



Healthy Parks  
Healthy People®

**Parks Victoria**  
535 Bourke Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Telephone 03 8427 3383**  
www.parks.vic.gov.au  
ABN 95 337 637 697

16 September 2019

Amelia Grant  
A/Fishery Manager  
Victorian Fisheries Authority  
2A Bellarine Hwy  
Queenscliff VIC 3225

Dear Amelia

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft *Fisheries (Victorian Pipi) Notice 2019*

I note that there is the Independent Allocation Panel to provide advice to the Minister on the allocation of the pipi resource in the future fishery, and this Notice is prior to the applied outcomes of that process.

Parks Victoria provides suggested enhancements to the Notice to remove ambiguity or improved detail, and potentially change to the access at Lake Mombeong.

The Fisheries Notice 2018 included the fourth access point to Discovery Bay as suggested by Parks Victoria during discussions about the draft Victorian Pipi Fishery Management Plan in August 2017. This inclusion did pose risk of potential incursions onto private property while following the track, however the track was realigned to avoid private property and signage installed to alert walkers to avoid the private property. This track was included as an access point in the final Victorian Pipi Fishery Management Plan 2018.

Since early 2019, there has been observations of vehicles along this walking track. Further, barriers have been damaged and removed, tracks have been developed through vegetation to bypass barriers and an alternate track has been created from private property to access the walking track by vehicle. Some vehicles have also driven from the walking track, on to private property and then back on to the walking track through damaged barriers and past signs. The owner of the private property has been strident that vehicles and walkers should not enter his property. Regulatory signs have also been removed.

#### **Suggestion #1**

*Remove the Lake Mombeong walking track as an access location to avoid future incursions onto private property.*

The grid references given in previous versions of the Fisheries Notice are inconsistent. Some grid references have given the seaward end of the access while others have given the landward end.

#### **Suggestion #2**



*'Designated access point' should be re-defined as 'designated access track', and more detail given as specified in revised Schedule 2 (below). Text will then need to be revised to facilitate the change.*

In line with re-defining the 'designated access point' as indicated above, it is appropriate to better define the 'designated weighing area' and align with the designated access track. The weighing area becomes the start/end of the access track.

### **Suggestion #3**

*'Designated weighing areas for Discovery Bay' should be defined as specified in revised Schedule 2 as indicated.*

Commercial fishers have been observed entering the access tracks before sunrise. Section 9 of the Fisheries Notice refers to the taking of pipi. Section 13 of the Fisheries Notice refers to commencing a fishing activity.

### **Suggestion #4**

*Define fishing activity so that it is clear when it starts and finishes. ie arriving or leaving the access track, or arriving and leaving the designated weighing area or when entering the water to fish.*

In Schedule 2, The terminology used for the defined track through the sand dunes at Swan Lake is the 'Swan Lake transit corridor'. This terminology is used in the Set Asides for Discovery Bay Coastal Park.

### **Suggestion #5**

*Use Swan Lake 'transit corridor' in place of Swan Lake 'Access Track'.*

### **Suggestion #6**

*Revise Schedule 2 as indicated below*

## **SCHEDULE 2**

### **DESIGNATED ACCESS TRACKS FOR DISCOVERY BAY**

- A. Nelson Ocean Beach walking track from Ocean Beach carpark directly to beach.
- B. Nobles Rocks walking track from Nobles Rocks carpark directly to beach.
- C. Lake Mombeong walking track from Lake Mombeong campground carpark directly to beach east of Suttons Rocks.
- D. Swan Lake transit corridor from Swan Lake camping area carpark directly to beach.

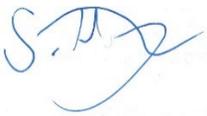
	Seaward end of access track	Landward end of access track
A. Nelson Ocean Beach walking track	38° 3.999'S 141° 0.8260'E	38° 3.8882'S 141° 0.8260'E
B. Nobles Rocks walking track	38° 7.0422'S 141° 7.8212'E	38° 6.9601'S 141° 7.8924'E
C. Lake Mombeong walking track	38° 8.7149'S 141° 11.0807'E	38° 8.0315'S 141° 11.1498'E
D. Swan Lake transit corridor	38° 13.4137'S 141° 17.9717'E	38° 12.9808'S 141° 18.6534'E

#### DESIGNATED WEIGHING AREAS FOR DISCOVERY BAY

Designated weighing area	Grid Reference (Lat/Lon (DDM))
A. Ocean Beach carpark	38° 3.8882'S 141° 0.8260'E
B. Nobles Rocks carpark	38° 6.9601'S 141° 7.8924'E
C. Lake Mombeong campground carpark	38° 8.0315'S 141° 11.1498'E
D. Swan Lake camping area carpark	38° 12.9808'S 141° 18.6534'E

Should you require seek any further advice on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me on 03 8427 3383 or [stuart.hughes@parks.vic.gov.au](mailto:stuart.hughes@parks.vic.gov.au)

Yours sincerely



Stuart Hughes

Director Park Planning and Policy

Parks Victoria