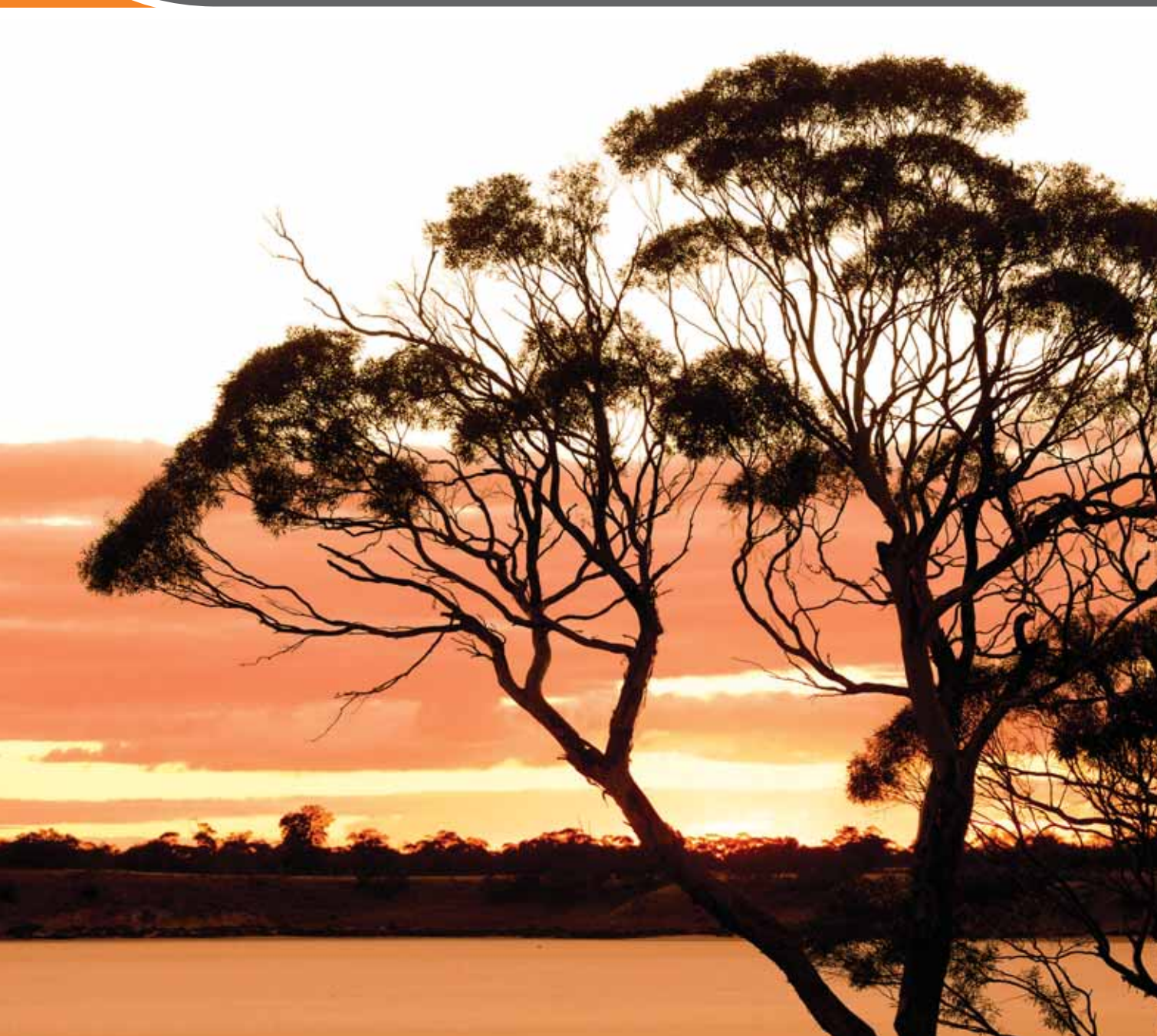


National Parks Act

Annual Report 2014



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Further information

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Notes

- The Minister responsible for administering the *National Parks Act 1975* during the year was the Hon Ryan Smith MP, Minister for Environment and Climate Change.
- In this report:
 - the legislation referred to is Victorian legislation unless otherwise indicated
 - *the Act* means the *National Parks Act 1975*
 - *DEPI* means the Department of Environment and Primary Industries
 - *the EPBC Act* means the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwlth)
 - *the Minister* means the Minister for Environment and Climate Change
 - *the Secretary* means the Secretary to the Department of Environment and Primary Industries.

Cover: Murray-Sunset National Park (photo: Parks Victoria/Darren Seiler)

Foreword



This annual report on the working of the *National Parks Act 1975* (the Act) for the year ended 30 June 2014 is provided to the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, the Hon Ryan Smith MP, for the purpose of section 35 of the Act.

The Act establishes the statutory basis for the protection, use and management of an outstanding system of national and other parks covering more than 3.45 million hectares.

The Secretary is responsible under the Act for ensuring that the parks and other areas to which the Act applies are controlled and managed in accordance with the Act. Parks Victoria is responsible for managing those areas on the Secretary's behalf in partnership with DEPI.

Notable events during the year included:

- the major bushfires which started in mid January 2014 and affected parks in the Mallee, the northern Grampians and East Gippsland, and the considerable effort made to control them
- the completion of the major flood and storm recovery programs in the Grampians and Wilsons Promontory national parks and parks in north-eastern Victoria
- a large program of works to control invasive plants and animals building on the work of previous years
- the delivery of environmental water to several key sites in parks in northern Victoria
- the many research and monitoring programs aimed at supporting better park management
- the release of draft management plans for the Greater Alpine national parks and parks in the south-west for public comment.

A significant highlight was the commencement of the Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement between the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation and the State and the start of the process to appoint a Traditional Owner land management board for several parks in north central Victoria. This further advances the involvement of Traditional Owners in the management of parks across the state.

Considerable progress was made on several significant initiatives to implement the government's commitment to encouraging more people to visit and enjoy our world-class natural tourism attractions while maintaining important environmental safeguards:

- legislation was passed to provide for the granting of long-term leases for sensible and sensitive tourism investment in various areas under the Act
- the expressions of interest process for appropriate private sector investment in the future of the Quarantine Station in Point Nepean National Park was completed
- permits were obtained from Heritage Victoria to enable the redevelopment of the Mount Buffalo Chalet to commence
- draft or preliminary master plans for the Grampians Peaks Trail and the Shipwreck Coast were released for public comment.

As in previous years, I want to highlight the extent of collaborative management and community involvement in a wide range of park management activities and to thank those staff and volunteers who have contributed to the protection and management of our parks during the year.

Adam Fennessy

Secretary to the
Department of Environment and Primary Industries

Contents

Foreword	1
A representative parks system	3
Areas managed under the Act	3
Changes to the parks system	3
Management and other planning	3
Managing natural and cultural values	5
Managing natural values	5
Monitoring natural values	9
Researching natural values	10
Managing post settlement cultural heritage	12
Managing fire and flood	13
Managing fire	13
Managing fire and flood recovery	14
Encouraging visitors and tourism	15
Enhancing visitor enjoyment and tourism	15
Informing, interpreting and educating	15
Partnering with Traditional Owners	17
Partnering with the community	18
Supporting park management	19
Management	19
Legislation	19
Authorities granted under the Act	20
Enforcement	21
Interstate cooperation	21
Advisory bodies	21
Appendixes	22
1 Areas managed under the National Parks Act	22
2 Location of parks and other areas	28

A representative parks system



Areas managed under the Act

As at 30 June 2014 there were 139 areas with a total area of more than 3.45 million hectares managed under various provisions of the Act. Appendix 1 lists the areas and Appendix 2 shows their location.

The 139 areas comprised:

- 124 areas listed on various schedules to the Act
 - 45 national parks (Schedule Two)
 - 3 wilderness parks (Schedule Two A)
 - 26 state parks (Schedule Two B)
 - 5 coastal parks, 3 historic parks, 1 nature conservation reserve, 8 regional parks and Haining Farm (Schedule Three)
 - 3 marine and coastal parks, 2 marine parks, 1 marine reserve, 1 national heritage park and 1 nature conservation reserve (Schedule Four)
 - 13 marine national parks (Schedule Seven)
 - 11 marine sanctuaries (Schedule Eight)
- 15 non-scheduled areas to which particular provisions of the Act apply.

The Act also defines the following areas within particular national parks:

- 19 wilderness zones (Schedule Five) within 7 national parks (see Appendix 1)
- 22 remote and natural areas (Schedule Six) within 12 national parks (see Appendix 1)
- 4 designated water supply catchment areas within the Great Otway, Kinglake and Yarra Ranges national parks.

Changes to the parks system

A total area of 395 hectares was added to the parks system during the year and nearly 11 hectares were excised. The additions are summarised in Table 1 and the excisions are described below.

On 1 August 2013 two areas totalling 10 hectares were excised from the Alpine National Park and added to Falls Creek Alpine Resort. This was accompanied by the addition to the park of an area of 11.9 hectares excised from the resort.

On 18 December 2013 a total area of nearly 384 hectares was added to nine parks and a small area was excised from one park. The additions were mostly areas of former freehold land with significant conservation values that had been acquired or which had been surrendered to off-set the clearing of native vegetation elsewhere. Some of the additions were sections of redundant government road. Corrections were also made to the plans of Dandenong Ranges and Yarra Ranges national parks.

The excisions were as follows:

- 1 August 2013 – Alpine National Park (10 ha) – an area on the northern foreshore of Rocky Valley Dam near the dam wall (9.6 ha) and an area at Sun Valley comprising part of Falls Creek's snow-grooming facilities (0.4 ha)
- 18 December 2013 – Mount Buffalo National Park (0.73 ha) – an area containing an existing access track on the eastern edge of park near Buckland River, excised to provide legal access to a freehold property.

Management and other planning

As at 30 June 2014 there were approved management plans covering all or parts of 43 national parks, 3 wilderness parks, 25 state parks, 17 other parks and reserves, 13 marine national parks and 11 marine sanctuaries.

During the year:

- the approved management plan for Kara Kara National Park was released
- a precinct plan for the Pink Lakes area of Murray-Sunset National Park was finalised
- a review of the master plan for the campgrounds, cabins and day visitor sites in Cape Conran Coastal Park was finalised.

