



Media Release

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Celebrating marine and coastal excellence

Do you know a group, individual or project that has made a real difference to Victoria's coastal and marine areas?

The Victorian Marine and Coastal Council opened nominations today for the 2020 Victorian Coastal Awards.

Dr Anthony Boxshall, Chair of the Victorian Marine and Coastal Council, said the awards are an opportunity to recognise the people and organisations caring for the state's coastal and marine environments.

The 2020 Awards will highlight the importance of the community and partnerships in making sure the many values of Victoria's coastal and marine areas are safeguarded for the future.

Nominations are sought in the following categories including:

- Traditional Owner custodianship and embedding Traditional Owner cultural practices in management
- Leadership in climate adaptation and resilience
- Excellence in marine and coastal design or development
- Innovative biodiversity and ecosystem conservation
- Community engagement and connecting with coastal and marine environments
- Applying science to make a difference
- Individual achievement awards for lifetime contributions and emerging leadership

Nominations are encouraged from individuals, community groups, Traditional Owners, schools, universities, students, Coastcare groups, 'friends of' groups, clubs (including fishing, boating and lifesaving), committees of management, private companies, partnerships, not-for-profit organisations, local councils and state government departments and agencies.

Nominations close on Friday 21 February 2020. Awards will be presented to the winners at a gala ceremony on Friday 22 May 2020. Further information and nomination forms are available at www.marineandcoastalcouncil.vic.gov.au

Quotes attributable to Chair of the Victorian Marine and Coastal Council, Dr Anthony Boxshall

"Victorians love our coastal and marine environment. The Victorian Marine and Coastal Awards recognise the outstanding contributions of individuals and organisations managing, protecting and enhancing our special places for the enjoyment of all."

"So many in our community work tirelessly to protect, preserve and enhance our special coastal and marine areas. The Awards recognise and thank people for those efforts."

"The Awards are a celebration of our much loved coastal and marine environments and the people who selflessly put their passion into action."

"I encourage everyone to nominate individuals, organisations and projects that help to protect, enhance and enjoy our marine and coastal environments so they can receive recognition for this important work"

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