



4th October, 2018

Victorian Climbing Club/CliffCare
G.P.O. Box 1725
Melbourne Victoria 3000



ATTENTION: Matthew Jackson

Chief Executive Officer - Parks Victoria

**VICTORIAN CLIMBING CLUB/CLIFFCARE PROPOSAL
CLIMBING MANAGEMENT PLAN - GRAMPIANS NATIONAL PARK**

The Victorian Climbing Club and CliffCare, on behalf of the Victorian climbing community, would like to propose establishing a Climbing Management Plan for the Grampians National Park.

The Grampians is an internationally renowned climbing area that has value for many users of the park - both locally and internationally. As an important user group, we want a new management plan that protects cultural heritage and natural values, whilst also taking into account the needs and values of climbers. A plan that makes it very clear what is allowed and where, and that makes sense to all stakeholders including climbers.

We are willing to work closely with Parks Victoria and Traditional Owners to help create, what we believe, to be a state of the art management plan that satisfies all stakeholders. As a user group that has great respect for the park and all of its values, we understand that there will be compromises. We believe that in most cases, a fine-grained approach rather than a blanket ban is a much better and workable option. Whilst we understand that in places a blanket ban will be what is appropriate to adequately protect cultural and natural values, we also want to ensure that the most important values to climbers are considered in the plan.

We believe that this approach benefits all. As the sport of climbing continues to evolve and grow, clear boundaries that look after park values whilst respecting the needs and values of climbers as an important user group, has more potential to create ownership of responsibility and stewardship opportunities, for future generations of park users.

We are keen, committed and organized and welcome the opportunity to come to the table, to negotiate and collaborate.

We look forward to further discussions on the above proposal. I can be contacted via phone 0425 771 413 email: cliffcare@vicclimb.org.au

Regards,

Tracey Skinner
VCC Access & Environment Officer

Paula Toal
VCC President

CC: Simon Talbot - Chief Operating Officer, Parks Victoria

Rhonda McNeil - Area Chief Ranger, Grampians National Park

Stuart Hughes - Director Park Planning and Policy, Parks Victoria

David Lucas - Director Managing Country Together, Parks Victoria

Gavan Mathieson - District Manager, South West District, Parks Victoria

Jake Goodes - Aboriginal Heritage Co-ordinator, Parks Victoria