

**LOWER YORKE PENINSULA
MARINE PARK LOCAL ADVISORY GROUP**

MINUTES

The third meeting of the Lower Yorke Peninsula Marine Park Local Advisory Group (MPLAG) was held at 5pm on 17th of November 2010 in the Edithburgh Institute, Blanche Street Edithburgh.

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.

Members Present: Peter Stockings, Russel Boord, David Higgins, Peter Bartram, Terry Braund , Greg James, Chris Johnson, Fred Hendry, Brian Klingberg, Kerryn Dawes

Supporting Staff: David Pearce, Sheralee Cox, Yvie Eglinton, Dimitri Collela, Amanda Gaetjens, Craig Nixon.

Gallery: 5 people present in the gallery

1. Welcome:

Peter Stocking (Chair) opened the meeting and welcomed MPLAG members and those in the gallery.

2. Apologies: Jo Barrie. **Absent:** George Walker, Ros DeGaris

3. Minutes from previous meeting:

Minutes of the meeting held on 27 May 2010 were accepted by the membership without amendment, moved, Russell Boord and seconded Chris Johnson.

4. Correspondence:

Two letters addressed to the chair were tabled and distributed for the member's information:

- Conservation Council SA, dated 18 October 2010.
- Minister for Environment and Conservation, The Hon Paul Caica MP, dated 9 November 2010.

5. Chairs Meeting with the Minister

Peter Stockings gave a brief summary of the items covered at his meeting with the Minister on 26 August 2010. Issues discussed by the Chairs and Minister were:

- Minister made it clear he wanted to 'fix' things and that he wanted to hear the feedback from MPLAG members.
- The Minister stated that he was still working with professional fishing sectors to resolve potential displaced effort issues.
- The issue of considering areas of high conservation value outside marine parks current boundaries was raised by a number of chairs.
- The need for a range of informal meetings outside the MPLAG process was discussed to address specific issue and this has been occurring in regard to this park.

6. Presentation of the Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenarios:

David Pearce, from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), gave a presentation which included:

- background on the marine parks program and timeline
- the benefits of marine parks
- what sanctuary zones will protect
- maps showing the environmental, social and economic features that were used taken into consideration in designing the possible sanctuary zones
- information on the checklist on how to apply the design principles
- possible sanctuary zones, highlighting that these zones were a starting point for discussion and further information is needed
- an update on the management issues and strategies document development.

The presentation can be found at the following link:

<http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/marineparks/pdfs/meeting-3.pdf>

The specific park Atlas maps used in each presentation can be found on this page:

<http://marineparkssa.ning.com/page/local-advisory-groups>

MPLAG and gallery members were each provided with a *'starting point' preliminary sanctuary zones scenario* for the marine park – which included the rationale for each zone and a map of the proposed zones.

Members were also provided acetate copies of the park with the proposed zones and a feedback sheet where they were asked to provide anonymous feedback on their initial impressions of each zone. Forms were collected at the end of the meeting.

Concerns raised by members during the presentation included:

- 34% of the park within sanctuary zones this is too big and will have a major impact upon the local community.
- It was thought that the Minister said if it's a heavily fished area we wouldn't go there, but from the map of the zones most the heavily fishing areas have been covered.
- Zone D has knocked out 50% of holiday makers and recreational fishing areas.
- There will be twice as much pressure in other areas outside the SZ. As the fishing pressure increases out of the Edithburgh boat ramp more and more fishers are going to crowd into less and less water, and overfish those areas.

There was a brief discussion about the management issues and strategies document. While some MPLAG members have already contributed to this document, the document is now at a stage that it needs to be reviewed. So MPLAG members were asked if interested in the task. It was agreed that draft document should be circulated to the entire membership for comments.

Action: Sheralee Cox to distribute the management issues and strategies document to the MPLAG membership for comment.

7. Members discuss preliminary sanctuary zones:

MPLAG and gallery members formed small groups to discuss and provide advice to DENR on the preliminary sanctuary zone scenarios. DENR staff members were available to support the group discussion.

- Can zones be moved, trimmed and re-shaped? Yes, these are a starting point only, and community feedback is needed, including recommendations on better zone design.
- When will the zones be finalized? The Draft Marine Park management plans and zoning will be released for public consultation after June 2011, then after that consultation process the feedback will be used to make the final Management Plans.
- There is still many months to put forward alternative suggestions.

