

ARV Environmental Sustainability Policy

ARV Corporate Policy

1. Statement

In accord with legislative obligations and our corporate value to protect nature, Alpine Resorts Victoria (ARV) will lead and manage the conservation of the unique biodiversity of Victoria's six alpine resorts (Falls Creek, Lake Mountain, Mt Baw Baw, Mt Buller, Mt Hotham and Mt Stirling). ARV will deliver business activities in a manner that meets environmental legislative requirements and minimises environmental impacts through improving resource use (energy, water and materials), minimising waste to landfill, controlling environmental hazards and preventing pollution.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all Alpine Resorts Victoria employees, contractors and volunteers.

This policy provides the principles to protect the environment while planning and delivering business activities and services, including on-going management of the natural values and built assets that ARV manages within the alpine resorts estate.

This policy aligns with the following ARV Strategic Objective: Protect and enhance the alpine environment and adapt to climate change.

3. Requirements

The operating requirements of this policy include:

- Relevant legislation, government policies and strategies

Activities undertaken in delivering Alpine Resort Victoria's functions and services, including management of natural and built assets, will be in accordance with relevant environmental legislation, government and ARV policies, strategies, plans, processes and systems.

- Due diligence

Environmental risk identification, assessment, control and mitigation, including monitoring and reporting, will be applied via implementation of ARV's Risk Management Framework.

- Carbon footprint and climate change adaptation

Alpine Resorts Victoria will support the mitigation of climate change impacts through minimising carbon footprints, planning for and managing climate risks and adapting to climate conditions and a low carbon economy. Climate change adaptation will be guided by ARV's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

- Resource use efficiency

Alpine Resort Victoria’s choice and use of resources will preference using the least resource intensive option based on lifecycle environmental costs and impacts wherever practicable.

- Waste management

Wastes will be managed in accordance with the *Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021*, *Environment Protection Act 2017* and the Waste Hierarchy. ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017 - SECT 18 Principle of waste management hierarchy

- Control of environmental hazards

Activities undertaken in the management of the alpine resorts must be completed in a manner that does not present a state of danger to human beings or the environment whether imminent or otherwise resulting from the location, storage or handling of any substance having toxic, corrosive, flammable, explosive, infectious or otherwise dangerous characteristics.

- Protection of environmental values

Alpine resort natural assets will be managed to protect and not diminish the benefits derived from environmental and ecosystem services.

- Education and awareness

Education, interpretation and research aligned with strategic directions and ARV’s corporate plan will aim to improve performance and promote a greater understanding of the environmental significance of the alpine resorts.

4. Responsibilities

Position	Responsibility
Board	Accountable for meeting the objectives of and compliance with environmental legislation.
SPAMCO	Policy approval.
CEO	Organisational leadership to maintain and improve environmental performance and compliance.
General Managers	Operate departments and resorts in accordance with environmental legislation, regulations, policies, plans and procedures.
Head of Environmental Sustainability	Oversees environmental due diligence and provides advice and assistance in relation to compliance, policies, plans and procedures.
Managers, Team Leaders and Supervisors	Responsible for ensuring staff are aware of environmental obligations, correctly follow environmental processes and systems and undertake complaint work practices.
Resort Environmental Officers	Provide technical expertise, advice and assistance in relation to implementation of this policy across the organisation and assist in achieving improved environmental performance and compliance.
ARV Staff	Perform work tasks in accordance with this policy.

5. Legislation

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 and Regulations 2000

Alpine Resorts (Management) Act 1997 and Regulations 2020

Alpine Resorts Legislation Amendment Act 2022

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 and Regulations 2020

Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 and Regulations 2022

Climate Change Act 2017

Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021 and Regulation 2023

Environment Protection Act 2017 and Regulations 2021

Planning and Environment Act 1987 and Regulations 2015

Native Vegetation Removal Regulations

Wildlife Act 1975 and Regulations 2002

6. Related documents

Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2027

Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (DELWP 2017)

Alpine Resorts Planning Scheme

Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan

ARV Corporate Plan and Strategies

ARV Risk Management Framework

ARV Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Resort Environmental Management Plans (until superseded by an overarching ARV Environmental Management Plan)

Cutting Victoria's Emissions: Whole of Victorian Government emissions reduction pledge

Victoria's Climate Change Strategy

Building Victoria's Climate Resilience

Victorian Government Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans

Recycling Victoria – A New Economy

7. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Term	Definition
Adaptation Action Plans	Victorian Government plans across 7 systems to ensure Victoria's climate resilience, now and in the future. The 7 systems are: built environment, education and training, health and human services, natural environment, primary production, transport and water cycle systems.
Carbon footprint	A measure of the amount of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere because of the activities of a particular individual, organisation or community.
Climate adaptation	Action taken to reduce the adverse consequences of climate change or harness opportunities by building resilience into our environments, our economy and society.
Climate change	Changes in the state of the climate, including an increase in the occurrence of extreme weather events, long-term changes in weather patterns and sea-level rise, attributed directly or indirectly to human activity.
Climate hazards	Natural or human-caused events or conditions that may cause damage and loss.
Climate mitigation	Action taken to reduce or prevent the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG's) into the atmosphere, aiming to limit the extent of climate change.
Cultural assets	Tangible and intangible elements of a culture, including physical objects, places and practices that hold historical, artistic or cultural significance, and are valued by a community or society.
Environmental hazards	Substances, events, or conditions in the environment that can cause harm to ecosystems or human health, encompassing both natural and human-induced factors.
Low carbon economy	An economy that aims to significantly reduce GHGs, particularly carbon dioxide, by transitioning to low-carbon energy sources and practices, with the goal of reaching net-zero emissions.
Natural assets	The stocks of natural resources and ecosystems that provide valuable goods and services to humans, like water, food and climate regulation. Also referred to as natural capital.
Net-zero emissions	Achieving a balance between GHG emissions released into the atmosphere and those removed, essentially aiming to have no net increase in atmospheric GHG concentrations.
Pollution	The introduction of harmful substances or energy into the environment, causing negative impacts on human health, ecosystems and the environment's ability to function.
Risk Management Framework	A structured approach used to identify, assess and mitigate potential risks, to proactively safeguard assets and achieve organisational objectives.
Wastes Hierarchy	A framework that prioritises waste management strategies, ranking them from the most environmentally desirable (prevention/reduction) to the least (disposal) to guide sustainable waste management practices.

8. Approval and implementation

Policy Custodian	Policy contact details	Approval Date	Approver
Annie Volkering	policyregister@alpineresorts.vic.gov.au	3 July 2025	SPAMCO

9. Version Control

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