

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

## PROPOSED SOUTH COAST MARINE PARK NEWSLETTER

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

### In this issue:

- [New Environment Minister](#)
- [Marine Values Mapping \(MVM\) survey – Get Involved](#)
- [Understanding the process to create a marine park](#)
- [Marine social values surveys](#)
- [Marine park profile – Jurien Bay Marine Park](#)
- [Sector Advisory Groups \(SAG\)](#)
- [What Lies Beneath photo contest](#)
- [Feature video](#)

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.

---

### New Environment Minister

Hon Reece Whitby MLA, former Minister for Emergency Services; Racing and Gaming; Small Business;

This follows an announcement on 17 December 2021 that former Environment Minister Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson BA MLA, who had served since March 2021, has taken on the Health and Mental Health portfolios.



**Right:** Hon Reece Whitby MLA. *Photo - WA Government*

## Marine Values Mapping (MVM) survey – Get Involved

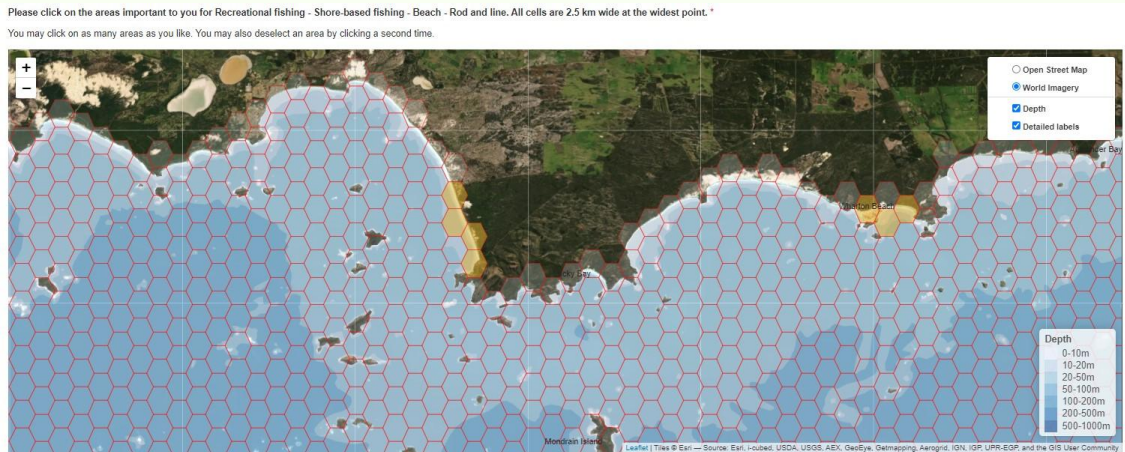
Contributing local knowledge is one of the key ways the community can get involved early to influence marine park planning processes, and it is critical to the success of robust and effective marine park design.

The MVM survey, developed in partnership with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), the University of Western Australia and Traditional Owners from the Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC), is designed to capture information about how people use the coast and marine environment, to harness their local knowledge, and to record social values and benefits in the area.

All data collected will inform the planning process and will help to determine any future management arrangements, including zoning of the Proposed South Coast Marine Park (PSCMP).

Local communities on the south coast, as well as people who visit the area, are encouraged to get involved by completing the MVM survey and sharing it with their local networks.

[The MVM survey can be accessed here](#)



**Above:** View of Marine Values Mapping (MVM) survey. *Photo - DBCA*

## Understanding the process to create a marine park



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

**Above:** Sea star. *Photo - Claire Ross*

Marine parks and reserves in WA are created under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act). In accordance with the CALM Act, an indicative management plan must be prepared and public consultation carried out before a new marine park or reserve can be created.

For the PSCMP, DBCA will be preparing an indicative joint management plan on behalf of the Conservation and Parks Commission and the State Government, in partnership with the ETNTAC and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD). Stakeholders and local communities will then provide input via advice from Sector Advisory Groups and the Ministerially-appointed Community Reference Committee (CRC).

The indicative management plan is then released for public comment for a statutory period of at least three months and submissions received are reviewed and assessed to inform the development of the final management plan. To ensure that fishing and mining and petroleum related issues have been adequately addressed during the planning process, agreement between the Minister for Environment, Minister for Fisheries and Minister for Mines and Petroleum is required to create the marine park or reserve.

Consultation with stakeholders and local communities regarding the PSCMP has already begun. DBCA will continue to engage with stakeholders and local communities in regional centres on the South Coast throughout the marine park planning process, by providing regular updates through the PSCMP newsletter, and demand driven tailored activities.

