Shipwreck Coast Master Plan – Stage One

Twelve Apostles – The Saddle Lookout

Status update - May 2018

About The Saddle Lookout
Perched on the limestone saddle, this new lookout will provide an unforgettable visitor experience by unveiling a spectacular view of the iconic Twelve Apostles. The Saddle Lookout is two long rectangular black and white blocks with one resting on the saddle and the other cantilevered towards the ocean. The view is hidden when visitors enter and, as they continue through the lookout, the unrivalled views of the coastline are revealed.

The design has been informed by engagement with the Eastern Maar Aboriginal community. The siting, forms and expression is a contemporary reflection of cultural heritage, while delivering a memorable and engaging visitor experience. The new lookout will be complemented by an additional walking track with rest stops creating a one-way circuit loop. This introduces a new, more protected and intimate experience, focusing on vegetation and cultural heritage. To construct the new Saddle Lookout, the Castle Rock Lookout will be removed and revegetated.

Completed activities
Preliminary geotechnical, environmental risk and cultural heritage assessments have been completed.

Geotech investigations involving geophysical (seismic) testing and drilling of boreholes occurred to further understand the ground conditions at the Saddle. Aerial scanning using drone mounted scanners was also undertaken to assess rates of cliff recession. The findings from these investigations have informed the location for the new lookout.

The flora and fauna site surveys revealed there are important species including the coastal Tussock Grassland, Southern Brown Bandicoot, Swamp Antechinus, Broad Tooth Rat, Rufus Bristle Bird and the White-footed Dunnart. Appropriate measures will be taken to ensure minimal impacts occur to these species and their habitats through the construction and operation of the new lookout.

The Eastern Maar are the Traditional Owners for this area and this is a place of cultural significance and importance. The Eastern Maar will continue to be engaged as partners for the project as it develops. A Cultural Heritage Management Plan has been completed and it identifies the cultural heritage within the project area to be protected during construction and operation.

Digital upgrade
Free public Wi-Fi is now available at the Visitor Centre. The installation of Wi-Fi enables visitors to share their experiences in real time via social media, as well as look up site information without relying on their personal phone connections. A digital experience platform will also be developed.

Seeking your feedback
Parks Victoria is seeking your feedback on the concept design, visit https://engage.vic.gov.au to learn more about the project and share your ideas.
Shipwreck Coast Master Plan – Stage One
Loch Ard Precinct – The Blowhole Lookout

Status update - May 2018

About The Blowhole Lookout
The Loch Ard Precinct is a large, diverse landscape and coastal environment with multiple destinations and features of visitor interest.

The Blowhole Lookout will provide a new visitor experience at this tucked away site nestled amongst native vegetation. The new lookout design respects the environmental and cultural characteristic of the site. It is subsumed in to the landscape and curves around the edge of the blowhole without impeding the symbolic breathing of the whale.

Improved access tracks curate the approach by concealing and revealing views so visitors experience the blowhole and native vegetation from a range of locations.

The former Blowhole Lookout was removed several years ago due to potential visitor risks posed by natural erosion of the limestone rock.

Completed activities
Preliminary geotechnical, environmental risk and cultural heritage assessments have been completed.

Geotech investigations involved geophysical (seismic) testing, drilling of boreholes and aerial scanning was conducted using drone mounted scanners to assess rates of cliff recession. The findings from these investigations have directly informed the location of the lookout, its design and the supporting walking paths.

The flora and fauna site surveys revealed there are important species including the Coast Headland Scrub, Southern Brown Bandicoot, Swamp Antechinus, Broad Tooth Rat, Rufus Bristle Bird and the White-footed Dunnart. Appropriate measures will be undertaken to ensure minimal impacts occur to these species and their habitats through the construction and operation of the new lookout.

Partnership with the Traditional Owners, Eastern Maar, is ongoing to support the design, particularly the cultural interpretation strategy. A Cultural Heritage Management Plan is currently being finalised. It identifies the cultural heritage within the project area to be protected during construction and operation.

Upcoming activities
Parks Victoria is meeting with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to confirm vegetation offsets process.

Completion of an Interpretation Strategy about local Aboriginal cultural heritage will be developed to guide future interpretations and digital experiences.

Seeking your feedback
Parks Victoria is seeking your feedback on the concept design, visit https://engage.vic.gov.au to learn more about the project and share your ideas.
Shipwreck Coast Master Plan – Stage One

Port Campbell Creek Pedestrian Bridge, Port Campbell

Status update - May 2018

About the Port Campbell Creek Pedestrian Bridge
The new suspension bridge will provide a walking connection over Port Campbell Creek. It is designed to have minimal visual and physical impact to maximise uninterrupted views along the creek.

The pedestrian bridge will connect a new boardwalk path on the Port Campbell township side that wraps around the dunes to the Port Campbell foreshore. The boardwalk will have resting points for users to sit and enjoy the view.

The bridge will facilitate a year-round connection from Port Campbell to the Discovery Trail and Port Campbell National Park.

The creek flow to the ocean fluctuates and at different times of the year it inhibits safe access between the township and the Discovery Trail. The bridge will provide important pedestrian connectivity.

The design will respect flood and storm surge mapping and environmental conditions from the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority.

Completed activities
Feasibility assessment occurred on three locations and connection options for the bridge.

A site analysis was conducted, bringing together all site visits and known information about the site from stakeholders and other sources. This has informed the design brief, precinct planning and concept design.

The flora and fauna site surveys revealed there are important species in the area including the Damp Heath Scrub, Estuarine Flats Grassland, Coast headland Scrub, Southern Brown Bandicoot, Swamp Antechinus, Broad Tooth Rat, Rufus Bristle Bird and the Swamp Skink. Appropriate measures will be undertaken to ensure minimal impacts occur to these species and their habitats through the construction and operation of the new bridge.

Partnership with the Traditional Owners of the area, Eastern Maar, is ongoing to support the bridge design. A Cultural Heritage Management Plan assessment has recently been completed. It identifies the cultural heritage within the project area to be protected during construction and operation.

Upcoming activities
Community consultation process to seek feedback on design and location.

Parks Victoria will review outcomes of consultations prior to any decisions or commitments being made on the bridge location and design.

Submit plans to the relevant Federal, State and Local government agencies for approval.

Seeking your feedback
Parks Victoria is seeking your feedback on the concept design, visit https://engage.vic.gov.au to learn more about the project and share your ideas.