

# Media Release

**The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP**

Minister for Energy, the Environment and Climate Change  
Minister for Solar Homes



Monday, 21 February 2022

## ONE STEP CLOSER TO SEA TO SUMMIT NATURE EXPERIENCE

The proposed Sea to Summit experience in East Gippsland is a step closer, with research into the multi-day walking trail showing strong support from stakeholders and the local community.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Lily D'Ambrosio today announced the release of market research findings – part of the \$1.5 million Andrews Labor Government's investment in planning for the walk – which will take visitors from Errinundra National Park to Cape Conran Coastal Park.

The market research included a review of the walker market, focus groups, a national survey of walkers and an assessment of various walking concepts.

The research shows strong support from stakeholders and the local community to expand nature-based tourism in East Gippsland, and that an experience like Sea to Summit is expected to attract more visitors to the region.

It also revealed a strong interest in shorter multi-day walking options in the area – a concept which will be further explored as part of a feasibility study over the coming months.

Planning for the proposed route is being done in partnership with East Gippsland Shire Council, Destination Gippsland, local community, industry and Traditional Owners.

Joining the likes of other iconic Victorian walks like the Grampians Peak Trail – Sea to Summit will be an important investment which will support regional tourism, create jobs and drive economic recovery in East Gippsland.

It's part of Victoria's Great Outdoors – a \$105.6 million Labor Government investment to deliver better forests, parks, campgrounds, tracks and outdoor facilities.

For more information on Sea to Summit, including a summary of the market research, visit [vic.gov.au/sea-summit-nature-experience](http://vic.gov.au/sea-summit-nature-experience).

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio**

*"This project will further highlight East Gippsland's unique and beautiful natural environment, showcasing the best the region has to offer."*

*"We're pleased to be partnering with East Gippsland Shire Council, Destination Gippsland and the local community to ensure the Sea to Summit experience maximises visits to the area to support the local economy."*

*"Victoria's Great Outdoors is delivering improved tracks and trails in our state forests, while providing a boost to local businesses through increased visitation."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Jane Garrett**

*"This is an important project for the region, which will bring much needed visitors to the area, so it's important we have the right information – including this research – to get the planning right."*