

**MARINE RESERVE IMPLEMENTATION:
PILBARA**

**ISSUE ANALYSIS FOR PILBARA MARINE CONSERVATION
RESERVE PROPOSALS
29 March – 7 April, 2000**

Field Program Report: MRI/PI/MBI,DA - 42/2000

A collaborative project between the Marine Conservation Branch and CALM Pilbara region

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Funding and resources

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INTRODUCTION

The Western Australian Government is establishing a Statewide system of multiple-use marine conservation reserves under the *Conservation and Land Management Act* (CALM Act). Multiple-use marine conservation reserves balance human use and environmental protection and play an important role in ensuring that the coastal problems experienced in many other parts of the world are not repeated in Western Australia.

The Western Australian Government is committed to full and open consultation before areas are declared as marine conservation reserves and there is a statutory requirement for public participation in the planning process. The type of community participation adopted during the marine conservation reserve planning process is collaborative, where the broad community, consisting of groups of stakeholders and others with an interest in proposed reserves, works with CALM to plan for the conservation and management of these two important marine areas.

In December 1997, the Western Australian Government announced that the area around the Montebello and Barrow islands and the Dampier Archipelago/Cape Preston region are priority areas for the establishment of marine conservation reserves under the CALM Act. Both of these areas were identified as worthy of further consideration as marine conservation reserves in the Marine Parks and Reserves Selection Working Group report entitled *A Representative Marine Reserve System for Western Australia*. The establishment of a marine conservation reserve in the waters of the Dampier Archipelago under the CALM Act was also recommended in the Karratha Area Development Strategy.

This report outlines a proposed survey which will be undertaken to assess community attitudes, levels of knowledge and understanding, and issues associated with proposals to establish two marine conservation reserves in the Pilbara. This information will be used to plan a targeted community liaison program which will both facilitate and encourage public participation in reserve planning. The survey, or issue analysis, will be undertaken by CALM staff from both the Marine Conservation Branch and from the Pilbara regional office between 29th March and 7th April.

This issue analysis will provide a broad community profile for use as a basis for planning community liaison activities during the development of draft indicative management plans for the two proposed Pilbara marine conservation reserves.

SURVEY AREA/STUDY SITE

The boundaries of the two study areas for consideration as proposed marine conservation reserves in the Pilbara are described in the brochure *Pilbara Region, Study Areas for Proposed Marine Conservation Reserves* (Appendix I). These boundaries define broadly the areas under consideration and are not necessarily the boundaries of the proposed reserves.

AIMS

The overall goal of the public participation program (PPP) in the planning the management of WA marine conservation reserves is:

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To develop community ownership, stewardship, and understanding of marine conservation reserves.

An overview of the strategies and stages associated with the PPP in marine conservation reserve planning and management is provided in the document *Draft Operational Procedures for Public Participation in Marine Conservation Reserves* and is summarised in the following table.

Table 1. Summary of public participation process for Western Australian marine conservation reserves.

PPP Phase	PPP Task
1. Initial public consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish community contact data base • Provide information about the reserve concept and planning process to key individuals, organizations and groups • Facilitate planning advisory committee process • Undertake issue analysis • Prepare public consultation plan (based on results of issue analysis)
2. Pre-notice of intent to declare reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the development of guidelines for the community planning advisory committee • Formulate consultation agreements with key interest and user groups • Develop & distribute information and educational material • Facilitate broad community input to the reserve planning process
3. Post-notice of intent to declare reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce and distribute the draft plan plus summaries and explanatory information • Facilitate the preparation of public submissions • Prepare a report summarizing public submissions
4. Gazetted marine conservation reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish community management advisory committee • Facilitate the establishment of friends groups • Support on-going community extension program

Issue analyses are just one stage in the community liaison process. They are undertaken at the beginning of the planning process, either before, or just after the first meeting of the community advisory committee.

The objective of the issue analysis stage of the PPP is to develop a community profile on which to base the development of a communication strategy to encourage and facilitate community involvement in planning marine conservation reserves.

The term issue analysis is used to describe the task of gathering and analysing discussions with representatives from the wide range of interest and user groups to:

- Identify community visions and aspirations in relation to marine conservation and management;
- Assess community attitudes towards the marine reserve proposal;
- Estimate levels of knowledge and understanding of the marine reserve concept, planning process and roles of both Government and the community; and
- Identify relationships between and within sectors of the community.

