

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼[View this email in your browser](#)

PROPOSED SOUTH COAST MARINE PARK NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first issue of the *Proposed South Coast Marine Park Newsletter*.

In this issue:

- [A message from Mark](#)
- [A message from Ralph](#)
- [What areas are being considered?](#)
- [How to get involved in the planning process](#)
- [Information sessions](#)
- [Your local community engagement contacts](#)
- [Marine park facts: busting the myths](#)
- [Independent review now available](#)
- [Marine park FAQs](#)
- [What Lies Beneath photo contest](#)
- [Feature video: Great Southern Reef](#)

The Government of Western Australia acknowledges the traditional owners throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders past, present and emerging.

In particular, DBCA and DPIRD acknowledge the traditional owners and native title holders in the study area for the proposed south coast marine park; the Esperance Nyungars, Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar, Ngadju People, and WA Mirning People.

A message from Mark

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

It is with pleasure that I welcome you to the first issue of the community engagement update for the proposed south coast marine park

(PSCMP).

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), together with its government project partner the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), will soon commence the first stages of the preparation of an indicative joint management plan for the PSCMP.



Creating a marine park on the south coast will ensure the area's unique ecological values and cultural heritage values are conserved for the future, while allowing for sustainable commercial and recreational activities including fishing, tourism, diving, and boating. It will also make a significant contribution to Western Australia's comprehensive, adequate and representative marine parks and reserves system.

While much work has been done over the past 12 months in preparation for the start of the project, input from locals is critical to achieving a successful outcome. I can assure you that we will listen to the community's aspirations for the management and protection of a south coast marine environment from those directly impacted.

The planning process for the proposed marine park will be undertaken alongside the relevant native title holders for the area. The process will be guided by the community and key stakeholders, who will have the opportunity to contribute through a range of planned engagement activities designed using best practice in public participation. These contributions help to inform the extent of the proposed marine park and the development of an indicative joint management plan.

Our departments will not be able to adequately plan for a park without a strong understanding of the cultural, economic, social and biodiversity conservation values of the area, and matters of importance that may be held by the community.

I encourage you to become involved in the process as we want people to enjoy using a future marine park and appreciate the spectacular marine wildlife and ecosystems of the south coast for many generations to come. You can get involved and stay up to date by visiting the [proposed south coast marine park website](#).

More detail on the model for community engagement is provided in this issue.

Mark Webb

Director General

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

A message from Ralph

A collaborative and consultative process is integral to the creation of any new marine park, and I'm pleased to be able to contribute to the first community engagement update for the PSCMP.

With our project partner DBCA, DPIRD is looking forward to the continued engagement with the community and key stakeholders.

A thorough understanding of the needs of users, the area's biodiversity and the potential impacts of any decisions is vital to developing a park that successfully balances the region's complex, competing priorities.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

So, with that in mind, I encourage you to be an active voice in the discussion. The community's needs are important, as are those of commercial and recreational fishers, traditional owners and other groups, and both DBCA and DPIRD are committed to taking the various views on board.



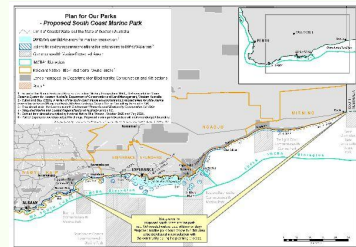
We are early in the process, but ensuring the aquatic health, biodiversity values and sustainability of fish resources on the south coast is in everybody's interests, and we can all work together to make sure that's achieved.

Ralph Addis
Director General
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

[Proposed south coast marine park webpage](#)

What areas are being considered?

The waters under consideration, for where the proposed marine park could be located, are anywhere from Bremer Bay eastward to the WA/SA border, and offshore to the limit of coastal waters of the State (i.e., as defined by Commonwealth legislation). The size and boundary will be determined through the planning process.



Coastal waters of the State extend three nautical miles seaward of the Territorial Sea Baseline, including around offshore islands. Port areas will be excluded from any final marine park boundary. For ease of reference please refer to the map below.

The proposed marine park boundary will be developed within this area in consultation with the community and stakeholders during the planning process. Any final marine park area will be managed for multiple use including fishing, recreation and tourism.

