

1.6 RED ROCK VOLCANIC COMPLEX

Significant Landscape

Character Type	1	Western Volcanic Plain
Character Areas	1.2	Large Shallow & Deep Crater Lakes

The Red Rock Complex includes a number of volcanic features and lies to the east of Lake Corangamite.

Major viewing corridors:

- Warrion South - Dreeite Road
- Corangamite Lake Road
- WoolWool Road
- Baynes Road
- Coragulac Hill Road

Overall Significance Rating: State

A detailed significance assessment is provided over the following pages.



Exposed red rock



Cropping on the lower slopes of Red Rocks

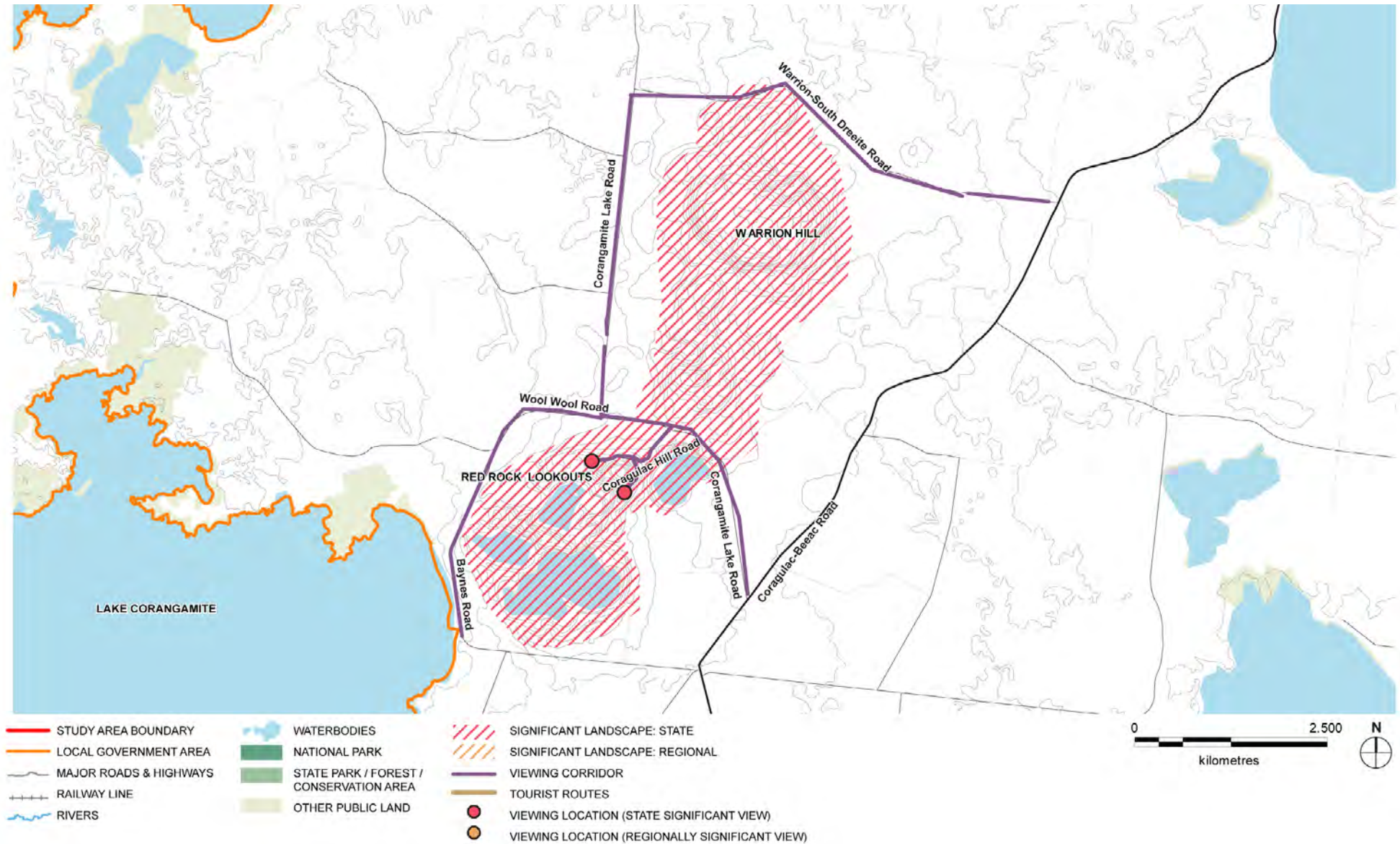


View from the eastern lookout



View towards Lake Corangamite from the western lookout

Landscape Significance Map



Aesthetic Values

AESTHETIC VALUES				
	Source	Description	Aesthetic Values Rating Considerations (i.e. exemplary, iconic, scarce)	Level of Significance
LANDSCAPE FEATURES	Survey Desktop Research	Red Rocks is one of the most complex eruption points in western Victoria and includes maars, tuff rings and scoria cones with a basalt lava flow from another source (probably Warrion Hill). The Red Rock formation contains two major cones with a horseshoe shaped ridge joining them, and a deep central crater. Surrounding and adjacent to this are nine entire craters up to 75m, some containing lakes including Lakes Purdiguluc, Werowrap and Coragulac.	The Red Rocks Complex is an exemplary volcanic feature that displays a series of complex eruption points and volcanic formations.	Exceptional (State)
EDGES OR CONTRASTS	Survey	The volcanic complex contrasts in texture with the surrounding flat pastoral plains. The undulating hills and crater depressions form a visually interesting, almost surreal landscape. Vineyards on the lower slopes of the hilly landscape intensify the contrast in colour and texture. The landscape is mostly cleared of vegetation with a few low shrubs and small trees peppering the hilly terrain. Some dark green exotic shelterbelts slash the landscape around the base of the volcanic feature.	The distinctive cones rising from the surrounding volcanic and pastoral landscapes are an iconic feature of the Western Volcanic Plan.	High (Regional)
COMPOSITION	Survey	In the foreground the scoria cones and tuff rings surrounding the marrs contrast against the flat agricultural plain to create a visually interesting layering of landscape elements. The Red Rocks Complex displays exposed red rock, rolling rocky hills and sunken depressions. Panoramic views from the peaks of the cones stretch out across the flat plains and vast inland lakes. The horizon is occasionally interrupted by the conical rises of distant volcanos. Milky white saline lakes reflect the sky and built development can be seen dotted around the flat volcanic plain.	The range of volcanic features set within the flat pastoral land creates an iconic landscape and an exemplary formation within western Victoria. Stunning views of the volcanic lakes and rises are available from the lookouts (See Views Paper 10.7)	Exceptional (State)