Table 1 – Changes to parks

Date / park	Addition (ha)	Summary description
1 August 2013		
Alpine NP	11.9	Area of snow gum woodland on northern slopes of Mt McKay.
18 December 2013		
Brisbane Ranges NP	22	Forest and woodland west of Balliang including endangered creekline herb-rich woodland and threatened fauna.
Dandenong Ranges NP	0.12	Area adjoining existing park near Mt Evelyn.
Great Otway NP	64	Two areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 ha near Aireys Inlet containing high quality heathy woodland and rare and threatened species • 52 ha of high quality native vegetation east of Carlisle River.
Mount Eccles NP	193	Lava flow country mostly comprising intact stony rise woodland.
Point Nepean NP	1.26	Land at the Quarantine Station excluded from the park in 2009 as a site for a possible respite centre.
Wyperfeld NP	96	Area of mallee north of Yaapeet providing important malleefowl habitat.
Yarra Ranges NP	0.15	Area north of Warburton containing wet forest and part of the O'Shannassy Aqueduct and associated walking track.
Arthurs Seat SP	6.9	Lowland forest contiguous with existing park (Parkdale Block) north of Arthurs Seat Road.
Cape Liptrap CP	0.14	Area contiguous with existing park near Walkerville South and a section of redundant government road near Cape Liptrap.

CP Coastal Park
SP State Park
NP National Park

Work on several large planning projects led to the following plans being released for public comment:

- *Draft Ngootyoong Gunditj Ngootyoong Mara South West management plan*
This plan covers nine parks under the Act (Cobboboonee, Lower Glenelg, Mount Eccles and Mount Richmond national parks, Cape Nelson, Dergholm and Mount Napier state parks, Discovery Bay Coastal Park and Discovery Bay Marine National Park) as well as other parks, reserves and other areas not under the Act.
- *Greater Alpine national parks draft management plan*
This plan covers seven parks under the Act (Alpine, Baw Baw, Errinundra, Mount Buffalo and Snowy River national parks, Avon Wilderness Park and Tara Range Park) as well as several areas not under the Act. It was developed with substantial input from the Alpine Advisory Committee.
- a preliminary master plan for the Shipwreck Coast between Princetown and Boat Bay
This plan covers a 28-kilometre stretch of coast, including Port Campbell National Park and Bay of Islands Coastal Park, as well as several townships. The master plan is being developed in partnership with the Corangamite and Moyne shires and Tourism Victoria.
- *Grampians Peaks Trail draft master plan*
This plan will provide the blueprint for a 144-kilometre walking trail from Mount Zero to Dunkeld showcasing the beauty of the park.

In addition:

- a review of the environmental conservation management priorities was completed as part of management planning for parks in the River Red Gum area. The review included Barmah, Gunbower, Hattah-Kulkyne, Lower Goulburn, Murray-Sunset (part) and Warby-Ovens national parks, Leaghur State Park and Gadsen Bend, Kings Billabong, Murray-Kulkyne and Nyah-Vinifera parks and will assist in setting conservation goals and strategies that address threats to natural assets
- work commenced on a master plan to support the new Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing walk in the Alpine National Park.

Managing natural and cultural values



Managing natural values

The basis for setting strategic priorities for environmental management activities in areas under the Act is Parks Victoria's Levels of Protection framework, the State of the Parks Effectiveness Evaluation Program and conservation action plans. On-ground works are prioritised to protect the highest environmental values at greatest risk. Examples of projects in the various environmental management program areas are provided below.

Managing threatened species and communities

Parks Victoria works with DEPI, research partners and community organisations to protect threatened species and communities in parks. In 2013–14 Parks Victoria delivered projects in a range of program areas, including invasive plants and animals, habitat restoration and catchment and water management, which provided benefits for threatened species and communities. Examples of those projects are included in Table 2.

Table 2 – Threatened species and communities projects

PV region / park	Project
Western Victoria	
Grampians NP	<p>The Spot-tailed Quoll, a species previously thought extinct in the area for more than 140 years, was detected by a remote camera. Work continued to identify whether a viable population persists in the park. Trained scent detecting dogs capable of indicating the presence of quolls were used to assist in this exciting discovery.</p> <p>The Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby program continued with population monitoring and fox control undertaken as part of the Grampians Ark program. There were no re-introductions this year.</p>
Northern Victoria	
Mallee parks	There was a focus on improving the regeneration of buloke woodlands. A sustained program to reduce grazing pressure from goats, kangaroos and rabbits contributed to the regeneration of significant areas of overstorey seedlings. The work was supported by programs including Recovering Rangelands: Mallee Bounceback, Mallee Biofund and Good Neighbour.
Barmah NP	Parks Victoria and the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service monitored the Barmah Forest Ramsar site to understand the benefits of environmental watering to the breeding success of the White-bellied Sea-Eagle. Nesting habitats were monitored as part of the project.
Greater Melbourne	
Mornington Peninsula NP	New dog walking controls, including a no-dog zone covering a 7-km stretch of prime breeding area, were introduced to protect the Hooded Plover and encourage a change in visitor behaviour in the park.

NP National Park

Managing invasive plants

The control of invasive plants remains one of the top priorities for natural values management. Efforts are directed towards long-term, landscape-scale control strategies to improve the condition of high value environmental assets. Depending on the nature and extent of the threat, control works are aimed at either eradicating or containing an invasive species.

Invasive plant control programs in 2013–14 included the landscape-scale ‘Eden’ control programs funded under the Weeds and Pests on Public Land initiative – Glenelg

Eden, Otway Eden and Central Highlands Eden – as well as control programs targeting particular species in a range of parks. Table 3 summarises the major control programs undertaken in parks during the year. The *Managing marine values* section of the report contains information on the control of marine pests.

Many projects were delivered collaboratively by Parks Victoria, DEPI, catchment management authorities, local government and community groups. The federal government’s Caring for Our Country initiative also provided financial assistance.

Table 3 – Invasive plant control programs

PV region / program	Activity
Multi-region	
Good Neighbour	Invasive plants, including Blackberry, Boneseed, Bridal Creeper, English Broom, Gorse, Patterson’s Curse and St John’s Wort, were treated on the interface between various parks and private land.
Central Highlands Eden	As part of this landscape-scale program, high threat environmental and declared weeds were targeted in Baw Baw and Yarra Ranges NPs and Bunyip and Moondarra SPs.
Western Victoria	
Glenelg Eden	As part of this landscape-scale program, high threat invasive weeds were treated in Cobboboonee and Mount Richmond NPs.
Otway Eden	As part of this landscape-scale program, numerous weed infestations across public land in the Otways, including Great Otway and Port Campbell NPs. Species treated included Boneseed, Blackberry, Cape Ivy, Coast Wattle and Gorse.
Eastern Victoria	
Alpine National Park Intensive Management Program	Control works treated Broom, Soft Rush, Willow and several other species. The program to survey and eradicate hawkweeds (King Devil, Mouse-Ear and Orange) on the Bogong High Plains continued. Innovation in detection techniques saw the trial of highly trained scent dogs to detect and assist in delimiting new infestations or spread.
Protecting East Gippsland’s high value coastal environments	This initiative, supported by the federal government’s Caring for Our Country initiative, treated 329 ha of sea spurge in Croajingolong NP.
Greater Melbourne	
Urban Fringe Weed Management Initiative	This initiative includes landscape-scale weed management projects aimed at protecting key biodiversity assets on public land in peri-urban areas around Melbourne. High threat weed species were targeted in the Dandenong Ranges and Kinglake NPs, Arthurs Seat and Warrandyte SPs and Woodlands HP.

HP Historic Park
NP National Park
SP State Park

Managing invasive animals

Programs to control invasive animals are conducted in most parks across the state to manage the impact of these animals on natural and cultural values. Investment is directed towards eradication, containment and asset protection, with a focus on early intervention where possible.

Invasive animal management projects were carried out in many areas under the Act during the year. Targeted species included cats, deer, dogs, foxes, goats, horses, pigs and rabbits.

The control programs included the landscape-scale fox control programs funded under the Weeds and Pests on Public Land initiative – Central Highlands Ark, Glenelg Ark, Grampians Ark and Southern Ark – as well as other flagship projects in the Alps and the Mallee. The long-term landscape-scale programs are based on best practice control methods and threat responses and continue to provide benchmarks for invasive species control in Victoria. Other projects targeted particular species in a range of parks.

Table 4 summarises the major invasive animal control programs in parks this year. The *Managing marine values* section of the report contains information on the control of marine pests.

Table 4 – Invasive animal control programs

PV region / program	Activity
Multi-region	
Good Neighbour	This program delivered benefits on the interface between 18 parks and private land, focusing on foxes, pigs and rabbits.
Central Highlands Ark	This landscape-scale fox control program, aimed at protecting small mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, included fox baiting in Lake Eildon and Yarra Ranges NPs and Cathedral Range SP.
Large Herbivore Control	This project operates across the state where satellite populations of large herbivores (goats, horses and pigs) have been identified as threatening key natural assets and are considered locally eradicable. This year, survey, monitoring and/or control operations were undertaken in Barmah, Grampians, Snowy River and Warby-Ovens NPs and Gippsland Lakes CP.
Western Victoria	
Glenelg Ark	This landscape-scale fox control program, aimed at the recovery of small mammal and shore bird populations across 100 000 ha of public land in far south-west Victoria, included fox baiting in Lower Glenelg and Mount Richmond NPs and Discovery Bay CP.
Grampians Ark	Fox baiting continued under this program across large parts of the Grampians NP and Black Range SP. Following the bushfires in early 2014, the program was extended to include the northern Grampians.
Northern Victoria	
Mallee	Landscape-scale grazer control programs were again delivered in sensitive ecosystems in the Mallee, including works to control goats, pigs and rabbits in Hattah-Kulkyne and Murray-Sunset NPs.
Recovering rangelands: Mallee Bounceback	This landscape-scale rabbit control project, aimed at protecting threatened non-eucalypt woodlands, continued in Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks. Surveys in 2013–14 showed significant woodland recovery.
Eastern Victoria	
Alpine Fox Control	This program included, in the Alpine NP, fox baiting in the Barry Mountains to protect the Long-footed Potoroo and on the Bogong High Plains and near Mount Hotham to protect the Mountain Pigmy-possum.
Alps Intensive Management Program	This program included the control of feral horses as well as monitoring to inform the development of a broader feral horse management strategy.
Southern Ark	This landscape-scale fox control program, aimed at the recovery of small and medium-sized mammal populations across 950 000 ha of public land in East Gippsland, included fox baiting in Alfred, Alpine (part), Cooracambra, Croajingolong, Errinundra, Lind and Snowy River NPs, Lake Tyers SP and Cape Conran CP.
Greater Melbourne	
Urban Rabbit Control Initiative	This initiative, which applies best practice approaches to rabbit control in peri-urban environments around Melbourne, included control works in Warrandyte SP and Woodlands HP.
CP	Coastal Park
HP	Historic Park
NP	National Park
SP	State Park

Planning for a deer control program in the Alpine NP progressed, and there was further work on the development of a strategy to remove wild horses from Barmah NP. Research to explore community values relating to wild horses was undertaken to inform this strategy.

