

UPPER SOUTH EAST

MARINE PARK LOCAL ADVISORY GROUP

MINUTES

The fifth meeting of the Upper South East Marine Park Local Advisory Group (MPLAG) was held at 4pm on May 3rd 2011 in the Robe Bowling Club, Robe.

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: Bill Hender (Chair), Robert Roach, Jim Godden, Alan Gurney, Pip Rasenberg, Paul Regnier, John Kuhl, Graham Usher, Adam Stewart, Peter Riseley, Russell Worland.

DENR staff: Steve Bourne, Phil Hollow, Shane Holland, David Miller, Robyn Morcom and Denise Dent (Minute taker).

Gallery: approximately 20 plus one media

1. Welcome

Chair Bill Hender welcomed the members of the MPLAG, DENR staff, the media and members of the gallery.

2. Apologies, correspondence, other business

- Craig Lawrie and Ruth Beach were apologies.
- Items of correspondence were circulated with the agenda, however correspondence received after agendas had been forwarded members will be distributed with the minutes. Correspondence included:
 - A letter from the Minister in regard to member input for the final MPLAG meeting.

3. Minutes and Actions Arising from Meeting 4

Phil Hollow updated the committee that most Actions from the third meeting held on 16 November 2010 have been attended to.

Confirmation of minutes of second meeting held 22 February 2011

- The minutes of meeting held on 22nd February 2011 were read and confirmed as a true and accurate record with the following amendments:
 - "Gary Richards is in favour of having small restriction around the island. Wright Bay sanctuary zone could be moved further north away from the resident's houses." (page 7, Questions from the gallery)

With those amendments it was moved by Russell Worland and Seconded by John Kuhl that the minutes be accepted **CARRIED**

4. Today's meeting and the Minister's advice to MPLAG members

- Chair Bill Hender read through the letter from the Minister to the MPLAG Chairs and reemphasised the points raised by the Minister:
 - members to ensure the design principles are applied and a competent and balanced result achieved;
 - members to revisit previous guidance to achieve adequate sanctuary zones and competent conservation outcomes;
 - minimise displacement by selecting lower value fishing areas;
 - minimise numerous zoning positions and recognise a best-fit solution for our local communities; and
 - whilst this meeting is the final meeting the Minister has asked DENR to consider how members can continue to participate if they wish.

Feedback from Peak Stakeholder Groups

- Phil advised there had been no specific zoning feedback received. Advice went to all peak stakeholder groups in November 2010 reinforcing timeframes for input. The peak stakeholder groups have until mid May to provide zoning feedback to MPLAG's or directly to DENR.

Pip Rasenberg commented that their lack of input is very disappointing as the MPLAGs may have been able to consider their comments in discussions prior to developing final advice to the Minister. Concern was expressed that communities have offered their views through the MPLAG process but the sanctuary zones may be altered belatedly without MPLAG input. The MPLAG may be criticised by the community if this was to occur.

Phil advised that the peak bodies have until mid May to make comment. Following that all input will be by commenting on the Draft Management Plan

Russell Worland asked Phil if DENR would be able to provide a précis to the USE LAG so the committee is made aware of the comments.

ACTION: Phil Hollow to enquire whether a précis can be provided to the USE MPLAG if comments have been made on the submissions, and that this committee continue to be involved in the process.

Member's feedback from community

- Adam Stewart – Adam has spoken to all fishers coming through his shop about the proposed sanctuary zones. He advises they are all unhappy with the northern zone and believes professional fishermen have been listened to more due to displacement and the Department's agreement to pay for displacement.
- Russell Worland – advised that at Easter the AGM of the Nora Creina Shackowners was held. He provided attendees with a report and that generally there has been a convergence of MPLAG member's views except from Area E. This will be discussed along when submissions are discussed.
- Alan Gurney – Alan questioned why the agreed position at meeting 4 appeared altered on the website. It was explained that an informal meeting had been held with most members (he was unavailable) and consensus was reached that the original submission be altered.
- Paul Regnier – Paul had discussed the zones with the community and there are concerns with E having so many zones. He also believes the abalone fishermen will be adversely affected.