8. MPLAG initial advice to DENR:

The following initial comments were made by MPLAG members in response to each of the Preliminary Sanctuary Zones for park 13.

A1 - Reduce size of zone to allow for recreational and commercial fishing.

A2 - Extend zone outside the park boundary if possible in an easterly direction.

B1 - The inshore waters of Sturt Bay west of Point Gilbert is of high conservation value and should be considered as a possible sanctuary zone with some beach fishing allowed.

B2 - Remove eastern side in front of Pt Moorowie and add a band to the western side.

B3 - Remove eastern side without extending the western side.

C1 - Reduce the possible zone to the width of the existing Troubridge Aquatic Reserve and extend out to the park boundary. Maintain shoreline for recreational fishing on the eastern side.

D1 - Attempt to find alternative areas. MPLAG unhappy with zone in current position.

D2 - Possible alternative habitat to D at Sheoak Beach.

E1 - Include a square section around the existing Aquatic Reserve.

E2 - Extend E out to a diagonal line across the bay.

F1 - Include the reef near Stansbury, north-east of parks current boundary between Klein Pt and Stansbury.

F2 - Include outside of the park to make a square boundary of the zone.

Comments/concerns after the initial advice:

- There was a concern about community anger in regard to these maps, and that a revised map should be issued as soon as possible, to address significant community concerns.
- This group stated that zone D needed significant modification, and must change from its current form. As drawn it is not supported by the MPLAG.
- Members will work over the summer break to find suitable alternative zones.
- David Pearce said he would work with MPLAG members and community groups to propose alternatives to the preliminary scenarios.

Action: David Pearce to ensure that maps with initial MPLAG advice are produced and sent to the MPLAG membership.

9. Communications planning

Gallery members were offered the opportunity to provide their contact details if they would like to be involved in the process and to be put in touch with a MPLAG member.

Action: DENR staff to contact gallery members who provided contact details and connect them to a MPLAG member.

MPLAG members were encouraged to discuss the Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenarios and suggest alternatives (where necessary) with their networks. Feedback is required by 28 January 2011 to allow time to collate all the information prior to meeting 4.

The communication plan developed at MPLAG meeting 1 was reviewed and the members present agreed to contact their stated groups:

MPLAG member	Organisation/group
Peter Stockings	Local & area papers, RDA networks, Local Government
Jo Barrie	SA Tourism, through her email distribution lists
Peter Bartram	Friends of Troubridge Island, Adelaide Scuba & Glenelg Scuba Club
Russell Boord	Industry based professional fishers, GK Marine at Yorketown
Terry Braund	Local shops
Keryn Dawes	Port Vincent- Stansbury & Edithburgh Schools
David Higgins	Sea Rescue Squadron, A non-permanent resident supporting holiday shack owners. Social networks around Edithburgh.
Greg James	Port Moorowie residents & Progress Association
Chris Johnson	Charter industry
Brian Klingberg	Coobowie Progress Association, Sea Rescue Squadron
George Walker	Point Pearce Community
Fred Hendry	Rock Lobster Industry

10. Questions from the gallery.

(Due to low numbers in the gallery, they joined the MPLAG members in the discussions and feedback upon the preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenarios during the meeting).

11. Record of meeting.

A brief summary of key meeting points was displayed, discussed and agreed upon by the group.

The Record of the Meeting is available on the Marine Parks website.

12. Next meeting

MPLAG meeting 4 is planned for early 2011. Members will be advised of the date and venue when available.

Meeting Closed at 9pm.

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Chair

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Date

Action Items as at 17 November 2010

Meeting No	Responsibility	Action	Status	Date
3	David Pearce	Contact gallery members who left their details to connect them with a MPLAG member.		
3	David Pearce	To ensure that maps with initial MPLAG advice are produced and sent to the membership.		
3	All MPLAG members	To meet with key community members (as specified in the Communication Plan) to discuss the Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenarios and use the checklist to propose alternative zones where necessary. To provide feedback before the end of January 2011.		28 January 2011.
3	Sheralee Cox	To distribute the management issues and strategies document to the MPLAG membership for comment.		