Partnerships with external organisations assisted with the delivery of various control programs. For example:

- detailed goat movements and populations were mapped to inform strategic goat control programs in Murray-Sunset National Park, supported by the federal Biodiversity Fund
- goats were controlled in Warby-Ovens National Park using aerial control techniques in a partnership involving Parks Victoria, DEPI and the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Parks Victoria also continued to work with the Australian Deer Association (ADA) and the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (Victoria) (SSAA) to deliver invasive animal control programs. The two organisations contributed volunteer hunters and also participated in non-hunting activities, including monitoring and using radio-tracking equipment to locate target species.

During 2013–14 the ADA and SSAA participated in projects to:

- manage the impact of deer and protect high value habitats in the Dandenong Ranges National Park and other parks on Melbourne's urban fringe (ADA and SSAA)
- deliver invasive animal control projects across the state, including controlling goats in the Alpine National Park and introduced predators in Point Nepean National Park (SSAA)
- progress a case study at Barmah National Park to refine the SSAA's role in invasive animal control and to ensure that suitable projects are selected based on the best available information and are managed for the best possible results.

Managing native animals

Long-term programs to manage the impact of kangaroo and koala populations in several parks continued. The programs are underpinned by established ecological rationales developed with the support of key stakeholders, including technical advisory committees.

During the year:

- kangaroo control programs were conducted to protect regenerating woodland habitats in Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks
- koala control programs were carried out in relation to
 - French Island National Park – following the replacement of relocation practices with a contraceptive implant program in 2012–13, this year 138 koalas were implanted with contraceptives and released back onto the island. A monitoring program carried out with the University of Melbourne investigated the impact on koala survival, health and ranging and supported the new management approach
 - Mount Eccles National Park – 134 female koalas were treated with contraceptive implants and released back into the park. The koala population has gradually declined in response to control measures from 11 310 in 2004 to the current estimated population of 4760.

Managing habitat restoration

A wide range of government and non-government organisations contributed to restoring degraded semi-arid woodlands of north-west Victoria as part of the Mallee BioFund project. Now in its fourth year, the project contributed to large-scale habitat restoration in Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Sunset and Wyperfeld national parks. See also *Managing threatened species and communities* and *Managing invasive animals*.

Achievements included:

- completing 530 km of direct seeding, using approximately 280 kg of native plant seed
- completing investigations into goat movements across the landscape to inform and improve future goat management
- constructing a 26-km barrier fence in Hattah-Kulkyne National Park to limit the movement of goats into priority woodland areas and to protect high value assets such as Ramsar listed wetlands
- constructing a 7.5-km barrier fence on the northern boundary of Hattah-Kulkyne National Park to protect both agriculture and the semi-arid woodlands from the impact of kangaroos
- delivering increased rabbit control programs around revegetation sites in partnership with Trust for Nature in the Neds Corner area of Murray-Sunset National Park
- closing unused water points to mitigate impacts from grazer species and to protect priority semi-arid woodlands.

Around Melbourne, Parks Victoria partnered with Greening Australia to revegetate areas by planting seedlings and sowing native plant seed as part of the Victorian Government's 2 Million Trees initiative. This included Churchill National Park, Warrandyte State Park and Lysterfield Park.

The phase-out of grazing and water frontage licences from Lower Goulburn and Warby-Ovens national parks occurred as part of implementing the new river red gum parks. The negotiation of agreements with various licensees to erect government-funded fences and off-stream water systems continued.

Managing the ecological use of fire

Further progress was made towards determining ecologically sustainable fire regimes through the development of landscape-scale fire ecology strategies and risk assessments. This information is used as part of integrated strategic bushfire management and to inform fire operations plans. In 2013–14 Parks Victoria continued developing and updating these landscape-scale assessments across areas under the Act, with most parks now included in the assessments.

Fire and biodiversity research is being incorporated into bushfire management planning through the refinement of tolerable fire intervals and geometric mean abundance, as well as vegetation growth stage analysis. A landscape mosaic burning research project in the box-ironbark parks continued.

Environmental assets that may be vulnerable to bushfire or fire suppression activities in the Alpine parks were identified and mapped.

The *Managing fire* section of the report contains additional information on monitoring the effects of fire regimes on biodiversity.

Managing environmental water

During 2013–14 the majority of Victoria's rivers, wetlands and floodplains experienced less than average inflows. More than 450 000 million litres of environmental water were delivered to wetland and river systems that are part of or neighbour areas under the Act, particularly in Barmah, Gunbower and Hattah-Kulkyne national parks.

The watering was undertaken through a broad partnership involving the Victorian Environmental Water Holder, DEPI, catchment management authorities, water corporations, Parks Victoria, the Murray Darling Basin Authority and the federal government. The program is integrated with river, wetland and catchment management activities to achieve targeted ecological outcomes.

The major floodplain water management structures constructed in Hattah-Kulkyne National Park in 2012–13, to ensure that environmental water is used efficiently and ecological benefits are maximised, were operated for the first time in 2013–14 to deliver environmental water to the lakes system.

Work to construct regulators occurred during the year at Lindsay-Wallpolla islands (Murray-Sunset National Park) and Hipwell Road (Gunbower National Park). All site-specific infrastructure was funded through the Murray Darling Basin Authority's Living Murray Environmental Works and Measures Program.

Managing marine values

There were improvements during the year in reporting on and planning for marine protected areas, particularly marine national parks and marine sanctuaries. These included:

- developing conservation action plans for all marine national parks and marine sanctuaries which set out clear and measurable goals for managing natural values and threats
- developing natural values report cards for marine national parks detailing their condition, values and threats
- trialing a new database for managing extensive monitoring datasets
- developing new statistical methods to analyse marine monitoring data.

An underwater 'bioscan' of Point Addis Marine National Park was completed, enabling Parks Victoria to compile an inventory of species in the park, assess current conditions and threats, validate marine habitat mapping data, identify diving sites and collect images and video. As part of this project, Parks Victoria worked with Heritage Victoria to survey a historic shipwreck - the *Inverlochy*.

Exotic marine pests represent a major threat to marine environments and were a focus for monitoring and control programs at Apollo Bay, Port Phillip, South Gippsland and Western Port. This year, Japanese Kelp, the Northern Pacific Seastar and the Pacific Oyster were of particular concern. In addition, research into marine pests was completed which identified the marine protected areas most at risk and which developed cost effective targeted monitoring protocols.

Changes in ocean currents and water temperatures have resulted in several native species of sea urchin becoming overabundant within parks and impacting on marine values, in particular, kelp forests. A trial program commenced with the aim of managing the impact of the Black Spined Sea Urchin in Beware Reef Marine Sanctuary, and an investigation into urchin barren formation in marine sanctuaries in Port Phillip.

Initiatives to improve public awareness of marine pests included erecting new signage at key locations, partnering with licensed tour operators to distribute information, generating media stories and delivering training programs for volunteers and staff.

There was progress made in several long-term projects aimed at improving compliance in the no-take marine national parks and marine sanctuaries. These projects included:

- installing 11 new signs at boat ramps adjacent to various parks and sanctuaries with improved boundary information, maps and a QR code linking to a fishing guide mobile phone application and installing a further four totems with marine related regulatory information
- installing seven piles at French Island Marine National Park and Ricketts Point and Jawbone marine sanctuaries to better mark the boundaries of protected areas – this continued the program commenced last year in Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park
- integrating marine protected area specific compliance plans into overall compliance plans for each region.

Other activities relating to managing marine values are referred to in *Monitoring natural values*, *Research programs* and *Informing, interpreting and educating*.

Monitoring natural values

Victoria's State of the Forests Report 2013, which covers parks, was released in early 2014. The report is issued every five years and uses a framework of environmental, economic and social criteria and indicators to monitor and assess the state's performance in achieving its sustainable forest management objectives.

DEPI's Victorian Forests Monitoring Program provides a platform to meet its reporting obligations, support future policy and management decisions and assess the health and condition of Victoria's forests and parks. During the year, monitoring plots were established and measured at sites across Victoria's forests, including 77 in areas under the Act. A further 15 plots established in previous years in areas under the Act were re-measured. Since the program started in 2011, 200 monitoring plots have been established in 44 parks (and 34 plots re-measured) in areas under the Act.

Parks Victoria's Signs of Healthy Parks monitoring program systematically monitors biodiversity assets, and threats to those assets, at targeted locations across the parks system. Work during the year included:

- assessing vegetation and habitat condition in parks including the Alpine, French Island, Terrick Terrick and Wilsons Promontory national parks, Paddys Ranges State Park and Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park
- monitoring native fauna in many parks across the state
- mapping and monitoring the distribution and abundance of weeds in parks including the Alpine, Dandenong Ranges and Wilsons Promontory national parks
- surveys to determine the presence of *Phytophthora* in the Alpine, Heathcote-Graytown, Kara Kara, Kinglake, Lower Glenelg, Mount Buffalo and Mount Richmond national parks and Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park
- monitoring overabundant kangaroo and koala populations in French Island, Hattah-Kulkyne, Mount Eccles, Murray-Sunset, Wilsons Promontory and Wyperfeld national parks

- monitoring invasive animals such as deer, foxes, goats, horses and rabbits in parks across the state, including foxes in Cooracambra, Errinundra and the Grampians national parks, rabbits in Hattah-Kulkyne National Park and deer and horses in the Alpine National Park.

Monitoring activities in marine protected areas included:

- targeted surveys for marine pests including Pacific Oyster, Northern Pacific Seastar, New Zealand Screw Shell and European Shore Crab in Churchill Island, Corner Inlet, French Island, Port Phillip Heads, Wilsons Promontory and Yaringa marine national parks, French Island and Wilsons Promontory national parks and Wilsons Promontory Marine Park and Wilsons Promontory Marine Reserve
- monitoring intertidal reefs in Bunurong, Point Addis and Port Phillip Heads marine national parks, and Barwon Bluff, Jawbone, Mushroom Reef, Point Cooke, Point Danger and Ricketts Point marine sanctuaries
- monitoring subtidal reefs in Cape Howe and Port Phillip Heads marine national parks
- community based monitoring as part of the Sea Search program in seven areas under the Act, including Corner Inlet Marine National Park and Merri Marine Sanctuary, and as part of the Reef Life Survey at Beware Reef Marine Sanctuary.
- capturing, marking, measuring and releasing small mammals and undertaking observational surveys of birds in the Grampians National Park for the purpose of investigating the recovery of small mammal communities after significant wildfire events under variable climatic conditions
- surveying, using a non-destructive underwater visual census, all resident reef fishes, invertebrates and macro-algae in Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park and Jawbone, Point Cooke and Ricketts Point marine sanctuaries to define relationships between nutrient levels and sediment load on rocky reef communities within Port Phillip Bay for the purpose of identifying management thresholds.