- Pip Rasenberg – Pip has met recently with Robert Roach with productive outcomes. She has recently been approached and spoken to a couple of local fishermen and that they appeared satisfied with the process. A lot of people are disappointed that Margaret Brock Reef has not been included in the marine park.
- Jim Godden – Jim is disappointed that the habitat protection zones have not been part of the whole process. He believes the MPLAG should be involved in these zones.
- John Kuhl – The response from recreational fishermen has been good. A lot of time and effort has gone into communicating with the community. A few of the members got together today prior to the meeting and looked at the areas involved. It was an excellent opportunity to understand where the zones are and understand the difficulties encountered. He is hopeful that when the final scenarios are gazetted they are not too different to the MPLAG proposals.
- Graham Usher – Pretty happy with submissions except for Nora Creina.
- Peter Risely – Peter believes there have been vital areas left out of the process and as a result the Robe area has been disadvantaged. Tourist operators are uncertain how house prices and businesses will be affected. He presented a submission for a Cape Dombey sanctuary zone as an opportunity to include cliffs as a representative sample of the marine habitat, to provide a focus for interpretation and education and to reduce the size of possible sanctuary zones in the Boatswains point / Wrights Bay area.
- Robert Roach – Robert presented emails:
 - Darren Chapman interested in purchasing a property at Boatswains Point.
 - Marsha Chappell from Ottosons re impact of real estate at Boatswains Point at present.
 - The Anglers Club have asked if they will be charged to fish in a Marine Park. They have had two different replies from Chris Thomas and Greg Leaman regarding this issue.

ACTION: Phil to follow up.

- In 2009 former Minister Jay Weatherill stated that all popular beaches would continue to be able to fished. (Pip Rasenberg pointed out that the word “popular” has to be determined and that maybe our beaches are not deemed popular.)
- Margaret Brock Reef was excluded and should have been included in the Marine Park.
- Restricted access zones – Robert asked Phil about restricted access zones over sanctuary zones.
- Phil Hollow’s replies to the above list:
 - Habitat protection zones will be released in the draft management plans. There will be general use zones where, for instance large ships will be anchored. Restricted access zones will be very small areas, usually within sanctuary zones, and will be identified for scientific purposes or in instances of high conservation need.
 - In response to impacts on house prices, DENR is unaware of any studies that show housing prices have slumped due to marine parks. In fact there are some real estate agents and developers interstate who are using marine parks to advertise and promote new developments and subdivisions.
 - There is a fee of \$1.00 per licence that could be charged but has not in the past and will not be charged for the Kingston Fishing Competition. There is no fee to enter a marine park.

- There was discussion of restricted access areas and height limits of 500 metres for helicopters and 300 metres for fixed wing aircraft. This may be proposed to protect sea lion or bird colonies and whales etc. Phil Hollow suggested that the members and the public may make comment on the draft management plan regarding this issue.

DENR Analysis

- Rapid Assessment Document – Robyn advised that a section of this document is incorrect on page 7 as it has not included the entire area for Option 7. She has an overhead that lists Option 7 additional information separately and will forward the correct version to all members urgently.
ACTION: Robyn to forward new correct version of page 7
- Members of the public gallery asked questions:
 - Some of these areas are beaches in pristine condition with mother nature ensuring it is kept in this way. Why do we need a zone to protect the area?
 - How is the Marine Park going to be policed?
- Phil Hollow advised that the community may be able to assist with the ongoing management of marine parks. The boundaries will be identifiable points eg. East of Little Dip Conservation Park southern boundary out to the State Waters mark. Pip Rasenberg suggested that DENR offer training to local communities in the use of GPS to navigate these areas. It will be a long term education process. Marine Park staff (rangers) will have a role in educating the community and at some stage offenders will be warned. They cannot be expiated unless they have been previously warned.
- The media asked how much money has been set aside to manage Marine Parks?
- Phil advised that until commercial displacement has been identified, associated costs will not be known. Similarly, until management plans are finalised, management costs will not be fully known.
- Another member of the public advised the committee he has an aquaculture licence and has to provide public liability insurance and believes that if Government runs an event it will have to pay public liability insurance if charging people to enter the marine park. He also advised he is required to put buoys in to ascertain his boundaries and is this going to be the case for marine parks?
- Phil advised that the Government is self insured, will not be charging people to enter a marine park. Generally buoys will not be used to distinguish boundaries, which will be aligned with identifiable points on land or with GPS readings.

5. 5. MPLAG Members Workshop

Zone E - Little Dip

- E1 – MPLAG agreed to remove altogether.
- E6 – MPLAG agreed to remove altogether.
- E3 and E7 were discussed at length shifting boundaries trying to avoid Commercial fishing areas (displacement) – need GPS readings of high yield areas prior to decision. Area E3 appears very narrow and the MPLAG felt that it would be debatable with such a narrow park that the Minister will agree to it.

- Members of the public discussed a low fished area between Bishops Pate and Long Gully being a possibility because it is mainly reef. A new area was defined from discussions to be known as "E". The GPS reading is;
139 47 5 12 E 37 14 16 06 S
139 47 28 68 E 37 14 45 21 S
- MPLAG majority agreed with E.

