



Marine Estate
Management Authority

DRAFT MARINE ESTATE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
2018-2028

Overview of Feedback

May 2018



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Overview of Feedback – Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028

More information

NSW Marine Estate Management Authority

www.marine.nsw.gov.au

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- NSW Department of Primary Industries
- NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
- Transport for NSW
- NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

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THIS REPORT

The NSW Government committed to a Marine Estate Management Strategy in response to recommendations from the [Independent Scientific Audit of Marine Parks in NSW](#).

The Marine Estate Management Strategy sets the overarching framework to coordinate the management of the marine estate as a single continuous system and balance economic growth, use and conservation over the next decade.

Under the [Marine Estate Management Act 2014](#) the Marine Estate Management Authority (the Authority) is to prepare and seek public comment on a draft Marine Estate Management Strategy (draft Strategy).

The draft Strategy responds to the statewide priority threats to the NSW marine estate, identified via an evidence-based statewide threat and risk assessment (statewide TARA)¹, and aims to maximise the wellbeing of the NSW community.

Eight management initiatives were proposed in the draft Strategy, which included a suite of suggested management actions to address the priority threats.

The eight management initiatives were:

1. Improving water quality and reducing litter
2. Sustainable coastal use and development for healthy habitats
3. Planning for a changing climate
4. Protecting the cultural values of the marine estate
5. Reducing impacts on wildlife
6. Sustainable fishing and aquaculture
7. Enabling safe and sustainable boating
8. Improving governance and enhancing social and economic benefits

This report provides an overview of feedback received during community engagement on the draft Strategy - from submissions and 18 stakeholder workshops. Comments from the four coastal Local Land Services regions (LLS) have been identified and reported on specifically, as required under Section 13 (1)(b) of the *Marine Estate Management Act 2014*. Two detailed stakeholder workshop reports are also available on the [marine estate website](#). The views outlined in this report are those of stakeholders and do not represent the views of the Authority or NSW Government.

OVERVIEW OF ENGAGEMENT AND FEEDBACK

On 30 October 2017, the Authority commenced consultation on the draft Strategy and the NSW community and stakeholders were invited to have their say via media release, newsletters, emails to over 1,300 registered marine estate stakeholders, and Authority member agencies websites and social media. A summary of the modes of promotion for the consultation process via various media are outlined in Appendix 1.

In addition to an online submission form, feedback was gathered through a series of 18 workshops with stakeholders, including targeted workshops for State and local government, coastal Local Land Services and Aboriginal communities. Some submissions were also submitted by email.

Comments from the public were invited until 8 December 2017.

¹ *NSW Marine Estate Threat and Risk Assessment Final Report* (BMT WBM, 2017)

WHO PROVIDED FEEDBACK?

A total of 173 individual submissions and 1,966 campaign-style submissions (see Appendix 2 for a list of the three campaign-style emails received) were received on the draft Strategy, totalling 2,139 submissions. This includes submissions made via the online submission form and to the marine estate email address contact.us@marine.nsw.gov.au. Organisations who provided a written submission are listed in Appendix 3.

This report also includes feedback from general, targeted and Aboriginal stakeholder workshops and internal Authority agency comments from the Department of Industry (DoI), Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH), Transport for NSW and Department of Planning and Environment (DPE).

FEEDBACK ON THE DRAFT STRATEGY

MARINE ESTATE USES AND BENEFITS

The online submission form included a question about how submitters use or benefit from the marine estate and respondents were asked to select up to three options from the list provided. Responses to this question reflect the broad range of uses and values of the marine estate and are depicted in Figure 1 as a percentage of all responses (noting up to three options could be selected). Other uses identified (depicted as 'other') included local government, natural resource management, threatened species, waterfront resident, Surf Life Saving, bird watching, film, hand collecting and wholesale/retail seafood operator.

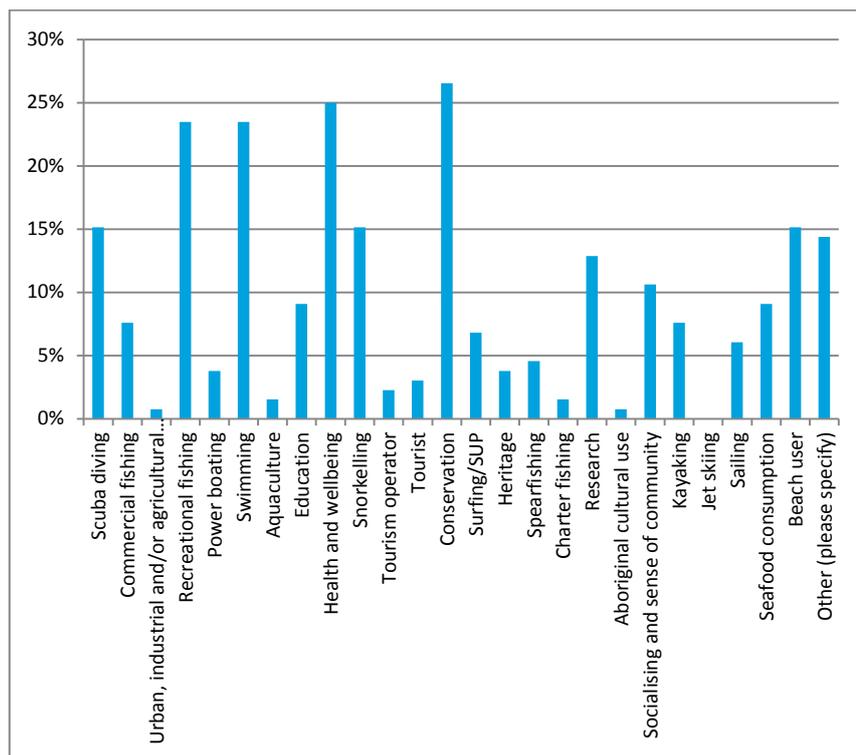


Figure 1. Percentage of priority activities undertaken, or benefits derived from the marine estate, identified by respondents via the online submission form.

DOES THE STRATEGY ADDRESS PRIORITY THREATS?

The online submission form and the general and targeted workshops included a question about how well the draft Strategy comprehensively addresses the priority threats. Figure 2 shows that 57% of respondents strongly agreed or agreed that **the draft Strategy comprehensively addresses the priority threats**, 23% were neutral and 20% disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement.

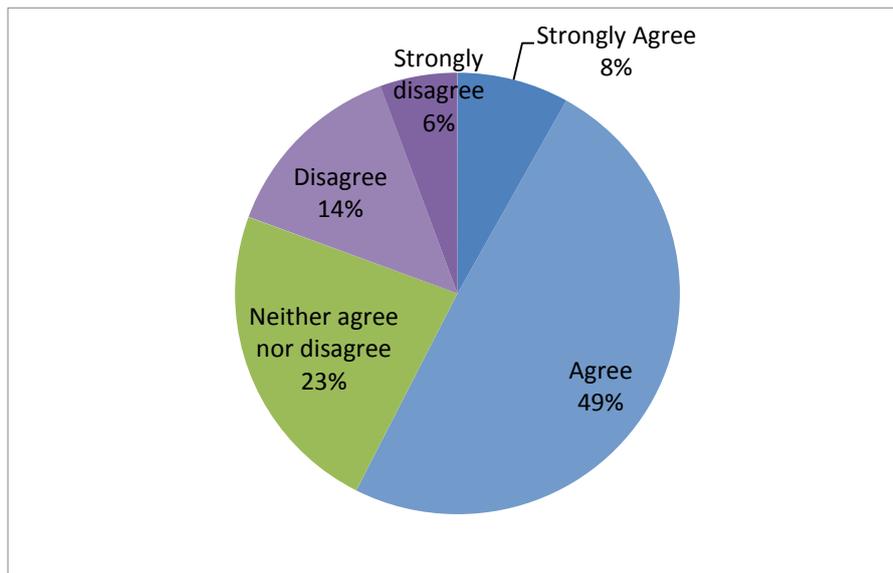


Figure 2. Responses to the statement 'The draft Strategy comprehensively addresses the priority threats'

Those who **strongly agreed or agreed** included the following comments why:

Support for:

- the Strategy, all of the initiatives and efforts to better protect our coastline that will contribute to improving the health of our coastal environment
- major threats having been identified and addressed, including water pollution and climate change as priority threats
- the recognition of fishing as a threat, but one of lesser priority than water pollution
- positive reforms in the marine estate that support recreational fishing
- the Strategy, providing it prioritises a healthy environment over social, cultural and economic benefits
- management which involves stakeholders
- a genuine education strategy that reinforces the values to the whole community by having a world's best managed marine environment
- implementation of actions that are adequately funded
- building capability for sharing current and emerging data
- the Strategy, noting its success is dependent on strong interagency coordination and that responsibilities need to be clear and formalised
- strong compliance and enforcement
- localised management plans.

