

FACT SHEET

Recreational line fishing at ocean beaches & headlands

IN MARINE PARKS

As part of its marine estate reforms, in 2013 the NSW Government put in place an amnesty to allow shore-based recreational line fishing from 30 ocean beaches and headland sites in mainland marine park sanctuary zones.

An assessment of these 30 sites considered the threats to ecological, economic and social benefits from shore-based recreational line fishing.

As a result, the Government announced its decision in December 2014 to rezone 10 sites in marine parks to allow for recreational line fishing from ocean beaches and headlands, while returning sanctuary zone rules at the remaining 20 sites.

Draft management rules to rezones these 10 sites were available for public comment from 1 September to 13 November 2015. Over 6,600 submissions were received with most arising from campaigns. No new evidence was provided that required a reconsideration of the rezoning proposals.

Up-to-date maps and further information is available online (www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing) and from local marine park offices. The DPI FishSmart app and Avenza Maps app are being updated.



Economic, social, cultural and ecological values of these areas will be further considering in developing new management plans for marine parks, commencing with pilots at Batemans and Solitary Islands marine parks.

AMNESTY

In March 2013 an amnesty was put in place as an interim measure, to allow shore-based recreational line fishing from 30 ocean beaches and headland sites in mainland marine park sanctuary zones while the impact of these activities was assessed.

Based on the assessment and advice from the Marine Estate Management Authority, the NSW Government announced in December 2014 its intention to rezone 10 sites from sanctuary zones to habitat protection zones (out to 100 metres from shore). This would allow shore-based recreational line fishing at these 10 sites and deliver the social and economic benefits that flow from this activity.

The amnesty was lifted from the remaining 20 sanctuary zone sites in December 2014 (see table) and sanctuary zone rules recommenced at that time.



EVIDENCE BASED APPROACH

The threat and risk assessment approach has resulted in applying protection to particular sites and allowing shore-based recreational fishing at other sites.

This balanced approach, that considered environmental, economic and social values and was based on an assessment of key threats and risks, is central to the new approach to managing the NSW marine estate.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Rezoning the 10 sites in question required an amendment to the management rules for four marine parks. The Government invited submissions on the draft management rules from 1 September to 13 November 2015.

Over 6,600 submissions were received and carefully considered, but no new evidence was provided that required a reconsideration of the rezoning proposals.

Economic, social, cultural and ecological values of these areas will be further considering in developing new management plans for marine parks, commencing with pilots at Batemans and Solitary Islands marine parks. This process will consider how to appropriately manage all threats and activities, including recreational fishing.

The Department of Primary Industries has collected information during aerial surveys to assess patterns of recreational fishing and other recreational activities in marine parks. This information will be one input into the development of new management plans for marine parks. A Marine Integrated Monitoring Program is also being developed for the broader marine estate.

Table 1. Sites rezoned to allow for recreational shore-based line fishing.

CAPE BYRON	SOLITARY ISLANDS	PORT STEPHENS– GREAT LAKES	JERVIS BAY	BATEMANS
1. Tyagarah Beach	3. Minnie Water Back Beach	5. Cellito South	–	7. North Head
2. East Cape Bryon	4. Bare Bluff to Diggers Point and Moonee Beach	6. Fiona Beach		8. Congo South Beach & Mullimburra Point to Bingie Beach
				9. Brou Beach
				10. Bullengella Beach to Loader Beach

Table 2. Sites returned to sanctuary zones where fishing is not allowed:

CAPE BYRON	SOLITARY ISLANDS	PORT STEPHENS– GREAT LAKES	JERVIS BAY	BATEMANS
1. Belongil Beach	6. Jones Beach	10. Cape Hawke	14. Hammer Head	18. Guerilla Bay Beach (Burrewarra North)
2. The Pass/Wategos Beach	7. Jones Point	11. Yacaaba Head	15. Crocodile Head to Point Perpendicular	19. Burrewarra Point to Long Nose Point (Burrewarra South)
3. Broken Head	8. Freshwater Beach region	12. Zenith Beach	16. Bowen Island	20. Broulee Island
4. The Moat or Bream Hole	9. Flat Top Point	13. Fingal Island	17. Steamers Head and St Georges Head	
5. Lennox Head				

Further information is available at www.marine.nsw.gov.au

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