METHODS

In order to achieve the above objectives, the following steps will be undertaken;

1. Information will be gathered by contacting key community representatives from all relevant user and interest groups. Contact will consist primarily of face-to-face discussions and the information will be recorded on standard forms (Appendix II).
2. Data will be summarized to determine a representative cross-section of community attitudes, levels of understanding and relationships for all relevant user and interest groups.

This information will be used to plan a targeted community liaison program. Key messages and appropriate communication techniques will be defined together with a program of actions for each sector of the community in order to; encourage positive attitudes towards the marine reserve concept and process, achieve appropriate levels of understanding of the process and key issues, and to promote positive interactions both within and among community groups.

Detailed assessment is required for each user and interest group listed below. To achieve this, staff will endeavor to arrange discussions with at least 10 representatives from all key groups. Additional meetings will be arranged with peak body executives, company bosses and senior Government officers.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Local residents & rate payers
Aboriginal communities
Vacation visitors
Neighbouring land owners
Broader community

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY GROUPS

Boating
Diving
Fishing
Surface water sports
Nature study & collectors
Four wheel driving

PRESS

INTEREST GROUPS

Conservationists
Scientists
Educators

GOVERNMENT

Local
State
Commonwealth

INDUSTRY

Fishing
Aquaculture & pearling
Tourism
Mining
Petroleum
Shipping & infrastructure
Agriculture

To allow for effective community debate and input into reserve planning, members of the community need to have an understanding and agree with the objectives of the process. They also need to have an adequate level of understanding of the following marine conservation and management concepts if they are to develop a common vision and positive attitude towards the successful establishment of marine conservation reserves:

- The range of values of the proposed marine conservation reserve;
 - Representativeness;
 - Sustainability;
 - Multiple-use;
 - Zoning;
 - No-take;
-
- Integrated management;
 - The reserve planning process; and
 - The roles of Government and community in the planning process.

The issue analysis will assess the attitudes and levels of knowledge and understanding for each interest group or sector in the community. A list of issues will also be prepared for each group together with an assessment of the relationships within and between community groups.

A more detailed summary of methods and definitions of adequate levels of knowledge and understanding is available in *Issue Analysis: Notes for Participating Staff* (Appendix III).

OUTCOME

A report summarizing the results of the issue analysis will be prepared and distributed to:

- The Marine Conservation Branch, Department of Conservation and Land Management, 47 Henry St., Fremantle, 6160, and
- Conservation and Land Management, Mardie Rd, Karratha Industrial Estate, Karratha, 6714

SURVEY TEAM

The survey team will be comprised of 5 staff.

Table 2. The issue analysis survey team for the Pilbara marine conservation reserve proposals.

Name	Position	Contact details
Dr Sue Osborne	Community Liaison Officer/Project Leader, MCB	Ph: (08) 9432 5103 Mobile Ph. 0438 008850 Fax: (08) 9430 5408 Email: sueo@calm.wa.gov.au
Lauren Monks	Community Liaison Officer, MCB	Ph: (08) 9432 5106 Mobile Ph. 0438 008851 Fax: (08) 9430 5408 Email: laurenm@calm.wa.gov.au

Fran Stanley	Reserves Management Officer, Pilbara Region	Ph: (08) 9143 1488 Fax: (08) 9144 1118 Email: frans@calm.wa.gov.au
Geoff Kregor	Ranger-in-charge, Dampier Archipelago Nature Reserve, Pilbara Region	Ph: (08) 9143 1488 Fax: (08) 9144 1118
Andrew Hill	Senior Marine Planning Officer, MCB	Ph: (08) 9143 5107 Fax: (08) 9430 5408 Email: andrewhi@calm.wa.gov.au

FIELD ITINERARY

The survey will take place in two locations;

- Pilbara based in the Karratha area between 29th March to 7th April
- Perth based both before and after the Karratha trip.

Community contacts will be made initially by phone to arrange meetings. These meetings will be informal and with individuals or small numbers of people only. Some contacts will be by phone only. It is not possible to arrange a detailed itinerary as the sequence of meetings will depend on the availabilities of community members.