Those who **disagreed or strongly disagreed** included the following reasons why:

- The Strategy is too passive, does not include funding, lacks accountability, measurement criteria and doesn't include enough concrete/direct actions
- Difficult to ascertain whether many of the management actions are new or continuation of current actions and actions not specific enough to determine whether they will really make a difference
- The Strategy is too wide reaching, won't be able to be implemented and should focus on priority threats
- There needs to be a clear statement about risk tolerance and the threats the government is prepared to tolerate
- Too much emphasis on social and economic benefits and nothing about stewardship for the marine environment

- The Strategy does not include: the long term effects of fishing, the ongoing harvest of marine species, management of ecosystems vs individual species, any initiative/action to deal with urchin barrens, commercial shipping or any initiative for a large-scale multi use marine park for Hawkesbury Shelf or Twofold Shelf marine bioregions or marine protected areas
- Misses an opportunity to expand marine protections, in particular to commit to creating a new marine park for Sydney and diminishes the value of existing marine parks by threatening to rezone and reduce protections
- The Strategy does not adequately deal with: climate change, foreshore development, commercial fishing, marine plastic pollution, population growth or the urgency to improve habitat restoration
- Needs to be more definitive and precise in respect of implementing sustainability measures. For example definition of the precautionary principle There also needs to be a capacity for emergency responses to immediate threats to biodiversity
- The Strategy is top down in its approach and fails to recognise the importance of supporting and empowering regional sectors like; local conservation groups, commercial fisherman, dive clubs, cultural fisherman, schools etc.
- The Strategy fails to consider ecosystems and habitats as holistic entities. Stronger measures to protect biodiversity and ecosystem health and productivity, evidence of long-term planning and the use of the precautionary principle are needed.
- There are stressors or threats not covered by the Strategy including: land clearing under the new *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*, mining, shark nets, the construction of the new Pacific Highway, a lack of funding or body to improve the condition of rivers and estuaries, local threats due to the statewide scope of the Strategy
- Other challenges to the findings of the final TARA e.g. threat of 4WD's versus recreational fishing and a view that climate change had been downgraded.

WHAT IS MISSING IN THE DRAFT STRATEGY?

Feedback on this question from the online submission form included similar comments as to why people strongly disagreed or disagreed that the draft Strategy comprehensively addresses the priority threats, reported above. In addition to those comments, submitters and workshop participants made the following comments regarding what they would like to see in the final Strategy generally (comments submitted specific to initiatives are included later in the report):

- Better communication of management and management decisions not just enforcement – make the science and evidence available
- It would be useful to present 'the Strategy' on a single page, perhaps as a process map or an implementation schedule
- Provide advice on simplifying governance in the marine estate and support for evidence-based decision making
- Local government is not adequately represented as a critical stakeholder in addressing risks
- Achievement of objectives and actions will rely on best-practice and community ownership not just legislation
- Ambitious best practice goals for 2028 not short-term actions. Draft Strategy is not sufficiently forward looking or ambitious
- Appropriate delivery and funding of initiatives risks becoming a negative or ineffective cost burden to our industry (Commercial fishers)
- Clearly acknowledge and support ongoing research efforts to fill the many knowledge gaps that exist

- The vision of the Strategy is not consistent with the objects of the *Marine Estate Management Act*. Ecologically sustainable development, Intergenerational equity and precautionary principle is missing, insufficient and poorly defined in the Strategy
- Prioritisation of Initiatives 1 and 2 over all other initiatives
- Re-introduce 'catchment' thinking back into policy and engagement with the community and more attention to upstream/catchment impacts on estuarine and marine environments, including cleaning up metropolitan creeks
- Inclusion of how climate change can increase ocean pollution
- Inclusion of threatened species listed under the *Fisheries Management Act*
- The threat posed by introduced species and pathogens is seriously under-represented in the Strategy
- Provision for a dive wreck in the Strategy and failure to represent the economic benefits of dive industry or economic benefits of natural values to tourism in NSW
- More support for dealing with sea urchin barrens and the rehabilitation of kelp beds on coastal reefs
- Inclusion of offshore islands and Lord Howe island
- Further reductions or banning of commercial fishing e.g. Macleay River, removal of the estuary general mesh net sector in the Hawkesbury bioregion estuaries and Pittwater
- Greater controls over recreational fishing, including smaller bag limits and conversely increased access and stronger initiatives for recreational fishers for example allow drop lines in Habitat Protection Zones of marine parks
- Ban on shark nets or at least address the threat they pose as a key threatening process for a variety of threatened species.

Further feedback on the final Strategy was also captured from workshop discussions or as general feedback through the online submission form as follows:

- Support for strong and coordinated management of marine bioregions to ensure ecologically sustainable use of marine resources and protection of our unique marine species and ecosystems
- Strong support for the underlying aim of the Authority, to provide a cohesive and long-term vision for the marine estate which is realised through transparent and data-informed initiatives
- The focus appears to be on 'non-fish' iconic or threatened fauna rather than fish targeted by fishing
- Consider annual reporting on actions and Key Performance Indicators in addition to the five-year health check
- Strategy needs to define key terms used throughout e.g. spatial management, precautionary principle, sustainability, trade-offs etc.
- The Strategy is difficult to understand without a detailed knowledge of all the reforms currently taking place in NSW - some local councils have strongly suggested the final consultation on the Strategy be delayed until these statutory processes are completed, and a complete picture of the complex legislative environment that controls impacts on the marine estate can be quantified
- Explicitly refer to and align with the objects of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 and United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and include reference to NSW Draft Freight and Ports Plan (Transport for NSW) in the Strategy
- Interdependency between management and actions and initiatives better linked and explained

- Localised/regional issues identified through the TARA as a high risk in one or two regions should still be acknowledged under the Strategy; and eligible for state funding mechanisms (including Coastal Management Programs) to implement management actions
- Part of the 'missing' detail is around the locations of any proposed actions
- Include analysis of appropriate funding resources, at all levels of government and consolidate funding streams or the grants process with similar objectives to allow efficiency in applying for grants for Councils or other applicants
- Any trade-off decision-making process must follow a thorough triple bottom line approach, to ensure environmental / biodiversity / intrinsic values are not automatically assigned lesser value than economic / social values
- How are conflicting benefits to be resolved? – formal mechanism missing, should include intergenerational impacts as a primary guide
- Importance of the marine estate in supply of a critical food source (seafood) and prioritise this in the event of user conflicts
- Aboriginal rights and interests in Sea Country are non-negotiable and cannot be sacrificed as "trade-offs" for other competing uses or values
- Aboriginal rights, values and interests should be incorporated into all aspects of the draft Strategy, rather than to one initiative and the draft Strategy should acknowledge Aboriginal commercial interests in the marine estate, alongside cultural interests
- Develop a coordinated approach to Aboriginal community engagement on marine estate matters for effective and culturally appropriate engagement with Aboriginal communities, produce clear and consistent messaging and to minimise "consultation fatigue."
- There is concern about the use of an economic framework to quantify the values of the marine estate and that the Authority's approach that the marine environment as an asset owned by NSW people downgrades the environment...and tends to shift the trade off balance in favour of short-term economic or social benefits.

ABORIGINAL FEEDBACK ON THE DRAFT STRATEGY

A series of workshops with Aboriginal people were held to seek feedback on the draft Strategy. The following key issues regarding the overall Strategy were raised during the workshop sessions (comments relevant to specific initiatives are included in the initiatives section of this report):

- There is a critical lack of involvement of Aboriginal people in decision-making and ongoing management. There is a strong desire to be 'at the table' in making decisions on the marine estate
- There is dissatisfaction at the absence of Aboriginal voices in marine estate management
- Participants are frustrated with current arrangements, which have resulted in 'not being listened to' and 'not seeing any changes' despite many years of engagement
- Concern that the Government's current framework separates the Strategy from other significant issues including cultural fishing and cultural heritage reforms
- Ongoing community concerns about government engagement practices which operate on very short time frames, through structures and is inappropriate and ineffective for Aboriginal people
- Frustration with silos of engagement and engagement fatigue due to the absence of a strategic whole-of-government approach
- Unresolved issues relating to the acknowledgement and regulation of cultural fishing
- Great anxiety about the loss of culture due to regulatory restrictions placed on fishing, confusion about current interim regulations and fear of prosecution.

OTHER FEEDBACK ON THE DRAFT STRATEGY

SPATIAL MANAGEMENT

Other feedback provided on the draft Strategy largely included comments both for and against spatial management (e.g. marine protected areas, boating restrictions, fishing closures and other forms of spatial controls on access and use of the marine estate).

