

FLEURIEU PENINSULA
MARINE PARK LOCAL ADVISORY GROUP

MINUTES

The third meeting of the Fleurieu Peninsula Marine Park Local Advisory Group (MPLAG) was held at the Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club, Barrage Road, Goolwa at 1pm on November 18, 2010.

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians whose lands we are meeting upon today. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal peoples to country. We also pay respect to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people visiting/attending from other areas of South Australia/Australia present here.

1. WELCOME: John Crompton welcomed all members of the Local Advisory Group and the Gallery. He outlined the purpose of this meeting and provided a brief summary of the achievements of the MPLAG meetings so far.

2. PRESENT: John Crompton (Chair), Shen Dycer (proxy for Richard Owen), John Humphrys, Scott Weaver, Randall Lawton, Linda Mullan, David Hall, Brenton Robins, Julieanne Rilstone, Mary Beckett and John Edmeades

DEH Staff: Jon Emmett, Shane Holland, Leander Wiseman, David Miller, Steve Bourne, and Joanne Flavel (minute taker).

Gallery: There were 8 people in the gallery.

3. APOLOGIES: Keith Parkes, Richard Owen, Rex Manson

Absent: Roger Strother and Chris Royans

4. CORRESPONDENCE

4.1 DENR staff provided the MPLAG Chairs with a draft response to the correspondence received (from Wildcatch Fisheries SA and SA Rock Lobster Advisory Council) and tabled in the second meeting, for use at their discretion. This group must decide if they want to generate a formal response of their own.

Action: Jon Emmett to provide all MPLAG members with a copy of this draft letter.

4.2 Members queried how future correspondence may be dealt with.

4.3 From Minister, Paul Caica reminding Chairs of their responsibilities and encouraging them in their quest for results.

5. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING held on June 8, 2010 at Christies Beach.

Moved: David Hall

Seconded: Linda Mullen.

Carried.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

6.1 Previous version of draft zoning for Encounter Marine Park

Members requested a copy of the previous version of draft zoning for the Encounter Marine Park. David Hall offered to provide a presentation on that process, but it was agreed to place this in abeyance due to time restrictions for today's meeting.

6.2 Minutes

John Humphrys requested that members receive a copy of the minutes within two weeks of the meetings.

Action: Jon Emmett to consider this request.

6.3 Stormwater harvesting project

At the previous meeting Rex Manson offered to provide a leaflet on the Onkaparinga stormwater harvesting project. As he is not present at this meeting, this will be carried forward to the next meeting.

7. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

Refer to the table at the end of these minutes.

8. CHAIRS MEETING WITH MINISTER

John Crompton has distributed the notes from this meeting to MPLAG members. He welcomed any comments or contributions for the next meeting with the Minister.

Action: John Crompton to send an email as a reminder to members, advising them of this meeting and requesting input.

9. PRESENTATION – RECAP AND PRELIMINARY SANCTUARY ZONE SCENARIO

9.1 Recap

Jon Emmett outlined the purpose of today's meeting, namely to present preliminary sanctuary zone scenarios for members to take back to their groups and communities.

He provided a recap of the meetings so far, including the use of SAMPIT, the key concepts of marine park planning, the checklist criteria for design principals for sanctuary zones, the atlas of maps (as recently provided to members) and the preliminary sanctuary zone scenarios.

He covered the benefits of marine parks and stressed that they follow a similar concept to terrestrial national parks. Sanctuary zones will protect habitat types and the species and food webs within them.

Sanctuary Zone check list:

- do these zones conserve all habitats?
- do they respect the needs of traditional owners?
- do they respect the needs of other existing users?
- are they easy to identify, use and enforce?
- do they apply Government commitments for marine parks?

Sanctuary zone guidance:

- include whole habitats or areas with minimum dimensions of 7-10kms (or 5km where the Marine Parks are restricted to 3nm of State waters).
- fewer and larger sanctuary zones are better than many smaller ones.
- should cover at least 20-25% of each marine park (ie. 10% of State waters).
- buffer sanctuary zones with habitat protection zones, with minimum dimension 5km.

Action: Jon Emmett to provide current examples of the benefits of marine parks which have been documented in other areas.

Action: Shen Dycer offered to provide members with copies of University studies, including a summary.