Media contacts

Although the trip to Karratha and nearby towns will primarily be low key, it does provide an opportunity to contact local press for radio interviews and newspaper articles. To this end the following contacts will be made;

Table 3: Media contacts in the Pilbara.

Ms Sharon Johnson	Station Manager	North West Radio	9144 4333
Mr Ben Martin	Journalist	West Australian	9185 3629
Ms Ann-Marie McCann	Journalist/photographer	North West Telegraph	9185 2666
Moana Williams	Journalist	Northern Express	Fax 91431537
	Journalist/Editor	Gossiping Geckoe	9184 1133
May	Journalist/Editor	The Spirit	9188 1997
	Journalist/Editor	Newslink	9175 1582
Tania Hudson	Editor	Hamersley Hillights	9327 2717
Carol Vincent	Editor	Burrup Express	9158 8217
Carol Vincent	Editor	Trunkline	9158 8217
Laura Shannon	Editor	Pipeline community Newsletter	9184 6564
David Ashden	Editor	Update	9189 1029
Paul Sullivan	Editor	Robe News	9159 2149
Ms Anna-Lise Murch	Journalist	ABC Radio	91835011

Images will also be obtained opportunistically to assist with community liaison education products, for instance posters and slide talks.

BUDGET

This project is funded by the Natural Heritage Trust Marine Protected Areas Program and by CALM's Marine Conservation Branch and the Pilbara Region. The budget breakdown is described below:

Table 4: Budget breakdown for Pilbara marine conservation reserve proposals issue analysis.

Budget Item		CALM (\$ in kind)	MPA funds (\$)	Total costs (\$)
<u>Travel</u>				
Vehicles	2 District 4WD vehicles for 9 days		\$900	\$900
	2WD hire cars for 5 days		\$250	\$250
Airfares	2 return air fares		\$1000	\$1000
Accommodation	\$150/night for 9 nights		\$1350	\$1350
	Sub-total		\$3500	\$3500
<u>Staff</u>				
Salary for community contacts & report preparation	36 staff days @ \$220/day	\$7920		\$9000
Office space & equipment		\$1000		\$1000
	Sub-total	\$8920		\$10,000
<u>Equipment & Consumables</u>				
Mobile phones	Purchase of 2	\$300		\$300
Data sheets & brochures		\$300	\$200	\$500
Phone calls			\$200	\$200
Digital video tapes	3 x DVM-E60 @ \$12		\$40	\$40
Slide film	4 x Fuji Sensia 200 & processing @ \$5		\$20	\$20
Other consumables	Gloves/pencils/chalk/erasers/batteries...etc		\$50	\$50
	Sub-total	\$600	\$510	\$1110
<u>Contingency</u>				
Administration overruns	10% of funding	\$952	\$410	\$1410
	Sub-total	\$10,470	\$4420	\$14,890
TOTAL				

EQUIPMENT

- Community contacts data base
- Contact information/education material
- Brochures/leaflets
- Stationery

Cameras

- Canon EOS camera and lens
- 4 rolls of 36 exposure slide film - Fuji Sensia 200 (10) & Fuji Sensia 100 (4)
- Canon MV1 digital video camcorder, with batteries (6), battery charger (1), remote control and accessories
- Instruction manuals
- 3 x 60 min digital video tapes
- Cleaning kit

