

**UPPER GULF ST VINCENT**  
**MARINE PARK LOCAL ADVISORY GROUP**

## MINUTES

The third meeting of the Upper Gulf St Vincent Marine Park Local Advisory Group (MPLAG) was held at 3pm on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 in the Ardrossan Town Hall, First St Ardrossan

*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:** Brenton Schahinger (chairperson), Stephen Jones, John Walker, Maurice Manners, David Backen, Bart Butson, Robin Crowell, Barbara Reid, Ian Telfer.

**Supporting Staff:** David Pearce, Tim Collins, Sheralee Cox, Yvette Eglinton, Dimitri Collela, Amanda Gaetjens.

**Gallery:** 25 people in attendance.

1. **Welcome.** Brenton Schahinger (chair person) opened the meeting and then spoke about the need for conservation in the Upper Gulf St Vincent Marine Park. He asked that MPLAG members took this opportunity to contribute to the design of the marine park and to be involved in the zoning process.
2. **Apologies** Anne Picard, and Ian Telfer. **Absent:** Ernest Wilson.
3. **Minutes of the previous meeting:** minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2010 were accepted by the membership without amendment, moved, Stephen Jones and seconded, Robin Crowell.
4. **Correspondence:** two letters addressed to the Chair were tabled for 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** – Brenton Schahinger gave a brief summary of items covered at his meeting with the minister on 26 August 2010. Issues discussed by the Chairs and Minister were:
  - importance that sanctuary zones are easily identifiable.
  - fish nursery areas should also be considered as important to be preserved within the sanctuary zones.
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 *Basis for '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 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:

- need for displaced effort to be resolved as soon as possible;
- that effective compliance and enforcement is crucial to successful marine parks;
- zones should not be able to be moved once in place.

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, the membership was happy if Brenton took on the task of reviewing the document.

**Action:** Sheralee to work with Brenton to reviewing the management issues and strategies document.

**6. Members discuss preliminary sanctuary zones scenarios:** MPLAG and gallery members formed small groups to discuss and provide advice to DENR on the preliminary sanctuary zone scenarios. The DENR staff members supported the discussions around the preliminary zones.

**7. 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 14.

A1 - Should be smaller.

A2 - Move the zone south outside of the outer boundary to include the already closed area around the Zaroni shipwreck.

B1 - Modify the zone to include a straight east-west boundary just north of Port Wakefield.

B2 - Relocate the zone to the area north from the beacon at Pt Wakefield to just north of Pt Arthur.

B3 - Reduce zone to just the eastern half of the top of the gulf.

B4 - Remove the section south of Port Arthur as the majority of recreational fishing is in this area.

C1 - Remove western section from the zone as it is a popular fishing ground.

C2 - Remove the eastern end section to the 5 metre depth contour as it is an important fishing ground.

C3 - As an alternative to C, B & A add a long zone 4km wide down the centre of the Gulf.

D1 - Commercial fishers from Adelaide would not want a sanctuary zone here in waters less than 5 metres.

## **8. Communication Planning update**

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 members present agreed to contact the following groups:

MPLAG member	Organisation/group
Robin	Price Boat Club
Stephen and Anne	DC of Mallala
Anne	Northern Lofty NRM
Barry	Yorke Council and Progress Association; Tiddy Widdy Progress Association; Ardrossan Area School.
Brenton	Fish and Tackle Store, Thrifty Link, Coast Road Motors, the Port Clinton, James Well and Rouges Point Progress Associations. Media namely Plains Producer, Country Times & The Bunyip.
John Walker	Thompsons Beach Progress Association
Bart and Maurice	Port Wakefield community and fishing industry

#### 9. Questions and comments from the gallery.

Members of the gallery were offered the opportunity to ask questions or offer comments through the Chair. DENR staff provided a response where appropriate. A summary of the questions/comments were as follows:

- Some proposed sanctuary zones were reasonable (with minor changes) however some need major changes or removal.
- Displaced effort needs to be resolved as soon as possible.
- What will happen with the proof range? Answer: There are ongoing discussions to finalise how the proof range will be incorporated into the marine park.
- If commercial effort is removed from an area, will new effort be permitted to come back to the same area under other licence endorsements? Answer: The remaining fishing licences are managed by PIRSA fisheries and they will regulate the industry.
- What activities will be permitted in each of the zones? Answer: In Sanctuary Zones there is no harming or removal of any plants or animals, however boating, swimming and diving is all allowed. Further zoning information can be found at:  
<http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/marineparks/pdfs/zoning.pdf>
- Why is there a special purpose area in the upper gulf? Answer: it covers the Port of Port Wakefield, to allow for Port activities.
- What is the science behind where these zones have been located? The Atlas maps that were given to the members, show the range of data that has been gathered to help design the SA marine parks system. With the aim being that samples of all habitat types across South Australia are included within the Sanctuary Zones. Atlas maps for all parks can be found on the marine parks website at this page:  
<http://marineparkssa.ning.com/page/local-advisory-groups>

#### 10. 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.

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

Meeting Closed at 7pm.

.....  
Chair

.....  
Date

**Action Items as at 15 November 2010**

Meeting No	Responsibility	Action	Status	Date
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	DENR staff	Contact 16 gallery members who left their details to connect them with a MPLAG member.		
3	Sheralee Cox	To work with Brenton to review the management issues and strategies document.		