

Media Release

Ingrid Stitt MP

Minister for Early Childhood & Pre-Prep
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ENHANCED PROTECTION FOR NATURE AT WILSONS PROM

Wilson's Promontory National Park is one step closer to becoming Victoria's largest conservation sanctuary, as part of the Andrews Labor Government's \$23 million *Wilson's Prom Revitalisation* project.

A 10-kilometre fence will be erected to keep out predators like foxes, feral cats and deer, forming part of a major investment that will improve the protection of native habitat and species, while enhancing visitor experiences at one of Victoria's most popular destinations.

The fence - to be designed by GHD - will prevent invasive species entering the national park and will aid ongoing conservation programs, which include large-scale invasive species control, large-scale habitat restoration and threatened species recovery programs.

Wilson's Promontory is home to a number of threatened species including the Eastern Bristlebird, Eastern Pygmy-possum, Ground Parrot, Growling Grass Frog, Hooded Plover, New Holland Mouse, Southern Brown Bandicoot and Swamp Skink.

Once complete, the fence will establish a 50,000-hectare protected biodiversity sanctuary, ensuring the safety of the park's unique and abundant wildlife.

And the good news isn't only for our native wildlife – with upgrades already underway to the Tidal River visitor precinct, the park's main hub, and new accommodation options in the park.

A new Telegraph Saddle trail to connect Tidal River and Mount Oberon is also planned, along with an all-abilities track upgrade of the Wildlife Circuit.

These visitor improvements come as Victoria's tourism industry continues to thrive, with new research confirming that the state continues to rebound strongly – delivering more jobs and supporting businesses across the state.

Parks Victoria will be working with Traditional Owners and specialist consultants throughout the project to ensure natural and cultural values are protected.

The Wilson's Prom Revitalisation project is funded as part of the Andrews Labor Government's \$633 million Visitor Economy Recovery and Reform Plan, and project is expected to directly generate 54 jobs and add approximately \$11.22 million to the regional economy.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Ingrid Stitt

"I'm pleased to see continued progress on the plans for this important exclusion fence, which will help protect Wilson's Prom for generations to come."

"Well-designed park facilities are essential, so that Victorians can continue to connect with our precious natural environment in a sustainable way."

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh

"The projects underway at Wilson's Prom recognise the importance of supporting experiences for 21st century visitors, while protecting and enhancing Victoria's biodiversity."

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