



SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP COMMUNIQUÉ – MEETING No. 43 - 14 June 2011

The following members were present at the Scientific Working Group (SWG) meeting held 14 June 2011: Anthony Cheshire (Chair), Peter Fairweather, Hugh Kirkman, Hazel Vandeleur and Scoresby Shepherd. Apologies were received from Luciano Moller, Bronwyn Gillanders and Luciano Beheregary. Martine Kinloch, Sean Connell and Charlie Huveneers are on a leave of absence as they are away for several months.

The SWG wishes to advise the Minister of the following key outcomes from its meeting:

1. The SWG reviewed their forward work plan to ensure the best use of time given the current high workloads and pressing timelines. The SWG agreed that the highest priority tasks are to advise on the development of a monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) program and to provide feedback on the bioregional zoning report cards.
2. The SWG continued discussions on the development of a monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) program for the marine parks network. Specific consideration was given to development of both the overall MER framework (consistent with broader NRM guidelines and adaptive management principles) as well as a consideration of specific monitoring targets that need to be identified in order to ensure that the resultant MER framework provides cogent outputs that evaluate the specific objectives of the Marine Parks program. The SWG discussed the possibility of establishing a forum for broader engagement with other agencies to facilitate development of the MER.
3. The SWG were informed about the Parliamentary Select Committee inquiry and agreed to continue discussions out of session.

Prof. Anthony Cheshire
Chair, Scientific Working Group for Marine Protected Areas and Marine Planning
