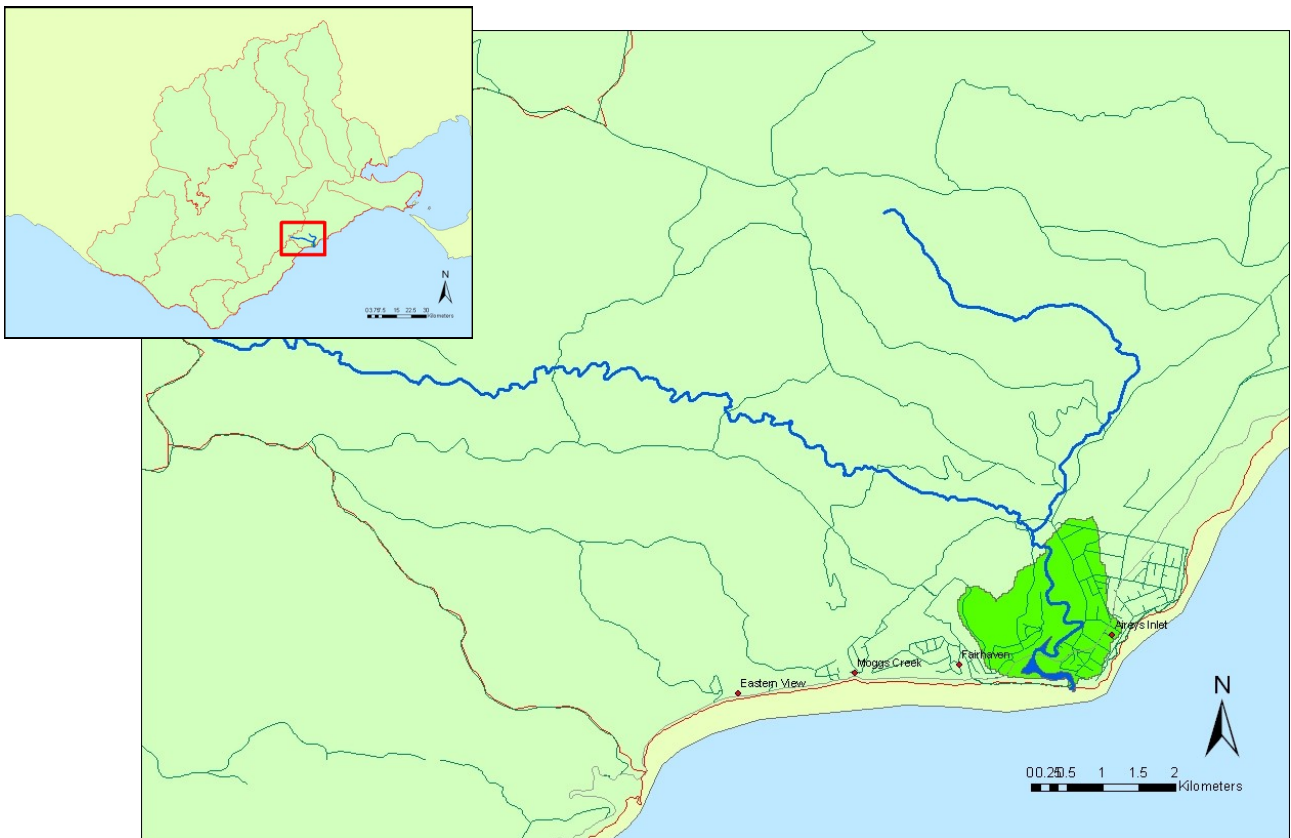


## Painkalac Creek

### Characteristics:

<b>Type of Estuary:</b>	River
<b>Landscape Zone:</b>	Thompson
<b>Catchment Area:</b>	318.1 Ha
<b>Estuary Area:</b>	16.15 Ha
<b>Estuary Length:</b>	3.576 km
<b>River Length:</b>	20.295 km
<b>Mouth Direction:</b>	East facing
<b>Mouth State:</b>	Intermittently open
<b>Location:</b>	144°6'2.8945" E 38°28'8.6204" S
<b>Distance from Geelong:</b>	42.168 km South West



### Supplementary Data:

*Estuary Watch*  
(P-Chem Data / Physical Observations)  
<http://www.estuarywatch.com.au/>

*Surf Coast Shire Council*  
<http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/>

### Contact Information:

**Surf Coast Shire Council:**  
Phone: 1300 610 600  
Website: [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au)  
Email: [info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au)

## Painkalac Creek

### Special Attributes

#### Zones:

- 85% of the catchment zoned Public Conservation and Resource.
- 11% of the catchment zoned Rural.
- 4% of catchment includes zonings of Residential, Public Use, Special Use, Low Density Residential, Public Park and Recreation and Business.

#### Overlays:

- Environmental significance (for the Painkalac Creek and estuary (including the western floodplain) and the entire catchment above Painkalac Reservoir).
- Land subject to inundation (eastern floodplain downstream of Distillery Creek).
- Significant landscape (eastern floodplain downstream of Distillery Creek).
- Vegetation protection (Painkalac Creek downstream of reservoir to coast).
- Wildfire management (mid and upper catchments).



### Estuarine Vegetation

EVC Name	Area (Ha) (Approx.)	Geographic Occurrence	Conservation Status
Coastal Saltmarsh / Mangrove Shrubland Mosaic	1.09	N/A	Endangered
Coastal Headland Scrub	46.55	Rare	Vulnerable
Coastal Tussock Grassland	42.12	Rare	Vulnerable
Shrubby Dry Forest	32.72	Minor	Least Concern
Swampy Riparian Woodland	11.94	Naturally Restricted	Endangered
Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland	25.58	Naturally Restricted	Vulnerable
Lowland Forest	83.8	Common	Depleted
Heathy Woodland	216.63	Common	Least Concern
Riparian Scrub / Swampy Riparian Woodland	5.89	N/A	Depleted
Riparian Forest	5.81	Naturally Restricted	Vulnerable
Sedgy Riparian Woodland	6.4	Naturally Restricted	Depleted

### Key Management Issues:

**Recreational Fishing:** Popular in this estuary with catches of estuary perch, black bream, mullet, flounder and luderick at times.

**Boating:** Popular with canoeists at Aireys Inlet near the estuary mouth.

**Eagle Rock Marine Sanctuary:** Painkalac Creek is adjacent to the southern boundary.

**Passive Recreation:** Estuary survey found respondents from Aireys Inlet, visited the estuary for; walking (63%), relaxing (28%), sightseeing (25%) and bird watching (11%).

**Tourism:** Great Ocean Road is Victoria's second most popular tourist destination, attracting between 12 and 14 percent of all visitors within the state. Value of tourism in the GOR region is estimated at \$940 million.