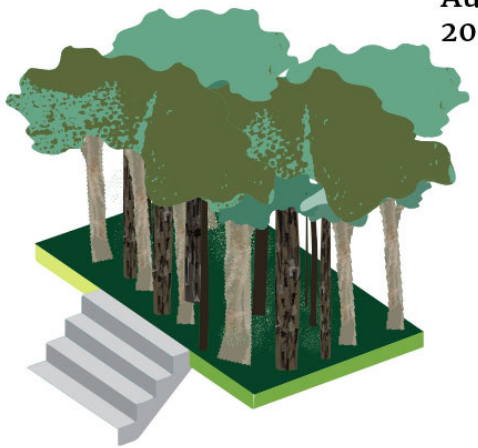


The Build Up

1990s Intense community debate over clear-fell logging in the Wombat Forest

2002 Ban on clear-fell logging in Wombat Forest, Bracks ALP government commitment to VEAC process

2010 Community Assessment Reports with renewed community campaign

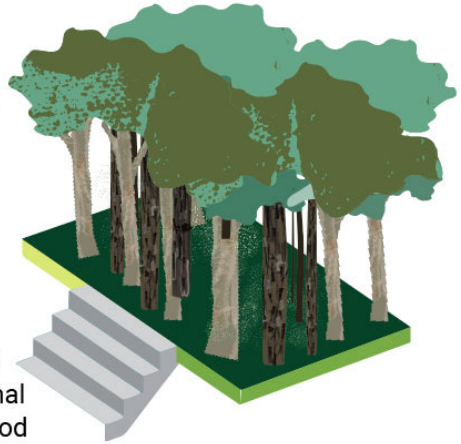


Formal Independent Assessment

Nov 2016 Government Consultation on Terms of Reference for investigation. Final Terms of reference tabled in Victorian Parliament

March 2017 Independent (VEAC) Investigation initiated

June 2017 Notice of investigation published –60+ days of formal submission process



Aug 2018 Draft proposals paper published – 60+ days formal submission period

October 2018 Investigation extended Consultation until December 2018

November 2018 STATE ELECTION

Decision Making

Aug 2019 FINAL REPORT TABLED in Victorian Parliament – under law, Labor Govt has six months to make a decision



Feb 2020 Legal deadline to respond to parliament missed, breach of legal duties

June 2021 Government Response Tabled (18 month late)

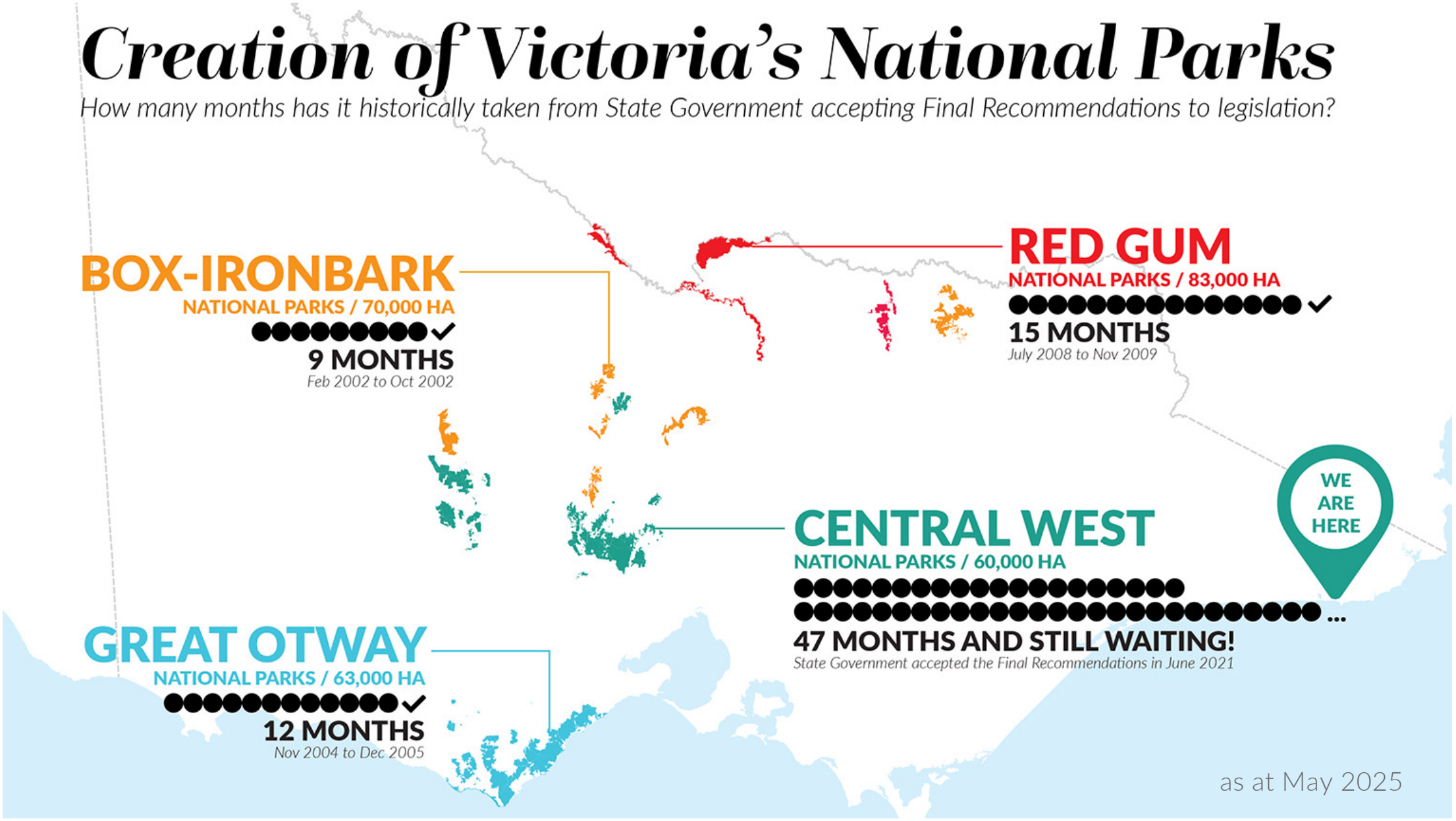


We are here

- Legislation Produced & Tabled
- Legislation Passed (both houses)
- Gazettal
- Park Management Plan

Creation of Victoria's National Parks

How many months has it historically taken from State Government accepting Final Recommendations to legislation?