Those for spatial management included:

- Need to define the term 'spatial management'
- Mistrust about existing marine park declarations and decisions e.g. Batemans marine park
- Past marine park management has been inadequate, inefficient or overregulating which has led to social and economic degradation of coastal towns, particularly on south coast for example local and national businesses notice downwards trends in sales located in marine parks, loss of access, multiple overnight visitors prefer to stay outside of marine park areas, park permits are unnecessary for community groups
- Protections to existing marine parks should not be downgraded or the value of existing marine parks diminished
- Greater clarity on role of marine protected areas and threats addressed by this management tool and communication of the science
- Highlight the value of marine protected areas as refuges for biodiversity, places where marine life can grow to their full potential and multiply their reproductive capacities, as areas of resilience in the face of external stressors, and for scientific research into the effectiveness of spatial management, including for the promotion of sustainable fisheries
- This one tool (spatial management) is capable of addressing or at least mitigating the impact of 11 of the 25 statewide priority threats to environmental assets
- Strongly support that spatial management, focusing on a network of marine protected areas with at least 30% no-take reserves, be listed as a ninth Initiative
- Any move towards establishing a marine park or other protected area in the Hawkesbury bioregion must take into account the importance of shipping, ports and related activities to economic prosperity and the growth of NSW
- Marine park sanctuary zones are a key strategy in the mitigation of the impacts of climate change and marine park network should be expanded
- The holistic, ecosystem based approach to managing marine habitats within NSW marine parks is the most effective approach in order to meet our international commitments e.g. the Convention on Biological Diversity
- NSW Government should take a leadership position of creating the Hawkesbury marine park for the benefit of all Australians and visitors rather than a local perspective
- In order for the NSW network of marine parks to be comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) in line with the internationally recognised principles for marine protection much expansion is required
- Value of current marine protected areas including economic value of marine parks, cultural and aesthetic values and in mitigation and adaption to climate change
- Cabbage Tree Bay Aquatic Reserve cited as a positive example of a marine protected area
- Create a marine park in the Hawkesbury Shelf marine bioregion (HSMB) as the highest priority
- The beaches and headlands assessment process should be completed and return full sanctuary zone protection to all sanctuary zones where fishing from the beaches and headlands was temporarily permitted

- Don't support any new marine parks or more lock outs
- Concern that marine sanctuaries constrain cultural access of Aboriginal people to the marine estate.
- Reconsider strategies to manage access for cultural use without undermining existing sanctuary zones. Sanctuary zones can be managed to complement cultural uses and should be considered as an opportunity rather than a threat.
- Look for opportunities to expand the marine park network with joint management agreements with local Aboriginal communities
- Spatial management is just one tool to address identified threats and the full suite of available tools should be considered in each of the initiatives
- Spatial management in the form of a Marine Park for Sydney based on CAR principles will allow wildlife to have some respite in this highly populated area of the coast
- Reject the immediate reference in many of the initiatives to spatial management planning to create resilience. Resilience in an ecosystem by simply banning fishing in all its forms is a highly contestable suggestion
- Fishing zones force higher concentrations of anglers into tiny areas of legally fishable ground. Imbalanced lockouts foster resource use conflicts rather than mitigating them
- Spatial management mechanism to reduce resource use conflict is highly supported as action is needed to separate activities and resolve resource use conflict
- If you have fisheries management right you have no need for sanctuary zones
- Enhance the marine park network and identify areas that require special protection from boating activities and regulate through fixed moorings, speed limits, etc
- Marine parks and reserves should be managed by OEH who are responsible for all other nature conservation
- Marine parks need to be flexible and be able to change with changing species distributions as a result of climate change or changes in use e.g. special purpose zones for Aquaculture areas now unused
- Use of spatial management is not viewed as evidence-based by a number of submissions
- Permitting other recreational activities and prohibiting recreational fishing is inequitable. A better outcome could be achieved by having some areas of very high protection with no access provided for any user group, and/or by providing areas with high protection that allow access for non-extractive users, including catch and release fishers.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

As required by the *Marine Estate Management Act 2014*, Local Land Services (LLS) feedback on the draft Strategy was specifically sought and is highlighted here as general comments on the Strategy and is also included for each management initiative in the relevant sections of the report. In addition to attending targeted workshops, three of the four coastal LLS provided detailed written feedback on the Strategy as summarised below

- The Strategy is good and comprehensive start to address the key threats to the marine estate.
- The Strategy reflects the threats raised by community consultation and this is a key strength for implementation.
- The management actions to address threats are inclusive, linked and relate to Strategy outcomes.
- The governance structure and decision making authority will be critical to the success of the Strategy.
- Include reference to the new NSW Biosecurity Act and Regulation in the links to other government reforms and initiatives.

- The protection and management of the broad range of marine biodiversity is not addressed in the Strategy and the Strategy is biased to target fish species and marine vegetation.
- Key actions across that Strategy should be prioritised and resourced to ensure the Strategy delivers the outcomes it seeks to achieve. Prioritisation would provide a focus for government, stakeholder and community engagement.
- It is agreed that LLS is potentially well placed to be a key partner in the implementation of the Strategy and is already delivering outcomes against some management actions. There are many opportunities for LLS to draw on its core expertise, extensive networks and capacity to address threats and should be involved in the early development of the implementations plan.
- LLS have recently taken on several additional roles and consequently there has been less of a focus on ecological health programs and there can be no uplift from current business without increased resources. Additional funding for community education and engagement and landholder incentive programs would allow these outcomes to be increased and additional outcomes achieved.
- Investigate the use of the Australian Geosciences Data Cube as a potential mechanism to provide cost effective and efficient asset monitoring and decision support to inform the Strategy's measures of success.
- Enhancing volunteer efforts (e.g. LLS utilises Landcare) with strategic resourcing to increase community engagement, education and on-ground action.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

The final Strategy addresses a number of overarching issues raised during consultation. A summary is included below. Other comments relevant to specific initiatives are included in the respective initiative section of this report.

- Management actions have been reviewed to make them clearer, more outcomes focused and to distinguish between new actions and enhancements to existing actions.
- Additional reference to the value of European cultural heritage for many stakeholder groups throughout the text.
- Broader reference of Aboriginal cultural heritage and values throughout each initiative rather than in Initiative 4 only.
- More clarity on proposed governance arrangements and actions in a new Initiative – 9, which is now separate to the social, cultural and economic initiative and associated actions.
- Spatial management is more clearly articulated in the Strategy, and outlines the Government's commitments with regard to spatial management in more detail, rather than broad references to spatial management in some initiatives.
- Research and monitoring actions included in each management initiative now include more clarity on what specific research and monitoring is proposed, relevant to the initiative.
- Additional definitions are included for suggested terminology.
- Improved description of how all plants, animals and habitats are considered within the Strategy as opposed to the perceived focus on targeted fish species, marine flora and some threatened species. All threatened species (under the *Fisheries Management Act* and the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* are included in the same Initiative - 5).

In addition to the changes made to the Strategy, the Implementation Plan will see many of the comments raised in consultation adopted, including: more detail on how the actions will be achieved through a range of sub-actions; implementation timeframe (and prioritisation of actions); detailing lead agencies and partners in the delivery of actions, and key performance indicators and measure of success.

FEEDBACK ON INITIATIVE 1 – IMPROVING WATER QUALITY AND REDUCING LITTER

KEY ISSUES

There was general support for this initiative to address a widely accepted priority threat - pollution. Key issues raised during consultation include:

- Strong support for the Risk-based Framework and outcomes focused approach
- Use of the Hey Tosser campaign for the marine estate may not be appropriate for all target audiences (some nationalities, school children). Other positive campaigns like 'Do the right thing', 'The drain is just for rain' etc. may be more appropriate.
- More education is needed on plastic pollution for residents and beach visitors, and about water pollution for individuals to reduce their impact on stormwater and downstream areas
- Support for whole of catchment-based approaches and more attention needed on upstream impacts on water quality of estuarine and marine environments
- Suggestions to 'ban the bag' and single use items like straws and to do more regarding plastics, microplastics, microfiber plastic pollution from clothing and fishing litter
- Pollution actions should focus on the source and develop statewide approaches to working with key industries identified as debris polluters (e.g. bait suppliers (impact of bait bags), the manufacturing and packaging industries
- Directly link litter actions to the NSW Litter Management Strategy and Regional Litter Strategies, currently required by the NSW Environment Protection Authority
- The Australian Marine Debris Initiative is already contributing to the monitoring of the Container Deposit Scheme, and can provide further input or expertise on other aspects of marine litter
- Fund and work cooperatively with organisations and community groups that have been working on the ground tackling plastic pollution for many years
- work with local councils and existing non-government groups to develop localised community engagement programs to collect debris, identify their source and develop source reduction plans at a local scale
- It is recommended that the Strategy include activities focused on the clean-up of marine litter
- Enforcing monetary penalties for littering would be a deterrent to littering behaviour and could also raise revenue for marine estate projects
- Poor water quality and fish kills can impact on the economy of an area e.g. reduced fishing, property rentals, tourism, local businesses etc.
- Address point source contamination especially in marine environments, close sewage outflows, deep ocean/cliff face outfalls. Concerns for seafood safety, broad impacts on marine life and chemical pollution e.g. endocrine disruptors, pharmacological agents and halogenated hydrocarbons viewed as a knowledge gap.
- Need more action on-ground and less research/identifying gaps - viewed as too passive
- Support the pilot approach for improved diffuse source water management – should be extended to all waterways
- Diffuse source runoff - It is not apparent that there are any initiatives directly involving the agriculture industry, managers or researchers
- How will farmers and landholders be engaged? This will require incentives to foster involvement

- Need more action on urban stormwater in line with current best practice urban water cycle management principles - Water Sensitive Urban Design and Gross Pollutant Traps and resources to maintain in council areas.
- Direct funds and support for local government waste strategies and utilise existing experience managing, diffuse pollution, urban stormwater and water quality in stream, lakes and rivers
- Identify contamination in estuaries and design plans to remove the contamination, for example with PFAS contamination in the Hunter and Shoalhaven Rivers or heavy metal pollution from stormwater run-off in Sydney
- Review and enforce current regulations rather than duplicating them in the Strategy
- The emerging threat of PFAS and PFOS and the historic impacts of legacy issues like anti-fouling paints, dioxins and other chemicals should be included in the Strategy – limits access to fish for human consumption
- The 'snap-send-solve app' (being used by local councils) could be used in this initiative to monitor issues on the ground and review resources accordingly
- Initiatives such as the former NSW Stormwater Trust be investigated as a funding facilitation mechanism to support on-ground activities (including maintenance) and incentive implementation of mechanisms that reduce impacts of diffuse-source water pollution
- *Protection of the Environment Operations Act* is not an adequate tool for managing diffuse pollution
- Oyster reef restoration projects are needed to allow the natural biological process of oyster filter feeding to filter out contaminants and fine sediment particles in the water column
- Support for roles and responsibilities to be clarified to strengthen interagency capacity between State government and local government
- The proposed high-level government working group could benefit from the inclusion of broader representation including local government and appropriate NSW stakeholder representatives
- Need to look at cost benefits by putting a value on a healthy waterways and floodplains
- A monitoring database is required and review existing ones that work e.g. Queensland's healthy land and water database.

