

# **VICTORIAN NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION**

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025



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# Council Member's Report 30 June 2025

The council members present their report, together with the financial statements, on the incorporated association for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

#### **Council members**

The following persons were council members of the incorporated association during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

David Nugent
Marilyne Crestias

Askin Morrison Chris Harvey

Dr Jan Hendrik Brueggemier

Dr Doug Robinson
Dianne Marshall
Dr Bruce McGregor
Gerard McPhee
Lara Bickford
Michael Young

Andrew Norman

Jeff Nottle

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Appointed 5 December 2024

#### **Principal activities**

Victorian National Parks Association Inc is an independent, non-profit, membership based organisation, which exists to support and protect Victoria's unique natural environment and biodiversity through the establishment and effective management of national parks, conservation reserves and other measures.

The association is classified as a Tier 2 association under the Associations Reform Act 2012 in that its annual revenue exceeds \$500,000 and is less than \$3 million and as such is required to have its financial report audited or reviewed.

#### Operating result

The deficit from operations for the 2025 financial year amounted to \$1,064,223 (2024: Surplus \$1,017,860).

Recognising the evolving nature of VNPA's operating environment, the Council continues to closely monitor the Association's financial position to ensure it can meet core operating expenses and maintain long-term financial sustainability. The Council has agreed policies and processes, including a continued focus on the preparation of comprehensive budgets, considering scenarios and potential actions, cash flow forecasting, ongoing monitoring of financial performance, and oversight of financial reserves. Reserves include a Safeguard Reserve (the Crosbie Morrison Fund) to protect against liabilities, support operations, manage cash flow variations, and enable future strategic development.

On behalf of the council members

President:

**David Nugent** 

Treasurer

Askin Morrison

Dated 18 September 2025

# **Statement of Comprehensive Income**

# For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

		2025	2024
	Note	\$	\$
Revenue	2	1,996,462	4,011,013
Employee benefits expense		(2,295,647)	(2,120,787)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(71,689)	(79,012)
Insurance costs		(17,655)	(18,037)
Occupancy costs		(26,668)	(25,093)
Campaigns, projects, activities and education		(294,285)	(430,360)
Office and administrative costs		(171,372)	(169,962)
Printing, publications and online costs		(136,649)	(136,443)
Interest expenses - right-of-use asset	_	(15,735)	(37,462)
Surplus from operations		(1,033,238)	993,857
Net gain/(loss) on revaluation of other financial assets	_	(30,985)	24,003
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	_	(1,064,223)	1,017,860
Other comprehensive income	_	•	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	_	(1,064,223)	1,017,860

# **Statement of Financial Position**

# As At 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	1,759,951	2,657,785
Trade and other receivables	4	133,069	117,183
Other financial assets	5	503,017	485,728
Other assets	6 <b>_</b>	9,826	18,345
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	_	2,405,863	3,279,041
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	196,046	34,684
Right-of-use assets	8 _	225,907	279,062
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		421,953	313,746
TOTAL ASSETS	_	2,827,816	3,592,787
CURRENT LIABILITIES  Trade and other payables  Lease liabilities  Employee benefits  Other liabilities  TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES  NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES  Lease liabilities  Employee benefits	9 8 11 10 — 8 11	180,312 55,300 417,040 318,101 970,753 202,195 40,070	113,122 52,347 313,831 139,295 618,595 257,495 37,676
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		242,265	295,171
TOTAL LIABILITIES	_	1,213,018	913,766
NET ASSETS	=	1,614,798	2,679,021
EQUITY Accumulated surplus Reserves TOTAL EQUITY	<del>-</del>	77,388 1,537,410 1,614,798	1,258,626 1,420,395 2,679,021

# **Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

No		Accumulated Surplus \$	Financial Asset Revaluation Reserve \$	Safeguard Reserve \$	Specific Donation Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2024	_	1,258,626	39,395	1,056,000	325,000	2,679,021
Surplus for the year		(1,064,223)	-	-	-	(1,064,223)
Transfer from/(to) reserves		(117,015)	(30,985)	193,000	(45,000)	-
Balance at 30 June 2025	2 =	77,388	8,410	1,249,000	280,000	1,614,798
	_					
Balance at 1 July 2023		416,269	15,392	956,000	273,500	1,661,161
Surplus for the year		1,017,860	-	-	-	1,017,860
Transfer from/(to) reserves		(175,503)	24,003	100,000	51,500	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	2	1,258,626	39,395	1,056,000	325,000	2,679,021

# Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:			
Receipts from appeals, donations and bequests		1,457,573	3,417,627
Receipts from membership fees		106,792	85,837
Receipts from grants and sponsorships		377,912	142,233
Receipts from sales and activities		178,855	201,155
Interest received		49,688	33,721
Interest paid - Right of Use Leases		(15,735)	(37,462)
Payments to suppliers and employees	_	(2,849,416)	(2,835,689)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	13 _	(694,331)	1,007,422
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: Purchase of property, plant and equipment Payments for investments	_	(179,896) -	(17,045) (8,278)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	_	(179,896)	(25,323)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: Repayment of lease liabilities		(52,347)	(31,221)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	_	(52,347)	(31,221)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		(926,574) 2,686,525	950,878 1,735,647
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	3 =	1,759,951	2,686,525

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

#### For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

The financial statements cover Victorian National Parks Association (the 'association') as an individual entity. Victorian National Parks Association is a not-for-profit association incorporated in Victoria under the Association Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. ('the Act').

#### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

#### 1 Material Accounting Policy Information

#### (a) Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the association and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Income is earned from provision of services when performance obligations are either satisfied over time or at a point in time. Generally the timing of the payment for sale of goods and rendering of services corresponds closely to the timing of satisfaction of the performance obligations, however where there is a difference, it will result in the recognition of a receivable, contract asset or contract liability.

Appeals, donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Revenue from the membership fees is recognised when membership benefits are provided over time.

Grants or sponsorship income is recognised when performance obligations are satisfied under the terms of the funding or sponsorship agreement.

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Investment income is recognised as revenue when received.

Other income in relation to rendering of services as the service is performed.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

#### (b) Income Tax

The association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

#### 1 Material Accounting Policy Information

#### (c) Trade and other receivables

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances. No interest is charged on trade receivables.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of each class of receivable in the financial statements.

Receivables are stated inclusive of GST.

#### (d) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Items of property, plant and equipment acquired for significantly less than fair value have been recorded at the acquisition date fair value.

#### Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured using the cost model.

#### Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

#### **Fixed asset class**

**Depreciation rate** 

Plant and Equipment

10-50%

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

# (e) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the association becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

# For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

#### 1 Material Accounting Policy Information

#### (e) Financial instruments

#### **Financial assets**

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

#### Classification

On initial recognition, the association classifies its financial assets into the following categories, those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss FVTPL

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the association changes its business model for managing financial assets.

#### Amortised cost

The association's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

#### Financial assets through profit or loss

All financial assets not classified as measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income as described above are measured at FVTPL.

Net gains or losses, including any interest or dividend income are recognised in statement of comprehensive income.

#### Other financial assets measured at amortised cost

Impairment of other financial assets measured at amortised cost are determined using the expected credit loss model in AASB 9. On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

#### For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

#### 1 Material Accounting Policy Information

#### (f) Leases

At inception of a contract, the association assesses whether a lease exists.

#### Lessee accounting

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

#### Right-of-use asset

At the lease commencement, the association recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the association believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

#### Lease liability

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the association's incremental borrowing rate is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the association's assessment of lease term.

Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

## Exceptions to lease accounting

The association has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. The association recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

#### For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

#### 1 Material Accounting Policy Information

#### (g) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits, those benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using the 30 June 2025 wage inflation and discount rates published by the Department of Treasury and Finance with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

# (h) Funding contract liabilities

Income from funding with sufficiently specific performance obligations are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income when the Association has satisfied the performance obligations under the terms of the funding. The Association exercises judgement over whether the performance obligations have been met, on a funding by funding basis. The performance obligations for activity-based funding are the number of services provided or program objectives achieved in accordance with terms and conditions agreed to with the funding providers.

Revenue is recognised when a service provision is completed or a program objective is achieved. The performance obligations have been selected as they align with funding conditions set out in the agreements issued by the funding providers.

#### (i) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

## (j) Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

The association has adopted all standards which became effective for the first time at 30 June 2025, the adoption of these standards has not caused any material adjustments to the reported financial position, performance or cash flow of the association

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

# For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

2	Revenue		
		2025	2024
		\$	\$
	Appeals and donations	1,369,142	1,558,679
	Bequests	88,431	1,858,948
	Membership fees	77,049	78,034
	Grants and sponsorships	181,600	275,970
	Publication sales, events, outdoor activities and sundry income	178,855	201,155
	Interest and investment distributions	101,385	38,227
		1,996,462	4,011,013
3	Cook and Cook Equivalents		
3	Cash and Cash Equivalents Cash at bank and in hand	734,022	2,093,077
	Short-term deposits	1,025,929	564,708
	Onort term deposits	1,759,951	2,657,785
		1,100,001	2,007,700
4	Trade and Other Receivables		
	CURRENT		
	Trade receivables	77,146	86,619
	GST receivable	38,443	16,507
	Interest and franking credit receivables	17,480	14,057
		133,069	117,183
5	Other Financial Assets		
	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		

## **National Parks Community Fund**

Managed investment fund

The National Parks Community Fund is an endowment fund held in trust and managed by the Australian Communities Foundation with Victorian National Parks Association as the sole beneficiary of the funds.

The value of the National Parks Community Fund as at 30 June 2025 is \$549,843 (2024: \$421,440).