Research programs

Two significant research programs managed by DEPI are investigating the impact and management of bushfire and planned burning – one with the University of Melbourne and the other through the Bushfire and Natural Hazards Cooperative Research Centre. These programs continued to investigate the relationship of fire (natural and managed) to a suite of factors including forest management regimes, water quantity and quality, biodiversity values, carbon assets, other social and economic values, and the vulnerability and resilience of Victoria's public forests, including those in parks.

In March 2014 the federal Minister for the Environment approved under the EPBC Act, subject to strict conditions, a research trial to investigate bushfire fuel management in the Wonnangatta Valley in the Alpine National Park using strategic grazing of domestic livestock. As part of the first year of the three-year trial, 57 cattle were brought into the valley on 19 March 2014. The cattle were taken out on 11 May 2014.

The Active Forest Health Program in the new river red gum parks includes an ecological thinning trial in Barmah National Park to assess whether ecological thinning can maintain or improve forest health and suitable habitat characteristics. DEPI and Parks Victoria worked with the New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage to prepare a public environment report as part of the assessment of the project under the EPBC Act (see also *Interstate cooperation*). The report was released for public comment in February 2014.

DEPI and Parks Victoria developed an ecosystem accounting and valuation framework for the Victorian parks network, based on the application of international best practice frameworks such as The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity and the System of Economic Environmental Accounting. This project will improve the capacity to measure the ecosystem services provided by parks and the social and economic benefits generated.

Parks Victoria's Research Partners Program continued to support and facilitate applied research collaborations with universities and other institutions, gathering critical information to underpin an evidence-based approach to decision-making and further improve park management. New research initiated during the year to address important questions relating to areas under the Act included the projects referred to in Table 5.

Researching natural values

Research authorisations

Research, study and investigation in areas on the schedules to the Act are authorised under section 20 or 21A of the Act, sometimes in conjunction with a permit under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*, the *Reference Areas Act 1978* or the *Wildlife Act 1975*.

A total of 166 research permits were issued during the year, 102 of which were new permits and 64 were renewed permits. These enabled research to be carried out in 84 parks (a permit may cover more than one park) or in all parks if required (18 permits). The parks for which 10 or more permits were issued (in addition to the 'all parks' permits) were: Alpine (13), Chiltern-Mt Pilot (10), Dandenong Ranges (13), Grampians (17), Great Otway (26), Greater Bendigo (12), Hattah-Kulkyne (12), Kinglake (10), Murray-Sunset (15), Wilsons Promontory (18) and Yarra Ranges (14) national parks.

Examples of the research authorised under the permits include:

- work in the Alpine, Baw Baw, Burrowa-Pine Mountain, Chiltern-Mt Pilot and Mount Buffalo national parks for the purpose of examining the relative age and weathering characteristics of blockstream deposits and granite tors in the Victorian Alps
- installing and testing airborne and terrestrial LiDAR technologies at sites with different forest ages in Lake Eildon and Yarra Ranges national parks for the purpose of modelling a time series correlation between forest fuel structures and fuel hazard scores
- capturing, releasing and retaining voucher specimens of the Ancient Greenling in the Alpine, Grampians, Lower Glenelg and Snowy River national parks and Discovery Bay Coastal Park for the purpose of studying the ecology and evolution of the Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies)

Table 5 – New research projects

PV region	Project
Multi-region	Marine – a trial using a biological agent (predation by the native Eleven-armed Seastar) to control the invasive North-Pacific Seastar.
	Marine – research examining strategies for the removal of introduced kelp and its interaction with native algae.
Western Victoria	Grampians NP – two projects examining the impacts and techniques for controlling invasive Sallow Wattle in the park.
	Great Otway NP – an assessment of the distribution over time of the New Holland Mouse and the Swamp Antechinus in areas of the park.
Eastern Victoria	Alpine NP – an assessment of the success of re-seeding areas of alpine ash in the park that have been burnt twice in recent years.
	Wilson's Promontory NP – an investigation into the effectiveness of fertility control to manage high-density wombat populations in the park.
	Marine protected areas – an evaluation of the effectiveness of management practices used to control the invasive grass <i>Spartina</i> in Corner Inlet MNP and Corner Inlet, Nooramunga and Shallow Inlet MCPs.
Greater Melbourne	Churchill and Dandenong Ranges NPs – a project to develop a framework to prioritise actions for effective weed control in the parks.
	Organ Pipes NP and Woodlands HP – an investigation into how different nest box designs can be used to conserve bat species that are sensitive to the pressures of urban environments.
	Churchill Island, French Island and Yaringa MNPs – an investigation into the role of catchments in, and the management options to promote, the recovery of seagrass beds in Western Port.

HP Historic Park
MCP Marine and Coastal Park
MNP Marine National Park
NP National Park

The Research Partners Program also supported research projects that had commenced in previous years. These included:

- a study of the resilience of flora and fauna in times of extended drought in parks including Barmah, Gunbower, Hattah-Kulkyne and Murray-Sunset national parks
- Grampians National Park – research examining the responses of small mammals to fire and the identification of critical refuge habitats to enable recovery following disturbances
- Heathcote-Graytown National Park – an assessment of the impacts of fire on biodiversity and vegetation structure in the park
- Wilson's Promontory National Park – a study on the Yanakie Isthmus examining the abundance of introduced and native grazing species and how they influence vegetation recovery following fire
- marine national parks – a study of the links between the physical characteristics of the seafloor and biological communities
- Wilson's Promontory Marine National Park – a project mapping the seafloor of the park.

Managing post settlement cultural heritage

Projects relating to managing post settlement cultural heritage occurred in parks across the state, including those included in Table 6.

Table 6 – Post settlement cultural heritage projects

PV region / park	Activity
Western Victoria	
Grampians NP (Zumsteins)	Centenary celebrations at the Zumsteins recreation area, which coincided with the September 2013 re-opening of the site post-flood.
	Start of stabilisation works on the cottages.
	Consultation with the local community about the future management of Zumsteins.
Great Otway NP	Cape Otway Lightstation – repair of external timber railings, picket fences, the lighthouse tower's spiral staircase handrail and the ceiling in the head lighthouse keeper's quarters.
Steiglitz HP	Steiglitz Courthouse – repair of external roof timbers.
	St Paul's Church – repair of external walls and window frames and the repainting of two external walls.
	St Thomas's Church – replacement of the roof gutters and repairs to several external window frames.
	Protection with a paling fence of the partially filled-in mine shafts located within the township.
Northern Victoria	
Castlemaine Diggings NHP	Replacement of directional signage at Spring Gully and the Garfield Wheel.
	Completion of walking track and site maintenance and weed control programs at visitor nodes.
	Fencing of mineshafts and signage works.
Eastern Victoria	
Alpine NP	Repairs to several huts, including Edmondson's Hut, with the assistance of volunteers from the Victorian High Country Huts Association.
Mount Buffalo NP	Completion of the cataloguing of the movable heritage collection at the Mount Buffalo Chalet in preparation for the redevelopment of the chalet. This included identifying items to be kept, sold, donated or stored for re-use. There was a clearing sale of some 600 pieces of memorabilia.
Cape Liptrap CP	Annual maintenance works on the lime kilns at Walkerville, with a focus on repointing the stone walls of the No. 5 kiln.
Gippsland Lakes CP	Repair and re-erection of the historic crane at the constructed entrance to the lakes (known as the New Works Area) with the assistance of Gippsland Ports.
Greater Melbourne	
Point Nepean NP	Conversion of the stables at the Quarantine Station into the park's new visitor information centre, completing a \$1.4 million site infrastructure renewal program.
	Ongoing building maintenance, including conservation of the remnants of the quarantine isolation fence.
	Completion of the digitising of the historical archives and development of a comprehensive website in collaboration with the Nepean Historical Society.
	Completion of conservation work on, and installation of interpretive displays at, Fort Nepean in preparation for the centenary commemorations in August 2014 of the first shot of World War I.

CP Coastal Park
 HP Historic Park
 NHP National Heritage Park
 NP National Park

Managing fire and flood



Managing fire

Bushfires

The 2013–14 bushfire season was above average. DEPI recorded 246 bushfires in areas under the Act affecting approximately 327 000 hectares of land. The major causes of the bushfires starting in areas under the Act were lightning (38 per cent), campfires (15 per cent) and deliberate lighting (11 per cent).

A major heatwave across Victoria in mid-January 2014, accompanied at times by significant lightning activity, led to many fires. These included the major fires for the year in areas under the Act, as summarised in Table 7.

Table 7 – Major fires

Location	Date fire started	Park	Area of park burnt (ha)	% park
Mallee	14 January 2014	Wyperfeld NP	48 953	14
		Lake Albacutya Park	7 590	91
		Big Desert WP	16 871	12
		Murray-Sunset NP	4 668	<1
Northern Grampians	15 January 2014	Grampians NP	39 354	23
Club Terrace - Goolengook River	16 January 2014	Errinundra NP	3 480	9
Goongerah - Deddick Trail	16 January 2014	Snowy River NP	95 756	84
		Errinundra NP	7 926	20

NP National Park
WP Wilderness Park

Planned burning

As part of the 2013–14 statewide planned burning program, DEPI recorded 75 burns completed in areas under the Act, treating 27 534 hectares of land under the Act. The largest areas treated were in the Little Desert (4793 ha), Lake Eildon (3553 ha) and Alpine (3000 ha) national parks and Big Desert Wilderness Park (2948 ha).

Melbourne Bushfire Protection Program

Established in 2009, the Melbourne Bushfire Protection Program seeks to improve bushfire preparedness on Melbourne's urban-bushland interface in areas including Churchill, Dandenong Ranges, Mornington Peninsula, Organ Pipes and Point Nepean national parks, Arthurs Seat and Warrandyte state parks, Lysterfield Park, Langwarrin Flora and Fauna Reserve and Woodlands Historic Park.

Works in areas under the Act this year included:

- the construction of 1.2 km of new fuel breaks and upgrading 9 km of fuel breaks
- the mechanical treatment of 51 hectares of high risk fire management zones that were unsuitable for planned burning
- the upgrading of 25 km of roads and tracks to improve access for fire vehicles
- pest plant control across five parks following fuel reduction burning
- invasive plant control works in the Dandenong Ranges, Mornington Peninsula and Point Nepean national parks and Warrandyte State Park as part of a 10-year program designed to improve vegetation condition and offset native vegetation losses resulting from previous fuel break works
- planning for the East Central strategic bushfire risk landscape across the broader Melbourne area.

Planning and monitoring

DEPI's Bushfire Management Reform Program developed an integrated planning framework to support strategic bushfire management planning. DEPI and Parks Victoria worked on the statewide delivery of a landscape-scale bushfire management program, which was initially trialled in the Otways. Seven bushfire risk landscapes have now been established across the state to support strategic bushfire management planning.