Safety

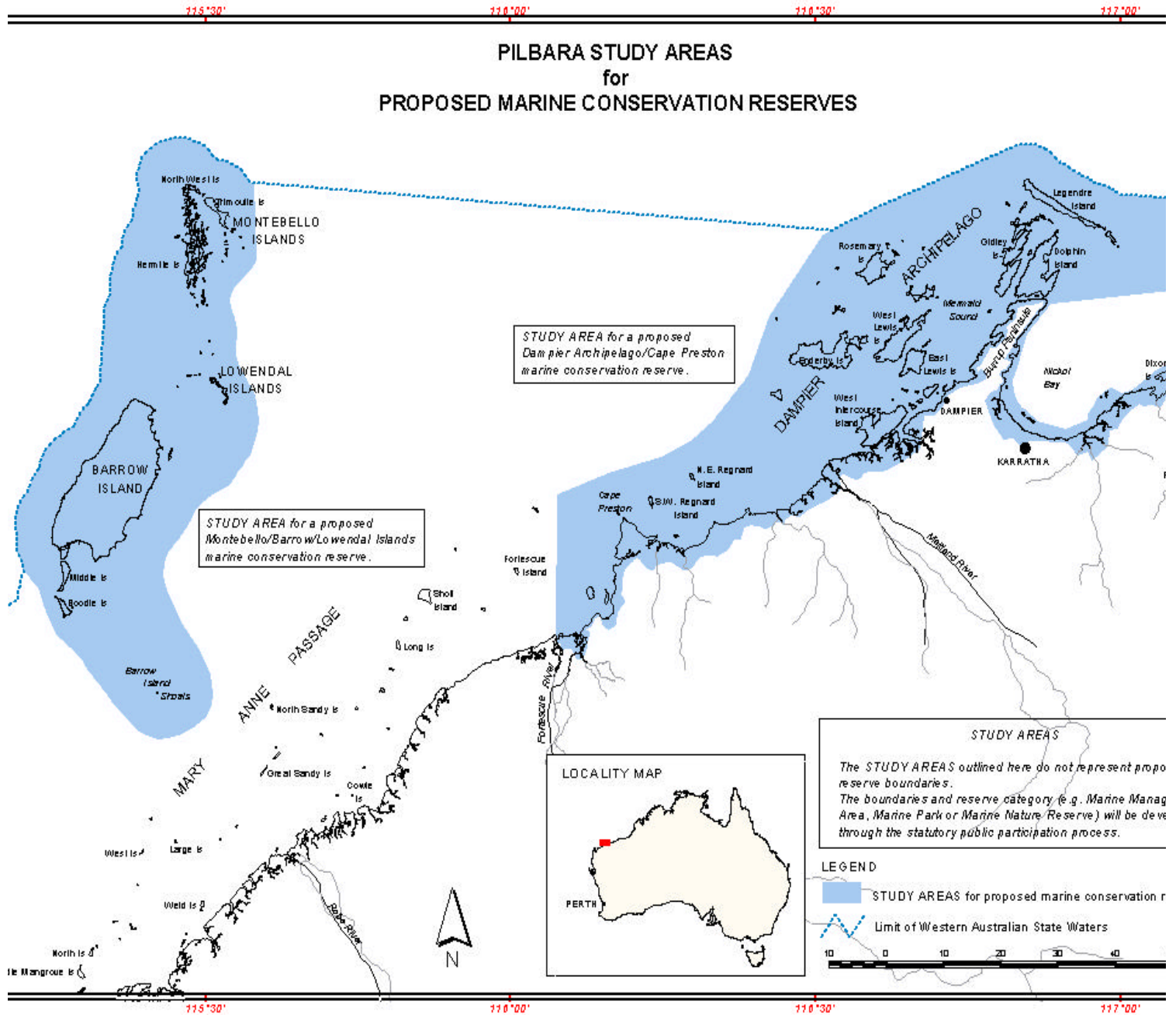
- Sunscreen
- Hats

Information

- Marine Charts
- CALM GIS habitat maps
- Aerial photographs of coastline
- Laptop computer and accessories
- Mobile phones x 2

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: MAP OF STUDY AREAS FOR THE PROPOSED PILBARA MARINE CONSERVATION RESERVES



APPENDIX II: ISSUE ANALYSIS PROFORMA

USER GROUP

Contact

No. of People.....	face	to	telephone	written
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Attitudes towards marine reserve proposal

	Receptive	Cautious	Negative
Beginning of discussion			
End of discussion			

Level of knowledge & understanding	adequate
------------------------------------	----------

	low	excellent
values of proposed area	←	→
marine reserve multiple-use & zoning	←	→
representativeness & no-take	←	→
sustainability	←	→
integrated management	←	→
planning process & public participation	←	→

Interviewer Date/....../.....

- Visions/aspirations
- Questions/concerns/rumours
- Knowledge gaps
- Community alliances & conflicts

[illegible]

.....

.....

APPENDIX III: ISSUE ANALYSIS - NOTES FOR PARTICIPATING STAFF

Issue analysis: Notes for Participating Staff

Introduction

Public Participation is an interactive process by which interested and affected individuals, organisations, departments and government entities are consulted and involved in decision making. This process both informs and seeks a response from the public.

The overall goal of the public participation program (PPP) in the planning and management of Western Australian marine conservation reserves is:

To develop community ownership, stewardship, and understanding of marine conservation reserves.

