



19th June, 2018

The Board
Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board
Level 3
8 Nicholson Street,
Melbourne East Vic 3002

Dear Board Members,

Re: Draft Joint Management Plan for the Dja Dja Wurrung Parks

Thank you for the opportunity to present a submission with respect to draft proposals for the development of the Dja Dja Wurrung Parks Management Plan which includes a number of four wheel drive tracks and camping areas that are favoured by our four wheel drive club members.

Four Wheel Drive Victoria has a longstanding and proud relationship with Parks Victoria and Department of Environment Land Water and Planning and in October 2015 the Ministerial Four Wheel Drive Advisory Committee was formed.

Adopting the mantra 'Driving in a Sustainable Environment' our Association and it's member Clubs strive to promote a strong Code of Ethics to the wider 4wd community via various programs and public appearances including the Tread Lightly principle.

The Association has the following principal objectives when it comes to management and use of public land in Victoria:

- To ensure the Association is included in the consultation process as per the existing 'Memorandum of Understanding' between Parks Victoria, Department of Environment Land Water and Planning and Four Wheel Drive Victoria (2009 to 2019) with regard proposed road and track closures.
- Maintaining access to four wheel drive tracks to support the four wheel drive experience
- Respecting the cultural heritage and environmental values of land in which we tour
- Supporting the principals of dispersed vehicle based camping
- Supporting the communities in which we travel, in turn contributing to the State's economic health.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VICTORIA

Victoria Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs Inc.

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Driving in a sustainable environment

Four Wheel Drive Victoria acknowledges Dja Dja Wurrung people past and present have lived on and managed the Dja Dja Wurrung Parks region for thousands of years. We will welcome and value the opportunity to join in discussions and work with them in the future. Our Association has been in consultation with the Gunaikurnai Traditional Owner Land Management Board in Gippsland with regard to planning for a joint management future and we are a part of the Mt Stirling Stakeholders Group together with the Taungurung Clans working on the Mt Stirling 2030 Plan. We will continue to look to form good relationships with Traditional Owners across the State.

Throughout the Draft plan we note there are strategies and objectives regarding the review and management of the vehicular track networks. This issue is an extremely important aspect of the Plan to Four Wheel Drive Victoria. We understand the need for seasonal and temporary track closures and in some cases track rationalisation however, we do seek to be a part of the consultation process from the outset via a jointly developed Code of Practice or Memorandum of Understanding.

With regard to Map WK1 Kooyoora State Park, Melville Caves insert, we respectfully seek further information on the reason for reclassification of Barry's Rock Road as a Management Vehicle only track.

Four Wheel Drive Victoria offers our support by way of education and promotion of safe, responsible 4wdriving and camping to the visitor community via our Camp Host program as well as assisting where possible with track maintenance. We invite the Dja Dja Wurrung Elders and Leaders to discuss these opportunities with us at any time.

In closing, the Association's programs and volunteer support offered to land managers, special interest groups and communities is a testament to our commitment and continuation of sustainable four wheel driving. We are keen to participate in discussions regarding the Draft Joint Management Plan for the Dja Dja Wurrung Parks and we trust we will be invited as a major stakeholder to collaborate on goals and strategies.

We look forward to being of further assistance.

Yours faithfully,



Wayne Hevey
Chief Executive Officer
Four Wheel Drive Victoria

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Code of Ethics

Obey the laws and regulations for Recreational Vehicles that apply to public lands.

1. Respect the cultural, heritage and environmental values of public/private land, by obeying restrictions that may apply.
2. Respect our flora and fauna. Stop and look, but never disturb.
3. Keep to formed vehicle tracks.
4. Keep the environment clean. Carry your own, and any other, rubbish out.
5. Keep your vehicle mechanically sound and clean to reduce the environment impact.
6. Adopt minimal impact camping and driving practices.
7. Seek permission before driving on private land. Do not disturb livestock or watering points, leave gates as found.
8. Take adequate water, food, fuel, basic spares and a first aid kit on trips. In remote areas travel with another vehicle and have Royal Flying Doctor Service, or equivalent, radio contact.
9. Enjoy your recreation and respect the rights of others.
10. Plan ahead and lodge trip details with a responsible person.
11. Support four-wheel drive touring as a responsible and legitimate family recreational activity. Consider joining an affiliated four-wheel drive club.

**THIS CODE SUPPORTS THE NATIONAL RECREATIONAL VEHICLE
POLICY AND IS VALUABLE ONLY IF YOU OBSERVE IT.**

Produced by the Australian National Four Wheel Drive Council in the interest of promoting responsible recreational vehicle use.

Australian National Four Wheel Drive Council, March 1999

For advice and assistance in meeting the requirements of this Code of Ethics contact the Public Relations Officer.

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VICTORIA

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