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## Excavators start tearing up Bastion Point – Putting lives at Risk

Excavators have started digging up Bastion Point beach, with locals capturing alarming footage of the construction works. After a twenty-five year campaign to stop the destruction of a surf break and beach at Bastion Point, near Mallacoota on the Far East wilderness coast of Victoria, the beautiful area is now facing a bleak future.

“East Gippsland Shire Council have consistently ignored overwhelming local public and surfing opposition to this development and are now digging up the heart and soul of Mallacoota,” said Dr Rex Campbell, Chairperson of Surfrider Foundation Australia.

“Sadly this will wreck a great surf break we call Broken Boards. Worse still there may be broken bodies. Blinded by a breakwater small boats will smash into the big waves we once surfed”.

“The destruction of Bastion Point is akin to putting a wrecking ball through the MCG – we wouldn’t allow this iconic sporting venue to be destroyed and the same should apply to this surf break and wilderness area”

Bastion Point is listed as Surfrider’s most Endangered Wave as part of our national campaign to protect waves and beaches.

“We applaud that Save Bastion Point Campaign for exercising their democratic right to continue to oppose this development and Surfrider are standing side by side with them,” said Dr Campbell

“The buck stops with the Napthine government, who gave final planning and environmental approval for construction at Bastion Point.

“It’s not too late to stop this vandalism and we are calling on the Napthine Government to step in and demand that the local council cease construction and implement a lower cost and less damaging options.

“Plans for a sustainable alternative already exist, with Government’s own Department of Transport coming up with better development options as part of a post State election review,” concluded Dr Campbell.

Surfrider’s new Broken Boards Broken Dreams Bastion Point video

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJzJoYKOadw&feature=youtu.be>

Save Bastion Point Campaign video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-KQGk4dPhUM&feature=youtu.be> and [www.savebastionpoint.org](http://www.savebastionpoint.org)

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