[Download and view the map \(434KB\)](#)

How to get involved in the planning process

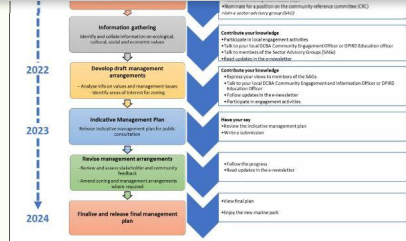
The creation of a marine park is a complex undertaking. There are general legislated steps in the marine park planning process of which community engagement and traditional owner involvement are key.

There will be many ways to get involved such as:

- attending information sessions
- nominating to be on the community reference committee
- joining a sector advisory group

[Subscribe](#)
[Past Issues](#)
Community involvement throughout the planning process
[Translate](#) ▼

One way to stay informed of these opportunities is through subscribing to this newsletter.



Quick reference guide to engagement opportunities

Information sessions

DBCA and DPIRD are holding a series of local community information sessions from 11–17 October 2021 regarding the south coast marine park proposal. The purpose of these sessions is to provide information to local communities and stakeholders about the south coast marine park proposal, including the current status of the marine park, why a marine park has been proposed for the south coast; how community members and stakeholders can be involved during the planning process and to also hear directly from the community about any concerns they may have.

Community members are invited to join the information sessions, meet with DBCA and DPIRD staff and ask any questions about the proposed marine park and the planning process. DBCA and DPIRD highly value the knowledge from the local community and stakeholders and welcome their contribution and input to help inform the planning process. The event is free, but registration is required due to capacity limits in venues.

Albany

6-8pm, Mon 11 Oct, Albany Surf Life Saving Club ([Register for the Albany session](#))

Bremer Bay

6-8pm, Tues 12 Oct, Bremer Bay Sports Club (with bus service leaving Jerramungup Roadhouse at 4:30pm) ([Register for the Bremer Bay session](#))

Hopetoun

6-8pm, Wed 13 Oct, Hopetoun Community Centre (with bus service leaving Ravensthorpe Town Hall at 4:45pm) ([Register for the Hopetoun session](#))

Esperance

6-8pm, Thurs 14 Oct, Esperance Yacht Club ([Register for the 14 Oct Esperance session](#))
and
10am-12pm, Fri 15 Oct, Esperance Yacht Club ([Register for the 15 Oct Esperance session](#))

Norseman

2-4pm, Sat 16 Oct, Norseman Town Hall ([Register for the Norseman session](#))

Kalgoorlie

10am-12pm, Sun 17 Oct, Quality Inn Railway Motel and Function Centre ([Register for the Kalgoorlie session](#))

Tea and coffee will be available.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Community engagement contacts](#)[Translate](#) ▼

DBCA and DPIRD have formal arrangements in place to ensure a collaborative and constructive approach to defining the scope, process, and engagement for commencing and undertaking marine reserve planning processes. Meet the local team Lori-Ann Shibish and Kimberly Jenkins.



DBCA has employed a regionally based Community Engagement and Information Officer Lori-Ann Shibish, to act as a local point of contact and ensure all views from individuals and groups are considered during the planning process. Lori-Ann is a certified community engagement practitioner who has extensive experience working with community advisory committees in facilitation, public relations and communications.

Kimberly has studied education at the post graduate level and has several years' experience working in community education in the not-for-profit sector. Her current role as the local Community Education Officer with DPIRD focuses on fisheries education.

Together Lori-Ann and Kimberly will ensure that the community is provided with timely information on the marine park planning process and have ample opportunity to be engaged in the process at every step. This newsletter is a key communication tool that they will be delivering. Feel free to forward this newsletter to others you know who might like to subscribe to these updates.

Contact details

Lori-Ann: pscmp@dbca.wa.gov.au

Kimberly: kimberly.jenkins@dpird.wa.gov.au

Marine park facts: busting the myths

Marine parks are not designed to be total exclusion areas.

They include recreational, economic (including commercial fishing), and cultural activities, as well as opportunities for research, monitoring and tourism in appropriate zones.

The marine park boundary has not been pre-determined.

It will be decided with community input through the deliberations of the local community reference committee (CRC) and sector advisory groups (SAGs). The public will also have opportunities to provide input at various stages of the planning process.

There are no set percentages of zoning required.