OVERALL AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE RATING				State

Other Cultural Landscape Values

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE	
Source	Description
Desktop Research	Aboriginal artefact scatters, earth mounds and scarred trees occur throughout the area. Many of the cones were important meeting and bartering places for Aboriginal tribes.
Colac Otway Planning Scheme	A number of historic farm buildings, structures and trees are included within the Heritage Overlay (HO1, 2, 237). The Red Rock Reserve is included within the Heritage Overlay (HO3) as a place of historic and scientific significance. It includes lookout points and a War Memorial.
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	State

ENVIRONMENTAL / SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE	
Source	Description
Kanawinka Geopark	Red Rock is listed as a significant site within the Kanawinka Geopark, as a part of the 'Cones and Flows' precinct.
Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia	Red Rock Lakes and the Basins is listed as a nationally significant wetland.
Colac Otway Planning Scheme	This area is included within various Environmental Significance Overlays around the eastern edge of Lake Corangamite due to its significance as a wetland area and habitat, at a State level. This includes the Warrion aquifer area (ESO1) and The Basins wetland (ESO2). The area is also included as a part of the Significant Landscape Overlay 'Valleys, Hills and Plains Precinct', which are of natural or geological significance (SLO1).
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	State

SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE	
Source	
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	The Red Rock Volcanic Complex is the traditional country of the Djargurd wurrung people to whom it holds social, cultural and spiritual significance. The waterbodies, distinctive natural features and places of ecological value within this area are likely to have high Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity.
Desktop Research	The Red Rock Reserve is a local visitor attraction and provides an important opportunity to view the broader area.
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	State

OTHER SIGNIFICANCE	
Source	Description
Desktop Research	The Red Rock Reserve makes a contribution to the local tourism economy.
SIGNIFICANCE RATING	Local

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