

VICTORIAN DESALINATION PROJECT

FACT SHEET

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COASTAL PARK

The site of Victoria's new desalination plant will also be home to a new 225 hectare coastal park – one of the largest ecological restoration projects undertaken in Victoria, creating a new community asset for future generations to enjoy.

Minimising the visual impact of the desalination plant on the coastline is one of the key environmental objectives of the project.

The new coastal park plays a key role in the design response, blending the plant into the landscape and restoring the ecological values of the site.

The site of the desalination plant has been heavily cleared over the years for mining and grazing. Indigenous flora and fauna have been replaced with farmland and the original sand dunes have been degraded or removed entirely.

What does the restoration project involve?

The coastal park will see the planting of millions of new trees, shrubs and ground covers, reinstating indigenous vegetation.

New, constructed dunes will integrate the desalination plant into the landscape, blending with the existing

sand dunes and the natural landscape, and providing visual and acoustic protection to nearby neighbours.

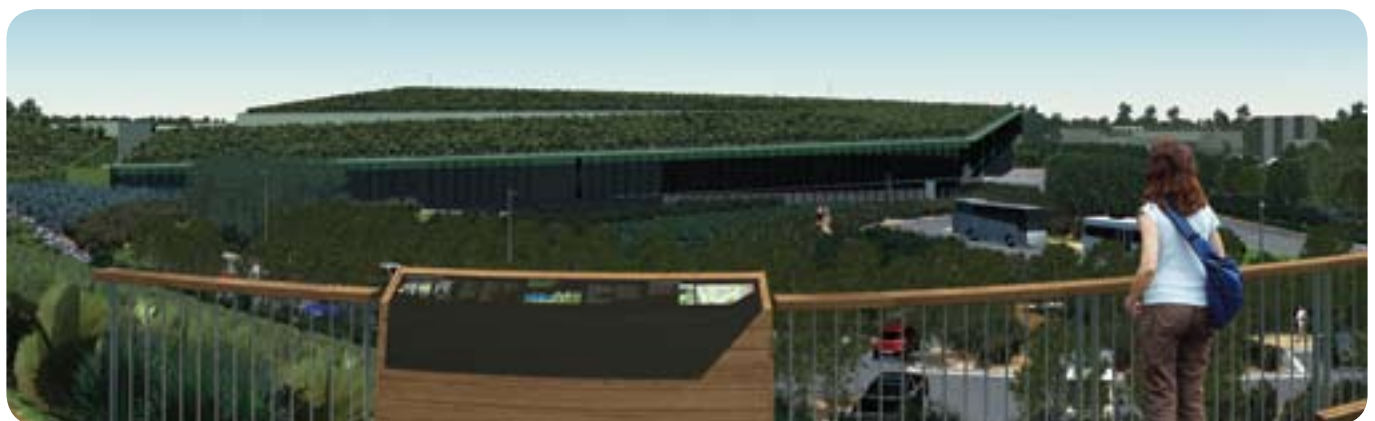
An existing tributary to the Powlett River and a number of old farm dams will also be rehabilitated, as part of a new system of wetlands that will provide habitat for animals, including migratory birds.

What facilities will be available in the coastal park?

The coastal park will include more than eight kilometres of pedestrian, cycling and horse riding trails, incorporating a bird hide and viewing decks.

Information points will detail the operation of the plant, the ecological rehabilitation and revegetation of the coastal park, information about existing landform morphology and local coal mining history.

Picnic shelters and public amenities will also be available.



Minimising visual impacts is one of the key environmental objectives of the project.

An aerial photograph showing a coastal park development. The park is situated on a peninsula with a sandy beach and turquoise water. The development includes several buildings, a parking lot, and a large green roof. The surrounding area is densely forested with various trees and shrubs. A yellow line indicates a path or boundary within the park.

COASTAL PARK KEY FEATURES

- 225 hectare coastal park with wetlands, coastal and swampy woodlands
- Millions of trees, plants and shrubs made up of 127 different species
- All species indigenous to local area
- All seeds collected within 40km of plant site
- 8km of trails for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders
- Information points and boardwalks
- Bird hide, viewing decks, picnic shelters and more
- Green roof of reverse osmosis building will feature a further 100,000 plants to blend building into the landscape
- Nine new dunes have been constructed by using the spoil created during construction



Examples of indigenous coastal park vegetation.



A number of old farm dams will be rehabilitated as part of a new system of wetlands.



The new wetland will provide habitat for animals, including migratory birds. A bird hide will provide a place for bird watchers and ornithologists to enjoy observing wildlife in their natural environment.



Boardwalks and picnic shelters will be available for visitors to enjoy.



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What sort of plants will be in the coastal park?

The Bass Coast is home to a wide variety of indigenous plant species.

Indigenous plants are important for a number of reasons, including their value as habitat for indigenous animals.

Around 127 species have been carefully selected from Ecological Vegetation Classes suited to the local area, including Coast Banksia Woodland, Damp Sands Herb Rich Woodland and Swamp Scrub.

All seeds for plants to be grown in the coastal park were collected within a 40km radius of the site.

For more information:

A complete plant species list is available on request.



CONTACT US

Visit the Victorian Desalination Project Community Information Centre Shop 2, 33–35 Murray St, Wonthaggi

Opening hours

Tuesday–Friday 9.30am–4.30pm,
Saturday 9am–12pm.

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Email contactus@aquasure.com.au

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LOCAL PARTNERSHIP TO DELIVER COASTAL PARK



Ecological restoration company Australian Ecosystems has joined forces with the Bass Coast Landcare Network to deliver the community coastal park.

Australian Ecosystems is an environmental restoration and ecological consultancy company, built on a vision of protecting and enhancing biodiversity in Australia.

Director Brendan Condon said the partnership with the Bass Coast Landcare Network will deliver world class ecological restoration techniques combined with the best local knowledge and expertise.

“The Bass Coast Landcare Network is highly regarded for its work in the region. This is a great opportunity to benefit from their local expertise and to build the capacity of the community to undertake major revegetation and restorations in the future,” Brendan said.