



Community Forum 8 June 2009

ARMB Presentation

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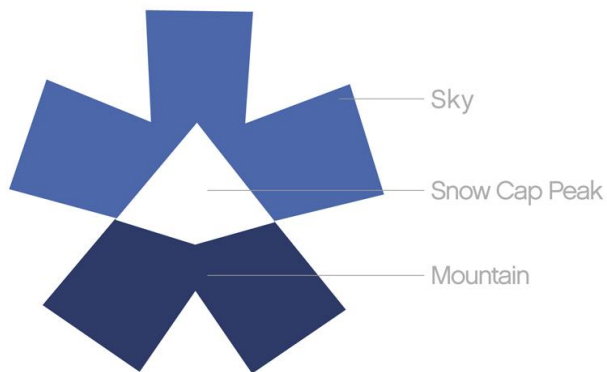


Topics



- Branding
- State Services Authority Review
- Financial Review Article
- Priorities for 2008-2009
- Summer Events 08/09
- Fire Protection and Native Vegetation
- Climate Change
- Presentation by Tourism Victoria regarding Carbon Footprinting Pilot
- Environment
- Winter Events 2009
- Questions

Branding



State Services Authority Review



- Sustainable Alpine Resorts – A framework for discussion
- State Services Authority Review reported to Minister Jennings in June 2008
- Sustainable Alpine Resorts Working Group established to respond to review and advise Minister
- Framework for Discussion released 1 June 2009

State Services Authority Review



1. Protecting our unique alpine environment

- **Guidance to balance development, year round use and environmental issues**
- **Mt Stirling to remain an all season, nature based tourism, recreation and education resource**
- More detailed native vegetation planning
- Environmental KPIs

State Services Authority Review



2. Driving financial efficiency and sustained contribution to regional economies

- **Examine options for Lake Mountain and Mt Baw Baw**
- **New financial management framework for Resorts, including understanding capital and recurrent funding needs**
- **Clarify ARMB performance monitoring and reporting processes**
- **Encourage ARMBs to review cost effectiveness of service delivery**
- ARMB asset management, maintenance, capital planning, risk management and procurement planning and processes to be enhanced

State Services Authority Review



3. Building resilience to climate change

- **Review and build upon 2003 CSIRO impact on snow conditions report**
- **Market research into resorts as year round destinations and develop strategy in response**
- Clarify responsibilities for fire and emergency management, but ARMBs, CFA and DSE will work together to enhance integrated fire management plans
- DSE to identify costs and impacts of findings, in context of all season activities

State Services Authority Review



4. Providing access to the alpine environment for all Victorians

- **DSE to develop policy to facilitate fair access and use by people from diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds**
- Monitor and report on Social KPIs

State Services Authority Review



5. Increasing community satisfaction and participation in the resorts

- **Commitment to consultation on future and policy, and increasing transparency in decision-making, trust and confidence**

State Services Authority Review



6. Ensuring integrated and transparent planning and leasing processes

- **Alpine Resorts Planning to be reviewed**
- **Review elements of current government Alpine Leasing Policy**
- Comprehensive strategic and special plans for the Resorts (Stakeholders, Government, ARCC and ARMBs)
- Improve capacity to assess development proposals within the resorts by DPCD
- Education to enable better understanding of planning roles and processes by stakeholders
- Common and equitable rental model
- Investigate a common model for determining annual service charges

State Services Authority Review



7. Strengthening the market position of the resorts

- **Tourism Vic, ARCC and ARMBs to promote the resorts**
- Use Nature Based Tourism Strategy, National Landscapes program and position on National Heritage List

State Services Authority Review



8. Ensuring sound governance and clear roles and responsibilities

- **ARCC to be given greater authority to improve co-operation, learning and risk management and create operational efficiencies. ARMBs to continue to fund ARCC**
- **Management of Mt Stirling to stay with Buller-Stirling ARMB**
- **DSE to be responsible for policy, research, strategic planning and review and monitoring functions, working with other elements of government, ARCC and the ARMBs**
- Independent ARMBs for each resort
- Increased guidance on balance of social, economic and environmental responsibilities
- Review of Alpine Resort (Management) Act Regulations