ABORIGINAL WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

Feedback from Aboriginal workshops included concerns over industrial activity and its effect on fish populations and diminishing species. This impacts traditional food supplies like mussels, prawns and fish. Aboriginal people are also concerned about litter on beaches and are keen to be involved in on-ground activities like monitoring and clean ups.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

LLS made the following comments about Initiative 1:

- The importance of litter is not reflected in this management initiative and should be listed as a state priority threat. This aligns with a key focus of government to reduce litter by 40% by 2020. Further actions to address litter beyond what is currently proposed are required including compliance such as fines for littering.
- LLS has significant expertise in coastal and estuarine natural resource management incentive programs aimed at restoration and protection of riparian, wetland and floodplain vegetation on private land; Industry programs to reduce water quality impacts; Oyster Environmental Management Systems to implement integrated catchment management and supporting conservation on private land through the Biodiversity Conservation Trust.

- Long term funding to protect priority vegetation, restore functional buffer zones, address erosion gullies for industry best management practice systems, compliance and increasing knowledge and awareness is needed.
- Regional groups of councils should be represented on the water quality working group.
- There is significant scope to have the community and industry involved in clean ups and on-ground actions e.g. Landcare, Take 3, oyster industry clean ups etc. On-ground works should be promoted in tourist information.
- Promotion of estuary health check should be encouraged as a civic pride initiative for example 'Tidy Towns' type awards for water quality. There is a need to target tourists in anti-litter campaigns particularly on the north coast and increase awareness of the benefits of water quality and habitats e.g. recreational fishing.
- Improving the health of river systems, including the Richmond River, is a core priority for North Coast LLS and substantial extension services, on-ground activities, ecosystem health and water quality monitoring is offered with funding support.
- Consider the use of the Australian Geoscience Data Cube as a viable and cost effective monitoring mechanism.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

The actions have been redrafted to focus on the outcomes sought rather than the mechanism used to deliver them. The actions focus on delivering improved water quality and reduced marine litter and are not limited to specific tools, mechanisms or programs to achieve them, for example the reference to the 'Hey Tosser' antilitter campaign has been removed. This helps ensure the actions are flexible and remain relevant for the life of the ten-year Strategy. The action in the draft Strategy to establish a high-level water quality working group has also been removed as it has been established and now meeting regularly.

This initiative now includes more information about how the NSW Government is addressing other key water quality and litter issues raised by submissions, such as sewage outfalls, land based litter reduction initiatives and PFAS, via alternative programs, beyond the scope of the Strategy.

Feedback on this initiative is also being actively used to inform the Implementation Plan details relevant to these actions and key issues raised may be further addressed at a sub action level.

FEEDBACK ON INITIATIVE 2 – SUSTAINABLE COASTAL USE AND DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTHY HABITATS

KEY ISSUES

There was support for the concepts proposed in this initiative with a large focus on foreshore development. Respondents raised the following key issues:

- Foreshore development is not adequately addressed and clarification is needed as to whether this includes private residential development on the foreshore including 'coastal protection works' for private domestic waterfront structures etc.
- Consider the development of an Urban Estuary Water Quality State Environmental Planning Policy, or the addition of new legislative controls addressing water quality for coastal rezoning applications
- The need to provide a strategic and integrated approach that considers linkages with the NSW Coastal and Biodiversity reforms
- Environmentally Friendly Seawalls should be regulated
- Reducing the complexity of approvals must not lead to more environmental harm

- Set agreed criteria e.g. latest climate change data and a precautionary approach to local council mapping in Coastal Zone Management Plans
- Allocate resources from the NSW Coastal reform towards protecting the marine environment, particularly unique and vulnerable habitats close to urban areas
- Support Councils, community and agencies to protect and actively conserve significant habitats for their ecological value using a range of regulatory and non-regulatory tools and incentives
- There is an opportunity to tap into Local Environment Plans for merging councils and Planning Directions for the rest of coastal NSW over the next two years
- The new Crown lands legislation and reform agenda is linked to this initiative and needs to be separated out from the new *Coastal Management Act* legislation
- Include the National Parks and Wildlife Services estate which covers a large proportion of coastal lands, especially in the north coast.
- Improve on-ground actions relevant to threat posed by clearing riparian vegetation and adjacent land clearing
- Needs to include flood risk planning and Intermittently Closed and Open Lakes and Lagoons management
- Habitat restoration is urgent and requires substantial funding
- The Strategy needs to be realistic about what is achievable in terms of legacy issues and highly modified marine environments (specific to entrance modification and management)
- There is potential to add yet another layer of approval processes across an already complex structure
- Clarification is required as to the statutory weight of the Strategy and how it may affect planning approvals, occupations and other processes
- How does the current planning system deal with cumulative impacts from multiple developments?

ABORIGINAL WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

Aboriginal workshop participants expressed concerns about the impact of development on waterways, destruction of the environment along coastal areas, particularly in and around Sydney, and the impacts this has on traditional sites including access to cultural fishing sites.

There was concern that current governance structures around development approvals do not require engagement with the Aboriginal community and this can have impacts on cultural heritage, for example the new port development at Yamba. Further protection and consideration of these sites during approval stage were requested. Mapping sites was also supported by some participants.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

LLS made the following comments about Initiative 2:

- This initiative should also address the issue of infrastructure and urban development on marine and estuarine habitats for e.g. land acquisitions, land reclamation and altered hydrology. It was suggested there could be an action relating to impervious surfaces.
- LLS can work in partnership with local government and landholders to support protection and enhancement of priority vegetation on private land and better address intertidal vegetation and foreshore management in Coastal Management Programs and through incentive funding.
- There are opportunities to share data sets between LLS e.g. on-ground works, local government and DPI e.g. marine vegetation mapping and to better coordinate allocation of State funding for grant processes.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

The actions in this initiative are now grouped to more clearly link them with the priority threat being addressed and to more explicitly explain links to other management initiatives and actions.

The review and update of coastal design guidelines to promote best practice design now includes a requirement that they are consistent with the objects of the *Marine Estate Management Act 2014* to help address concerns about foreshore development.

The actions reflect the support for strategic assessment and identified links to Crown Lands and Coastal Management Reforms to address calls for better coordination across reform programs and/or concerns of duplication.

Submissions and workshop participants endorsed the need for streamlining red tape in a way that doesn't reduce the rigor of assessment and environmental protections and this is more clearly stated in the final actions and will be further detailed in the Implementation plan.

Greater coordination between State and local agencies is also now clearly stated in the actions.

FEEDBACK ON INITIATIVE 3 – PLANNING FOR A CHANGING CLIMATE

KEY ISSUES

This Initiative was generally supported; however some respondents state climate change as the single greatest threat to the marine estate and felt that it has not been addressed adequately. Submission comments relating to spatial management in this initiative have been included in a section on 'spatial management' in this report. Issues raised included:

- Reinstate climate change as the highest social, cultural and economic threat in the final TARA and reflect this in the draft Strategy. Projections for climate change are understated
- Urgent action (active responses not passive) including reducing carbon emissions, support for the generation of renewable energy and resourcing is required. Take immediate steps based on the best available science as a precautionary response
- Consider national carbon farming initiatives in relation to blue carbon
- The links between the draft Strategy and the Coastal Reforms need to be clear and the final Strategy should be consistent with the NSW Climate Change Policy Framework
- Greater integration with the work being done by CoastAdapt, the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility and Local Climate Change Adaptation Planning by local councils
- The management objective should be broadened to ensure community understanding (of how the marine estate will respond to a changing climate) is strengthened
- Research outputs and data from this Initiative should be available and readily accessible to the public to improve knowledge of climate change impacts on the marine estate
- The need to educate/engage the public, with appropriately targeted and devised campaigns (e.g. using social norms), on climate change and the implications for the marine estate
- The actions don't appear to consider the impacts of sea level rise on foreshore development (public and private) and the threats that may be posed in the future
- The State target for planning purposes should acknowledge Sea Level Rise and implications to local planning issues, s149 certificates, property insurance industry
- Valuing things that aren't traditionally economic is necessary (e.g. ecosystem services)
- Consider language used and building knowledge in the community to increase social norms compliance
- Undertake an inventory of effort on climate change action and research.

