

Meet the 2020 committee



Jeska Dee (President)

Jeska has a background in wetland and waterway rehabilitation and operational coastal management such as cleaning programs, vegetation management, horticulture and coastal infrastructure. She also has significant experience in strategic coastal planning and project management which has included providing expert professional advice and guidance to Councils and the community in relation to coastal policy, planning and management. Jeska is passionate about working with the community and stakeholders to deliver sustainable outcomes for marine and coastal environments.



Phebe Bicknell

Phebe is a senior coastal engineer with a background in environmental engineering, science and project management. Phebe has a passion for finding approaches to communicate technical outcomes in meaningful ways, and enjoys applying technical work to develop strategic management plans for our coasts and estuaries. Skill areas include coastal flooding, beach and cliff erosion, sediment transport, water quality, beach amenity, catchment impacts and climate change adaptation.



Sue Mudford

Sue Mudford has an extensive history in the management of the Victorian coastline, including roles as Acting Chair of the Western Coastal Board and member of the Victorian Coastal Council. Sue brings professional experience in risk management, governance, community engagement, facilitation, regional development, biodiversity and conservation. She is actively involved in Landcare and conservation activities.



Chris Renkin

Chris is a strategic and statutory planner with extensive experience in private practice and local government. Chris is involved in the management of our Victorian coastline through a range of planning projects including regional land use and development strategies, township structure plans, housing and settlement strategies, coastal management plans, local coastal hazard assessments, and planning scheme amendments. Chris has recently delivered a State government pilot project developing a future land use and development adaptation strategy to address climate change related sea level rise and subsequent coastal hazards for a coastal settlement in Victoria. She is also a member of a local Coastcare Group on the Gippsland Lakes.



Elisa Zavadil (communications)

Elisa has a background in coastal, estuary and waterway science and engineering, and climate change adaptation. Elisa co-ordinates coastal management studies in complex policy contexts nationally, with expertise in geomorphic assessments, analysis of coastal hazard areas, identifying risk to assets (built, ecosystems, cultural), prioritising adaptation options, and strategic planning. Elisa has a passion for the shared care of our coastal landscapes. She enjoys building partnerships across stakeholder groups to deliver great outcomes for ecosystems and communities.



The ACS is dedicated to healthy coastal ecosystems, vibrant coastal communities and sustainable use of coastal resources



Our purpose: What do we want our Victorian contribution to be?



Our purpose

- 1. Influence the thinking in our Victorian industry
- 2. Boost knowledge sharing / capacity building
- 3. Facilitate networking



Our goals

National ACS objectives	Victorian chapter goals	Relevant activities for 2020	Actions for 2020
Contribute to international, national, state and local debates on coastal issues so as to foster rational, open decision-making in order to achieve sustainable use of coastal resources and responsible stewardship of coastal assets.	1. Influence the thinking in our Victorian industry	Participate in forums and workshops to contribute to industry decision making (policy/strategy) Promote opportunities for members to be part of decision making Provide relevant information to inform and encourage our member network to provide individual submissions* and	 Contribute to the draft Victorian Marine and Coastal Strategy development/refinement Seek out opportunities to support Traditional Owner led coastal management Help explore, define and embed the marine element of coastal
		feedback on a range of coastal management issues/opportunities	management.
Promote knowledge and understanding of the environmental, social and economic value of the Australian coast. Improve public, government and industry understanding of the value of the Australian coast for individual and social well being, the need to maintain and improve coastal ecosystems, and to ensure the use of ecologically sustainable development practices.	2. Boost knowledge sharing / capacity building	 Provide regular updates on what's happening across Victoria – public, government, research and broader industry. Create new opportunities for the Victorian industry body to share knowledge and experiences 	 Provide updates via, email, Facebook, Linkedin Create new webinar/online series to promote knowledge sharing for the Vic industry.
Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and knowledge among people involved in the management, planning and development of the Australian coast.	3. Facilitate networking	 Boost the Victorian membership base Boost networking opportunities, linked to knowledge sharing actions. 	 6. Double the Victorian membership base 7. Promote networking via webinar/online series and face-to-face events when feasible.

^{*}ACS Vic chapter submission to be considered on a case-by-case basis

Get involved

Join/renew your membership online: https://www.australiancoastalsociety.org/membership

Spread the word – Our Victorian chapter includes around 24 members working across public, private and academic sectors. Membership is a great way to stay connected to coastal professionals across Victoria – please extend the invitation to your colleagues to become a member.

Keep an eye on the relevant national pages: https://www.facebook.com/AustralianCoastalSociety/

https://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-coastal-society/

Email: Jeska at jeskaacsvic@gmail.com if you would like any further information.