Pyrenees



Wellsford



Mt Cole





Wombat

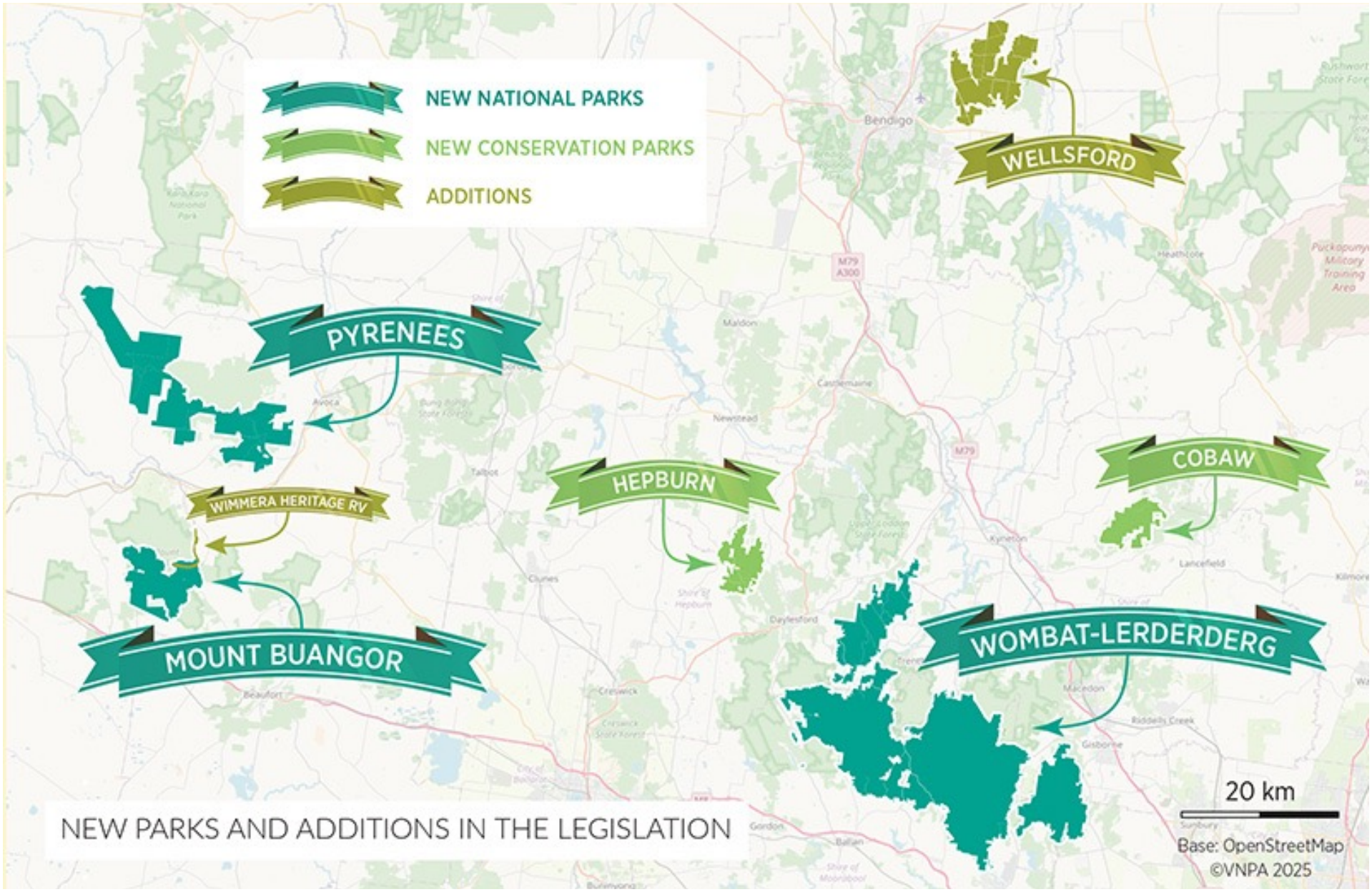
Central west investigation



This includes 3 new National Parks:
- Wombat-Lerderderg National Park, (near Daylesford) 44,000ha
-Mount Buangor National Park (near Beaufort) 5,282ha
-Pyrenees National Park (near Avoca).15,000ha

2 new Conservation Parks:
-Cobaw Conservation Parks (Near Woodend)
-Hepburn Conservation Park (Near Dalesford)
Totalling 5,246ha

The legislation also adds land to Bendigo Regional Park around the Wellsford forest and extends the Wimmera Heritage River around Mt Cole near Ararat and commits the government to a new Conservation Park in Mirboo North in South Gippsland



NEW PARKS AND ADDITIONS IN THE LEGISLATION

Next steps for Central West National Parks and reserves



- Gazetting of legislated parks
- Management Plan process to ensure parks are managed to National Parks Act standards
- Legislating and Gazetting of smaller reserves committed to by government. Possibly in new Public Land Act
- Secure funding for new parks for extra rangers, new signage, upgrading walking tracks and roads, Management Plans

- **Option 1 Basic Upgrade: The Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) of 4.8:1 above shows that for every $1 invested there is a potential return of $4.80 at the societal level.**

- **Option 2 Basic Upgrade + Indigenous Joint Management: The Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) of 3.2:1 shows that for every $1 invested there is a potential return of $3.20 at the societal level**

- **Option 3 Optimised Implementation: The Benefit Cost Ratio (BCR) of 2.3:1 shows that for every $1 invested there is a potential return of $2.30 at the societal level.**



What’s next?

-We need to set the park up properly from the start, a park implementation funding package to fix roads, create tracks, control pests and employ new park rangers

-Gazette and protect the 18 bushland and nature conservation reserves as part of the Central west investigation. This will add 7,076ha to the protected areas estate.



↑ Tylden Nature Reserve, Dja Dja Wurrung Country | *BEN GILL*


Nature and National Parks
Protection over politics

May 2023

Promise to “deliver largest expansion to our public forests reserve system in our state’s history"



Jan 2024

Panel to recommend “areas of our forests that qualify for protection as National Parks"

End of native forest logging

April 2024

Promise repeated by current Environment Minister

Oct 2024

Central Highlands report completed (appointed 2021)