ABORIGINAL WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

Only a small number of people made comments about this action and it may not be wholly reflective of the view of Aboriginal people on this issue. More broadly, people are very concerned about the protection of cultural sites, so this is an important message to uphold.

Climate change is seen as one of the many factors which are contributing to a loss of cultural sites and potentially one of the most difficult to control. However, during consultation on the TARA, most communities did express concern about the impact of climate change on cultural sites.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

LLS made the following comments about Initiative 3:

- The Initiative should refer to the individual impacts or stressors caused by climate change. This better allows for the identification of management actions which deal with the stressors causing the specific threat.
- Funding to support identification and mapping of priority marine vegetation on a statewide basis and regional adaptation and resilience approaches is required. Mapping needs to be cost effective and focus on mangroves and saltmarsh. LLS can work to support conservation and protection of these areas with landholders and local government.
- North Coast LLS is involved in climate change adaptation planning, monitoring, implementation and resourcing as a key issue facing the north coast, but is limited by resource constraints.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

The objective for this management initiative has been amended to better describe the outcomes sought by this initiative.

The research and monitoring action now describes the sharing of research outcomes and application of the findings to inform decision making and future management based on feedback from submissions.

Actions have been redrafted to more clearly explain how they will achieve the objective, including the use of specific tools or mechanisms where appropriate. Potential overlap with other climate change programs e.g. Coastal Management Program, Climate Change Policy Framework has been reviewed and actions refined to minimise duplication and better articulate the differences.

Important links to other Strategy initiatives e.g. on-ground works through Initiatives 1 and 2 are highlighted.

FEEDBACK ON INITIATIVE 4 – PROTECTING THE CULTURAL VALUES OF THE MARINE ESTATE

KEY ISSUES

There was overall support for this initiative. However, in general and targeted workshops it was identified that there was confusion about the intent of this initiative and whether it should relate to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultural heritage. There was much discussion on the need for recognition of Modern European and/or multi-cultural heritage in the Strategy. Views presented included:

- Strong support for this initiative in recognising Aboriginal cultural heritage and multiple threats it faces
- The consideration of the cultural and spiritual values and significance of the marine estate should not be limited to Aboriginal and traditional owners only
- Active engagement with the Aboriginal community including organisations such as Local Aboriginal Land Councils or Native Title claimants and holders will be critical to the successful implementation
- Aboriginal values in the marine estate other than cultural values are referenced only indirectly e.g. importance of subsistence fishing or the social and health values of the marine estate to Aboriginal peoples
- Cultural fishing is embedded in bodies of knowledge and practices which are very much alive. They have evolved and adapted to new conditions and technologies and will continue to do so into the future
- There is no Aboriginal representation on either the Authority or the Marine Estate Expert Knowledge Panel. Aboriginal representation must be rectified and allow for permanent seats drawn from peak organisations such as NSW Aboriginal Land Council (ALC) and NTSCorp.
- Disconnect with approach to management of cultural sites by Aboriginal people which is through active use and management versus a preserve and protect approach for sites by European people
- Additional action or text is required to acknowledge the statutory regimes of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Commonwealth) and the *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* when dealing with and managing activities on coastal Crown lands and where Native Title has been granted or a claim successfully made
- The new Crown lands legislation and reform agenda is linked to this initiative
- Challenges in engaging with Aboriginal people and variety of views held. Review existing/past engagement and models that work for Aboriginal people and use these. Time constraints are often a limiting factor
- Cultural protocols for engagement must be determined by communities who can speak for Country and cultural practices
- Explore Commonwealth funding for Aboriginal issues and management – constitutional responsibilities
- Any research and implementation must be conducted in a culturally appropriate manner that incorporates two-way learning and recognises that there may be sensitivities or restrictions regarding cultural information
- Review existing legislation/policy and other barriers to Aboriginal involvement
- Question of scale – statewide approach for all actions may not be appropriate and may lose local/fine scale knowledge, differences and input. Need for real, place-based engagement along the entire NSW coast
- Support opportunities for creating Aboriginal employment, particularly a Sea Ranger program

- MEMA should accommodate the cultural use of fisheries resources in its policies and procedures in order to support the cultural and social wellbeing of Aboriginal peoples
- Actions should be driven by the Aboriginal community in a way that's accessible to Aboriginal people
- Enact section 21AA of the *Fisheries Management Amendment Act 2009* that prescribes special provisions for Aboriginal cultural fishing rights and reconsider strategies to manage access for cultural use without undermining existing sanctuary zones
- OceanWatch has developed an Indigenous Participation Strategy to further develop partnerships with Indigenous people and communities and provide them with opportunities for involvement in land and sea management and marine Natural Resource Management
- NSW Government is currently undertaking a review process of how to appropriately manage Aboriginal cultural heritage via the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Protection Act* and it is recommended MEMA participate in this
- Management of the marine estate should incorporate and comply with Indigenous-related commitments made by the Australian Government on behalf of all States and Territories, in relation to the Convention on Biological Diversity

ABORIGINAL WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

The overwhelming opinion is that Aboriginal people should be a part of management and decision-making in the marine estate and current management frameworks are inefficient or unsatisfactory. Many people expressed the view that Aboriginal people should be represented on the MEMA board.

Participants expressed a desire to be part of economic development for Aboriginal people including cultural tourism businesses and commercial fishing enterprises. They also identified that economic opportunities can be created through government training and employment, government procurement policies, and building capacity through business planning and for local management practices to be carried out by Aboriginal people.

There was general support for a Sea Ranger program and other initiatives that lead to employment and working on Country. Many participants would like to see the inclusion of Aboriginal people in economic enterprise/development officer roles to assist people to start new businesses and work with communities from within.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

LLS made the following comments about Initiative 4:

- Investigate opportunities to implement joint management frameworks such as the Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreements in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
- South East LLS supports a number of Koori Ranger groups to undertake coastal management work on country. They are trained and well placed to pilot a Sea Country Ranger program. A ranger program should be in conjunction with joint management frameworks and long term funding and commitment is required.
- North Coast LLS can offer substantial extension services and on-ground actions through its existing Working on Country programs with further funding support.
- LLS is currently working on a Statewide Reconciliation Action Plan and actions should align with this plan to deliver meaningful outcomes.
- LLS is well placed via its extension role to participate in the pilot project to protect coastal shell middens with funding support.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

Actions within this initiative were largely supported and Aboriginal involvement in Sea Country management and decision making was reported as the most important action in the Strategy by Aboriginal people.

Employment and economic opportunities for Aboriginal people has been strengthened in the actions based on the feedback received. The actions now recognise the importance of capacity building for the community by community and a desire for Aboriginal people to be involved in all levels of management.

How the actions in the Strategy interact with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Cultural Fishing Reforms will be monitored as they progress and a whole of government approach to Aboriginal engagement is supported by the Authority and Strategy.

Acknowledgement of non-Aboriginal cultural heritage issues raised through the submissions have been strengthened throughout the Strategy, including in specific initiatives e.g. Initiative 6, and added as an action in Initiative 8. The consideration of non-Aboriginal cultural heritage as well as the omission of marine historic heritage, raised during the consultation on the draft statewide TARA, is flagged for review during the five-year health check.

FEEDBACK ON INITIATIVE 5 – REDUCING THE IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE

KEY ISSUES

This initiative was generally supported. Feedback on the initiative and its actions included:

- More clarity on whether this includes fish/sharks under the *Fisheries Management Act* or just species listed under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act*.
- The inclusion of some 'fish' examples of iconic or threatened fauna and flora would enhance the public appreciation and perception of such fauna and their associated conservation issues
- Support for wildlife as its own initiative as well as questions about why "wildlife" has been separated from marine life generally
- Stronger emphases on responsibility towards intertidal zones, shorebird conservation and their food source
- Articulate linkages to other initiatives as it is relevant to most other initiatives
- Collaboration to streamline OEH's Elements database and DPI databases (for which there is currently a proposal to upgrade) is important
- Clarify roles and responsibilities and involve community groups and Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)
- Opportunity to move towards habitat management rather than species based management
- Consider third party reporting of strike incidents involving marine wildlife through an independent body or app to increase reporting
- Questions about the validity of vessel strike data and the threat this actually poses to marine wildlife
- Rank threats to wildlife so that responses can be prioritised
- Identify seismic testing and drilling and plastic pollution as a threat to marine wildlife
- Consider the impact of shark nets on marine wildlife including on threatened marine species
- Reporting incidents and research doesn't go far enough – what about conservation and protection of species?
- Actions hinge on existing arrangements and require industry input. Build trusted partnerships and strong collaboration with the commercial fishing, aquaculture and recreational fishing sectors
- More education around contacts for land and water based rescue agencies or what you do when you find a stranded mammal.

ABORIGINAL WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

Aboriginal workshop participants expressed concerns about the impacts on wildlife due to habitat degradation/depletion including from development and climate change. Aboriginal people see this as an area where they could be directly involved in building local knowledge about wildlife events for e.g. monitoring changes in flora and fauna and was seen as an opportunity to work on country and for employment.

