

# OTWAYS LANDSCAPE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Annual Report - 2006/2007

### Background:

The Minister for Environment appointed seven members to the Otways Landscape Community Council (OLCC) in September 2006. Those Members are: Lizzie Corke, Beth Davidson, Claire Dennis, Joe DiCecco, Roger Hardley, Terry Kildea and Richard Morrow. The Council is chaired by Elaine Carbines.



### The Role of the Council is to:

- advise Parks Victoria, the Department of Sustainability and Environment, and the Minister for Environment on community engagement for the Otways Parks and Reserves.
- monitor the effectiveness of community engagement, ensuring that the community has the opportunity to have their say and become involved.

### Key Council Activities:

- Develop the Otway Community Engagement Strategy
- Ensure that community needs and opportunities for engagement are identified.
- Monitor the performance of agencies in community engagement, ensuring that it aligns with the guiding principles.
- Ensure the community is kept informed.
- Guide community engagement plans for major park projects such as the Management Plan for the Great Otway National Park and Forest Park.

### Great Otway National Park and Otway Forest Park OLCC Community Engagement Vision:

*"People of Victoria are active participants in the planning and care of the Great Otway National Park and Otway Forest Park so the management of the parks responds to both community aspirations and Government policy. Community participation and engagement is the way through which all work in the parks is planned and implemented."*

### Formal OLCC Meetings

The Otways Landscape Community Council has met six times in their first year of operation. The table below provides a summary of those formal meeting dates, venues and locations.

MEETING	DATE	VENUE	LOCATION
<b>Inaugural</b>	September 18/19 2006	Birdsong Country Retreat	Pennyroyal
<b>Two</b>	November 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2006	CFA Offices, Smith Street	Lorne
<b>Three</b>	December 1 <sup>st</sup> 2006	Surf Coast Shire Council Chambers	Torquay
<b>Four</b>	February 9 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Cape Otway Centre for Conservation Ecology	Cape Otway
<b>Five</b>	April 27 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Deans Marsh Community Hall	Deans Marsh
<b>Six</b>	July 6 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Otway Estate	Barongarook

## Key Achievements:

- The development of the Otways Strategic Engagement Framework.
- Establishment of community engagement webpage and links to key organisations websites.
- Development and distribution of Otways planning for the future fact sheet.
- Development and distribution of Otway Landscape Community Council promotional flyer.
- Informative mailout to 1200 stakeholders.
- Displays and staff presence at the following events: Forrest Festival, Apollo Bay Music Festival & Otway Soup Festa in Barwon Downs.
- Delivery of community engagement training to a broad audience across the Otways.
- OLCC Sub committees established on an as needs basis to address particular topics or issues.
- Strengthened community and cross agency relationships.
- Guided community engagement plans and activities for major Otway parks projects such as:
  - *The Management Plan,*
  - *Fire Operations Plan,*
  - *Recreation and Tourism Access Plan,*
  - *Heritage Action Plan,*
  - *Wood Utilisation Plan, and*
  - *Other key issues throughout the year.*



## OLCC Sub Committee Meetings

SUB COMMITTEE	MEETING TOPIC	DATE	LOCATION
<b>Strategic Community Engagement</b>	Development of Strategic Engagement Framework	February 19 <sup>th</sup> 2007 & 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2007	Geelong
<b>Detailed Community Engagement</b>	Planning of detailed engagement activities	March 29 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Forrest
<b>Detailed Community Engagement</b>	iForums & local events	July 30 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Geelong
<b>Fire</b>	Fire Operations Plan community engagement	August 1 <sup>st</sup> 2007	Geelong

## Field Trips

<b>Fire Management</b>	Otway Fire Protection and Enhancement Project – community engagement	June 8 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Otways
------------------------	--	---------------------------	--------

## Training

<b>Community Engagement Planning &amp; Deliberative Democracy</b>	Attendees from OLCC, DSE, PV, CCMA, COS	June 15 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Lorne
---	---	----------------------------	-------

**The Otways Landscape Community Council would like to thank Elisia Dowling as Executive Officer and Parks Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment support staff.**