Monitoring programs examining the effects of fire regimes on biodiversity continued in parks across the state. All fire-related monitoring is now being consolidated within a single Victorian Bushfire Monitoring Program. This program will be informed by the Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework for Bushfire Management on Public Land (including parks) which will continue to guide efforts to improve fire preparedness while reducing impacts on biodiversity.

The *Ecological fire management* section of the report also contains information on ecological fire management.

Managing fire and flood recovery

Parks Victoria commenced planning and implementing recovery programs following the major bushfires in January and February 2014 which affected parks in the Mallee, the Grampians and East Gippsland (see Table 7). Risk assessments were completed which will provide the basis for developing, prioritising and delivering future recovery activities.

The flood recovery program initiated to repair damage in the Grampians, Wilsons Promontory and other affected parks after the storms between September 2010 and March 2011 concluded in 2013–14. Works carried out in the Grampians and Wilsons Promontory national parks this year are referred to in Table 8.

Throughout the recovery program Parks Victoria worked with the community, contractors, other agencies and Traditional Owners. The extensive program of works included the repair or replacement of vehicle bridges, pedestrian bridges, boardwalks and stairs, buildings, roads and trails. Cultural heritage surveys and assessments were also completed, priority sites rehabilitated and natural values programs (such as invasive plant and animal control programs) were delivered.

Also concluding in 2013–14 was the recovery program initiated following the storms and heavy rainfall in north-eastern Victoria in late February and early March 2012 and in East Gippsland in June 2012. Those events caused damage in numerous parks and led to a recovery program which also included the repair or replacement of a considerable amount of park infrastructure.

Encouraging visitors and tourism



Enhancing visitor enjoyment and tourism

Work continued on implementing the government's commitment to providing greater opportunities for visitors to enjoy the state's wonderful natural environment while maintaining important environmental safeguards.

There was steady progress on two significant projects relating to the Mount Buffalo Chalet in Mount Buffalo National Park and the Quarantine Station precinct of Point Nepean National Park (see also *Managing post settlement cultural heritage*):

- Mount Buffalo Chalet – permits were obtained from Heritage Victoria to redevelop and refurbish the chalet. Detailed design work was nearly completed and a community forum was established to ensure the local community's engagement through this phase
- Quarantine Station – a two-stage expression of interest process seeking appropriate private sector investment in the future of the Quarantine Station ended in April 2014. In June 2014 the Minister approved the report and recommendations of the evaluation panel concerning the preferred proponent for the long-term management, investment and lease of the Quarantine Station.

In June 2014 a planning permit was issued to Arthurs Seat Skylift Pty Ltd for the proposed new gondola at Arthurs Seat State Park.

Elsewhere, works were carried out across the state to improve visitor and tourist access and enjoyment while maintaining park values and reducing risks. Table 8 contains examples of projects worked on during the year (see also *Managing post settlement cultural heritage*).

Visits to parks

The Visitor Number Monitor is a biennial survey covering a sample of visitors from Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and overseas. The statewide monitor was introduced in 2001 to record the number of visits to national and state parks and to report on changes and trends in park visitation. The latest survey, conducted in 2012–13, found that there were an estimated 34.8 million visits to national and state parks.

Parks Victoria conducts a biennial on-site satisfaction survey at 19 sites across 11 national parks and coastal parks. Park satisfaction data is weighted by visitation to produce a corresponding satisfaction index (SI). In 2013–14 the SI for country parks was 70.3, compared to 73.9 in 2012. The decrease was driven by decreases in visitor satisfaction at the Alpine National Park and Cape Liptrap Coastal Park.

Licensed tour operators

Tour operators are licensed to run organised tours and recreational activities for profit on Victorian public land. As at 30 June 2014, 346 operators were licensed to operate in areas under the Act.

Informing, interpreting and educating

Information, interpretation and education services relating to areas under the Act were provided to encourage visits, manage risks, increase knowledge and understanding of parks and biodiversity and encourage visitors to develop a stronger connection with the environment.

Information was again provided to the public through Parks Victoria's 24-hour information service (13 1963), the Parks Victoria website, social media and Park Notes.

Activities relating to interpretation and education during the year included:

- the delivery of face-to-face interpretation and education programs to more than 17 680 visitors (adults and children) in areas under the Act. These included 7156 visitors at Wilsons Promontory National Park and 2991 visitors at Dandenong Ranges National Park (excluding those using the Forest Classroom – see below)
- Junior Ranger activities for children of primary school age during the school holidays in 15 areas under the Act, with 4241 children and adults attending an activity
- the development of a marine protected areas education kit for educators containing teaching ideas, photos, videos and information on how to plan an excursion as well as park notes and park specific information

Table 8 – Visitor facility projects

PV region	Project
Western Victoria	Grampians NP – completion of flood recovery works, including the MacKenzie River Walk, Mafeking Road bridge and roadworks in the Victoria Range.
	Grampians NP – upgrading of several walking tracks as part of stage 1 of the Grampians Peak Trail.
	Great Ocean walk – Great Otway and Port Campbell NPs – further work on this iconic walk, including installing new toilets at Aire River West and the Cape Otway Lightstation, track upgrading and realignments, and opening of the pedestrian underpass to finish at the Twelve Apostles visitor site.
Northern Victoria	Kara Kara NP – completion of repairs to Teddington Reservoir following floods.
	Kinglake NP – improvements to road access to the Masons Falls picnic area.
Eastern Victoria	Alpine NP – opening of new toilet facilities at Macalister Springs.
	Alpine NP – Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing walk – opening of the new camping platforms at Cope and Dibbins huts and other improvements.
	Mount Buffalo NP – upgrading of the wastewater treatment system at the toilet block at the Lake Catani campground.
	Wilson's Promontory NP – completion of the remaining flood recovery works on the Mount Oberon and Summit roads, Telegraph Track and the walking track to Sealers Cove from the Mount Oberon carpark.
Greater Melbourne	Mornington Peninsula NP – upgrading of the Portsea surf beach access ramp.
	Point Nepean NP (Quarantine Station) – completion of new infrastructure and landscaping.
	Lysterfield Park – repairs and maintenance to visitor access and facilities, including picnic areas, beach access and viewing, and the boat ramp.

NP National Park

- Dandenong Ranges National Park – the opening, in July 2013, of a new education facility, the Forest Classroom. This is aimed at grade 5 or 6 students from primary schools neighbouring the park and allows students to immerse themselves in a natural environment for a week. During the year 1404 students and 58 teachers used the facility
- Point Nepean National Park – a Kids Teaching Kids event, with 120 students from eight schools across the Mornington Peninsula attending.

Engaging the community in marine protected areas was a focus during the year. Over the busy summer period, eleven summer rangers were engaged to deliver marine related programs. There were also Junior Ranger activities, as well as the Summer by the Sea program.

Partnering with Traditional Owners



DEPI and Parks Victoria continued to work with Traditional Owners across the state to implement joint and co-operative management arrangements and support the involvement of Traditional Owners in park management.

Joint management

A highlight of the year was the commencement, in October 2013, of the Traditional Owner Land Management Agreement between the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation and the State and the start of the process to establish the Dheulkunya Dja Land Management Board for four parks under the Act: Greater Bendigo and (most of) Kara Kara national parks and Kooyoorra and Paddys Ranges state parks.

In East Gippsland, Parks Victoria and the Gunaikurnai Traditional Owner Land Management Board worked on developing a joint management plan for Mitchell River, Tarra-Bulga, The Lakes and Snowy River (New Guinea Caves) national parks, Lake Tyers State Park and Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park. Gunaikurnai Aboriginal rangers and Parks Victoria field staff worked together in those parks to look after Country. New signs recognising joint management were installed in several parks.

In northern Victoria, the Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board was appointed for Barmah National Park. A key task for the board will be the preparation of a joint management plan for Barmah National Park. There was assistance given to the Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation in the reinterment of ancestral remains in the park.

Co-operative management

Parks Victoria also worked closely with the Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation and the Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation in cooperative management of the Little Desert and Wyperfeld national parks and Lake Albacutya Park, and Mount Eccles National Park respectively.

Parks Victoria, DEPI, the Budj Bim Council and the Gunditj Marra Traditional Owners continued to work together in developing the *Draft Ngootyoong Gunditj Ngootyoong Mara South West management plan* (see *Management planning*).

Other Traditional Owner partnerships

Other activities during the year included:

- assisting the Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation with the repatriation and reburial of ancestral remains in the Great Otway National Park
- surveys and conservation works in conjunction with the Ngintait, Latji Latji and Nyeri Nyeri peoples and the Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria relating to burial sites in Murray-Sunset National Park
- completing conservation works on coastal shell middens at Rye (Mornington Peninsula National Park) with the Bunorong Traditional Owners
- working with the Boonwurrung Traditional Owners and volunteers at Point Nepean National Park to complete an archaeological investigation of cultural resource use over time
- a gathering of the Victorian Alps and East Gippsland Traditional Owner reference groups at Baw Baw National Park in October 2013.

Partnering with the community



Volunteers

Volunteers from a wide range of organisations, including Friends groups, community and recreation users, special interest groups, educational institutions, partner organisations and corporate groups, as well as individuals continued to make a major contribution to the management of many areas under the Act. This year they dedicated almost 150 000 hours to nearly 100 parks.

The organisations included Conservation Volunteers Australia, Corrections Victoria, Four Wheel Drive Victoria and Friends groups, as well as the Australian Deer Association and the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (Victoria), which contributed to projects relating to managing invasive animals (see *Natural values management*).

Examples of projects undertaken by volunteers during the year include:

- Alpine National Park – 26 volunteers recruited by Four Wheel Drive Victoria spent more than 1100 hours driving researchers and support staff from Museum Victoria and Parks Victoria to remote locations in the eastern section of the park as part of the Alps BioScan project. Three volunteers from the Entomological Society of Victoria spent some 114 hours assisting Museum Victoria
- Alpine National Park – the Australian Deer Association contributed some 200 hours monitoring deer in the steep and remote Snowy River corridor near Suggan Buggan
- Wilsons Promontory National Park – the Friends of The Prom contributed 1183 volunteer hours to nursery propagation and re-vegetation work
- Warrandyte State Park – the North Warrandyte Osborne Peninsula Landcare Group provided 771 volunteer hours to invasive plant management and re-vegetation works.

The Campground Host Program was delivered for the twelfth year, with 24 volunteers participating over the summer and Easter holidays at seven parks, including Croajingolong, Great Otway and Mount Buffalo national parks. More than 642 hosts volunteered as part of the Four Wheel Drive Camp Host program at nine parks, including the Alpine, Barmah and Great Otway national parks.

Marine volunteer and community groups provided invaluable support to a range of activities relating to marine protected areas, including collecting data, searching for marine pests and developing educational resources.