Participants were supportive of changes that will enable Aboriginal people to participate in marine wildlife events. They would like to be notified and consulted following events that concern culturally significant species, such as when dealing with deceased whales. However, they also expressed a need to consult within communities when these events happen and that these two factors may make it difficult for OEHL and Aboriginal people to collaborate effectively.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

LLS made the following comments about Initiative 5:

- Marine debris and fishing gear impacts on wildlife should be included in this management initiative including recognition of this threat as a statewide priority. Actions should also address impacts to shorebirds particularly when nesting and roosting in areas of national park reserved for shorebirds.
- LLS can contribute to the support, protection, rehabilitation and management of key habitat on private land. Current grants should be expanded to include all marine fauna and flora e.g. Fisheries Habitat Action Grants are not limited to targeted fish species and Saving Our Species should include marine species.
- Mapping of key habitat action has strong links to conservation management processes and threatened coastal vegetation and habitat management already in existence.
- North Coast LLS is proposing to invest in the recovery of threatened plant and animal species through Save Our Species and National Landcare Program Phase Two which will include rehabilitation and conservation management, on-ground activities, plus community and land manager involvement and capacity building.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

Threatened and protected species listed under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act* and the *Fisheries Management Act* are now included in this initiative. Further description of the species and their threats are included, as well as a management action from Initiative 6 to address threats from fishing. Links to other initiatives are highlighted.

FEEDBACK ON INITIATIVE 6 – SUSTAINABLE FISHING AND AQUACULTURE

KEY ISSUES

There was support generally for this initiative, particularly in workshops, however, some contrasting views are apparent in submissions. The need for greater fisheries compliance was raised consistently. Comments raised regarding spatial management are included under that heading in a previous section of this report.

Key issues raised included:

- Introduce tighter bag and size limits/regulations for recreational fishers and conversely no further restrictions on recreational fishers and requests for improved/greater access
- Quantify the extraction of marine species by recreational fishers is supported but viewed as challenging
- No further impacts to commercial fishers and conversely reduce the impact of commercial fishing

- Concerns about the potential for heightened regulation of the already highly regulated commercial fishing and oyster industries
- Health benefits of seafood have been understated – need to consider future seafood supply
- Does not capture proven health, social and educational benefits of recreational fishing
- The initiative should link to Initiative 1 and the benefits this will have on fishing
- Need more fisheries compliance officers and/or improved interagency compliance capacity
- Commercial fishing observer program is expensive and often the industry is forced to pay for it. Other management tools can be used to fill information gaps more effectively and efficiently
- Support for re-stocking and consider rotation of no-take areas in conjunction with re-stocking
- Need to consider environmental capacity of areas to be restocked, and the use of habitat rehabilitation alongside stocking. Concerns raised about stocking of open water systems and the impact releasing stocked species may have on wild populations
- Catch and release zones, seasonal closures and rotation of recreational fishing havens suggested
- There needs to be more comprehensive monitoring of the whole ecosystem - not only catch and by-catch
- Monitoring and education is key to ensure long-term sustainable fish stocks and to reduce the multiple user conflicts
- Communicate data and research results
- Be transparent about decisions and information used to make decisions - consultation must be an integral part of the process when any arrangements and policies are to be made
- Consider new and emerging industries such as offshore aquaculture
- Concerns raised about trawling, bait fishing and aquaculture in marine parks
- Strong support for social licence action. Building social acceptance within the NSW community is a major strategic priority for the Professional Fisherman's Association (PFA), NSW Seafood Industry Council and Sydney Fish Market
- Where are non-fished species included in the Strategy?
- Strong support for stakeholder involvement in this initiative and its actions
- Use of fishing/boating licence tests to educate users
- Improving and building engagement in biosecurity is a key concern of the fishing sectors and the action to address is welcomed
- The new Crown lands legislation and reform agenda is linked to this initiative. Crown land through its leases licences and provision of 'heavy' river entrance breakwaters and training walls and as the lead agency for the current dredging programs, has significant interests in this initiative
- Aboriginal commercial interests in Sea Country is missing in this initiative
- Aboriginal people of the South Coast have a strong interest in rebuilding their roles in the commercial fishing and aquaculture sectors and an action to this effect should be included in this initiative.

ABORIGINAL FEEDBACK

Fishing is the main cultural value for Aboriginal people on the coast and at every Aboriginal workshop participants referred to cultural fishing.

The risks associated with loss of access to cultural fishing are a major threat to Aboriginal culture. Participants also expressed the necessity to have clarity on cultural fishing with respect to native title. There is an overwhelming desire to resolve Aboriginal cultural fishing issues including access, permissions and regulation.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

LLS made the following comments about Initiative 6:

- This initiative needs to include seafood contamination and risk of pathogens from imported seafood, the importance of origin labelling and consumer knowledge of where their seafood comes from.
- LLS has previously worked with the oyster industry, OceanWatch and Department of Primary Industries to implement Environmental Management Systems for the Oyster industry. Funding to update Environmental Management Systems to include the impacts of climate change and biodiversity and roll out to all oyster producing catchments should be included in this initiative.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

The management objective for this initiative has been amended to acknowledge the benefits of fishing more broadly and provide for ecologically sustainable use.

As the Commercial Fisheries Business Adjustment Program has been implemented since the draft Strategy release, this action has been removed and research and monitoring actions combined.

The involvement of stakeholders has been included in actions where appropriate and key terminology defined, for example harvest strategies, as per feedback received.

Several actions have been redrafted to address issues raised in the submissions regarding inclusion of all types of fishing, not just commercial fishing, better articulating the outcomes sought rather than the specific tool, mechanism or partner and inclusion of actions relating to offshore aquaculture and pests and disease. The action relevant to threatened and protected species moved to Initiative 5.

FEEDBACK ON INITIATIVE 7 – ENABLING SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE BOATING

KEY ISSUES

There was general support for this initiative but respondents noted ‘contradictions’ (e.g. encourage waterway access along with stronger actions to address impacts that may result from increased access) within the initiative. Key comments included:

- Few management actions appear to address the stressors/threats e.g. impacts of shading, propeller strikes, shoreline infrastructure or bank erosion
- Ports, shipping, marine pests and sediment contamination should be included and addressed
- The length of time the Moorings Review is taking. Requests to finish and implement as soon as possible.
- Address (and fund) boat based contamination better. Invest in research on new antifouling technologies to minimize contamination from this source. Also relevant to commercial shipping
- Concerns regarding boat based sewage pollution and availability of pump out facilities in estuaries, especially on the north coast. Install pump outs on all estuaries where charter vessels operate
- Need for greater compliance, especially for high impact access
- Don’t support more regulations or more compliance passed on in the form of increased costs to boat owners
- Capping the number of moorings - the current system is not efficient and misused (mooring minders, boats not used, permanent domestic occupation of boats)
- Shouldn’t be encouraging more boats, need to be more strategic and look at leasing arrangements and boats sharing e.g. Uber boats

- Link with the International Clean Marina Program
- Where are the actions relating to boating safety?
- How does this initiative relate to Coastal Management Programs under the Coastal reforms?
- Increased boat access and support to utilise the marine estate should not be at the expense of environmental protection or Aboriginal cultural heritage protection – this needs to be addressed sustainably as per the initiative title and objective
- It is recommended that ‘whole of river’ investigations of impacts from increased usage be undertaken by the State, prior to facilitating greater access, especially in areas of environmental sensitivity - Waterway access should be limited and restricted based on the health of the marine estate and carrying capacity reflected in regional boating plans
- Opportunity for research / put the demand to market for innovative practices and encourage the development of eco-friendly boating equipment and technology
- Increase education for boat users about the impacts of poor anchoring practices on the marine ecosystems
- A focus on seagrass friendly moorings should be prioritised to minimise any future damage to sensitive seagrass beds
- Actions to address impacts from jetties and other boating infrastructure on seagrass, intertidal and sub-tidal habitats should be included
- Protections for seagrass *Posidonia australis* has to be balanced against the social and economic threats and benefits that mean a lack of suitable marinas and boat ramps will hinder or prevent access to the marine estate
- Need more/larger boat launching ramps, parking and wharves on either ends of the ramps for people to shore up their boats and designs that minimise impacts on the environment and are less conducive to invasive pests
- Streamline administration by eliminating overlaps across State/local government bodies and implement a "single touch-point by experts" to pre-approve waterfront infrastructure and development.

ABORIGINAL WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

Feedback from Aboriginal workshop participants included comments about boating regulation and governance. Aboriginal people are concerned about boat users and use (e.g. moorings in cultural places) and would like to build a greater awareness of Aboriginal cultural rights with these stakeholders.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

LLS made the following comments about Initiative 7:

- Include the threat traditional mooring have on seagrass in the management initiatives table and expand actions to include the introduction of environmentally friendly moorings to all sensitive marine habitats such as soft coral as well as seagrass. Better guidelines for the location of moorings is required.
- Greater compliance of high impact sites and activities is required, e.g. wake induced back erosion and informal boat access.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

The management actions in this initiative have been reviewed in relation to feedback received and now include a specific action to address threats to seagrass through a variety of mechanisms, strengthens commitments to deliver the Moorings Review and address mooring demand issues.