New National Park recommended by VEAC

Great Outdoors Taskforce created

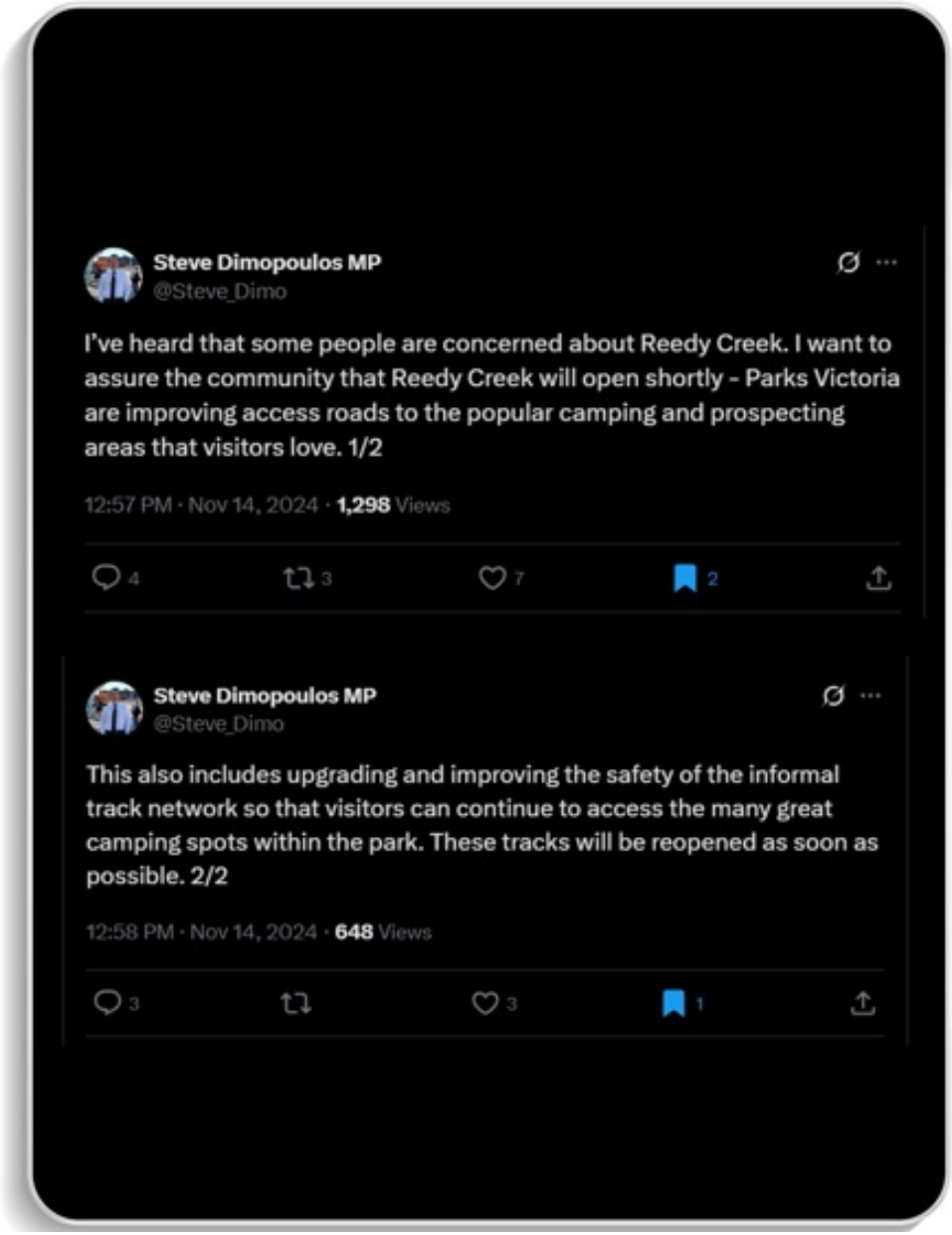
Nov 2024

Commitment to new parks in the east dropped

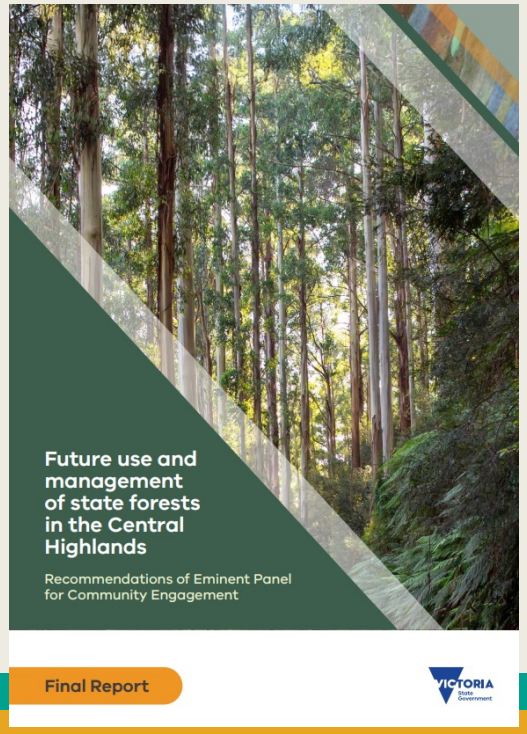


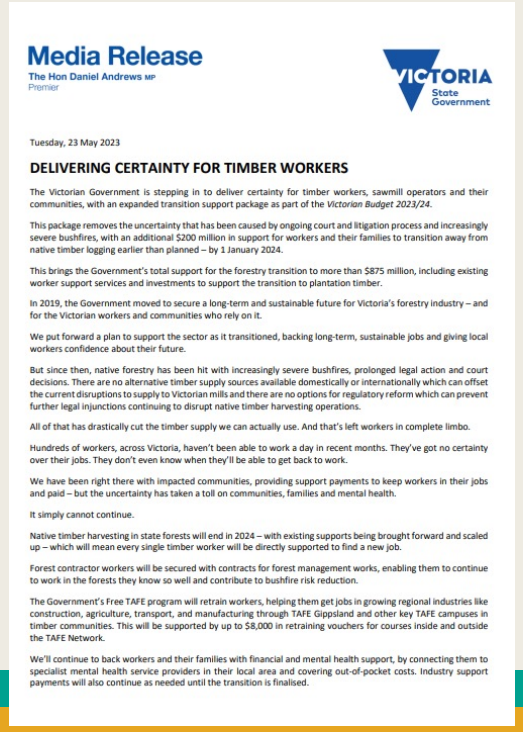
Jacinta Allans attack on Nature and National Parks

- Put Parks Victoria through a review despite having high approval rating and cut staff numbers
- Legalised illegally created track network in Chiltern Mount-Pilot National Park, announced via Twitter



- Abandoned Plans to create a Great Forest National Park in Central Highlands
- Threw out commitment to “deliver the largest expansion to the states forest reserve system in the State History”





Media Release

The Hon Daniel Andrews MP
Premier

VICTORIA
State Government

Tuesday, 23 May 2023

DELIVERING CERTAINTY FOR TIMBER WORKERS

The Victorian Government is stepping in to deliver certainty for timber workers, sawmill operators and their communities, with an expanded transition support package as part of the *Victorian Budget 2023/24*.

This package removes the uncertainty that has been caused by ongoing court and litigation process and increasingly severe bushfires, with an additional $200 million in support for workers and their families to transition away from native timber logging earlier than planned – by 1 January 2024.

This brings the Government's total support for the forestry transition to more than $875 million, including existing worker support services and investments to support the transition to plantation timber.

In 2019, the Government moved to secure a long-term and sustainable future for Victoria's forestry industry – and for the Victorian workers and communities who rely on it.

We put forward a plan to support the sector as it transitioned, backing long-term, sustainable jobs and giving local workers confidence about their future.

But since then, native forestry has been hit with increasingly severe bushfires, prolonged legal action and court decisions. There are no alternative timber supply sources available domestically or internationally which can offset the current disruptions to supply to Victorian mills and there are no options for regulatory reform which can prevent further legal injunctions continuing to disrupt native timber harvesting operations.

All of that has drastically cut the timber supply we can actually use. And that's left workers in complete limbo.

Hundreds of workers, across Victoria, haven't been able to work a day in recent months. They've got no certainty over their jobs. They don't even know when they'll be able to get back to work.

We have been right there with impacted communities, providing support payments to keep workers in their jobs and paid – but the uncertainty has taken a toll on communities, families and mental health.

It simply cannot continue.

Native timber harvesting in state forests will end in 2024 – with existing supports being brought forward and scaled up – which will mean every single timber worker will be directly supported to find a new job.

Forest contractor workers will be secured with contracts for forest management works, enabling them to continue to work in the forests they know so well and contribute to bushfire risk reduction.