Supporting visitors with disabilities

Parks Victoria partnered with a number of community and other organisations to deliver programs in parks for people with disabilities. These included:

- All-terrain Wheelchairs in Parks – this program, which provides all-terrain wheelchairs in various parks, was extended during the year to include, in partnership with the Alpine Shire, the Alpine National Park and, in partnership with the Mornington Shire and OzChild, parks on the Mornington Peninsula
- Taste of Adventure program – this program was delivered in partnership with MIND Australia and involved two camps in the Great Otway and Mount Buffalo national parks
- Walk in the Park program – this program was delivered in partnership with Blind Sports Victoria and included a camp at Cape Otway Lightstation in the Great Otway National Park.

Discover Parks grant program

The Discover Parks grant program, funded through the Healthy Parks Healthy Future initiative, provided small grants to community groups to encourage diverse communities to actively participate in parks. This year's program included grants for:

- a first-time camping trip to Little Desert National Park for migrant families from OASIS Wimmera in Horsham
- an Indigenous surfing competition at Cape Conran Coastal Park.

Supporting park management



Management

The Secretary is responsible under the Act for ensuring that the parks and other areas to which the Act applies are controlled and managed in accordance with the Act.

Parks Victoria, established under the *Parks Victoria Act 1998*, is responsible through a management services agreement for managing the parks and other areas under the Act on behalf of the Secretary. Various powers under the Act have been delegated to employees of Parks Victoria.

DEPI, on behalf of the Secretary, works with Parks Victoria and provides strategic policy advice to the Minister and the Secretary. Under the Act, the Director of National Parks (who is the Chief Executive Officer of Parks Victoria) provides advice to the Minister and the Secretary on the operational elements of park management.

Parks Victoria's 2013–14 business plan set out the management services and strategic priorities to be delivered for the year. Its annual report contains information on the organisation and its operations for the year. DEPI and other organisations also contributed to the parks program during the year.

Legislation

Amendments to the Act

Alpine Resorts and National Parks Acts Amendment Act 2013

This amending Act, which received the Royal Assent last year, amended the boundaries of the Alpine National Park adjoining Falls Creek Alpine Resort on 1 August 2013 (see *Changes to the parks system*).

National Parks Amendment (Leasing Powers and Other Matters) Act 2013

This amending Act, which received the Royal Assent on 27 August 2013:

- amended the leasing provisions of the Act to enable the Minister, after consultation with the National Parks Advisory Council, to grant leases and associated licences of up to 99 years over specified land under the Act provided that the purpose of the lease is consistent with the objects of the Act

- increased, from 50 to 99 years, the maximum term for leases of land (and, where relevant, associated licences) at the Mount Buffalo Chalet, Cresta Valley and Dingo Dell in Mount Buffalo National Park, the Quarantine Station in Point Nepean National Park and for a chairlift at Arthurs Seat State Park
- strengthened the regulation-making head of power in the Act with respect to various matters.

The amendments to the regulation-making head of power commenced on 28 August 2013 and the amendments relating to leasing commenced on 19 December 2013.

Parks and Crown Land Legislation Amendment Act 2013

Provisions relating to the National Parks Act in this amending Act, which received the Royal Assent on 17 December 2013:

- provided for the addition of nearly 470 hectares to eleven existing parks (Brisbane Ranges, Great Otway, Mount Eccles, Point Nepean and Wyperfeld national parks, Arthurs Seat and Lake Tyers state parks and Cape Liptrap and Gippsland Lakes coastal parks)
- excised a small area from Mount Buffalo National Park
- amended section 43 of the Act (relating to unauthorised trades or businesses in parks) by
 - increasing the penalty for carrying out an unauthorised trade or business
 - including several commercial activities authorised under other Acts in the authorised trades or businesses that may be permitted in some parks
- updated the name of the regulations applying to land described in Schedule Four to the Act and made several technical amendments.

The amendments commenced on 18 December 2013, other than those relating to Mitchell River National Park, Lake Tyers State Park and Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park (see also *Changes to the parks system*).

Regulations

The National Parks Regulations 2013 commenced on 23 September 2013. The regulations provide for the management and control of parks and the regulation or prohibition of certain conduct in relation to parks and also prescribe certain matters required under the Act. The new regulations replaced the National Parks (Park) Regulations 2003 and the National Parks (Cape Howe Marine National Park) Regulations 2006, which were revoked.

Camping and accommodation fees

A regulatory impact statement was developed during the year and released for public comment in relation to fees for camping and accommodation facilities in various parks across the state.

It was determined that increased fees are to apply to camping and accommodation facilities in 31 parks under the Act from 1 July 2014. They are intended to recover the substantial costs associated with maintaining and operating these facilities. Concessions for school groups and means-tested concession card holders will apply. There is also a shoulder period in addition to peak and off-peak seasons. The new fees will enable increased investment in the facilities, which will improve the experience and enjoyment of visitors.

Table 9 – Authorities

Park	Section of Act	Purpose
Greater Bendigo NP	30H	Licence to operate and maintain a private dam.
Great Otway NP	30I	A right of access to a private property.
Lower Goulburn NP	30G	Authority for a private pipeline.
Mount Buffalo NP	30I	A right of access to a private property.
NP National Park		

Table 10 – Consents to public authorities

Park	Public authority	Location / Purpose
Mount Buffalo NP	Telstra	Operate and maintain existing telecommunication facilities at Dingo Dell.
		Operate and maintain existing telecommunication facilities at the Mount Buffalo Chalet.
Yarra Ranges NP	Yarra Valley Water	Install and maintain a water main and outlet at Badger Weir picnic area.
Gippsland Lakes CP	Gippsland Ports	Operate and maintain part of the Lakes Entrance sand management infrastructure.
	Gippsland Water	Install and maintain the Loch Sport sewage pipeline.
Kings Billabong Park	Lower Murray Water	Operate and maintain an environmental regulator.
Langwarrin FFR	Optus	Install and maintain a fibre optic cable.
Castlemaine Diggings NHP	Coliban Water	Install and maintain sewer pipeline.

CP Coastal Park
 FFR Flora and Fauna Reserve
 NHP National Heritage Park
 NP National Park

Authorities granted under the Act

Leases and other authorities

A seven-year lease was granted to Melbourne Grammar School under section 25A of the Act for the operation of a school camp in the Alpine National Park north-east of Licola.

Table 9 lists various authorities that were granted under the Act during the year. Other authorities included apiary permits granted under section 21(1)(b) and tour operator licences under section 27D (see *Enhancing visitor enjoyment and tourism*).

Consents to public authorities

Table 10 lists the consents granted under section 27 of the Act to public authorities (as defined in the Act) to carry out works, subject to conditions, in various parks.

Enforcement

There were 39 individuals successfully prosecuted during the year for committing 52 offences under the Act (27), the National Parks (Park) Regulations 2003 (24) or the National Parks Regulations 2013 (1).¹ Most of the offences related to dogs in parks (14), possessing or using a gun or other weapon (11), fishing or possessing a priority species in a marine national park or marine sanctuary (11) and interfering with vegetation (7).

There were 426 infringement notices issued during the year in relation to prescribed offences against the Act (57) or the regulations (369). These included offences relating to dogs (191), using recreational fishing equipment in a marine national park or a marine sanctuary (57), camping outside a designated area (39), fires (38) or interfering with vegetation (21).

In addition, 72 warnings were issued during the year for offences under the Act or the regulations. Most were related to various offences in marine national parks and marine sanctuaries (41) and offences relating to dogs (17).

Interstate cooperation

Australian Alps Cooperative Management Program

The *Memorandum of understanding in relation to the cooperative management of the Australian Alps national parks* (the MOU) covers eleven parks and reserves in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Victoria. In Victoria, these are the Alpine, Baw Baw, Mount Buffalo and Snowy River national parks and Avon Wilderness Park. The purpose of the MOU is to promote cross-border cooperation in the protection and management of this highly significant conservation area.

The Australian Alps Cooperative Management Program operates under the auspices of the Australian Alps Liaison Committee. The committee seeks to provide land managers with appropriate technical tools and sound scientific advice in management reports and strategies to assist in achieving the objectives of the MOU in delivering best practice land management across the region. Parks Victoria represents Victoria on the committee.

Highlights of the program during the year included:

- 17 annual and ongoing projects
- the completion of a report on Aboriginal cultural and spiritual values of the Australian Alps
- a partnership with the University of Tasmania's National Environmental Research Program to deliver the Alps Science Management Forum
- the delivery of workshops on the new Rehabilitation Field Guide for the Australian Alps
- the completion of a five-yearly aerial survey of feral horses
- the launch of a new website.

River Red Gum Adaptive Management Science Advisory Committee

This committee comprises ten members (four government representatives and six independent scientists) and was established under New South Wales legislation following the creation of new river red gum parks in Victoria and New South Wales to encourage a sharing of knowledge and

expertise and to provide quality assured scientific advice to government on the management of the river red gum forests. The objectives of the committee include providing a scientific program to underpin the active forest management of the river red gum parks and reserves in both states (see also *Natural values research*).

Advisory bodies

National Parks Advisory Council

The National Parks Advisory Council is appointed under section 10 of the Act. Its main functions are to advise the Minister generally in relation to the administration of the Act and on particular matters in relation to which its advice is required under the Act or is sought by the Minister.

The council comprises the Secretary (or his or her nominee), the Director of National Parks (who is the Chief Executive Officer of Parks Victoria) and eight non-government members. There were several changes to the membership during the year. As at 30 June 2014 the council comprised the following members:

Convenor: Prof Tim Entwisle
Members: Dr Sue Beeton
Cr Jim Child
Mr Christopher Collins
Ms Judy Dixon
Mr Adam Fennessy (Secretary)
Dr Bill Jackson (Director of National Parks)
Mr Peter Roper
Ms Jennifer Wolcott.

The council's annual report for 2013–14 provides information on the council and its activities during the year.

Alpine Advisory Committee

The Alpine Advisory Committee is constituted under section 32AF of the Act to assist with the development of a management plan for the Alpine National Park. During the year the committee was involved more broadly in assisting with the development of the *Greater Alpine national parks draft management plan* (see *Management planning*).

As at 30 June 2014, the membership of the committee was as follows:

Convenor: Mr Ewan Waller AFSM
Members: Ms Trudy Anderson
Dr Peter Attiwill AM
Mr Geoff Burrowes
Mr Chris Commins
Mr Philip Davis
Mr Stephen Dingwall
Mr Andrew Dwyer
Mr Mervyn McGuire
Mr Ronald Moon
Mr Russell Mullett
Mr David Packham OAM
Ms Louise Perrin
Mr Peter Roper
Ms Christa Treasure
Mr Neville Wright.

There were also several non-statutory advisory groups involved in the management of various parks.

¹ The numbers refer to the number of successful prosecutions during the year regardless of when the offences took place.