The zoning scheme will be developed with local community engagement through the CRC and SAGs.

Beach driving and beach fishing are recognised as important recreational values on the south coast and will continue into the future.

Some limitations may be applied to beach driving where there are clearly understood safety or environmental concerns. To conserve representative habitats and biodiversity, beach fishing may be prohibited in some specific areas (e.g. sanctuary zones). With your input, the proposed marine park will be carefully designed to minimise any impacts to valued recreational activities.

Independent review now available

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

1994 report (the Wilson Report) as a starting point for determining the PSCMP study area. Some stakeholders and community members expressed concern that DBCA was relying on a report published in 1994.

To address these concerns, DBCA contracted an independent environmental consultant to carry out a desktop review of the south coast areas (east of Albany) recommended for marine reservation in the Wilson Report. The scope of works included updating information on the biodiversity, habitats, and geomorphology for each of these areas based on the current evidence-based literature, as well as providing recommendations about whether other areas on the south coast should be considered for marine reservation, or if those areas recommended in the Wilson Report were still the most valid.

The results of this independent review (Carijoa Report) confirm the original Wilson Report recommendations as priority locations for marine reservation and recommends extensions to some areas. A copy of the Carijoa Report can be found below.

Local community knowledge is crucial to inform the planning process. The reviews undertaken to date provide a starting point for information that will be built upon with local knowledge during the process.

No decisions have yet been made on the boundary, or zoning, as this will be decided in consultation with the local community.

[Download the Carijoa Report \(5.8MB\)](#)

Marine park FAQs

DBCA and DPIRD have developed several information sheets to assist with frequently asked questions. Information is provided on the following questions:

- What is a marine park?
- Why do we need marine parks?
- How do we decide where to put a marine park?
- Why is a south coast marine park being proposed?
- What is the purpose of marine park zones?
- How do we zone a marine park?
- What are the different types of zones within a marine park?
- Will recreational fishing be allowed in the proposed south coast marine park?
- Will commercial fishing be allowed in the proposed south coast marine park?
- Who will manage the proposed south coast marine park?
- What public consultation will be carried out?
- What is the difference between the Commonwealth Marine Parks off the south coast of Western Australia and the proposed south coast marine park?

[Read the FAQs online](#)

What Lies Beneath photo contest

Do you know what lies beneath the surface of the southern ocean?

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#) ▼

If you can identify this interesting creature, then email us your answer to go in the draw for a one year

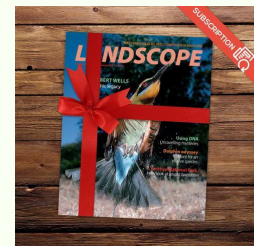
subscription to DBCA's award-winning [LANDSCOPE magazine](#).



Photo - Ocean Imaging

Email your answers to pscmp@dbca.wa.gov.au to go in a draw for a prize (use What Lies Beneath Contest as the subject line). All correct answers will be put into a random draw on 31 October 2021 and two winners will be contacted by reply email.

The prize is a year's subscription to [LANDSCOPE magazine](#), Western Australia's quarterly parks, wildlife and conservation magazine.



The answer and winner's names will be published in the next newsletter.

Read the [terms and conditions](#).

Feature video: Great Southern Reef

The Great Southern Reef (GSR) is a system of interconnected temperate rocky reefs near the southern coast of Australia. It covers 71,000 km² and straddles five states across the southern coastline of the Australian continent, running almost 8,000km from Brisbane, south around Tasmania, and to Kalbarri north of Perth.

Marine biologists from the University of Western Australia's Oceans Institute have released a short video that gives a poignant glimpse into the marvels of the little-known, economic powerhouse: The Great Southern Reef (GSR). [Watch the video below](#).

[Subscribe](#) [Past Issues](#) [Translate ▼](#)



[Not subscribed? Sign up to receive the next issue of this newsletter](#)

Photos in header image:

Top: Southern right whales by Dave and Fiona Harvey

Left to right: Sea star by Peter Nicholas. Boat by Black Jack Charters. Snorkelling at Woody Island by Tourism WA. Leafy seadragon by Peter Nicholas. Fishing on the south coast by Tourism WA



Department of **Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions**
Department of **Primary Industries and Regional Development**

Copyright © 2021 Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).