



Freycinet Peninsula Infrastructure Projects

Overview

This update relates to the following projects which the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) has received funding for and is currently managing or has recently completed:

- Freycinet Visitor Gateway Project
- Freycinet National Park Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrade Project
- South Wineglass Bay and Cooks Beach Replacement Toilets Project

For enquiries relating to PWS Projects at Freycinet contact FreycinetGatewayProject@parks.tas.gov.au

Freycinet Visitor Gateway

The Freycinet Visitor Gateway Project is a key initiative of the Freycinet Peninsula Master Plan, delivered in 2019, and aims to reduce vehicle movement and congestion within Coles Bay and the Freycinet National Park, manage visitor numbers and promote sustainable access to the park.

The project is supported through a \$14 million election commitment by the State Government and \$5.7 million from the Australian Government under the National Tourism Icons Program.

The project has reached a significant milestone through the engagement of the Lead Design Consultant, with Tasmanian firm Xsquared Architects appointed to lead a multi-discipline team to undertake extensive investigations, design and approvals documentation for the Visitor Gateway.

The new Visitor Gateway will be located outside the National Park at the entrance to Coles Bay, with the exact footprint to be determined as part of the early design and investigation stage.

The Gateway site will include a car park with electric vehicle charging facilities, visitor interface, amenities and bus shelter. The design will focus on delivering low impact and sustainable infrastructure that streamlines visitor access to the national park and township, and is proposed to incorporate Aboriginal interpretations, ticketing and visitor information services.



Figure 1 – Approximate location of the Gateway site identified in the 2019 Freycinet Peninsula Masterplan. Final location will be identified and design will be developed as part of the next stage.

Preliminary natural values surveys have identified the location of threatened species on the Gateway site with additional seasonal surveys completed to confirm the extent and location of the species. A further survey will be undertaken as part of the initial design stage to assist in confirming the final location of the Gateway development footprint and associated infrastructure as well as informing any required referral under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

This will be undertaken in parallel with the Environmental Impact Assessment, which will be required under the Parks and Wildlife Service Reserve Activity Assessment (RAA) process and any investigations required to support the Development Application (DA) for submission to the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.

Preliminary cultural and land surveys have also been undertaken on the proposed Gateway site with additional surveys to be progressed in alignment with the design process.

There will be public consultation at key milestones of the project, including EPBC, DA and PWS RAA assessment and approvals processes, and will include public advertisement of plans and community drop-in sessions.

The construction program for this project and timing for delivery will be confirmed based on the timeframes for the environmental assessment and planning approval processes and on completion of the detailed design.

Implementation of a shuttle service is also being progressed, which is anticipated to commence operations after the new Visitor Gateway is complete. A high-level Transport Strategy has been developed by specialist transport planners and will guide further investigations that are to occur over the next twelve months to inform final details of the shuttle service, including the final routes, locations of stops and frequency.

Design of the infrastructure to support the shuttle service, such as bus stops, will be part of the Gateway project design works.

South Wineglass Bay and Cooks Beach Toilet Replacement

This Project is complete and has delivered two new (two cubicle) full capture toilets at walk-in campgrounds at South Wineglass Bay and Cooks Beach. State government Maintenance Boost funding of \$0.5 million was provided to deliver this initiative to enhance facilities within the Park.

The new amenities were completed in early 2024, including the removal of the existing toilets which had reached end of life. The new toilets are fitted with satellite telemetry to monitor the units and reduce the impact on staff resourcing in terms of physical inspections of the toilets to check when units need to be serviced.



Figure 2 - New toilets at Cooks Beach

Freycinet National Park Wastewater Infrastructure Upgrades

The project is addressing the aging wastewater infrastructure within the National Park, by replacing the existing end of lifecycle infrastructure with new sustainable technology. The new systems will have increased capacity to accommodate projected visitation levels over a 20-year period, which is consistent with the Freycinet Peninsula Masterplan.

Funding of \$8.4 million was allocated by the State Government in 2020-21 with an additional \$1.87 million allocated in 2023-24 to meet expected increased construction costs.

The proposed new wastewater treatment plant will treat effluent to a high standard with potential opportunities for the recycled water to be used in various applications, toilet flushing and firefighting in the first instance. Detailed designs of the treatment and disposal systems are in preparation and the Development Application and RAA documentation are currently being developed.

Public consultation for this project will occur as part of the DA process.

Subject to the completion of detailed design and the outcome of RAA and DA processes, construction is anticipated to commence in 2025. Further communications will occur with the community and visitors in relation to any impacts throughout construction.



Figure 3 – Existing Freycinet National Park Sewage Treatment Plant