Atlas of Maps

These Atlases contain maps showing information on wetlands of national importance, winter and summer sea surface temperatures, shoreline habitats, benthic habitats, fish habitats, estuaries, local and migratory shorebird habitat, reef fish, sea lion colonies and breeding sites, infrastructure (jetties, shacks, launching facilities, light houses etc), shipping destinies, minerals, shipwrecks, Aboriginal Heritage sites and land claims, netting information and fishing effort.

An atlas has been provided for each member.

9.2 Encounter Marine Park Proposed Sanctuary Zones:

Jon Emmett outlined the proposed sanctuary zones within the Encounter Marine Park and explained the rationale for their location and size.

Victor Harbor and Goolwa area (based on the 2005 Draft Zoning Plan)

Newland Head (J):

- size: 5kms²
- the only example of a fully exposed coastal cliff environment in the Encounter Marine Park
- includes an extensive coastal reef and bare sandy sea bed habitat
- habitat for endangered species (eg. White-bellied sea eagle)
- abuts the (terrestrial) Newland Head Conservation Park.

Encounter Bay (K):

- size: <1km²
- includes a sheltered inter-tidal shore platform rocky reef.

Granite Island (L):

- size: 4kms²
- protects a sheltered but coarse sandy beach, a granite boulder reef and a limestone reef
- contains important sea grass meadows (the last ones before Lacepede Bay to the south and Yankalilla Bay to the north)
- begins 150m away from the causeway
- the opportunity remains for local people to use the area.

Horseshoe Bay (M):

- size: 41kms²
- runs 7kms out to sea, including Pullen Island (important sea bird site)
- protects a whale aggregation area
- includes old, low profile platform reefs which may be old coastlines, and some unmapped habitats in uncharted waters
- meets social (Bashams Beach Caravan Park, shore fishers) and safety considerations (access for Sea Rescue Squadron).

Christies Beach (A):

- size: 44kms²
- starts adjacent to Gulf View Road, Christies Beach and runs to the Onkaparinga estuary
- aligns with the existing Noarlunga Reef Aquatic Reserve
- would not impact on the jetty, boat launching or beach fishing
- includes Horseshoe Reef, Noarlunga Reef, sandy sea floor, unmapped habitats.

Aldinga (C):

- size: 45kms²
- starts at Sellicks Beach and extends onto Maslin Beach (sheltered coarse sandy beach in the gulf environment)
- includes the existing Aldinga Reef Aquatic Reserve

- does not include Silver Sands Beach
- fine grain sheltered beach, sandy sea floor, sea grass meadows (including one which may become endangered), unmapped habitat.

Onkaparinga River (B):

- from the South Road railway bridge, downstream for 1km
- small sanctuary zone encompassing an estuarine habitat.

Carrickalinga Beach (D):

- size: 70kms²
- starts south of Myponga and includes Carrickalinga Head
- the southern boundary is adjacent to the Normanville jetty
- the Yankalilla Bay sea grass meadow is the largest one between the upper areas of the metropolitan coast, Kangaroo Island and Encounter Bay
- semi sheltered cliff environment with fringing reefs and platform reefs
- great fish diversity.

Rapid Head (E):

- size: 85kms²
- does not impact on the jetty or harbour
- moderately exposed, the only example of a boulder beach in this area
- includes fringing reef, sandy plains and the largest area of unmapped habitat in this marine park.

Cape Jervis (F):

- 2kms south of Cape Jervis to Fishery Beach, but does not include the deep hole
- area of highest current in Backstairs Passage
- includes low cliffs, fringing reefs, communities of invertebrates which have not been mapped anywhere else and a gradient of communities in a short distance (due to the strong current).

Deep Creek (G):

- size: 160kms²
- connects two areas (from coastal habitat, through deep water habitats) for a continual transect across Backstairs Passage
- includes sandy bottom habitat with mega-ripples, fringing reefs and a deep water trench
- extends from Blow Hole Beach, picking up headlands and sheltered coves, down to Kangaroo Island
- aligns with (terrestrial) Deep Creek Conservation Park
- members expressed their concern over the size of this zone.

Tunkalilla (H):

- size: 35kms²
- functioning example of a moderately exposed surf beach
- stops short of Tunkalilla Head
- includes sheltered beaches, coves, reefs and unmapped habitat

- members raised the concern that this is the only area where fishermen can access a sheltered area to fish when there is a strong north wind.

The Pages (I):

- size: 41kms²
- includes North Pages Island, but not South Pages Island
- incorporates the existing Pages Conservation Park
- a comment was received from a member that it would be preferable for both islands to be included on conservation grounds (viz sea lions).