#### 6 Other non-financial assets

**CURRENT** 

Total

CURRENT		
Prepayments	9,826	18,345

503,017

503,017

485,728

485,728

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

# For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

## 7 Property, plant and equipment

roporty, plant and equipment	2025 \$	2024 \$
Capital works in progress At cost	174,036	-
Office equipment At cost Accumulated depreciation	183,905 (161,895)	178,044 (143,360)
Total office equipment	22,010	34,684
Website At cost Accumulated depreciation	56,307 (56,307)	56,307 (56,307)
Total website	-	-
Total property, plant and equipment	196,046	34,684

# **Movements in Carrying Amounts**

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

·	Capital Works in Progress	Office Equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Year ended 30 June 2025			
Balance at the beginning of year	-	34,684	34,684
Additions	174,036	5,861	179,897
Depreciation expense		(18,535)	(18,535)
Balance at the end of the year	174,036	22,010	196,046

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

# For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

# 8 Right-of-Use Assets and Lease Liabilities

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial position relating to lease are shown leaves.	ase are shown below:	elating to !	position r	financial	statement of	in the	recognised i	The amounts	-
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	2025 \$	2024 \$
Right-of-use assets	531,546	531,546
Accumulated depreciation	(305,639)	(252,484)
	225,907	279,062
Current lease liabilities	55,300	52,347
Non-current lease liabilities	202,195	257,495
	257,495	309,842
The amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income relating to lease at Interest expense on lease liabilities  Depreciation of right-of-use assets	15,735 53,155	37,462 53,155
Trade and Other Payables		
CURRENT		
Trade payables	47,678	30,957
GST payable	19,609	-
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	113,025	82,165

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

# 10 Other Liabilities

9

	CURRENT		
	Funding contract liabilities	296,760	124,443
	Membership received in advance	21,341	14,852
		318,101	139,295
11	Employee Benefits		
	Current liabilities		
	Provision for long service leave	148,236	106,089
	Provision for annual leave and time in lieu	268,804	207,742
		417,040	313,831
	Non-current liabilities		
	Provision for long service leave	40,070	37,676

180,312

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

# For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

#### 12 Reserves

## (a) Financial asset revaluation reserve

Financial asset revaluation reserve records change in the market value of investments that are measured at fair value through profit and loss.

# (b) Safeguard Reserve (Crosbie Morrison Fund)

This reserve is used to ensure the association has adequate resources to meet future obligations.

#### (c) Specific Donation Reserve

This reserve is used to recognise donations received for a specific purpose which are not yet spent.

# (d) National Parks Community Fund reserve

National Parks Community Fund reserve records the donations and distributions received from National Parks Community Fund, a sub-fund of Australian Community Foundation in accordance with the donor's wishes.

#### 13 Cash Flow Information

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(1,064,223)	1,017,860
Cash flows excluded from surplus/(deficit) attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in surplus:		
- depreciation	71,689	79,012
- fair value movements on investments	30,985	(15,725)
- distributions reinvested	(48,274)	(7,472)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(19,267)	29,945
- (increase)/decrease in other assets	8,519	(5,616)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	41,831	(1,049)
- increase/(decrease) in contract liabilities	178,806	(165,013)
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	105,603	75,480
Cashflows from operations	(694,331)	1,007,422

# **Notes to the Financial Statements**

# For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

## 14 Financial Risk Management

14	Financial Risk Management	2025	2024
		\$	<b>\$</b>
		Ψ	Ψ
	Financial assets Held at amortised cost		
		1 750 051	2 657 785
	Cash and cash equivalents  Trade and other receivables	1,759,951 133,069	2,657,785 117,183
	Fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)	133,009	117,103
	Managed securities - current	503,017	485,728
		-	
	Total financial assets	2,396,037	3,260,696
	Financial liabilities		
	Held at amortised cost		
	Trade and other payables	180,313	113,123
	Current lease liabilities	55,300	52,347
	Non-current lease liabilities	202,195	257,495
	Total financial liabilities	437,808	422,965
15	Auditors' Remuneration		
	- auditing the financial statements - Accru Melbourne (Audit) Pty Ltd	13,000	11,250

#### 16 Key Management Personnel Disclosures

The remuneration paid to key management personnel of the association is \$659,484 (2024: \$638,750).

#### 17 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Council, the association did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2025 (30 June 2024: None).

#### 18 Events after the end of the Reporting Period

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

# 19 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the Association is: Victorian National Parks Association
Level 3, 60 Leicester Street
Carlton VIC 3053

# **Statement by Members of Council**

The Council of the association declare that:

- 1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 2 to 15, are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
  - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards Simplified Disclosure Standard; and
  - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the association.
- 2. In the Council's' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of Council.

President. David Nugent

Treasurer

Askin Morrison

Dated 18 September 2025



mgiworldwide/

# Independent Audit Report to the members of Victorian National Parks Association

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Victorian National Parks Association (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by members of council.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the association is in accordance with the Australian Charities and Notfor-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with the Australian Accounting Standards Simplified Disclosures and the Australian Charities and Not-forprofits Commission Regulation 2013.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### **Other Information**

The Council is responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information included in the annual report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Responsibilities of the Council for the Financial Report

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Association Incorporation Reform Act 2012, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Council is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Independent Audit Report to the members of Victorian National Parks Association

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are
  appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the
  Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Council.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**ACCRU MELBOURNE (AUDIT) PTY LTD** 

Acer Melbourne

18 September 2025

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