Zone F2 – Cape Dombey

- Peter Risely proposed a new area at Cape Dombey that includes cliff features, platform rock and high value features that were missing from the other sanctuary zones. It also provides safety in the channel and would be an excellent opportunity as a focus for interpretation and education It also provides a trade off for smaller sanctuary zones in the Boatswains Point and Wrights bay area.
- MPLAG majority agreed with F2.

Zone D1 – Baudin rocks

- Robert Roach presented the maps showing the strong local community view on this zone. Discussion was held with MPLAG members and gallery members and it was proposed that the sanctuary zone in this area be moved slightly north and to be narrower on the western side. Robert reaffirmed that a lot of community work had gone in to the zone presented.
- The Baudin Rocks sanctuary zone to be approx. in 1.5km width x 2.5km long, and should be outside of area known as "black pigs".
- Some members suggested that Baudin Rocks could be a candidate as a Restricted Access Zone.
- MPLAG majority agreed with D 1

Zone C – Wrights Bay

- This sanctuary zone extends from the northern boundary of the southern section of the park extending south to a position opposite the Quaker style barn. The zone then heads due west for 1.5 kms.
- The local Boatswains Point community believes that this zone could extend further west with minimal impact on their recreational fishing but did acknowledge that it may have some impact on commercial fishing.
- MPLAG majority agreed with C.

Zone B1 – The Granites

- This sanctuary zone is large and overlaps with some snapper and whiting fishing. It was advised that the community might accept this zone provided that beach fishing is not impacted.
- MPLAG majority agreed with B 1

Zone A – Tea tree Crossing

- Adam Stewart proposed a different design (A2), much larger than the original A1 zone. The proposal extends from the northern boundary of the marine park to a point opposite 32 Mile Crossing, and has a different no-take beach area than the

original proposal, due to the area being closed most times of the year anyway. This proposal is for a long and thin sanctuary zone allowing beach fishing but not boat fishing beyond the breakers.

- A1 – The original A1 zone was voted on by the committee with the result being majority support (with Adam Stewart against this proposal).
- A 2 - The newly proposed A2 zone was voted on by the committee with the result being minority support.

6. Comments from the gallery

- No additional questions or comments other than those recorded above.

7. Record of Meeting

Phil and Bill to develop a record of meeting

Meeting closed and members enjoyed a dinner at the Robe Hotel.

Phil Hollow thanked the MPLAG members for the enormous amount of community consultation work they had undertaken with special mentions to Robert Roach, John Kuhl, Graham Usher and Russell Worland.

Phil paid special tribute to Bill Hender for his work as Chair.

Bill Hender thanked the MPLAG members for their work efforts and the efforts of the DENR staff. The process was not an easy process but the USE group had done its utmost to give the community a voice on the marine parks process.

Action Items from meeting held 3 May 2011

Meeting No. 3&4&5	Responsibility	Action	Status	Date
3	<i>Steve Bourne</i>	Investigate purpose of survey undertaken 10 years ago at Baudin Rocks and possible results	Ongoing	
3	<i>Phil Hollow and Shane Holland</i>	Commence Management Plan process	Ongoing	
3	<i>All Members</i>	Attend "informal" joint meeting with LSE LAG	Did not occur	
4	<i>Denise Dent and Phil Hollow</i>	Amendments to be made to Minutes of the 3 rd meeting to change wording in point 2.2	Done	
4	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	An updated copy of Marine Parks Zoning Variation Regulations 2010 to be forwarded to Allan Gurney Please circulate to all members		

4	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	To contact SARDI to see if an amalgamated set of data could be provided to determine where the most fished area is to identify the largest impact for compensation This matter will be dealt with when the Draft Management Plan goes out for consultation to stakeholders including SARDI. This information is not generally available to DENR but will hopefully be addressed by SARDI on behalf of the Commercial Fishers.	See note	
4	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Advise coordinates for submission E to Craig Lawrie and Paul Regnier to take back to the fishermen to consider whether this area impacts on their fishing.		
4	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Consider placing coordinates of all submissions on the website for ease of users.	Done	
4	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Submissions to be placed on website with comments	Done	
4	<i>All members</i>	Review website of submissions in readiness for the next meeting	done	
5.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Correct minutes of 4 th meeting in regard to page 7 Questions from the gallery to "...sanctuary zone could be moved further north away from the resident's houses".		
5.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Phil to enquire whether a precis can be provided to the USE LAG if comments have been made on the submissions by peak stakeholder groups and this group continue to be involved in the process.		
5.	<i>Robyn Morcom</i>	Provide all members with a new page 7 of the Rapid Assessment paper with the total area of Option 7		
5.	<i>Phil Hollow</i>	Phil to enquire whether there will be a fee to fish in a Marine Park. Eg Greg Leaman and Chris Thomas gave two different answers.		

..... Date

Chair