The Government's Free TAFE program will retrain workers, helping them get jobs in growing regional industries like construction, agriculture, transport, and manufacturing through TAFE Gippsland and other key TAFE campuses in timber communities. This will be supported by up to $8,000 in retraining vouchers for courses inside and outside the TAFE Network.

We'll continue to back workers and their families with financial and mental health support, by connecting them to specialist mental health service providers in their local area and covering out-of-pocket costs. Industry support payments will also continue as needed until the transition is finalised.


Photo: Justin Cally

This was published 10 years ago

Minister flags new national park within this term to save the possum

Farrah Tomazin
May 2, 2015 — 8.01pm

Save | Share | A A A

Melbourne could have a new national park on its doorstep within this term of the Andrews Government – a move that would help save Victoria's critically endangered faunal emblem, the Leadbeater's possum.

Environment Minister Lisa Neville has given her strongest signal yet that Labor could soon move away from old growth logging in favour of the proposed 355,000-hectare Great Forest National Park.

land

MDPI

Perspective

Beyond Logging: The Need for Victoria's State Forests to Contribute to Australia's 30 × 30 Protection Target

James A. Fitzsimons [1,2,3,*] and Geoff Wescott [1]

[1] School of Life and Environmental Sciences, Deakin University, 221 Burwood Highway, Burwood, VIC 3125, Australia; geoffrey.wescott@deakin.edu.au
[2] School of Law, University of Tasmania, Private Bag 89, Hobart, TAS 7001, Australia
[3] The Nature Conservancy, Suite 2-01, 60 Leicester Street, Carlton, VIC 3053, Australia
* Correspondence: james.fitzsimons@deakin.edu.au

Abstract: In recognition of the declining state of biodiversity, the Convention on Biological Diversity's Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, signed in late 2022, committed countries to the protection of 30% of the Earth's terrestrial and inland water areas and coastal and marine areas by 2030. Australia has committed to this target at a national level. The majority of public protected areas (e.g., national parks) in Australia are designated and managed by state and territory governments. The state of Victoria

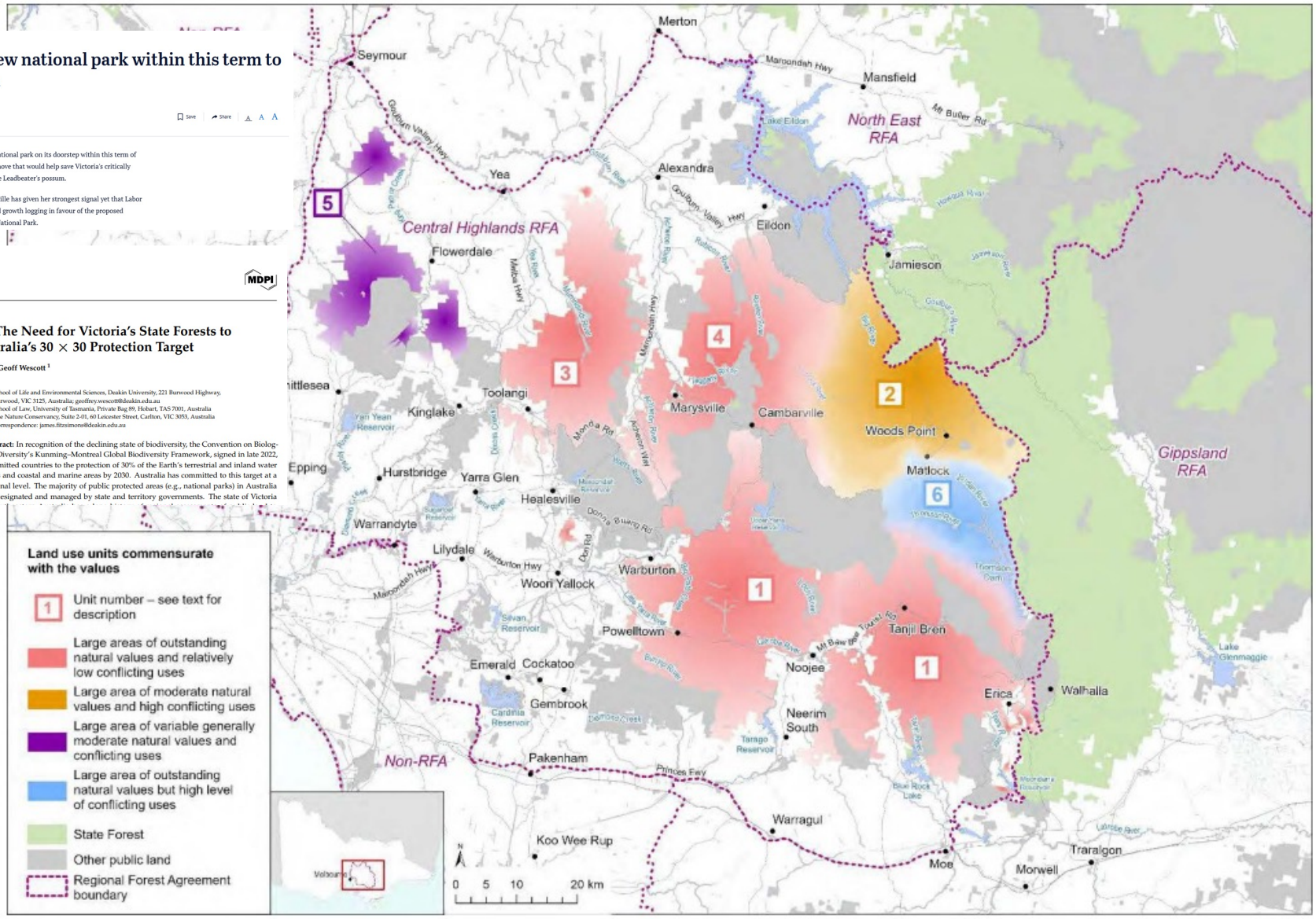
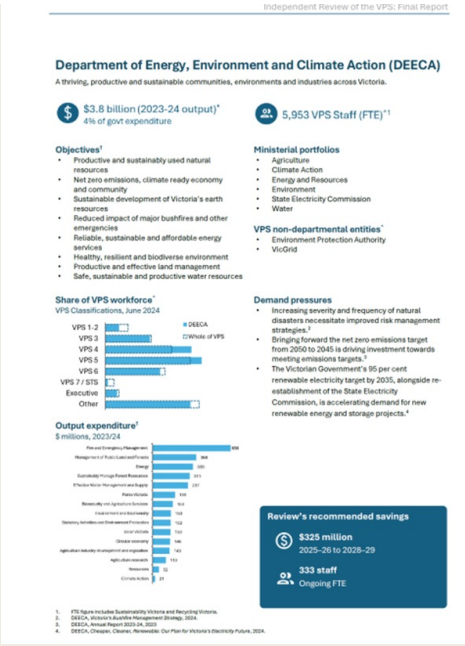


Figure 5.2 Suggested land use groupings commensurate with the values of the Central Highlands state forests


VEAC
Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
Assessment of the values of state forests in eastern Victoria
Assessment report
April 2025
VICTORIA
Great Outdoors Taskforce
RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT
Ignored and kneecapped “Great Outdoors Taskforce” from assessing post logging Gippsland public lands
Long-nosed Potoroo (Leo/flickr)



Independent Review of the VPS: Final Report

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)

A thriving, productive and sustainable communities, environments and industries across Victoria.