The Coorong:

(N)

- size: 49kms²
- the marine park boundary overlays the estuarine area of the Coorong Lagoon, extends to the Goolwa Barrage and includes part of the barrier dune system of Sir Richard Peninsula
- sandy sea floor habitats, platform reefs, unmapped area
- does not include the deep section of the Goolwa Channel
- provides an example of the estuarine waters of the area
- takes into account the requirements of the Coorong Commercial Fishery
- comment: that the boundary would be difficult to define
- members queried how this sanctuary zone would relate to the Commonwealth's proposal which takes in the Murray Cannons

(O)

- size: 12kms²
- an area south of the Murray Mouth, but does not include the deep water channel in the lagoon
- includes Boundary Creek, mud flats (bird habitat) and a section of the Younghusband Peninsula with fresh water soaks and sheltered bays
- members commented that this boundary is impractical and unenforceable and suggested it could be longitudinal rather than transverse
- navigational markers could be used to define the zone

(P)

- size: 50kms²
- starts adjacent to Long Point and extends up the coast for 10kms
- located at the south eastern extremity of the Marine Park
- encompasses a section of the northern end of the Coorong beach, extending into State Waters
- includes a very high energy sandy sea floor, fully exposed surf beach, low profile reefs
- part of the longest beach system in the Southern Hemisphere
- Members queried if the impact on the professional cocklers has been considered and were advised that some feedback has been received from SARDI. They did not indicate any concerns. There is an area in the middle of this zone where cocklers can access the beach.

9.3 General comments on the proposed sanctuary zones

Members divided into smaller groups and discussed the possible sanctuary zones in more detail, according to their local knowledge. A DENR staff member joined each group and noted comments and suggestions which will be incorporated into the next draft of the sanctuary zones.

General comments made when the meeting reconvened, included:

Map detail:

- it is difficult to work out the exact areas being discussed
- members agreed that the boundaries of the zones are crucial and just a few hundred metres could make a big difference to how they are received
- there is a need to show much more detail on the maps (eg. landmarks, roads, longitude and latitude co-ordinates)
- it was suggested that the sanctuary zones should be shown on navigational maps
- Jon Emmett clarified that the zones had purposely been presented in the current format to allow for discussion and flexibility (if required)
- when members requested hard copies of the large maps to take back to their communities, it was explained that this would take some time as there are 19 parks concurrently going through the same process
- as electronic support is easier to provide, the sanctuary zones will be shown on the DENR Nature Maps website next week where it will be possible to zoom in on zones and coordinates etc

Action: Jon Emmett to email the link to the Nature Maps site to members and provide help to members to obtain maps if required.

Action: Jon Emmett to flag the need for hard copy maps with more detail. He will discuss what DENR is able to provide with other Executive Officers.

Fishing

- Jon Emmett confirmed that fishing gear is to be stowed and not in use while in a sanctuary zone.

Feedback

- MPLAG members are invited to feed into this process and to draw comments from the communities they represent.
- It was agreed that there is a need to concentrate on how this information will be disseminated to the wider community and how input from the communities will be co-ordinated.
- DENR staff will be available to attend local meetings and provide more information electronically, as well as in hard copy.
- Jon Emmett advised that the Minister has fully supported informal meetings of groups to share information.
- Members of the public are not to be encouraged to make comments directly to DENR staff as this might create instances when MPLAG members are not aware of certain information.
- Members of the public have the opportunity to have input via the Marine Parks website.

Action: Jon Emmett to flag as an issue where two groups share an interest in the same area (eg. Backstairs Passage), and to facilitate an exchange of information and ideas between the groups.

Action: John Crompton will discuss the distribution of information to them with Jon Emmett.

Size of zones

- Members queried if there was a scientific basis for the size of each of the proposed sanctuary zones.
- Jon Emmett advised that the recommended minimum size was based on entire plant and animal communities living within them being self sustaining. They must be able to live their whole life and reach their full potential within that area.

Enforcement of zones

- There was concern that resources would not be made available to the Department to enforce the zones and to monitor their effect.
- Members were advised that PIRSA officers would continue to provide enforcement and that DENR staff would provide public education and monitoring

What happens next?

- Members to discuss the proposed sanctuary zones with their community networks over the summer
- Meeting 4 is planned for February, 2011
- Feedback to be provided to the Executive Officer by January 28, 2011.
- DENR to work with MPLAG members and key stakeholder groups to provide an updated zoning scenario, based on advice received, for Meeting 4.
- DENR staff will communicate any major issues if they arise.

