

Bellarine Basin rehabilitation project

Information sheet: draft vision, principles and objectives – August 2021



(Image: rehabilitation plan)

Barwon Water is embarking on a project to transform our disused Bellarine Basin site into more than 30 hectares of environmental and public open space to be enjoyed by the community for years to come.

We have received \$650,000 funding under the Victorian Government's Distinctive Areas and Landscapes program and will contribute the same amount to the \$1.3-million project to begin remediating and revegetating the site.

We want to transform the disused basin site into an area that enhances the unique and natural features of the Bellarine Peninsula so that it becomes a place people, birds and native animals can enjoy for generations to come.

A draft vision, guiding principles and objectives for the site

Working together with our agency advisory group – Wadawurrung Traditional Owners, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and City of Greater Geelong – we have developed a draft vision, guiding principles and objectives for the site.

These align with the Victorian Government's Distinctive Areas and Landscapes (DAL) program for the Bellarine, as well as support the site's cultural and environmental values, and our commitment to open this land for public use and recreational purposes.

Draft vision

"Yarram Creek (project working title) will be a unique, inclusive and accessible community place for people to celebrate, respect, enjoy and immerse themselves in its cultural, natural and recreational values."

Draft principles

We have developed a set of draft principles to bring the vision to life.

- Accessible, safe and inclusive community place
- Connecting people to nature
- Protecting and restoring biodiversity
- Wadawurrung storytelling and spiritual connection
- Caring for and connecting to country
- Balanced, diverse and compatible experiences
- Connecting to the broader Bellarine
- Engaging community along the journey
- Sustainable design and management

(Image: Bellarine Basin site)



Draft objectives

We have developed a series of draft objectives to guide our decision making around any potential activities for the site.

Objective 1: Nature

Protect and enhance the unique features, habitats, ecosystems and biodiversity

Objective 2: Culture

Recognise the layers of human use and contact with the landscape, and the intangible connection of the Wadawurrung people

Objective 3: Community

The community is involved in guiding the future of the place and ultimately connects in a range of safe and compatible recreational and nature-based experiences

Objective 4: Sustainability

Well planned, ecologically balanced community place that can be maintained into the future

Learn more and have your say

www.yoursay.barwonwater.vic.gov.au/bellarine-basin