Southern Prom Hikes Open for Easter!
We’re delighted to announce that the majority of overnight hiking tracks in the southern prom will reopen on 30 March 2012 allowing hikers to access Oberon Bay, the Light Station, South Point, Roaring Meg, Little Waterloo Bay, Refuge Cove and Sealers Cove over the Easter School Holidays.

Over the past few months, Parks Victoria has undertaken repair works on the severely damaged Oberon Bay Track to allow access to all southern prom hikes via Oberon Bay. Mt Oberon Rd and Telegraph Saddle will remain closed due to ongoing flood repair works.

Hikers keen to head out to Sealers Cove are advised that Sealers Cove will only be accessible from Refuge Cove as the direct track from Telegraph Saddle will remain closed until major flood repair works are completed.

Chief Ranger at Wilsons Promontory National Park Ms Helen Dixon said: “The campsites including Sealers Cove, Refuge Cove, Halfway Hut, Roaring Meg, Waterloo Bay, Oberon Bay and the Light Station will still have a two-night maximum stay to ensure all visitors have the opportunity of camping at the southern outstation locations”.

Bookings for the southern prom overnight hikes are essential and can be made by phoning 13 1963.

Enjoy a Little Luxury at the Light Station
After a little luxury after a hard day’s hike? Why not book into one the historic cottages at the Light Station. Tastefully refurbished and featuring a mix of original features and modern conveniences, the cottages and the Wilsons Promontory lighthouse form the southern most settlement on the Australian mainland.

The Light Station can be accessed via Oberon Bay and the return distance is 24km. Bookings are essential and must be made prior to departure. Please note that camping is not permitted at the Light Station.

First Anniversary of the Flood Event
The first anniversary of the March 2011 flood event will be on 22 March 2012. This significant day will allow all those involved in the flood event and recovery process and those impacted on by the flood event to reflect on their experiences. The last 12 months have been an incredible journey for the Prom and the anniversary day will provide a great opportunity to acknowledge the amazing efforts of all staff, contractors, stakeholders and volunteers involved in the recovery efforts.

Bumper Summer Season at the Prom
The Prom proved popular with visitors over the Summer Ballot period with the campground and roofed accommodation at Tidal River fully booked and nearly 37 000 day visitors passing through the Yanakie Entrance Station. With visitation to the Prom nearly back to normal, we’re hoping that local businesses are feeling the flow on effects!

Easter Long Weekend
More good news for local businesses is that all campsites and roofed accommodation at Tidal River are fully booked for the Easter Long weekend. There are still some vacancies for the remainder of the Victorian School Holidays. Phone 13 1963 for bookings and further information.
New Indigenous Cultural Sites Discovered
As part of the flood recovery process, Traditional Owners from the Gunaikurnai Land & Waters Aboriginal Corporation, the Bunurong Land Council and the Boon Wurrung Foundation took part in two separate 5 day field inspections on the west and east coasts of Wilsons Promontory last year.

The post flood Aboriginal Cultural Site inspections were undertaken to investigate whether any known cultural sites had been damaged as a result of the flood.

There has been minimal impact to known sites and as a result of the survey work and field inspections, 5 new cultural sites have been recorded.

All Indigenous Cultural Sites at Wilsons Promontory National Park are protected by law and should not be removed or disturbed in any way. This also applies to all plants, animals, other natural features and European cultural sites.

Activity Programs Still Proving Popular
After the success of the spring and Cup Day weekend activity programs, Parks Victoria kept up the momentum over the Summer Ballot period delivering nearly 160 activities to over 1700 park visitors. Activity programs will also be offered over the Labour Day and Easter Long weekends and bookings can be made in person at the Tidal River Visitor Centre.

For further information, contact the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 1963 or visit www.parks.vic.gov.au

Northern Hikes Well Utilised
With southern prom hikes remaining closed for just a few more weeks, intrepid hikers have been presented with a wonderful opportunity to explore the Wilderness Walks in the northern section of the Prom. Bookings have remained steady since the northern walks reopened last year. All sections are now open with the exception of the Lighthouse Point to Tin Mine Cove walking track and the Johnny Souey Cove camp.

What Will Remain Closed?
While most of the flood recovery works are now complete, some walking tracks and visitor features will remain closed until scheduled repair works are completed. For your safety and to help the Prom recover, we ask all visitors to abide by these closures.

Walking
Around Tidal River, the Loo-Errn boardwalk and fishing platforms, Picnic Point and the Whisky Bay car park and beach access track remain closed. In the northern section of the Prom, Cotters Lake, Johnny Souey Camp and the Lighthouse Point to Tin Mine Cove walking track are still closed. In the southern section of the Prom, Telegraph Saddle to Sealers Cove, Telegraph Saddle to Roaring Meg and part of the Roaring Meg to the Light Station walking tracks also remain closed. The Light Station can be accessed from Telegraph Track management vehicle track.

Boating
Since the March 2011 floods, Parks Victoria has monitored the changed conditions of the Tidal River watercourse. Due to safety concerns, motorised boat launching is not permitted from Tidal River and Norman Bay until further notice.

Roads
Mt Oberon Rd and the Telegraph Saddle car park will remain closed until further notice.