The reserve planning process incorporates two phases for public involvement, and issue analyses are undertaken at the beginning of the first phase, either before, or just after the first meeting of a community advisory committee.

Stage 1 of public involvement takes place before the Notice of Intent, primarily through the advisory committee process.

Stage 2 of public involvement takes place after publication of the Notice of Intent primarily through written submission.



The objective of the issue analysis stage of the PPP is:

To develop a community profile on which to base the development of a communication strategy to encourage and facilitate community involvement in planning marine conservation reserves.

Issue analyses provide an opportunity to;

- gain an understanding of community attitudes towards, and levels of understanding of, the local marine reserve proposal,
- gain an understanding of alliances and conflicts within and among community groups,
- open channels of communication and develop rapport with key community members,
- provide information to key members of the community,
- identify appropriate liaison pathways to facilitate effective participation in the reserve planning process.

The following method will be adopted;

1. Gather data by contacting key community representatives from all relevant user and interest groups. Contact will consist primarily of face-to-face discussions.
2. Summarise the data to determine the attitudes and aspirations, levels of understanding, and community relationships for all relevant user and interest groups.
3. Define key messages and appropriate communication techniques together with a program of actions for each group in order to develop appropriate attitudes, minimum levels of understanding and to assist with development of a shared vision both within and among community groups.

The discussion data sheets are designed to record;

- attitude,
- levels of knowledge,
- the existence of conflicts and alliances, and
- commonly used methods of communication.

These forms should not be completed in the presence of a member of the public, but instead should be completed from memory as soon as possible after each discussion. Relevant notes taken during the discussion should be recorded in the note book provided.

Before members of the community can have effective input into the reserve planning process, they need to have a cooperative attitude and a minimum level of understanding. People who are strongly negative or hostile will not consider other points of view or accept new information. People who do not have a minimum level of understanding of the marine reserve concept and planning process will not be able to participate effectively in the planning process. The achievement of an appropriate attitude is therefore the first essential step towards the facilitation of effective input into the planning process.

Attitude

When recording attitude, an effort should be made to try and distinguish between attitude towards the marine reserve proposal, and attitude towards the interviewer.

If you consider that the person is displaying an attitude which is not provided in the choices on the forms (e.g. indifference) please record this adjacent to the boxes.

You may also like to ask a question about the attitudes of other members of the community group which the person represents, and note this on the form.

Hostility is not an uncommon response. Hostility however, is rarely meant personally. Although sometimes expressed passionately, hostility is usually directed either at the agency which you represent or is a result of a misunderstanding of the marine reserve concept. People in this frame of mind will usually not hear counter arguments if they are presented too quickly. They will instead filter out information which you provide and take on board only what supports their entrenched ideas. Staff will need to be both tolerant and patient in these circumstances and remember that one of the main reasons for undertaking a thorough PPP is to ensure that these opinions are brought into the open at an early stage of planning and dealt with well before a reserve is declared.

If hostility is based on a negative perception of the agency, the interviewer will need to work towards developing their own identity with the person, i.e. transferring the interaction to a more personal level and developing a relationship. Relationships are built on **trust** and there is a need to be both **reliable** and **consistent** in dealings with the person in order to develop a relationship.

Hostility which is based on misinformation, will also require manipulation of the situation. Again, it is only after the development of individual identity and personal trust, that the person will become receptive to new and accurate information. The development of relationships is therefore central to the PPP process and ongoing resources will be needed to undertake this task.

Initially, the emphasis will need to be on **listening**. Active listening will not only help to identify the source of the problem, it will also show the person that you are interested in him/her. It is a good idea to concentrate on common ground and experiences and build on these e.g. a love of the sea. Whatever the mood of the discussion, people should always be thanked for their time and if appropriate, for their frankness. The promise of further information and a follow up by mail is important in hostile cases because it reinforces your trustworthiness. Subsequent meetings, phone discussions etc will gradually build the necessary relationship.

Occasionally, people become embarrassed by their own behaviour and are reluctant to contact you in the future. You may need to be persistent.

Staff should try to identify genuine distress relating to a perception that livelihood or some other basic need is under threat. These cases may require urgent reassurance from senior staff.