10. MANAGEMENT ISSUES WORKSHOP

- Feedback from members has been collated.
- DENR has contributed additional analysis.
- a workshop for members (attendance is optional) is planned in each Region to start talking about these issues.

11. RECORD OF MEETING

The Chair and Executive Officer will develop a record of this meeting which will be posted on the website.

Action: it was requested that this is also emailed to members.

12. QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY

Due to the complexity of the information presented, questions were allowed from the Gallery throughout the discussion on the proposed sanctuary zones. No further questions were received at this time in the meeting.

13. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is proposed for March, 2011 - date and venue to be advised.

14. MEETING CLOSED: 5.30pm

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Chair	Date
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OUTSTANDING ACTION ITEMS AS AT NOVEMBER 18, 2010:

Meeting no.	Responsibility	Action	Status	Date
1.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Clarify the expected outcomes for this group, how they might be achieved and who the Group will report to.	Contained within the Terms of Reference.	1/3/10
1.	<i>Phil Hollow, Sarah Bignell, MPLAG members</i>	To actively seek input of data from the community into SAMPIT.	Ongoing.	
1.	<i>MPLAG members</i>	Comments on the Environment, Economic and Social values of the Encounter Marine Park working document by 19.3.10.	Completed.	19/3/10
1.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	DEH to seek further input for the above document from local councils, tourism bodies and regional development boards.	Ongoing.	
1.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Clarify how the Fleurieu and KI MPLAGs may work together, share information and discuss common issues.	Completed. Share minutes and Chairs to be invited to other Groups meetings.	1/3/10
1.	<i>Sarah Bignell</i>	Confirm if a SAMPIT user can save data to another device or area of their computer as their copy.	Not able to transfer.	
1.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Identification for MPLAG members when they are speaking to the public or seeking community input.	Phil to provide Linda Mullan with a sign for her shop window.	
Meeting no.	Responsibility	Action	Status	Date
2.	<i>Chair & Phil Hollow</i>	Respond to correspondence received. Provide a written response to members.	Ongoing.	
2.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Investigate the opportunity to have scientific presentations at meetings.	Might be useful when considering sanctuary zones.	
2.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Provide a copy of the Communication Plan to members.	Completed.	
2.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Provide an electronic copy of the minutes and attachments to members.	Completed.	
2.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Investigate the inclusion of Marine Parks information in the On Deck and SA Waters newsletters.	Have had articles printed.	
2.	<i>DEH staff</i>	Collate comments on SAMPIT data and bring this back to the next meeting.	Action for this meeting.	
2.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Provide members with an electronic copy of the data relating to the SAMPIT information and the Group's meeting plan and timeline.	Data provided in PDF format.	12.6.10

2.	<i>MPLAG members</i>	Return local management issues worksheets to DEH.	Ongoing.	25.6.10
2.	<i>Rex Manson, Phil Hollow</i>	Provide information re the Morphet Vale stormwater harvesting project. Send copies of this information to members.	Rex provided a report at the last meeting.	
2.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Provide copies of sanctuary zone maps produced for other parks (including statewide maps).	Will be on web site but will post a copy of the Statewide map to all members.	
2.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Include the Questions from the Gallery item earlier on the agenda.	For Chair to consider.	
2.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Add the Victor Harbor working group's sanctuary zone scenario to the next agenda.	Actioned.	
Meeting no.	Responsibility	Action	Status	Date
3.	<i>Jon Emmett</i>	Provide all members with a copy of the draft response to correspondence from meeting 2.		
3.	<i>John Crompton</i>	Email a reminder to members for input for the Chairs' next meeting with the Minister.		
3.	<i>Jon Emmett</i>	Provide members with a copy of the draft minutes within two weeks of the meeting.		
3.	<i>Jon Emmett</i>	Provide members with current examples of the benefits of marine parks in other areas.		
3.	<i>Jon Emmett</i>	Provide members with copies of university studies (from Shen Dycer)		
3.	<i>Jon Emmett</i>	Email the Nature Maps link to members.		
3.	<i>Jon Emmett</i>	Flag the need for hard copy maps with more detail.		
3.	<i>Jon Emmett</i>	Flag as an issue where two groups share an interest in the same area and facilitate an exchange of information and ideas.		
3.	<i>Jon Emmett</i>	Email a copy of the record of the meeting to members.		