



Circular 086:07:08

To: Club Secretaries – Central Region
Club Presidents – Central Region
Club Captains – Central Region
AMSAR Groups
Regional Officers

cc:

From: Greg Scott
Support Officer – Lifesaving Services

Date: 30 July 2008

Subject: Boating Zone Consultation Invitation

Action: RSVP to Parks Victoria – Note short date

Parks Victoria, as the local port manager, is inviting participation in a Stakeholder Consultation Workshop for the Boating Zones Review Project. The purpose of this Workshop is to provide a project overview and to seek feedback on the draft recommendations for improving the safety of Boating Zones on Port Phillip and Western Port.

Boating Zones are established to provide safety for boaters and other water users to effectively manage incompatible activities. The current Port Phillip and Western Port zones are overly complex, and not consistently defined. A coordinated review is being undertaken and a framework for the review of boating zones in Victoria has been approved for implementation by Marine Safety Victoria. The Workshop will be an opportunity to apply this framework to update and improve the existing zones. This framework outlining the revised Boating Zones and associated criteria is attached to provide you with some context in preparation for this Workshop.

This is an opportunity to share your local knowledge and input into the project outcomes. The consultants engaged to complete this project for Parks Victoria are Beca Pty Ltd who will be facilitating these Workshops.

The Workshops will be held 6:00pm – 8:00pm at:

- Royal Geelong Yacht Club, Geelong – Tuesday, 5 August
- Coast Guard & Sailing Club Community Centre, Marine Drive, Safety Beach – Tuesday, 12 August
- Patterson River Motor Boat Club, Stephens Street, Carrum – Thursday, 14 August

- Life Saving Victoria Headquarters, 200 The Boulevard, Port Melbourne – Thursday, 21 August

Please RSVP direct to Parks Victoria on 13 19 63 or emailing info@parks.vic.gov.au and including your name, club and which session location you will attend.

If you are unable to attend the Workshop, feedback can also be provided by emailing boatingzones@parks.vic.gov.au.

Light refreshments will be provided.

**For additional detail on this Circular contact: Greg Scott – Support Officer,
Lifesaving Services**

Email greg.scott@lifesavingvictoria.com.au or by phone: (03) 9676 6935

Circulars are also available at www.lifesavingvictoria.com.au

Address: PO Box 353 South Melbourne DC 3205

FRAMEWORK FOR THE REVIEW OF BOATING ZONES IN PORT PHILLIP & WESTERN PORT

The framework below outlines the criteria for establishing and reviewing Boating Zones.

Existing Zones (No Change)						
Zones	Zone Users	Zone Purpose	Primary Criteria - Safety and Risk Management	Supplementary Criteria - Coastal Characteristics, Access & Vessel Requirements	Complementary Criteria - Complementary Amenities	Special Provisions
5-Knot Speed Restriction	All Users	To control speeds, reduce conflict between various water users and minimise risk in shallow water	Demand by a multiplicity of water users			
Boating Only	Vessels	To provide priority for boats by excluding other water users	High demand for boat access	Presence of boating facilities such as boat ramps, marinas, piers, jetties and moorings		
No Boating	Bathers Only	To provide for bather safety by excluding vessels	High bather density	Proximity of area to patrolled Surf Lifesaving Club (SLSC) or Lifesaving Club (LSC), suitable beach and seabed conditions, car-parking, public transportation (if applicable), pathways and tracks, easy access to the water	Toilets, refreshment vendors, parklands	
No PWC	Bathers Only	To provide for bather safety by excluding vessels	High bather density	Proximity of area to patrolled Surf Lifesaving Club (SLSC) or Lifesaving Club (LSC), suitable beach and seabed conditions, car-parking, public transportation (if applicable), pathways and tracks, easy access to the water	Toilets, refreshment vendors, parklands	
Transit Lane	Vessels	To provide for the safe passage of vessels	Boat thoroughfare needed in an area of restricted navigable space	Presence in the area of a range of other competing activities		May require prohibition of mooring, beaching or excess manoeuvring to prevent vessel congestion and to facilitate effective operation of boating facilities
(Water Ski) Access Lane	Vessels involved in the activity of water-skiing, specifically the pick-up and drop-off of water skiers	To provide for the pickup and drop-off of water skiers separately from other on water activities	High demand based on user suitability	Water depth, wind and wave conditions	Toilets, beach, refreshment vendors	

Additional Zones						
Zones	Zone Users	Zone Purpose	Primary Criteria - Safety and Risk Management	Supplementary Criteria - Coastal Characteristics, Access & Vessel Requirements	Complementary Criteria - Complementary Amenities	Special Provisions
No Surf Kites or Sailboards	Bathers, Powered Vessels, Paddlecraft, Sailcraft (excluding Sailboards and Surf Kites)	To provide for the safety of bathers and other vessels by excluding sailboards / surf kites with high potential for operation in excess of 5 knots	High demand for bathing and boating, presence of high-level obstructions or other hazards within or adjoining the zone ie. overhead wiring	Car-parking, public transportation (if applicable), pathways and tracks, easy access to the water, beach and seabed conditions, presence of boating facilities such as piers, jetties, boat ramps	Toilets, refreshment vendors, parklands	

Additional Zones (continued)

Surf Kite Operating Area (to be trialled for approx 12 months)	All Users	To provide for safe operation of kite surfers operating in excess of 5 knots.	High demand based on suitability for kite surfers, absence of high-level obstructions or other hazards within or adjoining the zone ie. overhead wiring	Sufficient width to enable effective operation of surf kites, suitable shore access and wind, wave and seabed characteristics. Rigging area available	Toilets, refreshment vendors	The following rules apply to kite surfers: exemption from 5 knots speed limit unless within 50m of either a person in the water or another vessel (not including another surf kite) or a structure (pier, marina etc); prohibition of transitions within 50m of beach; kite surfers must give way to all other vessels.
Special Use	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

TBD – To be determined

Existing Zones for Deletion

No Sailboards Sailboards Only No Personal Water Craft or Sailboards Personal Water Craft Only