Level of knowledge

Level of knowledge should be determined by asking open questions and levels should be recorded as a line along the sliding scale for each topic. A minimum level of understanding required for each topic is defined as having an understanding of the following;

Values of proposed area: At least three value attributes from the following list in relation to the proposed area;

commercial fishing	scientific
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tourism	educational
recreation	scenic / amenity
wildlife	conservation
petroleum	pearling & aquaculture

Multiple-use & zoning: Western Australian marine reserves allow for many uses, both commercial and recreational.

Different activities are separated into geographically distinct areas.

The types of marine reserve and zoning options in Western Australian.

Representativeness & no-take: Diversity of ecosystem types around the State and the concept of samples of each being represented within a State wide reserve system.

Diversity of habitat types within the proposed reserve area and the concept of samples of each being represented within no-take zones.

Reasons for no-take areas and issues of zone scales for the different reasons.

Sustainability: Cumulative impacts of multiple use.

Integrated management: Many agencies have management jurisdiction in the marine environment.

Marine reserves provide a management framework to coordinate the activities of all these agencies.

Planning process & public participation: Advisory committee has community based membership.

Advisory committee substantially develops the indicative management plan.

Public input into the initial stages of planning is primarily through Advisory committee members.

After the publication of the draft management plan there is a statutory public submission period for written submissions direct to CALM.

It may not be appropriate to investigate the level of knowledge in all areas listed on the form in detail. However, we will need to know whether there is an adequate level of knowledge in the areas of multiple-use and zoning plus the planning process and participation as a minimum.

Having assessed the level of knowledge of the user/interest group which the contact person represents, information should be distributed to increase the level of knowledge and understanding of the contact person. It is often useful to arrange to forward additional information by mail because this reminds the person of your visit a few days later and also demonstrates that you do what you say you will do.

We need to know how best to communicate with each user/interest group. Information relating to methods of communication which are used by members of the user group will assist in later stages of the PPP process.

It is wise not to assume that all contacts can read and write. Some sensitivity may be necessary in these cases.

Questions / concerns / knowledge gaps + community conflicts and alliances

This information will become evident by asking open questions.

Conflicts within the community which relate directly to the marine reserve proposal need to be addressed during the planning process in an attempt to reach a resolution which is satisfactory to all parties. Any information which will assist in determining the most appropriate course of action to resolve conflict will be useful.

Rumours

These will come out naturally during the discussion. There is no need to address this issue directly through questioning.

Some possible questions:

What is Integrated Management?

Historically, human activities in marine and coastal environments have been managed by a number of separate agencies often in isolation from each other and with little involvement from the general community. Integrated management provides a framework for government and the community to consider the total impact of all human activities on each other and on the natural environment.

What is Sustainability?

Sustainability means ensuring that current human usage does not overload the environment and reduce the options for present and future generations.

Energy from sunlight, primary production limits productivity of ecosystem. Sustainability means maintaining impacts below a level which natural community can replace/repair.

Why is the planning process so involved?

The planning process provides for input from all interest groups, whether your interest is conservation, fishing, tourism, mining or as a member of an indigenous community. A commitment to community involvement in reserve planning ensures local knowledge is included and an appropriate zoning plan is developed. A sense of community ownership and overall support is essential for effective long-term marine reserve management.

Can I fish in marine reserves?

Recreational fishing is permitted in **Marine Management Areas** and in General Use zones, most Recreation and some Special Purpose zones of **Marine Parks**. Fishing is not permitted in **Marine Nature Reserves** or in Sanctuary zones of **Marine Parks**.

Why are marine parks zoned?

Zoning provides for conservation while allowing sustainable recreational and commercial activities. While a wide range of activities are permitted in multiple-use marine reserves, the zoning system minimises conflict by establishing some zones for extractive or intrusive activities and other zones for undisturbed nature study and passive enjoyment of the natural environment.

Why declare reserves when so much of our coast appears healthy?

While marine reserves have a role to play in repairing environmental damage, their primary objective is to conserve the environment in a healthy condition for all users both present and future. So what better time than now to establish marine reserves while our environment is in relatively good condition.

How do I get involved in marine reserve planning and management?

During the planning process, discuss your concerns with advisory committee members and make a written submission to CALM when the draft management plan has been released. Membership of the marine reserve management advisory committee, a local friends group or other volunteer association provide avenues for involvement in management after the reserve is declared.

