



# Dredging Our Bay ? No Way !

Up to 48 million tonnes of sand and silt dredged up from the sea bed and mouth of the Yarra will be dumped at sites off Mt Martha, Mornington and South West Brighton. Some of this silt contains high levels of pesticides, insecticides and industrial contaminants (mercury, lead, zinc, arsenic, ammonia, cadmium) which are currently buried.

The bay is so significant that parts of it have been set aside as Marine National Parks to protect important habitat for many marine creatures including the endangered weedy sea dragon. Dredging will upset the delicate balance of the marine environment and the full extent of the damage has not been adequately assessed.

Dredging will affect many Bay related businesses including recreational fishing, diving, and tourism operators. Residents and visitors to the bay especially around areas near the toxic dumps may be exposed to compromised water quality and contamination.

Regardless of channel deepening, container trade will quadruple by 2030, according to Price Waterhouse Coopers. An alternative to the dredging is to upgrade Australian rail systems, transporting goods to and from pre-existing deep water ports around Australia.

Photo: The Age Craig Abraham (Sept 2005)



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# What can I do?

## Stay up to date on current issues

[www.bluwedges.org](http://www.bluwedges.org)  
[www.saveourbay.com.au](http://www.saveourbay.com.au)

## on bay actions

[www.operationquarantine.com](http://www.operationquarantine.com)

**SMS Updater**  
(text your number to register)  
**0438 353 243**

## Be heard!

Let them know how unhappy you are  
about them damaging your Bay!

The Premier  
The Hon. John Brumby  
Parliament of Victoria  
Spring Street  
Melbourne 3000  
[john.brumby@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:john.brumby@parliament.vic.gov.au)

Minister for the Environment Heritage and the Arts  
The Hon. Peter Garrett  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
[Peter.Garrett.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Garrett.MP@aph.gov.au)

Write letters to the Newspapers, both local and Daily papers.

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