Actions now also include reference to environmentally sustainable boating and the Maritime Safety Plan. Actions relating to wildlife have also been grouped to reduce duplication in the Strategy whilst retaining important links to other relevant initiatives.

FEEDBACK ON INITIATIVE 8 – IMPROVING GOVERNANCE AND ENHANCING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

KEY ISSUES

Support for this initiative recognised the importance of governance in the successful implementation of the Strategy as a whole. Key issues raised included:

- The governance issues and need for coordination applies across all of the eight initiatives - not just for enhancing social and economic benefits.
- Actions to address social and economic benefits are lost in this initiative
- Support for greater involvement of stakeholders in governance through building stakeholder capacity via training, information and feedback mechanisms
- Improve stakeholder representation, collaboration and genuine input, give much needed incentives to encourage compliance, improve and develop innovative education programs which can be delivered at schools and clubs and genuinely work towards compensation for loss of access
- Consultation overload in recent times with nil outcomes leading to stakeholders becoming disengaged
- Management initiatives have strong overlap with each other and should not be treated as separate entities. The governance of these initiatives needs to ensure that there is clear and strong engagement between management initiatives and actions.
- Greater compliance proposed - requires funding and greater cooperation and coordination between compliance agencies
- The Strategy does not address how compliance actions will be impacted by the *Natural Resource Access Regulator Act 2017*
- Broaden the fisheries reporting services to anonymously report on a range of issues
- No mention of involving Aboriginal people in the governance of the marine estate and existing Aboriginal governance arrangements are missing from this initiative
- Marine Park Advisory Committee members must have the support/endorsement of the local groups they are appointed to represent and act as a conduit. Independent screening mechanisms are required with transparent appointment processes
- Outcomes can be achieved through educational campaigns and by voluntary practice change e.g. the Landcare movement or the OceanWatch SeaNet Program rather than regulation
- The Strategy needs to be underpinned by a comprehensive education and communication strategy, including for schools. Consider the 'Our Valuable Estuaries' educational resources developed by OceanWatch for NSW schools, and the Seafood Industry Partnerships in Schools (SIPS)
- Education needs to be targeted to threats identified in the TARA and fostering environmental stewardship - shouldn't be just to raise awareness of the marine estate.
- Education of culturally and linguistically diverse communities is also needed
- Streamline and coordinate all aspects of marine planning and operations - across Commonwealth, State & local government
- There needs to be a high level of accountability built into the strategy
- MEMA needs some coercive statutory powers

- Success requires a high level of integration with the Coastal Reforms, Biodiversity Reforms and Environmental Planning and Assessment framework
- Greater coordination / integration is also required when councils and agencies engage in strategic planning processes
- The new Crown lands legislation and reform agenda is linked to this initiative. The *Marine Estate Management Act* should also be integrated into other relevant legislation, for example the Act is not mentioned in the *Crown Lands Act 1989* or the new *Crown Land Management Act 2016*.
- Suggestions that MEMA should include representatives from the Crown Lands and Water Division and Destination NSW
- Include both Department of Premier and Cabinet and Local Government NSW on high-level government working groups
- Link to regional marine tourism strategies
- Given that the Strategy is driven by threats, there is a risk that those aspects of marine estate management and governance that are working well have not been identified, and opportunities to build on these positive aspects have not been considered or incorporated into the Strategy
- Support undertaking a detailed assessment of the governing legislation regulating activities identified as key threats, to ensure the implementation of these instruments will deliver the required outcome for the Strategy
- Management actions that “improve access” to the marine estate may negatively impact on the integrity of the ecosystem through increased human interaction
- Data management, coordination and access by the community are important. Require the Marine Integrated Monitoring Program to report publicly and provide updates on the marine estate website or in the annual report
- Importance of facilitating stewardship of the marine estate not just ownership
- Need for more up front guidance (tools and resources) for communities to clarify steps for permitting process and consideration from the user’s perspective.

ABORIGINAL WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

Aboriginal feedback on social, cultural and economic values and threats or governance issues from workshops and submissions are reflected in the relevant initiative sections or has been captured as feedback on the draft Strategy.

ADVICE OF LOCAL LAND SERVICES

LLS made the following comments about Initiative 8:

- Strong support for this initiative, the opportunity to clarify roles and responsibilities, address current conflicts in marine estate management and identify potential budget savings.
- Include the four coastal LLS in any high level working group to ensure the marine estate is a priority for LLS.
- There must be a commitment from all Strategy partners to communicate with internal stakeholders on the delivery of the Strategy.
- Collaborate on compliance for example through Memoranda of Understanding. Create an assessment approach to compliance including social mapping of non-compliance to identify drivers and develop strategies to address non-compliance. There is an opportunity to partner with waste education officers.
- LLS supports community and industry engagement and involvement in implementation of actions e.g. estuary monitoring.

- Staff exchanges between agencies (secondments) will give insight into how each runs and build greater partnerships and collaboration.

ISSUES ADDRESSED IN THE FINAL STRATEGY

Based on strong feedback, particularly from workshop participants, governance and social, cultural and economic benefits have been separated into two Initiatives – 8 and 9.

INITIATIVE 8 – SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Initiative 8 now focuses on improving social, cultural and economic benefits by responding to the priority threats to these benefits identified in the statewide TARA.

Education and community engagement were a focus of submissions and this has been strengthened in the actions of this initiative, including improving environmental stewardship.

Building social licence for the commercial fishing industry has also been included under this initiative as well as an action regarding non-Aboriginal cultural and marine historic heritage benefits.

Actions relating to making monitoring and research data publically available, exploring blue growth² opportunities and ways to reduce resource-use conflicts are also included in recognition of submission feedback.

INITIATIVE 9 – DELIVERING EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE

The objective of this new initiative is to improve governance in the marine estate to support coordinated, transparent, inclusive and effective decision making and was expressed as critical to the success of the Strategy across many of the submissions.

The actions in this initiative focus on many of the key issues raised through feedback on the draft Strategy, namely better coordination and integration across all levels of government, stakeholder and community participation in marine estate management, review of regulation to streamline marine estate legislation and improved compliance in the marine estate.

NEXT STEPS

The comments and key issues raised through submissions have been carefully considered by the Authority and NSW Government in finalising the Marine Estate Management Strategy and will be further utilised in the preparation of the Implementation Plan and Marine Integrated Monitoring Program (Monitoring Program).

A key focus of the Monitoring Program will be to assess the effectiveness of actions to address the identified threats to community wellbeing and to fill key knowledge gaps.

A five-year health check will review implementation progress, enable a response to research and monitoring outputs and consider new evidence and emerging threats. It includes a midterm review of the statewide TARA.

A full review of the Strategy and statewide TARA will occur in 2028.

² Blue growth is the long term strategy to support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors as a whole.

APPENDIX 1 – MEDIA

| Date | Media publication or organisation | Headline and hyperlink to article |
|------------|---|--|
| 30/10/17 | DPI Website |  |
| 30/10/17 | Media release | Reducing threats to the NSW https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/about-us/media-centre/releases/2017/reducing-threats-to-the-nsw-marine-estate |
| 30/11/2017 | Boat Sales | Eight ways to protect the NSW Marine Estate https://www.boatsales.com.au/editorial/news/2017/eight-ways-to-protect-the-nsw-marine-estate-60016/ |
| 30/11/2017 | Red Book | Eight ways to protect the NSW Marine Estate https://www.redbook.com.au/boat-news/fishing/eight-ways-to-protect-the-nsw-marine-estate-60016?csn_tnet=true |
| 31/10/17 | DPI fisheries Facebook | The Marine Estate Management Authority are seeking your views on the Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy which outlines eight initiatives to address the major threats to the state’s coastal and marine environment as identified in the statewide Threat and Risk Assessment . This is a first for NSW and will help to achieve holistic, co-ordinated, evidence-based management over the next decade. You can submit your feedback via an electronic submission form on the marine estate reforms website www.marine.nsw.gov.au . Submissions close 8 December 2017". |
| 31/10/17 | Grabs by ABC Illawarra from the interview | NSW coastal plan calls for beefed up protections amid push for a new marine park http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-31/nsw-coastal-plan-calls-for-beefed-up-protections/9103814 |

| Date | Media publication or organisation | Headline and hyperlink to article |
|------------|--|---|
| 31/10/2017 | Recreational Fishing Alliance NSW Newsletter | <p>Forwarded message From: Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW <info@rfaa.com.au> Date: 31 October 2017 at 15:14 Subject: NSW RecFisher November 2017 To: george.mumford@pittwateronline.com.au</p>  |
| 31/10/2017 | Australian Marine Conservation Society | <p>Marine Protection for Sydney region one step closer https://www.marineconservation.org.au/news.php/964/marine-protection-for-sydney-region-one-step-closer</p> |
| 31/10/2017 | ABC News | <p>NSW coastal plan called for beefed up protections amid push for a new marine park http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-31/nsw-coastal-plan-calls-for-beefed-up-protections/9103814</p> |
| 1/11/2017 | Green Careers | <p>Hawkesbury plan up for input http://www.greencareer.net.au/news/hawkesbury-plan-up-for-input</p> |
| 2/11/2017 | Town and Country Magazine | <p>Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy up for comment http://www.townandcountrymagazine.com.au/story/5030249/have-your-say-to-reduce-threat-to-marine-estates/?cs=1541</p> |
| 3/11/2017 | The Northern Star | <p>There's a full moon on the rise..... and the fish are biting https://www.northernstar.com.au/news/theres-a-full-moon-on-the-rise-and-the-fish-are-bi/3255505/</p> |
| 5/11/2017 | Pittwater Online | <p>http://www.pittwateronlinenews.com/environment.php</p> |

