Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks

# Environmental Economic Account

**3.9 million** annual tourism visits can be attributed to the existence of ecosystems of the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks (valued at $520 million per year based on travel cost).

The existence of **ecosystems in the region is highly valued by society** as shown by:

* **Over 1,300** people participating in community stewardship
* **40,000** hectares of national parks and nature and conservation reserves

In 2019, the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks region was largely covered by:

* **128,000 hectares** of marine habitats
* **36,000 hectares** of forests

Engagement with the **Wadawurrung Traditional Owners** identified a desire to recognise their objectives to protect tangible attributes of the region’s natural environment for their cultural value through referencing and reporting on metrics in their Country Plans.

**35m tonnes of CO2e** is stored in ecosystems across the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks, valued at:

* **$60m** per year (based on avoided cost of carbon offsets)

or

* **$180m** per year (based on the social cost of carbon)

Supporting the recreational experience of visitors to the region includes:

* **240km** of walking tracks
* **70km** of mountain bike tracks and bike paths

**Coastal and marine habitats provide coastal protection services** to varying degrees along 240km of the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks coastline (valued at between 3 to 10 million dollars per year based on the replacement cost of seawalls providing equivalent exposure reduction).

This environmental-economic account takes stock of current ecosystem assets in the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks – in terms of their extent, location, and condition – and quantifies and values the flow of ecosystem services that these assets generate for people, who enjoy benefits from them.

For more information go to: [environment.vic.gov.au/accounting-for-the-environment](http://environment.vic.gov.au/accounting-for-the-environment)

© The State of Victoria Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action June 2024.

Creative Commons

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence, visit the [Creative Commons website](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, and the Victorian Government and Department logos.

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Accessibility

To receive this document in an alternative format, phone the Customer Service Centre on 136 186, email [customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au), or contact National Relay Service on 133 677. Available at [DEECA website](http://www.deeca.vic.gov.au/) ([www.deeca.vic.gov.au](http://www.deeca.vic.gov.au/)).