$3.8 billion (2023-24 output)*
4% of govt expenditure

5,953 VPS Staff (FTE)*[1]

Objectives[1]
- Productive and sustainably used natural resources
- Net zero emissions, climate ready economy and community
- Sustainable development of Victoria's earth resources
- Reduced impact of major bushfires and other emergencies
- Reliable, sustainable and affordable energy services
- Healthy, resilient and biodiverse environment
- Productive and effective land management
- Safe, sustainable and productive water resources

Ministerial portfolios
- Agriculture
- Climate Action
- Energy and Resources
- Environment
- State Electricity Commission
- Water

VPS non-departmental entities*
- Environment Protection Authority
- VicGrid

Share of VPS workforce*
VPS Classifications, June 2024

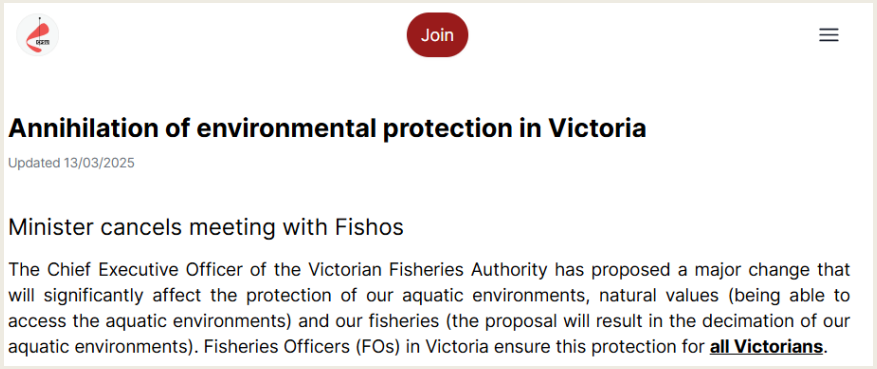
VPS 1-2
VPS 3
VPS 4
VPS 5
VPS 6
VPS 7 / STS
Executive
Other
DEECA
Whole of VPS

Demand pressures
- Increasing severity and frequency of natural disasters necessitate improved risk management strategies.[2]
- Bringing forward the net zero emissions target from 2050 to 2045 is driving investment towards meeting emissions targets.[3]
- The Victorian Government's 95 per cent renewable electricity target by 2035, alongside re-establishment of the State Electricity Commission, is accelerating demand for new renewable energy and storage projects.[4]

Output expenditure*
$ millions, 2023/24

Review's recommended savings
$325 million
2025-26 to 2028-29
333 staff
Ongoing FTE

1. FTE figure includes Sustainability Victoria and Recycling Victoria.
2. DEECA, *Victoria's Bushfire Management Strategy*, 2024.
3. DEECA, Annual Report 2023-24, 2023
4. DEECA, *Cheaper, Cleaner, Renewable: Our Plan for Victoria's Electricity Future*, 2024.



Join

Annihilation of environmental protection in Victoria

Updated 13/03/2025

Minister cancels meeting with Fishos

The Chief Executive Officer of the Victorian Fisheries Authority has proposed a major change that will significantly affect the protection of our aquatic environments, natural values (being able to access the aquatic environments) and our fisheries (the proposal will result in the decimation of our aquatic environments). Fisheries Officers (FOs) in Victoria ensure this protection for **all Victorians**.

- Abolished the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC)
- Abolished Victorian Marine and Coastal Council
- Sacked 33 Wildlife Officers from the Office of the Conservation Regulator
- Sacked 39 Fisheries Officers
- Sacked 350 staff from DEECA
- Wildlife Act reforms not being taken including protection of feral deer and independent regulator
- Logging of fuel breaks and storm hit areas including within National Parks

- abolish the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council and transfer its investigation and assessment functions to the **Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability**


ADVERTISED
PLAN
Approved by Minister for Planning
Sonya Kilkenny February 2026
Images are artist's impression and for illustrative purposes only





Eagle redevelopment opponents launch 'new stage' of campaign

AROUND 250 people packed the Dromana Community Hall on Sunday 29 March as Save Our Seat (SOS) launched the new phase of its campaign against a luge ride planned for Arthurs Seat.

The meeting came just over a month after the state government approved controversial plans by the Arthurs Seat Eagle for a rollercoaster-style luge running under the existing gondola, as well as a 36-metre viewing tower.

SOS said it was thrilled by the turnout, with around 80 per cent of attendees indicating it was the first time they had attended a SOS event.

A spokesperson from the group, Kylie Greer, said while the Minister may have given planning permission, the fight wasn't over and the campaign was now about convincing The Eagle to drop the luge.

"It's clear the Mornington Peninsula community doesn't want this luge to go ahead and they're prepared to fight tooth and nail to stop it – including standing in front of bulldozers, if it comes to that," said Greer.

"The Eagle has a clear choice: they can drop the luge and start rebuilding their trust and credibility in the community, or they can push ahead and destroy their own reputation."

Four candidates in the Nepean by-election attended the meeting and were asked by the audience to step up on stage and state their views. The attendees were community independent Tracee Hutchison, One Nation's Darren Hercus, Greens candidate Sianan Healy and the Libertarian Party's Peter Angelico.

Liberal candidate Anthony Marsh was an apology and has not yet responded to a Save Our Seat invitation to be briefed on the issue.

Community independent Tracee Hutchison said she had been part of the SOS campaign for over a decade and that Arthurs Seat, as a State Park, belonged to the people, not commercial development.

She said despite sustained and clear opposition from the community, the Allan government had chosen to ignore concerns including fire and landslide risks and impact on wildlife and vegetation. She said if she was elected as representative for Nepean, she would continue the fight to protect Arthurs Seat until the decision was reversed.

One Nation candidate Darren Hercus told the meeting he didn't think the luge was necessary and that he was appalled at the Labor government's lack of consultation and transparency, and by their overreach.

Greens candidate Sianan Healy told the meeting Arthurs Seat was a precious public green space and a crucial wildlife corridor that should be available for all of the public, instead of being handed over to private developers.

She said the public was angry and tired of not being listened to and of seeing big business and government cosying up together to make decisions that lined their pockets at the expense of the environment.

Libertarian Party candidate Peter Angelico said the strong turnout and overwhelming sentiment at the meeting, along with 97% of written submissions to the Minister opposing the roller coaster, raised serious questions not just about the project, but about the process behind it.

He said Libertarians fundamentally oppose governments riding roughshod over local communities, and that projects of this scale must respect the voices, rights and consent of the people they directly impact.

He forgot he was also the Environment Minister

Quote attributable to Minister for Sport, Tourism and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

"Attractions like this showcase Victoria to the world – driving our visitor economy which supports 288,000 jobs across the state."



STOP THE

FOREST FERAL FISH FAUNA FUNDING

F*CKERY



Wilderness Society

Life. Support.

