SOUTH WEST VICTORIA LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT STUDY

The Department of Planning and Community Development is undertaking a Landscape Assessment Study of south west Victoria. The study will evaluate the visual character and significance of the landscape, resulting in the preparation of planning scheme policy and guidance to ensure its protection and management into the future.

THE SOUTH WEST VICTORIA LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT WILL:

- Define and describe (with photos and maps) the landscape character of the south west region.

- Determine which places, features and views are most significant and why.

- Seek and include the community's values on the character and significance of the landscape.

- Assess and evaluate various forms of development that have occurred in the landscape, both positive and negative.

- Consider using policies and guidance in the local planning schemes, such as the Significant Landscape Overlay, to protect and manage the landscape into the future.

The above tasks will be approached with an understanding that the landscape is an important economic driver for tourism and agriculture, and that its protection and management should contribute to a vibrant local economy.

Community Bulletin 1 April 2012

YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS IMPORTANT!

As part of the project, we want to gain a better understanding of the community's perceptions and values about landscapes in the region.

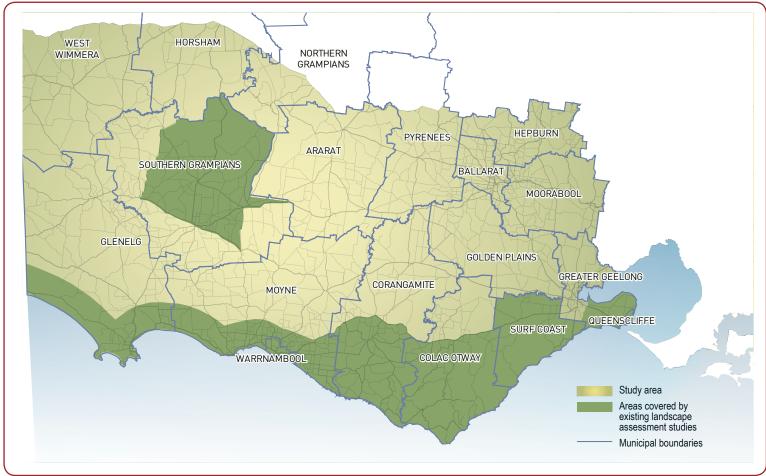As a starting point, what would you consider to be:

- A landscape feature, place or view that is significant, scenic or beautiful

- A landscape feature, place or view that captures the character of your area

- A significant aspect of the landscape which is intangible or non-visual, such as its cultural, heritage or ecological value

- A 'threat' to the landscape, i.e. a feature, place or view that you believe has been spoiled.

You can visit our website:
www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/southwestlandscapes
or email your thoughts and photos to:
southwestlandscapes@dpcd.vic.gov.au
at any time to share your ideas.

State Government
Victoria
Department of Planning
and Community Development

Study area

Areas covered by existing landscape assessment studies

Municipal boundaries

THE STUDY AREA

The study area comprises all non coastal, non urbanised areas in the south west region of Victoria, from Port Phillip Bay in the east to the South Australian border in the west, and extending to the Great Dividing Range in the north. This area includes 18 municipalities, or parts of municipalities, and will complement but not re-do recent landscape assessment studies that have been undertaken in the region.

STUDY PROCESS

The study is being prepared in four stages over 12 months:

Stage 1	Desktop analysis & background research	January – February 2012
Stage 2	Landscape character assessment	March – June
Stage 3	Landscape significance assessment	July – October
Stage 4	Final recommendations	November – December

MORE INFORMATION:

To register your interest in recieving regular updates on the progress of the project, or if you have any queries, please contact InfoVic by phone on **1300 366 356** or email **southwestlandscapes@dpcd.vic.gov.au**

Submitting your feedback and privacy

If you would like to be kept up to date on the Study, please indicate this when you email us with your feedback.

Any personal information and feedback provided by you is collected by the Department of Planning & Community Development (DPCD) for the purposes of informing the South West Landscape Assessment Study (Study) and keeping interested parties up to date.

If you have submitted a photo your name may be used and published as part of publications relating to the Study. If you do not want your name published, please indicate this when you send us your photograph.

You can request access to your personal information by contacting the Planning Policy Unit, DPCD. If informal access cannot be given to you by that section, contact DPCD's Freedom of Information unit by phone (03) 9208 3112 or email foi@dpcd.vic.gov.au.

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