

Fairhaven to Skenes Creek Coastal Trail Study

Draft trail concept and route options - July 2019

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) is undertaking a study to assess the value, benefits and options for a coastal walking and/or cycling trail between Fairhaven and Skenes Creek.

This document provides information about a draft concept for discussion and consultation purposes.

Developing a trail concept

Specialist trail designers have undertaken desktop assessments and field work to identify route options and develop a draft trail concept. They have considered:

- feedback from government agencies, councils, community and business groups, user groups, residents and visitors
- connections to and use of existing trails
- connections to townships
- land ownership
- local topography and environment

More detailed investigations would take place if the project proceeds to the next stage of development.

Guiding design principles

Trail design best practice and community feedback informed these design principles to guide development of a trail concept:

- seek out an iconic and world-class user experience to attract longer-stay visitors
- use existing infrastructure where possible to minimise environmental impacts and cost
- accommodation and facilities are provided in townships to drive economic benefit
- provide a mix of hinterland and coastal trail to showcase the area's diverse landscapes.



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Consultation

Through earlier consultation with communities, visitors and stakeholders in May and June, we heard that there is support for a trail that:

- caters for different users and abilities
- reflects the natural environment
- supports sustainable tourism
- provides scenic views
- connects coastal towns and with other trails in the area.

This feedback has been important in developing the design principles and a draft trail concept.

Have your say on the draft trail concept

We are seeking feedback on the draft trail concept from 18 July to 4 August. Your feedback will be used to further develop the concept design and feasibility study.

We would like to hear your views on:

- the design principles used to guide development of the trail concept
- suggestions for improving the trail concept
- comments on the key route options, opportunities and challenges

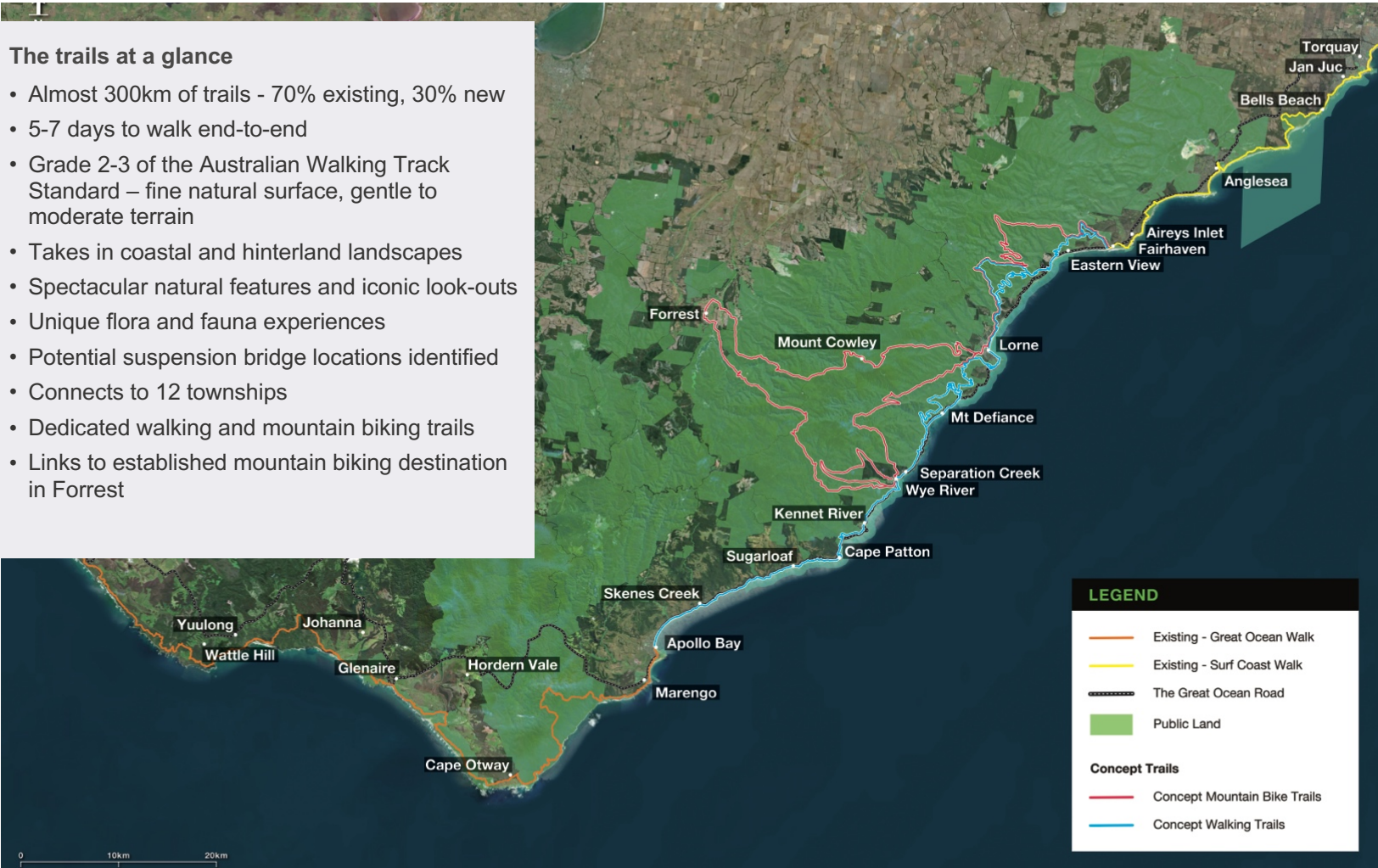


Environment,
Land, Water
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Draft concept plan – Fairhaven to Skenes Creek walking and mountain bike trails

The trails at a glance

- Almost 300km of trails - 70% existing, 30% new
- 5-7 days to walk end-to-end
- Grade 2-3 of the Australian Walking Track Standard – fine natural surface, gentle to moderate terrain
- Takes in coastal and hinterland landscapes
- Spectacular natural features and iconic look-outs
- Unique flora and fauna experiences
- Potential suspension bridge locations identified
- Connects to 12 townships
- Dedicated walking and mountain biking trails
- Links to established mountain biking destination in Forrest



More information

Contact us to learn about the study and opportunities to be involved.

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