VICTORIAN FOREST ALLIANCE

VICTORIAN NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

Be part of nature

Victoria's State Forest By-Products Framework

-Was released 2 weeks ago

-Being managed by Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMV)

-Numerous ecological concerns removal of logs on the ground used by wildlife such as Tuan/brush tailed phascogale, echidna, fungi and lyrebirds to name a few

-No oversight due to being done under fire management loop hole



Wurundjeri, Wadawurrung, Dja Dja Wurrung Country





Photo 1. Daleysford 2025 (Pile still there) Photo 2. Wombat Forest (Silver queen Coupe) 2024
More info here- https://wombatforestcare.org.au/index.php/category/issues-campaigns/logging/

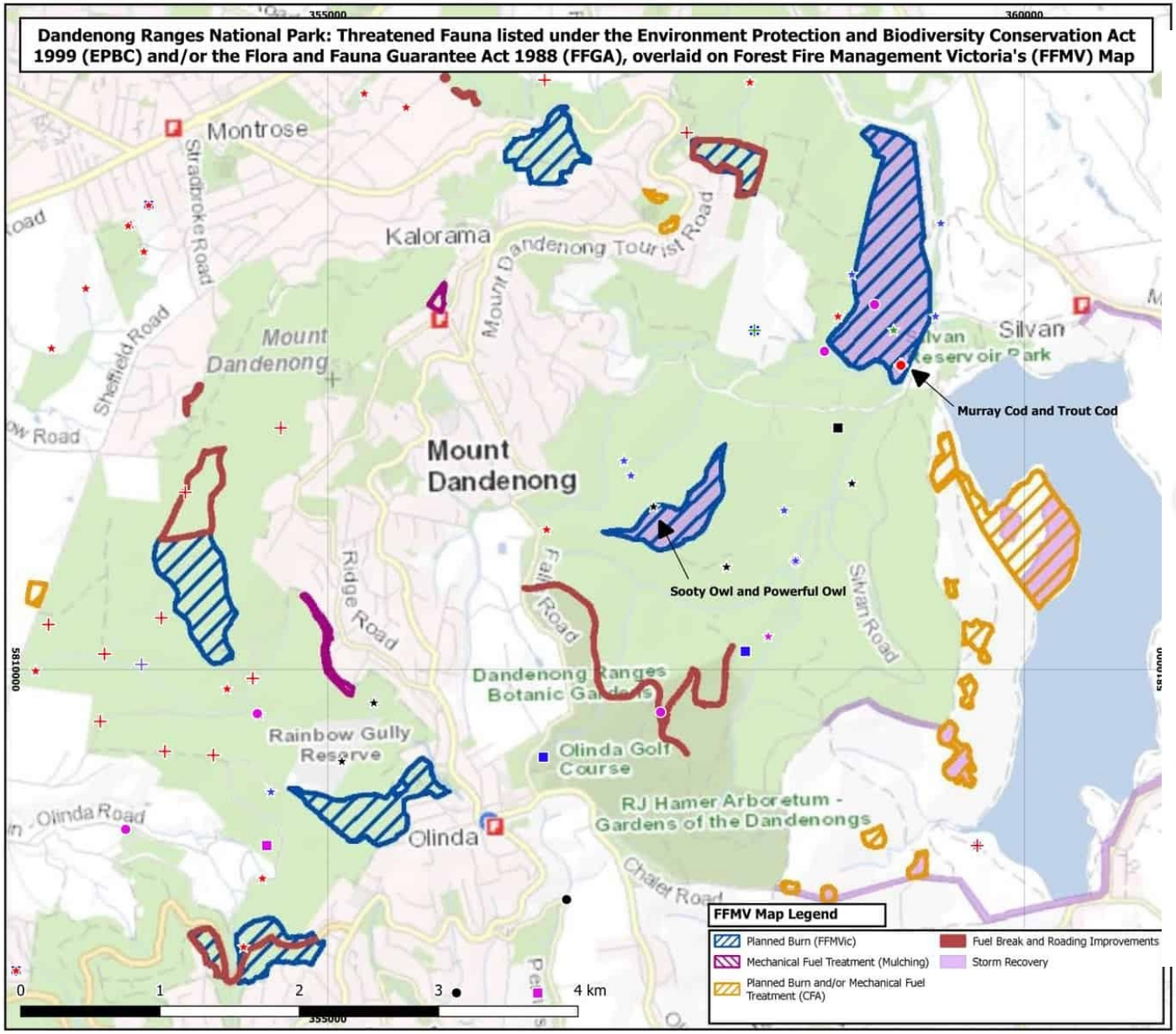
Wurundjeri Country – Dandenong Ranges National Park