Next Steps for SSA Review



- **Additional consultations**
- **Submissions to DSE**
- **ARMBs joint response**
- **Final recommendations introduced prior to end of 2009**
- **Information on the DSE website – *www.dse.vic.gov.au***

Financial Review

Article



- Donations sought to foster and assist in development of facility, collection and events of an Arts and Culture nature
- A Mt Buller Mt Stirling Art Fund sub-fund was established with Melbourne Community Foundation to enable donors to qualify for a tax deduction
- Anticipated that NAMA would be able to act as the recipient organization because of its tax status
- Cheque sent by MCF but not banked until NAMA clarified its legal capacity to do so
- Cheque returned to MCF
- New approach to be found
- Minister has been verbally briefed on the matter

Priorities for 2008-2009



- Control and reduce costs of ARMB operations without diminishing service
- Resort Master Plan (RMP)for Mt Buller
 - Village Centre
 - Transport and Access
 - Infrastructure Capacity
- RMP to be funded by
 - ARMB
 - BSL
 - Regional Development Victoria
 - Tourism Victoria
 - Other Stakeholders

Priorities for 2008-2009



- Design and feasibility of Water Storage Facility
 - Snowmaking
 - Drinking Water
 - Firefighting
- Limited Capital Works
 - Pipeline to Horse Hill precinct
 - Finish village toboggan slope
 - Improve intersection management
 - Bus shelters

Summer Events 08/09



- Herald Sun Bike Tour
- Buller Sprint
- All Tomorrow's Parties
- Kid's Weekend
- Beerfest
- Picnic in the Park
- High Country Cycle Challenge
- Easter
 - Art Prize and Exhibition
 - Fun Run
- MTB Events
- Bike Buller MTB Festival

Fire Protection and Native Vegetation



- Removal of native vegetation for fire protection within the Resort is managed by the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD)
- The ARMB is a referral authority – we can provide stakeholders with advice relating native vegetation management and fire protection
- Normally a planning permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any vegetation (exotic or native) within the Resort
- Some planning permit exemptions apply in order to ensure lodges are appropriately protected from fire

Fire Protection and Native Vegetation



- We urge all stakeholders to speak with ARMB staff prior to undertaking any works involving vegetation on their leased sites.

Climate Change



- ARMB to reduce energy use
- Keep Winter Cool
- Tourism Victoria – Carbon Footprint

Carbon Footprinting Study



- Tourism Destination Carbon Footprinting Study
- Mt Buller Pilot Project

Tourism Victoria



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Carbon Footprinting Study



The Study

- Establishment of a robust and consistent methodology for calculating the greenhouse gas inventory of tourism-related activities at the destination level
- Preparation of a simple carbon footprinting toolkit for tourism destination managers & individual tourism businesses

Carbon Footprinting Study



Benefits

- A bottom-up approach
- A better understanding of GHG emissions at the destination and business level to inform future carbon reduction strategies
- An Australian-first initiative
- Supported by a robust methodology that can be confidently presented in the public domain

Carbon Footprinting Study



Expressions of Interest Sought

- A cross section of tourism-related businesses on Mt Buller is required to test the toolkit and estimate the resort's GHG emissions
- Participation not required until post snow season
- Data collection support available
- Incentives available (tbc)
- Confidentiality assured

Environment



- Environmental forum to be staged in August
- ARMB and BSL have won a 2009 United Nations Environmental Management Award for work on Pygmy Possum Recovery Plan

Winter Events 2009



June

- **27** Banff Mountain Film Festival

July

- **4-5** Beanie Festival
- **6-12** Kids' Week
- **13-18** South Australian Interschools Week

August

- **1-7** Christmas Week
- **23-28** Subaru Victorian Interschools Snowsports Championships
- **29** Heineken ABOM Mogul Challenge, celebrates 21 years

Questions?

