



SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP

COMMUNIQUÉ – MEETING No. 21 14 April 2009

The following members were present at the Scientific Working Group (SWG) meeting held 14 April 2009: Anthony Cheshire (chair), Bronwyn Gillanders, Cath Kemper, Hazel Lindsay, Hugh Kirkman and Scoresby Shepherd. Apologies were received from Sean Connell, Martine Kinloch and John Middleton.

Members of the SWG would like to advise the Minister for Environment and Conservation of the following discussions and outcomes from its meeting.

- ❖ Chris Thomas, CMCB Branch Manager, provided an overview on the pilot marine parks working groups which the Minister has established. The meeting agreed to strongly recommend to the Minister that:
 - a) the working groups should be well versed in the Design Principles and have adequate support from DEH to ensure the Design Principles are used as the foundation for any proposed boundary amendments; and
 - b) the SWG should audit any proposed boundary amendments against the Design Principles, and provide advice to the Minister based on this assessment.
 - ❖ Nathan Clisby, GIS Analyst, Marine Programs, gave a demonstration of the Marxan modelling program which DEH will use to assist the working groups to develop indicative zoning and subsequently help audit any proposed boundary amendments.
 - ❖ The meeting discussed the two independent scientific reviews received on the technical report on the outer boundaries. The meeting agreed to:
 - a) revise the technical report in line with feedback from the reviews; and
 - b) provide the Minister with a summary of the reviews.
 - ❖ The meeting discussed the SWG's role in developing a set of Design Principles for the marine parks zoning process. It was agreed that the SWG will work with the Department to:
 - a) review each of the 14 outer boundary Design Principles to apply specifically to zoning;
 - b) provide a list of additional design principles for zoning; and
 - c) identify which design principles for zoning will facilitate operational management and which will facilitate biophysical and community design.
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