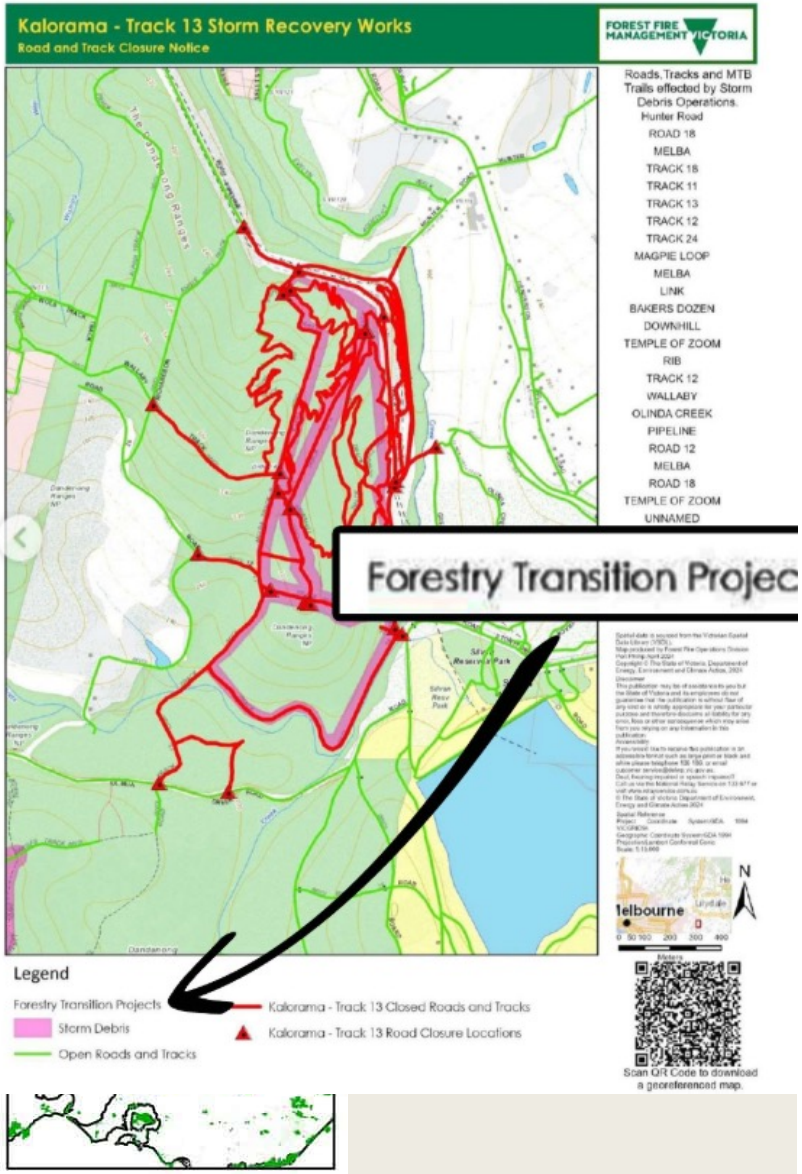
2024 Silvan Water catchment



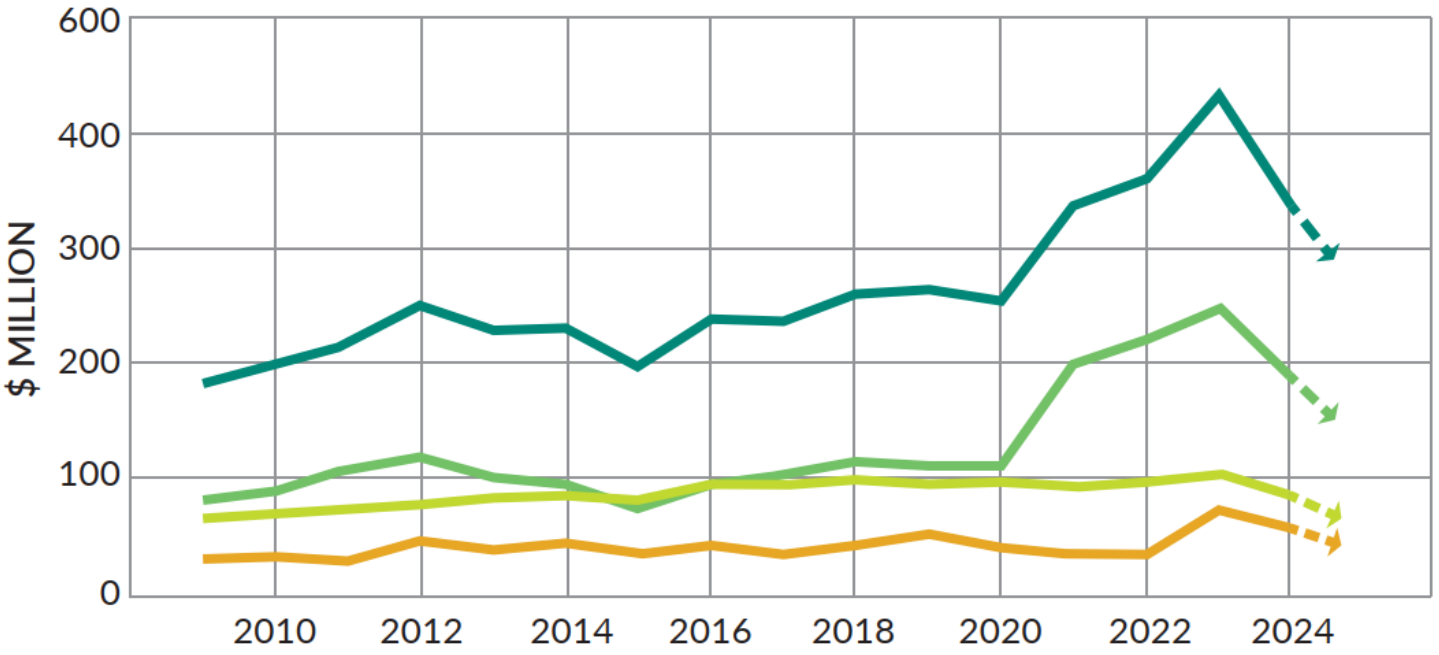


2026 done a month ago


Dandenong Ranges National Park: Threatened Fauna listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC) and/or the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFGA), overlaid on Forest Fire Management Victoria's (FFMV) Map
355000
360000
5810000
Montrose
Kalorama
Mount Dandenong Tourist Road
Mount Dandenong
Sheffield Road
Strabroke Road
Silvan Reservoir Park
Silvan
Murray Cod and Trout Cod
Sooty Owl and Powerful Owl
Ridge Road
Falls Road
Silvan Road
Dandenong Ranges Botanic Gardens
Rainbow Gully Reserve
Olinda Golf Course
RJ Hamer Arboretum - Gardens of the Dandenongs
Olinda
Olinda Road
Chalet Road
0
1
2
3
4 km
FFMV Map Legend
Planned Burn (FFMVic)
Mechanical Fuel Treatment (Mulching)
Planned Burn and/or Mechanical Fuel Treatment (CFA)
Fuel Break and Roading Improvements
Storm Recovery


Kalorama - Track 13 Storm Recovery Works
Road and Track Closure Notice
FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT VICTORIA
Roads, Tracks and MTB Trails effected by Storm Debris Operations.
Hunter Road
ROAD 18
MELBA
TRACK 18
TRACK 11
TRACK 13
TRACK 12
TRACK 24
MAGPIE LOOP
MELBA
LINK
BAKERS DOZEN
DOWNHILL
TEMPLE OF ZOOM
RIB
TRACK 12
WALLABY
OLINDA CREEK
PIPELINE
ROAD 12
MELBA
ROAD 18
TEMPLE OF ZOOM
UNNAMED
Forestry Transition Projec
Legend
Forestry Transition Projects
Storm Debris
Open Roads and Tracks
Kalorama - Track 13 Closed Roads and Tracks
Kalorama - Track 13 Road Closure Locations
N
Melbourne
Scan QR Code to download a georeferenced map.

Parks Vic cuts



- Funding less than 0.5% of state budget
- $94 million in cuts forecast.
- More cuts possible
- Huge loss of experienced staff

”I will never put a padlock on our public forest, It’s not who I am and it’s not what I believe.
Premier Jacinta Allan, August 2024





Where does new Premier Ben Carroll stand on conservation?

Ask him - ben.carroll@parliament.vic.gov.au


Why is a proud history of environmental stewardship by Labor being smashed?
Errinundra National Park (Robert Eime)

Blue collar union alliance



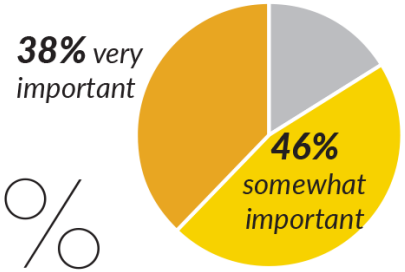

Trelly's
OUTDOOR
O.R.A.G



Mt Feathertop (Ed Dunens)

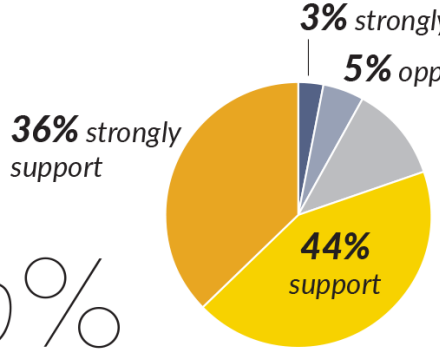
Public polling

National parks are respected and popular



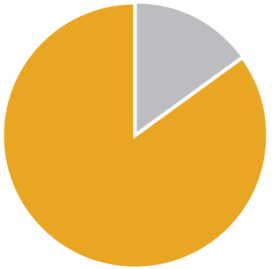
84%

of Victorians said national parks were important to them



80%

of Victorians support the creation of new national parks



85%

of 18-34 year olds support the creation of new national parks

Support for new national parks is largely bipartisan and evenly distributed across the state



