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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 Wudjari People, Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar, Ngadju People and WA Mirning People.

## Community Reference Committee for the Proposed South Coast Marine Park

### Meeting Five Communique

**30 November - 1 December, Esperance Bay Yacht Club**

The Community Reference Committee (CRC) for the proposed South Coast Marine Park held its fifth meeting on 30 November – 1 December 2022 in Esperance. The meeting was attended by Traditional Owner joint management partners Esperance Tjaltjiraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation, Ngadju Native Title Aboriginal Corporation, Mirning Traditional Lands Aboriginal Corporation, Sector Advisory Group (SAG) Chairs and staff from the Departments of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD). The meeting was chaired by the Hon Francis Logan.

Welcome to Wudjari Boodja was conducted by senior cultural advisor Doc Reynolds.

The Hon Don Punch, Minister for Fisheries, provided an address in person on day one of the meeting and took questions from attendees.

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- A presentation by Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar traditional owners on cultural values for their country and an update on their process to date as planning partners
- An overview on the process to develop the areas of interest for zoning
- A discussion on the areas of interest for zoning, including how they are currently meeting the design principles, key gaps and issues and next steps for refinement
- Independently facilitated workshops to further review and refine the areas of interest, incorporating key local and professional knowledge of values and use; and
- An update on the draft Indicative Joint Management Plans was provided by the project partners.

DBCA staff informed the CRC about how the information gathered during CRC meeting five would be used to inform a working draft zoning scheme.

The next meeting of the CRC is scheduled for late March 2023 in Esperance.

Hon Francis Logan  
Chair



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**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 sea dragon by Peter Nicholas, Fishing on the south coast by Tourism WA



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