Appendix 1

Areas managed under the National Parks Act

A National parks (Schedule Two)

	National park	Area (ha) 30 June 2013	Addition (ha)	Excision (ha)	Area (ha) 30 June 2014
1	Alfred	3 050			3 050
2	Alpine	661 775	11.9	10	661 777
3	Barmah	28 505			28 505
4	Baw Baw	13 530			13 530
5	Brisbane Ranges	8 865	22		^8 885
6	Burrowa-Pine Mountain	18 400			18 400
7	Chiltern-Mt Pilot	21 650			21 650
8	Churchill	271			271
9	Cobboboonee	18 510			18 510
10	Coopracambra	38 800			38 800
11	Croajingolong	**88 500			**88 500
12	Dandenong Ranges	3 540	0.12		3 540
13	Errinundra	39 870			39 870
14	French Island	**11 160			**11 160
15	Grampians	168 235			168 235
16	Greater Bendigo*	17 324			17 324
17	Great Otway	**103 195	64		^**103 875
18	Gunbower	9 330			9 330
19	Hattah-Kulkyne	49 975			49 975
20	Heathcote-Graytown	12 700			12 700
21	Kara Kara	13 990			13 990
22	Kinglake	23 210			23 210
23	Lake Eildon	27 750			27 750
24	Lind	1 370			1 370
25	Little Desert	132 647			132 647
26	Lower Glenelg	26 430			26 430
27	Lower Goulburn	9 320			9 320
28	Mitchell River	14 365			14 365
29	Mornington Peninsula	**2 680			**2 680
30	Morwell	565			565
31	Mount Buffalo	31 020		0.73	31 020
32	Mount Eccles	8 375	193		^8 565
33	Mount Richmond	1 733			1 733
34	Murray-Sunset	664 810			664 810
35	Organ Pipes	153			153
36	Point Nepean	**575	1.26		^**578
37	Port Campbell	**1 830			**1 830
38	Snowy River	114 600			114 600
39	Tarra-Bulga	2 015			2 015
40	Terrick Terrick	6 390			6 390
41	The Lakes	2 390			2 390
42	Warby-Ovens	14 750			14 750

National park	Area (ha) 30 June 2013	Addition (ha)	Excision (ha)	Area (ha) 30 June 2014
43 Wilsons Promontory	**49 049			**49 049
44 Wyperfeld	361 770	96		^359 445
45 Yarra Ranges	77 190	0.15		^77 185
Total – National parks	2 906 162	388.43	10.73	2 904 727

* Parts of Greater Bendigo NP extend only to 100 metres below the land surface.

** Area includes the area of the national park located beneath a marine national park.

^ Reflects a recalculation of the area of the park and/or a plan correction.

B Wilderness parks (Schedule Two A)

Wilderness park	Area (ha) 30 June 2013	Area (ha) 30 June 2014
1 Avon	39 650	39 650
2 Big Desert	142 300	142 300
3 Wabba	20 100	20 100
Total – Wilderness parks	202 050	202 050

C State parks (Schedule Two B)

State park	Area (ha) 30 June 2013	Addition (ha)	Area (ha) 30 June 2014
1 Arthurs Seat	558	6.9	565
2 Black Range	11 700		11 700
3 Broken-Boosey	1 010		1 010
4 Bunyip	16 655		16 655
5 Cape Nelson	210		210
6 Cathedral Range	3 616		3 616
7 Dergholm	10 400		10 400
8 Enfield	4 400		4 400
9 Holey Plains	10 740		10 740
10 Kooyoora	11 350		11 350
11 Lake Tyers	8 645		8 645
12 Langi Ghiran	3 040		3 040
13 Leaghur	2 050		2 050
14 Lerderderg	20 185		20 185
15 Moondarra	6 330		6 330
16 Mount Arapiles-Tooan	7 470		7 470
17 Mount Buangor	2 400		2 400
18 Mount Granya	6 140		6 140
19 Mount Lawson	13 150		13 150
20 Mount Napier	2 800		2 800
21 Mount Samaria	7 600		7 600
22 Mount Worth	1 040		1 040
23 Paddys Ranges	2 010		2 010
24 Reef Hills*	2 020		2 020
25 Warrandyte	686		686
26 Werribee Gorge	575		575
Total – State parks	156 780	6.9	156 787

* Inadvertently omitted from the printed version of the 2013 annual report (totals unaffected).

D Other parks (Schedule Three)

	Other park	Area (ha) 30 June 2013	Addition (ha)	Area (ha) 30 June 2014
1	Bay of Islands CP	950		950
2	Beechworth HP	1 090		1 090
3	Cape Conran CP	11 700		11 700
4	Cape Liptrap CP	4 225	0.14	**4 315
5	Discovery Bay CP	*10 460		*10 460
6	Gadsen Bend Park	1 620		1 620
7	Gippsland Lakes CP	17 805		17 805
8	Haining Farm	66		66
9	Kings Billabong Park	2 195		2 195
10	Lake Albacutya Park	8 300		8 300
11	Langwarrin FFR	214		214
12	Lysterfield Park	1 397		1 397
13	Murray-Kulkyne Park	4 555		4 555
14	Nyah-Vinifera Park	1 370		1 370
15	Steiglitz HP	425		425
16	Tara Range Park	7 620		7 620
17	Tyers Park	1 810		1 810
18	Woodlands HP	820		820
	Total – Other parks	76 622	0.14	76 712

CP Coastal Park

FFR Flora and Fauna Reserve

HP Historic Park

* Area includes the area of the park located beneath a marine national park.

** Reflects a recalculation of the area of the park.

E Other parks and reserves (Schedule Four)

	Other park or reserve	Area (ha) 30 June 2013	Area (ha) 30 June 2014
1	Bunurong MP	*1 660	*1 660
2	Castlemaine Diggings NHP**	7 585	7 585
3	Corner Inlet MCP	*18 000	*18 000
4	Deep Lead NCR (No. 1)**	1 120	1 120
5	Nooramunga MCP	15 000	15 000
6	Shallow Inlet MCP	2 000	2 000
7	Wilson's Promontory MP)		
8	Wilson's Promontory MR)	*10 000	*10 000
	Total – Other parks and reserves	55 365	55 365

MCP Marine and Coastal Park

MP Marine Park

MR Marine Reserve

NCR Nature Conservation Reserve

NHP National Heritage Park

* Area includes the area of the park or reserve located beneath a marine national park.

** Castlemaine Diggings NHP and Deep Lead NCR (No. 1) extend only to 100 metres below the land surface.

F Wilderness zones (Schedule Five)

Wilderness zones are located within several national parks, as set out below. The areas of the wilderness zones are included in the areas of the relevant parks in Part A of this appendix.

National park		Wilderness zone	*Area (ha) 30 June 2014
1	Alpine	Mount Darling-Snowy Bluff	40 400
2	Alpine	Razor-Viking	15 700
3	Alpine	Indi	13 800
4	Alpine	Cobberas	10 000
5	Alpine	Buchan Headwaters	30 000
6	Alpine	Tingaringy	7 900
7	Coopracambra	Genoa	19 400
8	Croajingolong	Sandpatch	15 600
9	Croajingolong	Cape Howe	7 100
10	Murray-Sunset	Sunset	126 900
11	Murray-Sunset	Minook	38 700
12	Murray-Sunset	Galpunga	35 700
13	Murray-Sunset	Mount Cowra	23 500
14	Snowy River	Snowy River	27 000
15	Snowy River	Bowen	17 500
16	Wilson's Promontory	Wilson's Promontory	21 800
17	Wyperfeld	North Wyperfeld	97 900
18	Wyperfeld	South Wyperfeld	61 300
19	Wyperfeld	Chinaman Flat	29 800
Total – Wilderness zones			640 000

* No changes during the year.

G Remote and natural areas (Schedule Six)

Remote and natural areas are located within several national parks, as set out below. The areas of the remote and natural areas are included in the areas of the relevant parks in Part A of this appendix.

National park		Remote and natural area	*Area (ha) 30 June 2014
1	Alpine	The Governors	8 100
2	Alpine	Macalister	33 300
3	Alpine	Dandongadale	3 700
4	Alpine	Bundara-Cobungra	13 700
5	Alpine	Bogong	16 300
6	Alpine	Davies Plain	10 500
7	Alpine	Suggan Buggan	17 800
8	Alpine	Upper Snowy	11 800
9	Baw Baw	Baw Baw Plateau	6 500
10	Burrowa-Pine Mountain	Mount Burrowa	6 200
11	Coopracambra	Mount Kaye	8 100
12	Croajingolong	Rame Head	9 800
13	Errinundra	Brodribb	7 700
14	Grampians	Victoria Range	14 000
15	Grampians	Serra Range	11 200
16	Grampians	Major Mitchell Plateau	6 900
17	Little Desert	Little Desert	16 400
18	Mount Buffalo	North Buffalo	6 500
19	Murray-Sunset	South Sunset	24 000
20	Wilson's Promontory	Wilson's Promontory Islands (12)	469
21	Wilson's Promontory	Southern Wilson's Promontory	14 400
22	Wyperfeld	Hopping Mouse Hill	32 100
Total – Remote and natural areas			279 469

* No changes during the year.

H Marine national parks (Schedule Seven)

Marine national park*	**Area (ha) 30 June 2014	
1	Bunurong	2 100
2	Cape Howe	4 050
3	Churchill Island	670
4	Corner Inlet	1 550
5	Discovery Bay	2 770
6	French Island	2 800
7	Ninety Mile Beach	2 750
8	Point Addis	4 600
9	Point Hicks	4 000
10	Port Phillip Heads	3 580
11	Twelve Apostles	7 500
12	Wilson's Promontory	15 550
13	Yaringa	980
Total – Marine national parks		52 900

* Marine national parks extend only to 200 metres below the land surface. Some partly overlay parts of other parks under the Act.

** No changes during the year.

I Marine sanctuaries (Schedule Eight)

Marine sanctuary	*Area (ha) 30 June 2014	
1	Barwon Bluff	17
2	Beware Reef	220
3	Eagle Rock	17
4	Jawbone	30
5	Marengo Reefs	12
6	Merri	25
7	Mushroom Reef	80
8	Point Cooke	290
9	Point Danger	25
10	Ricketts Point	115
11	The Arches	45
Total – Marine sanctuaries		876

* No changes during the year.