82%

of Victorians living in inner and middle suburbs support national parks



81%

of Victorians living in outer suburbs support national parks

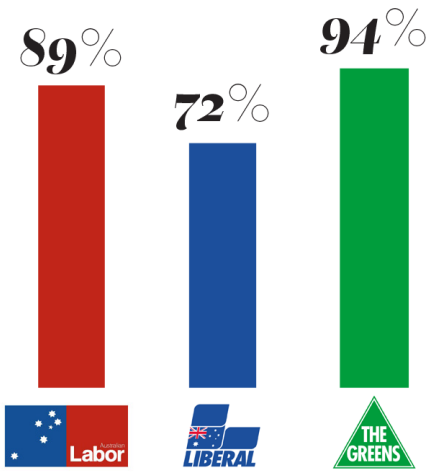


79%

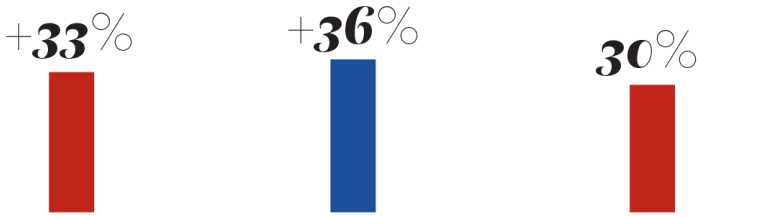
of Victorians living in rural and regional areas support national parks

National parks are a vote-winner across the board

Support for new national parks by voting intention:



Increased likelihood of change in voting intention:

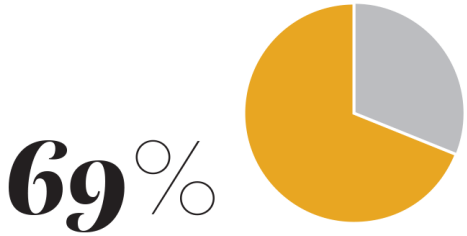


Support for Labor if it delivers the Great Forest National Park

Support for Coalition if it supports new national parks and bans logging in these areas

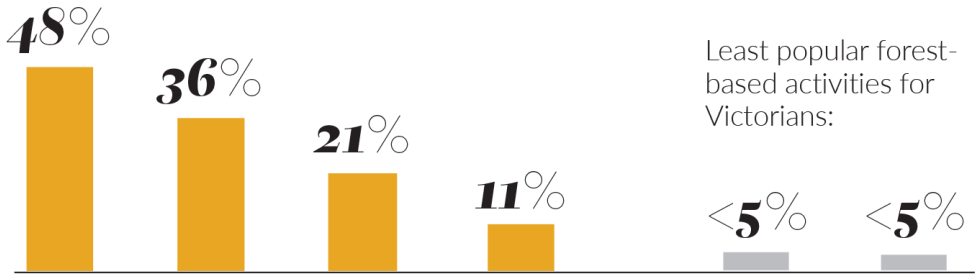
Labor voters likely to shift their vote to the Coalition if it supports new national parks and bans logging in these areas

Victorians love engaging with nature



of Victorians report having engaged in at least one activity in the bush in the past year

Most popular forest-based activities for Victorians:



Least popular forest-based activities for Victorians:



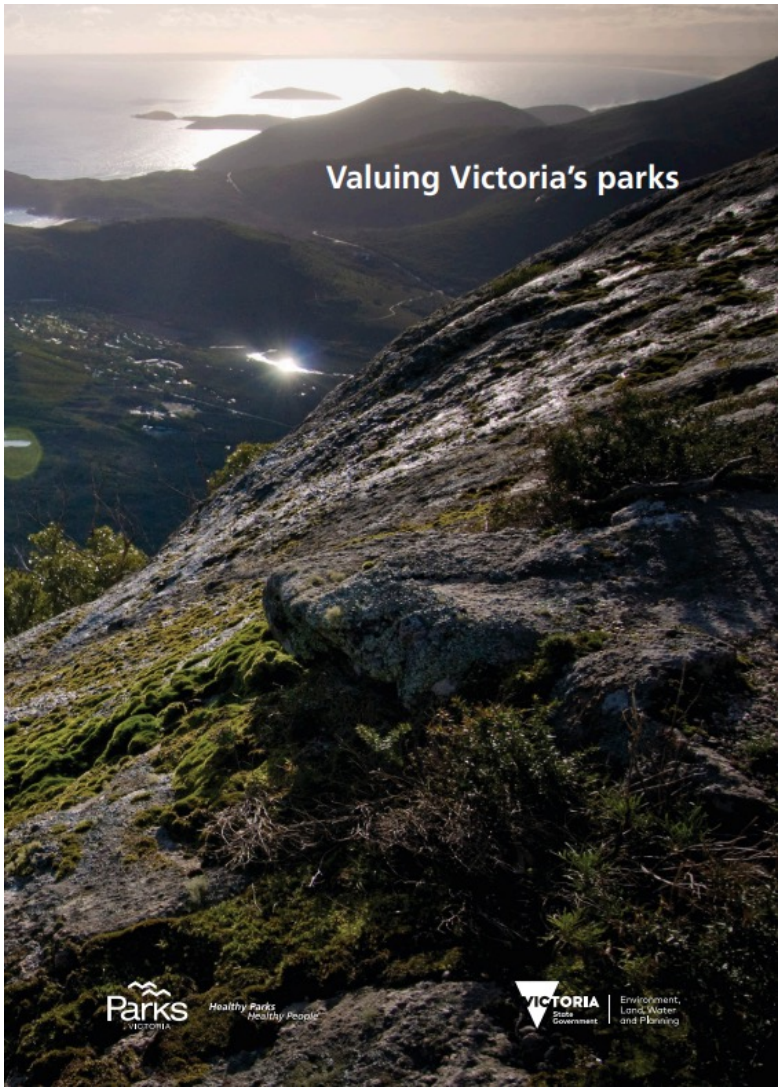
National parks in Victoria receive significantly more visitors than state forests, with over 54 million visits annually to state and national parks compared to approximately 16 million visits to state forests

Victoria's National Parks network provides an annual economic benefit of around **$1.5 billion**. This value comes from various services, including tourism, water filtration, and health benefits, which also support approximately 14,000 jobs in the state economy.

•**Water Supply & Filtration:** Parks contain over one million hectares of water catchments, and the value of the natural water filtration services they provide is estimated at **$83 million per year**.

•**Health Benefits:** Physical activity in parks is estimated to save between **$80 million and $200 million per year** in avoided healthcare costs for Victorians.

- **Coastal Protection:** Natural coastal habitats within parks, such as mangroves, saltmarsh, and dunes, help absorb wave energy and prevent storm damage, flood, and erosion costs, with an avoided cost value estimated at **$24–$56 million per year**.





Sign up and become a member today