Why are you lot doing this not Fisheries?

It is Government policy - refer to New Horizons. Fisheries will maintain responsibility for managing fishing within marine reserves. The reserves provide an integrated management framework for all agencies to work together and complement one another.

How can you call this a reserve when you can drill for oil in it?

All activities will be permitted within marine reserves provided they do not significantly impact on the environment and do not significantly impact on other users. Assessment of petroleum activities will be undertaken under the *Environmental Protection Act* through the environmental impact assessment process. All activities within a multiple use marine park will be reviewed in terms of the environmental impacts and potential for conflict with other users so that the cumulative impacts remain below the sustainable limit.

The concept of reserves in the marine environment are different to that on land because the marine environment is untenured and far more interconnected. Marine reserves embrace the concept of multiple-use and are equivalent to the integrated management of large tracts of land e.g. whole shires, for all of the purposes within that area. These might include agricultural use, town sites, national parks and mining.

What's the difference between no reserve, General Use Zones and Marine Management Areas?

Integrated management provides a management framework to maintain impacts below the sustainable limit for the environment rather than considering the sustainability of each use on an individual basis. Management agencies share a vision for marine reserve areas.

Marine management areas are usually large and there is similar emphasis on the three sectors of conservation, recreation and commercial activities. Marine Parks can be declared within the outer boundaries of Marine Management Areas - a nested approach.

What's the point of having reserves with tiny sanctuary zones?

It's true that the potential functions of no-take areas depend on the scale of the area. Small areas still provide scientific reference points. However, they are unlikely to provide any benefits in terms of stock refugia or replenishment.

The small marine reserves in the Metropolitan area are primarily to manage high levels of recreation. The sanctuary zones within these parks function primarily as scientific reference areas.

What do you need no-take areas for? We're used to bag limits and other restrictions which prevent overfishing?

While Western Australia has a good record of fisheries management, catch effort data is gathered on a different scale to that required to protect small areas of coast. Data areas translate into blocks of 100km x 100km or 10,000 square kms. Therefore there could be significant depletion in small high usage areas which would be undetected or indicate just slight decline.

There are also several areas where anecdotal evidence suggests that stocks are well below those experienced by fishers 20 or so years ago - refer to Marmion study and Ningaloo and South coast studies under way.

Management through monitoring is very expensive and it is more expensive if the pressure on the resource approaches the critical limit. i.e. intensity of research must be equivalent to the risk factor - refer to critical health situations for comparison. No-take areas provide insurance against lack of information or the collection of the wrong information - it's like having something in the bank, how many people live hand to mouth with no security in the bank? No-take areas are cheaper to manage and protect the whole habitat, not just the few species which are prized by fishers.

Where can I use my boat?

No activity will be effected by a marine reserve unless it damages the environment or unfairly impacts on other users. Boating is unlikely to be restricted other than for safety reasons or if pressure builds to an unsustainable level. The more users in an area, the greater the need for limiting impacts so that the cumulative impact does not exceed the sustainable level. All activities which cause significant impacts may be pressured by other users into adopting minimal impact practices. In the case of boating this may mean a review of mooring designs, antifouling procedures, waste disposal and refuelling techniques.

Is this likely to improve my business or are you going to stop people using the area?

There are many examples where tourist businesses have benefited by increased visitation to marine reserve areas. Business will also benefit from the assurance that integrated management will maintain usage at or below the sustainable limit. The vital resource of your business - i.e. the environment will therefore have greater assurance for the future.

If the limit of sustainable use is not to be exceeded, areas with high usage or large cumulative impacts will need to review the impacts of all activities. A review of your business to adopt best minimal impact practices will benefit all users.

It's all very well declaring parks, but there's never any money to manage them. What are you going to do about that?

There is a specific step in the statutory planning process which requires that advice be provided to cabinet regarding the costs associated with managing each marine reserve.

CALM cannot manage marine reserves alone. There is a need to consider the development of partnerships with local government and communities for funding day-to-day management. In the same way that parks and gardens are funded, the community will need to consider the costs of developing and the costs of not developing marine reserves.

This is just the thin end of the wedge, are you lot going to want to charge for moorings and ramp fees etc?

The Government has a user pays policy. If users make high demands on Government, these demands will need to be funded somehow.