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼



**Above:** PSCMP Community Reference Committee - meeting one. *Photo - L-A Shibish/DBCA*

More information can be found here [Process to create a new marine reserve \(dbca.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.dbca.wa.gov.au/process-to-create-a-new-marine-reserve)

## Marine social values surveys

DBCA is working in partnership with researchers from The University of Western Australia (UWA) and Traditional Owners from ETNTC, to conduct social research to understand marine recreation values of the local community in the region. This includes the MVM survey mentioned previously in this newsletter, as well as a community use survey which collects detailed information about individual recreational trips undertaken on the South Coast.

UWA researchers, Nicole Hamre and Elouise Haskin, will be collaborating with Tjaltjraak Healthy Country Program (THCP) rangers to conduct surveys through to April. Surveys will be conducted between 8am and 3pm at various boat access points across the region and around town.

Nicole completed her undergraduate and master's degree in Zoology in Scotland and is currently doing her PhD at UWA. Nicole's research focuses on marine recreational use and involves conducting surveys at boat ramps and coastal access points.

Elouise completed her undergraduate degree in Wildlife and Conservation Biology in Victoria and is currently completing her master's degree in Biological Science at UWA, specialising in Marine Biology. Her current research focus is seasonal coral recruitment patterns in North-West Australia. Elouise has volunteered on several field trips with Nicole conducting social values surveys.



Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼



**Above:** UWA researchers and some of the Tjaltjraak HCP rangers (left to right: Hayleigh Graham; Murray Bullen (ETNTAC); Elouise Haskin (UWA); David Guilfoyle; Jennell Reynolds; Terrence Yorkshire JNR; Jeremy Smith; Donna Beach; Steven Rule; Chisoem Rivers (ETNTAC); Nicole Hamre (UWA). *Photo - ETNTAC*

## Marine park profile – Jurien Bay Marine Park



**Above:** Jurien Bay Marine Park

This pristine coastal strip extends south from Green Head to the southern boundary of Nambung National Park (Wedge Island) and encompasses many of the islands located in this region. With excellent fishing, diving, snorkelling and swimming, [Jurien Bay Marine Park](#) is a popular place for anyone who loves water-based fun.

Home to large colonies of [rare Australian sea lions](#), Jurien Bay Marine Park is also home to seabirds, western rock lobsters and a huge variety of fish. The annual humpback whale migration passes through the marine park as they journey along the western coast to calving grounds in the Kimberley.

The Jurien Bay region is dominated by five major marine habitat types: seagrass meadows; bare or sparsely vegetated mobile sand; shoreline and offshore intertidal reef platforms; subtidal limestone reefs and reef pavement. Extensive seagrass meadows consisting of at least nine species of seagrass exist in the Jurien Bay Marine Park. Marine wildlife includes 14 species of cetaceans (five of which are listed as rare or likely to become extinct), a variety of sea and shorebirds which nest on the islands, and the Australian sea lion, a species which is specially protected under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*.

Commercial fishing for western rock lobster has the highest economic value of any single species commercial fishery in Australia and is the mainstay of the economy in the Jurien Bay region. Commercial rock lobster fishing boats work out of the Jurien Bay area from bases at Green Head, Jurien Bay, Cervantes and Wedge, catching lobster each season. Recreational fishing is a popular activity in the area. Recreational fishers target a variety of species, the most highly regarded being western rock lobster, Western Australian dhufish, pink snapper, baldchin groper and abalone. Several other finfish and mollusc species are also taken.

The pleasant Mediterranean climate of the Jurien Bay region combined with its accessibility to Perth and its sheltered waters have resulted in Jurien Bay being a popular place for a variety of watersports including SCUBA diving, surfing, snorkeling, water-skiing and windsurfing.

These same factors, in addition to the natural sites of interest on the adjacent mainland, contribute to the substantial tourism visitation of the area. The establishment of Indian Ocean Drive has made the Jurien Bay region even more accessible from Perth and has led to a significant growth in tourism.

### Zones in the Jurien Bay Marine Park

The zoning scheme for the Jurien Bay Marine Park comprises:

- ten sanctuary zones (approximately 3,061 ha or 3.7% of the marine park);
- twelve special purpose zones (approximately 1,536 ha or 19.3% of the marine park); and
- general use zone (approximately 63,742 ha or 77% of the marine park).

### Sanctuary Zones

The primary purpose of sanctuary zones is to provide areas where natural processes can be studied or appreciated free of significant human influence. Sanctuary zones (3.7% in Jurien Bay Marine Park) provide the opportunity to improve the understanding of the key ecological processes of the marine park and to obtain critical comparative data with areas of the marine park where fishing, collecting and harvesting activities are permitted, and/or where environmental impacts may be occurring. These zones may also provide other ecological benefits such as safe havens for exploited species, replenishment areas and nature appreciation sites.

All extractive activities are excluded from sanctuary zones. However, passive nature-based tourism, some recreational activities, boating and approved scientific research is permitted. The management plan can be found [here](#).