J Other areas (non-scheduled)*

Area	Section of Act	**Area (ha) 30 June 2014
1 Bald Hills BR	19B	1
2 Collins Settlement Historic Site	19B	1
3 Flinders NCR	19B	1
4 Flinders Natural Interest Reserve	19B	4
5 Long Forest NCR	19B	283
6 Lower Glenelg PPR and SLR	19B	24
7 Main Ridge NCR	19B	64
8 Moreep BR	19B	10
9 Nyerimilang Park	19B	200
10 Wychitella NCR	19B	3 780
11 Mt St Gwinear access road	19C	35
12 Commonwealth land adjacent to Woodlands Historic Park	19D	31
13 Picnic area at McKenzie's Flat (Lerderderg State Park)	19E	#
14 Blackwood Ranges Track (Lerderderg State Park)	19E	#
15 Glenample Homestead	32AA	8
Total – Other areas		4 442

BR Bushland Reserve

NCR Nature Conservation Reserve

PPR Public Purposes Reserve

SLR Scenic Lookout Reserve

* Only specific sections of the Act apply to these areas.

** No changes during the year.

Area approximately 0.1 ha.

K Summary – areas managed under the Act

Category	No. as at 30 June 2014	Area (ha) 30 June 2013	Area 30 June 2014
A National parks (Schedule Two)	45	2 906 162	*2 904 727
B Wilderness parks (Schedule Two A)	3	202 050	202 050
C State parks (Schedule Two B)	26	156 780	156 787
D Other parks (Schedule Three)	18	76 622	^76 712
E Other parks and reserves (Schedule Four)	8	55 365	55 365
H Marine national parks (Schedule Seven)	13	52 900	52 900
I Marine sanctuaries (Schedule Eight)	11	876	876
J Other areas (non-scheduled)	15	4 442	4 442
Total	139	3 455 197	*3 453 859

* The apparent decrease in area compared to 2013 results from a recalculation of the area of some parks (see Parts A, C and D). In fact, there was a net increase of 385 ha in the area under the Act in 2013–14.

L Unproclaimed additions

As at 30 June 2014 the following legislation provides for future additions to the parks system.

Act	Section of Act	Park	Area (ha)
1 <i>National Parks Act 1975</i>	50K	Greater Bendigo National Park	*16
2 <i>National Parks (Amendment) Act 1989</i>	29(3)	Moondarra State Park	178
Total – unproclaimed areas			194

* Area will become part of the park on surrender of the title to the Crown.

Appendix 2

Location of parks and other areas

National and other parks/areas

1	Murray-Sunset NP	45	Mornington Peninsula NP	90	Nooramunga MCP
2	Hattah-Kulkyne NP	46	Arthurs Seat SP	91	Tarra-Bulga NP
3	Murray-Kulkyne Park	47	Main Ridge NCR	92	Morwell NP
4	Big Desert WP	48	Bald Hills BR	93	Holey Plains SP
5	Wyperfeld NP	49	Flinders NCR	94	Gippsland Lakes CP
6	Lake Albacutya Park	50	Flinders NIR	95	The Lakes NP
7	Little Desert NP	51	French Island NP	96	Mitchell River NP
8	Mount Arapiles-Tooan SP	52	Langwarrin FFR	97	Nyerimilang Park
9	Dergholm SP	53	Churchill NP	98	Snowy River NP
10	Black Range SP	54	Lysterfield Park	99	Errinundra NP
11	Grampians NP	55	Bunyip SP	100	Coopracambra NP
12	Deep Lead NCR (No. 1)	56	Dandenong Ranges NP	101	Lind NP
13	Lower Glenelg NP and Cobboboonee NP	57	Warrandyte SP	102	Alfred NP
14	Discovery Bay CP	58	Organ Pipes NP	103	Cape Conran CP
15	Lower Glenelg PPR and SLR	59	Woodlands HP and adjacent Commonwealth land	104	Croajingolong NP
16	Mount Richmond NP	60	Kinglake NP	105	Kings Billabong Park
17	Cape Nelson SP	61	Haining Farm	106	Gadsen Bend Park
18	Mount Eccles NP	62	Yarra Ranges NP	107	Nyah-Vinifera Park
19	Mount Napier SP	63	Cathedral Range SP	108	Gunbower NP
20	Langi Ghiran SP	64	Lake Eildon NP	109	Lower Goulburn NP
21	Mount Buangor SP	65	Mount Samaria SP	110	Lake Tyers SP
22	Paddys Ranges SP	66	Reef Hills SP		
23	Kara Kara NP	67	Broken-Boosey SP		
24	Kooyoora SP	68	Barmah NP		
25	Wychitella NCR	69	Warby-Ovens NP		
26	Leaghur SP	70	Chiltern-Mt Pilot NP		
27	Terrick Terrick NP	71	Beechworth HP		
28	Greater Bendigo NP	72	Mount Granya SP		
29	Heathcote-Graytown NP	73	Mount Lawson SP		
30	Castlemaine Diggings NHP	74	Burrowa-Pine Mountain NP		
31	Lerderderg SP and associated leased areas	75	Wabba WP		
32	Long Forest NCR	76	Mount Buffalo NP		
33	Werribee Gorge SP	77	Alpine NP		
34	Enfield SP	78	Avon WP		
35	Moreep BR	79	Baw Baw NP and Mt St Gwinear access road		
36	Brisbane Ranges NP	80	Moondarra SP		
37	Steiglitz HP	81	Tyers Park		
38	Bay of Islands CP	82	Mount Worth SP		
39	Port Campbell NP	83	Bunurong MP		
40	Glenample Homestead	84	Cape Liptrap CP		
41	Tara Range Park	85	Shallow Inlet MCP		
42	Great Otway NP	86	Wilsons Promontory NP		
43	Point Nepean NP	87	Wilsons Promontory MP		
44	Collins Settlement HS	88	Wilsons Promontory MR		
		89	Corner Inlet MCP		

Marine national parks and marine sanctuaries

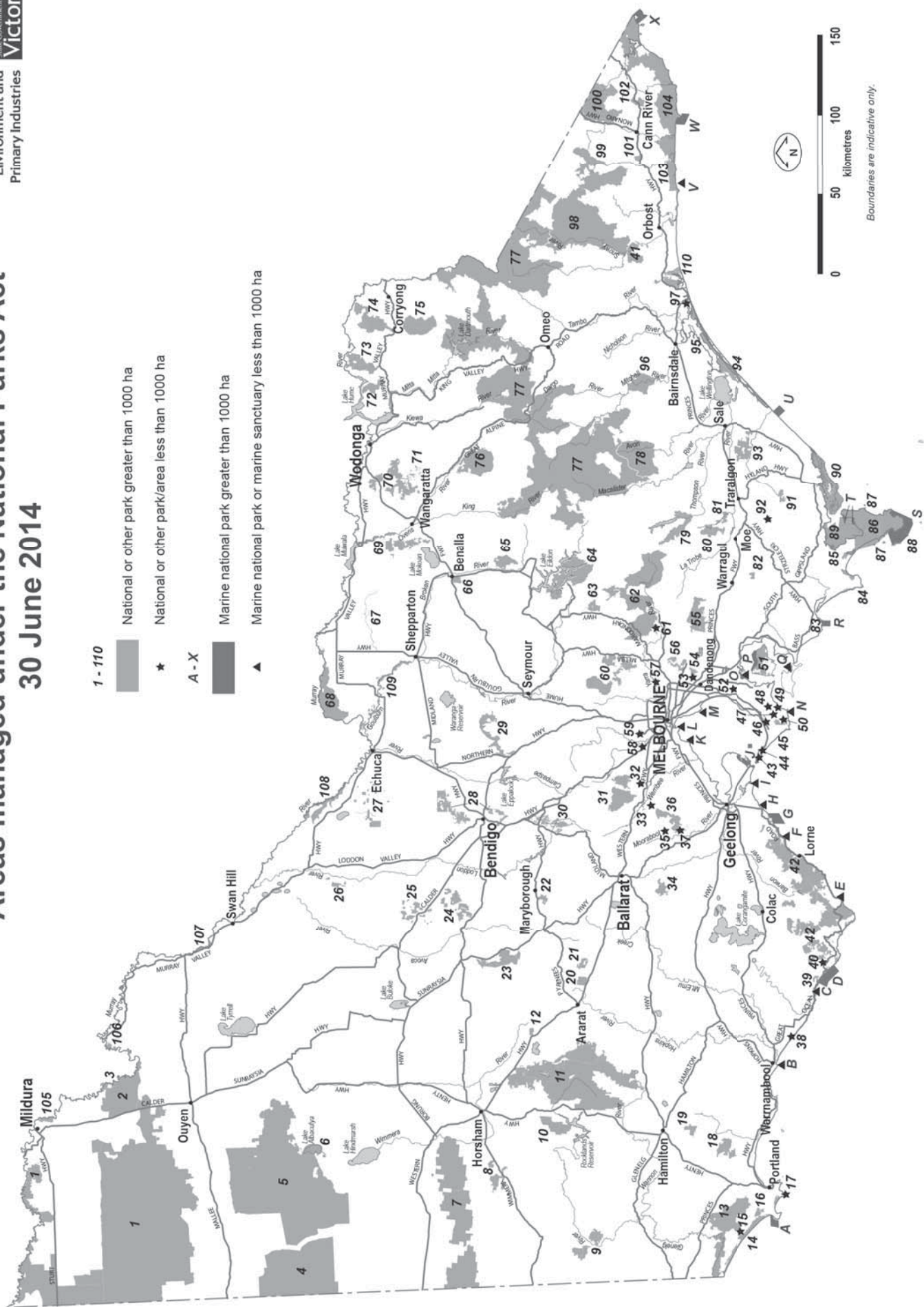
A	Discovery Bay MNP
B	Merri MS
C	The Arches MS
D	Twelve Apostles MNP
E	Marengo Reefs MS
F	Eagle Rock MS
G	Point Addis MNP
H	Point Danger MS
I	Barwon Bluff MS
J	Port Phillip Heads MNP
K	Point Cooke MS
L	Jawbone MS
M	Ricketts Point MS
N	Mushroom Reef MS
O	Yaringa MNP
P	French Island MNP
Q	Churchill Island MNP
R	Bunurong MNP
S	Wilsons Promontory MNP
T	Corner Inlet MNP
U	Ninety Mile Beach MNP
V	Beware Reef MS
W	Point Hicks MNP
X	Cape Howe MNP

BR	Bushland Reserve
CP	Coastal Park
FFR	Flora and Fauna Reserve
HP	Historic Park
HS	Historic Site
MCP	Marine and Coastal Park

MNP	Marine National Park
MP	Marine Park
MR	Marine Reserve
MS	Marine Sanctuary
NCR	Nature Conservation Reserve
NHP	National Heritage Park

NIR	Natural Interest Reserve
NP	National Park
PPR	Public Purposes Reserve
SLR	Scenic Lookout Reserve
SP	State Park
WP	Wilderness Park

Areas managed under the National Parks Act 30 June 2014



- 1 - 110
- National or other park greater than 1000 ha
- ★ National or other park/area less than 1000 ha
- A - X
- Marine national park greater than 1000 ha
- ▲ Marine national park or marine sanctuary less than 1000 ha



Boundaries are indicative only.

Customer Service Centre **136 186**

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