

Grampians Landscape Management Plan

Briefing pack



Be part of shaping and conserving the
Grampians landscape for future
generations



About this pack

This briefing pack has been prepared to support organisations share information with their communities about the Grampians Landscape Management Plan and upcoming engagement opportunities.

In this pack you will find:

- Information about the project
- Purpose and timing of the engagement activities
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Social media and newsletter promotion templates for you to use



The Grampians Landscape Management Plan

In partnership with Traditional Owners, Parks Victoria is preparing a new management plan for the Grampians landscape, an area that covers the Grampians National Park and adjacent parks and reserves.

The new management plan (the plan) will underpin strategic planning for the Grampians landscape over the next 15 years to ensure that precious environmental and cultural values of this iconic landscape are preserved for future generations to enjoy.

The scope of this project includes environmental conservation, cultural heritage and protection of Aboriginal rock art, recreational activities, tourism opportunities, safety and visitor experience.

We will be seeking input from local communities, recreational groups, tourism bodies, and other stakeholders through a variety of engagement opportunities over the next 12 months. This is a chance for park users, local communities and members of the general public to be part of shaping and conserving the Grampians landscape for future generations.

Purpose of the engagement

Parks Victoria is committed to engaging with a wide range of stakeholders who value and love the Grampians landscape throughout the development of the plan.

The community engagement is split into three stages:

- Stage one: Project announcement (May 2019)
- Stage two: Understanding the current environment and opportunities (Aug – Oct 2019)
- Stage three: Feedback on the draft plan (second half of 2020)

The purpose of stage one was to confirm the engagement scope and inform stakeholders about the upcoming project.

In stage two, engagement will seek stakeholder input on themes such as recreational use of the landscape, community awareness of risks, environmental conservation priorities, and future recreational and tourism opportunities. Alongside other research, stakeholder input will be used to inform the development of the draft plan.

In stage three, once the draft plan is prepared, Parks Victoria will make it publicly available and ask for feedback. All feedback will be carefully considered in preparing the final management plan for approval.

To close the loop with the stakeholders throughout the process, consultation summary reports will be prepared and shared publicly.

The final Grampian Landscape Management Plan will be approved by the Minister for Energy, Environment, and Climate Change in 2020.

Engagement activities in 2019

Community workshops

All those interested in the future of the Grampians landscape are invited to take part in community workshops for the Grampians Landscape Management Plan. Times and locations are:

- Halls Gap workshop, Thurs 5 September 2019, 6.30-8.30pm
- Laharum workshop, Tues 10 September 2019, 6.30-8.30pm
- North Melbourne workshop, Thurs 12 September 2019, 6.00-8.00pm
- Halls Gap drop-in, Tues 17 September 2019, 12.00-3.00pm
- Dunkeld workshop, Tues 17 September 2019, 6.30-8.30pm
- North Melbourne workshop, Thurs 19 September 2019, 6.00-8.00pm

At the two-hour workshops participants will:

- learn about the Grampians Landscape Management Plan process
- explore the challenges for managing this highly valued landscape for the next 15 years
- share their knowledge of using, living near, managing or connecting with this landscape
- provide their input on key decisions.

Venue sizes are limited and RSVPs are essential. To RSVP please visit www.engage.vic.gov.au/grampians-management-plan, or call 13 19 63.

To ensure as many people as possible can be part of the process, we ask that you only attend one workshop. If you cannot attend a workshop, you can participate online or visit a listening post in the local area.

Listening Posts

A series of ‘listening posts’ (small staffed stalls that encourage short conversations) will also be held to ensure that the engagement hears from a range of views. Listening post times and locations are:

- Moyston General Store, Fri 6 September 2019, 8.30am-10.30am
- The Giant Koala Dadswell Bridge, Wed 11 September 2019, 8.30-10.30am
- The Dunkeld General Store, Wed 11 September 2019, 8.30-10.30am
- The Bridge Café Cavendish, Wed 18 September 2019, 12.30-2.30pm
- Halls Gap Visitor Information Centre, Sun 22 September 2019, 10am-12pm

Stakeholder Reference Group (SRG)

In addition to the engagement activities open to all members of the public, a Stakeholder Reference Group has been established and will be a key source of stakeholder input. The group includes a range of interests, including conservation, tourism and recreation, to ensure that the park is protected for future generations to enjoy.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Parks Victoria creating a new plan?

The existing Grampians National Park Management Plan released in 2003 is over 15 years old. In that time bushfires and floods have impacted the landscape, as well as changes in visitor numbers and park use. Approaches to environmental and cultural heritage management have also evolved over this time.

It is therefore important that a new plan is created to address future management challenges, meet community expectations and deliver on the Victorian Government and Traditional Owner priorities.

The new plan will be a long-term legacy. This is a chance to be part of shaping and conserving the Grampians landscape for future generations.

What will the plan cover?

The purpose of the plan is to provide long-term (15 years) strategic direction for the management of the Grampians landscape. The plan will cover key park management areas including:

- environmental conservation (and incorporating the Grampians Conservation Action Plan)
- recognition of Traditional Owner connection to Country and role in park management
- protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage and Rock Art and opportunities for Aboriginal culture tourism
- improved management and support for visitor and recreational activities
- tourism experiences, such as the Grampians Peaks Trail
- visitor safety
- fire, water and catchment management.

The plan will ensure Parks Victoria and Traditional Owners have a strategic approach and clear priorities for managing this precious landscape.

Why will this plan include other parks and reserves

There are several nearby parks and reserves to the Grampians National Park that share rich natural and Aboriginal cultural heritage values and that have similar issues and opportunities.

Planning for entire landscapes rather than individual parks is accepted as a best-practice approach to land management.

What will stakeholders be able to influence?

We're looking forward to working with local communities, recreational groups, tourism bodies and other stakeholders to learn from local knowledge, better understand patterns of use and explore future opportunities among the Grampians landscape. Alongside other research, your input will be used to help shape the draft plan.

Once the draft plan is prepared we'll make it publicly available for feedback. All feedback will be carefully considered as we prepare the final management plan. To close the loop throughout the

process, we'll share engagement summary reports from this page.

Is this in response to rock-climbing access?

While the changes to rock climbing access in the Grampians National Park is an example of the current challenges facing park management, the development of a new plan is in line with the long term strategic planning and management of the landscape.

The existing Grampians National Park Management Plan is now 15 years old. Since then, there have been changes in park visitation and use – the increased popularity of rock climbing and bouldering, and the new Grampians Peak Trail are recent examples. There are also many new challenges associated with pest animals, weeds, fire planning and natural disasters.

Social media and newsletter promotion templates

Image



Link to image -

<https://spaces.hightail.com/space/pvl6DfUjyO>

Facebook

The Grampians landscape is a haven for wildlife and native plants of incredible diversity, an ancient land dotted with irreplaceable cultural heritage places that are thousands of years old. It is also one of Victoria's most popular destinations, with millions of people visiting each year to enjoy the spectacular scenery.

People with an interest in how this landscape is protected and enjoyed can now RSVP for public workshops.

This is a chance to be part of shaping and conserving the Grampians landscape for future generations.

To see details of upcoming workshops and listening posts visit Engage Victoria:

www.engage.vic.gov.au/grampians-management-plan

Twitter

The Grampians landscape is a haven for wildlife and native plants of incredible diversity, an ancient land of irreplaceable cultural heritage places.

Be part of shaping how this landscape is protected and enjoyed - www.engage.vic.gov.au/grampians-management-plan

Newsletter information

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at www.engage.vic.gov.au/grampians-management-plan.

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Photography acknowledgements

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