More information can be found at [Jurien Bay | Explore Parks WA | Parks and Wildlife Service \(dpaw.wa.gov.au\)](#).



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

**Above:** Australian sea lion. *Photo - Peter Nicholas*

## Sector Advisory Groups (SAG)

The function of SAGs is to provide advice from the various sectors to the CRC and the planning team during the planning process. SAGs are a critical pathway for information flow from the sectors and from the community to the CRC.

SAGs are comprised of representatives of interest groups and the local community that have nominated to be part of the planning process.

The current SAGs and their contact details are as follows:

Sector	Chair	Email
Tourism	Simon Latchford	simon.latchford@goldenoutback.com
Recreational Fishing	Matt Gillett	matt@recfishwest.org.au
Commercial Fishing	Darryl Hockey	ceo@wafic.org.au
Science	Luke Twomey	luke.twomey@wamsi.org.au
Snorkelling & Diving	Dr Doug Cary	doug@esperancephysio.com
Youth	Scott Fisher	scott.fisher@education.wa.edu.au
Conservation Organisations	Christabel Mitchell Monique Barker	cmitchell@pewtrusts.org mbarker@pewtrusts.org
Environment and Climate Action Group	Susan Starr Jan Archer	suestarr.cmc@westnet.com.au keithandjaninesperance@hotmail.com

Community members are encouraged to join or communicate with SAG Chairs of their particular interest.

## What Lies Beneath photo contest

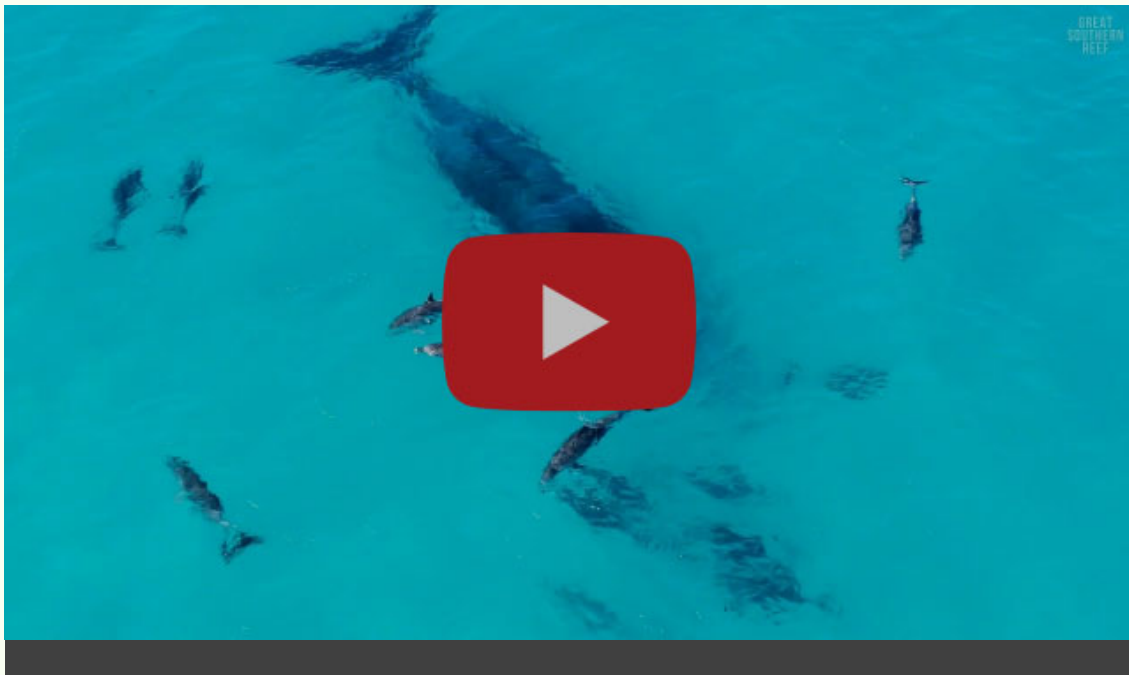
<a href="#">Subscribe</a>	<a href="#">Past Issues</a>	<a href="#">Beneath' contest in the last issue is of a western rock lobster.</a>	<a href="#">Translate</a> ▼
---------------------------	-----------------------------	--	-----------------------------



Above: Western rock lobster. Photo - Ocean Imaging

### Feature video

Jaimen Hudson uses a drone to showcase Esperance's spectacular scenery



**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

Navigation icons for social media and sharing: a link icon, Facebook 'f', Twitter bird, and Instagram camera.



<b>Subscribe</b>	<b>Past Issues</b>	<b>Translate</b> ▼
------------------	--------------------	--------------------



Department of **Primary Industries and Regional Development**

*Copyright © 2022 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](#).