| Date | Media publication or organisation | Headline and hyperlink to article |
|------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 6/11/2017 | NSW Greens | <p>NSW Greens Greens Marine Spokesperson Justin Field</p> <p>MEDIA RELEASE 6 November 2017</p> <p>NEW NSW MARINE PLAN FAILS TO PROTECT OCEAN AND MARINE LIFE</p> <p>The NSW Greens have condemned the Government's protracted reforms to the management of the state's oceans and estuaries, describing a new draft 10-year marine strategy as a 'plan for a plan' and inadequate to protect oceans and marine life.</p> <p>Greens Marine Spokesperson Justin Field said the 10-year marine strategy had little detail, included no funding and largely ignored the risks of climate change to the marine environment and the community's enjoyment of it.</p> <p>"The NSW Government started a marine plan in 2011 but six years later, and after thousands of pages of reports and risk assessments, the new Marine Estate Management Strategy has not delivered any new protections for the marine environment and is years behind schedule," he said.</p> <p>"The Government must explain why climate change has been significantly downgraded as a threat to the marine environment since the draft strategy was released. The reality is that climate change remains the biggest threat to healthy oceans and our enjoyment of the coastline but once again a Liberal/National Government is playing politics with climate policy and marine protected areas.</p> |
| 7/11/2017 | Marine Business | <p>NSW government unveils 'sustainable boating' plans</p> <p>http://www.marinebusiness.com.au/news/nsw-government-unveils-sustainable-boating-plans</p> |
| 7/11/2017 | Newscast | <p>Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy</p>  <p>The State's estuaries, coastline and marine waters collectively form our marine estate, one of our greatest natural assets. It provides recreation and enjoyment, contributes to our quality of life and is of social, economic, cultural and ecological importance to the people of NSW.</p> <p>The Marine Estate Management Authority has released a Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy (draft Strategy), which proposes eight management initiatives to address priority and cumulative threats to the marine estate as identified in the statewide Threat and Risk Assessment.</p> <p>The draft Strategy outlines how we will manage the priority threats to the environmental assets and social, cultural and economic benefits the community derives from the marine estate. Over the next decade this Strategy will help us deliver on the vision for the marine estate; a healthy coast and sea, managed for the greatest wellbeing of the community, now and into the future.</p> <p>We welcome your feedback on the draft Strategy. You can submit your feedback via an electronic submission form on the marine estate reforms website www.marine.nsw.gov.au. If you have any queries or would like to register to be part of the marine estate reform updates you can email us at contact.us@marine.nsw.gov.au.</p>  <p>Submissions close 8 December 2017.</p> <p><i>Photo credit: Fishers - iStock.com-PeopleImages. Breaching Humpback - iStock.com-PomInOz</i></p> |
| 8/11/2017 | The Centre for Volunteering | <p>Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy</p> <p>http://www.volunteering.com.au/draft-marine-estate-management-strategy/</p> |
| 21/11/2017 | Coffs Coast Advocate | <p>Managing the marine estate</p> <p>https://www.coffscostadvocate.com.au/news/managing-the-marine-estate/3270582/</p> |
| 27/11/2017 | Narooma News | <p>Have your say to reduce the threats to the NSW Marine Estate</p> <p>http://www.naroomanewsonline.com.au/story/5082699/have-</p> |

| Date | Media publication or organisation | Headline and hyperlink to article |
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| | | your-say-to-reduce-the-threats-to-the-nsw-marine-estate/ |
| 30/11/2017 | Local Land Services Newsletter "The North Coast Local" November Edition |  |
| 1/12/2017 | Narooma News | <p>NSW Marine Estate workshop held in Narooma</p> <p>http://www.naroomanewsonline.com.au/story/5094882/nsw-marine-estate-workshop-held-in-narooma/</p> |
| Spring Edition | The Sydney Coastal Councils Group Coastal Current Newsletter |  |

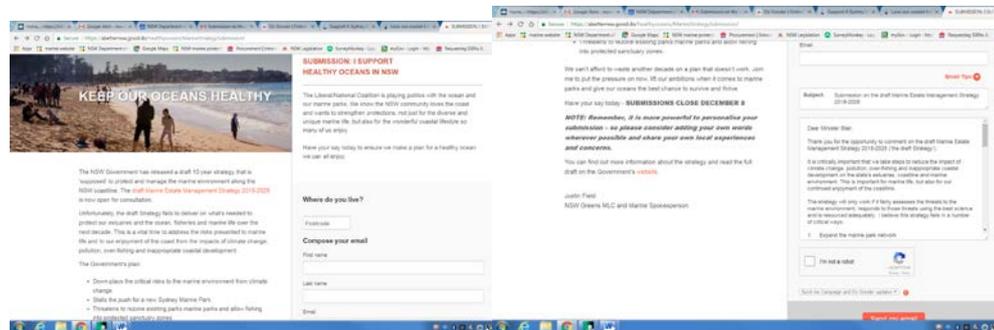
| Date | Media publication or organisation | Headline and hyperlink to article |
|------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 12/12/2017 | Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW | <p data-bbox="762 324 1150 376">How will angler lockouts clean up our polluted waterways?</p>  <p data-bbox="730 640 1166 678">NSW's marine fisheries, both recreational and commercial, are part of the NSW Marine Estate', managed by the NSW Government's Marine Estate Management Authority.</p> <p data-bbox="730 696 1177 752">The move by the government to create 'spatial closures', i.e. lockouts of recreational fishers in the NSW Marine Estate, will not fix the underlying problems of poor water quality, habitat degradation and dumping sewage at sea.</p> <p data-bbox="730 770 1171 864">The Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW cannot understand why the words 'spatial closures' are still appearing in Marine Estate Management Authority documents and website when much worse problems are not being addressed. Our marine environment is still being used as the NSW Government's easy option for dumping sewage, and no commitments are being made to stop or clean up the pollution.</p> <p data-bbox="730 882 1166 920">The NSW Environment Minister who also co-manages MEMA has said that the dumping of sewage off our coast will be EXCLUDED from scrutiny because she is</p> |

APPENDIX 2 – CAMPAIGN SUBMISSIONS

CAMPAIGN 1 (Total = 51)

Draft Strategy - Justin Field NSW Greens MLC and Marine Spokesperson (Do gooder)

<https://abetternsw.good.do/healthyoceans/MarineStrategySubmission/>



Subject: Submission on the draft Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028

Dear Minister Blair,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028 ('the draft Strategy').

It is critically important that we take steps to reduce the impact of climate change, pollution, over-fishing and inappropriate coastal development on the state's estuaries, coastline and marine environment. This is important for marine life, but also for our continued enjoyment of the coastline.

The strategy will only work if it fairly assesses the threats to the marine environment, responds to those threats using the best science and is resourced adequately. I believe this strategy fails in a number of critical ways:

1. Expand the marine park network

The draft Strategy and associated documents has opened the door to downgrading protections within existing marine parks, and stalls the push for a new Sydney Marine Park, despite it being supported in the Government's own 2012 Independent Scientific Audit of Marine Parks in NSW.

Marine Parks with fully protected sanctuaries offer the best mitigation against a range of risks by building the resilience of the marine environment to adapt and respond to major incidents such as major storms, bleaching and pollution events.

Recommendation 1: Commit to strengthening marine park protections and a new Sydney Marine Park.

2. Reinstate climate change as a key threat to the marine estate

Stop playing politics with the science of climate change. Our oceans are one of the first places to feel the impacts of global warming and play a vital role in regulating the planet's climate.

The final Threat and Risk Assessment Report that informs the draft Strategy downgraded the risk from climate change that was previously documented by the Government. This goes against scientific evidence. Failure to take action within the targeted 20 year timeframe of the plan will

make it impossible for our estuaries and the ocean to adapt over the long term to the worst impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels, warmer waters, ocean acidification and changes in habitat.

Recommendation 2: Reinstate climate change risks as the highest priority for the marine estate Management Strategy.

3. Take plastic pollution seriously as a key threat to the marine environment

Water pollution was identified as the number one threat. I agree it is a major threat, but a number of critical actions have been ignored by the Government, particularly in regards to plastic pollution. Marine plastic pollution is real, urgent and within our power to improve.

Recommendation 3: Take urgent steps to ban plastic bags and other single-use plastics and address the risk from micro-plastic fibres which have now entered the marine food chain.

4. Adopt meaningful management actions

The draft Strategy avoids or delays urgent action needed to protect the NSW marine estate. The management actions are often vague goals that have no funding attached, no implementation timeframes and no relevant agencies identified to take responsibility to carry out the actions. The management actions often repeat existing programs which have not been specifically designed to respond to the identified priority threats.

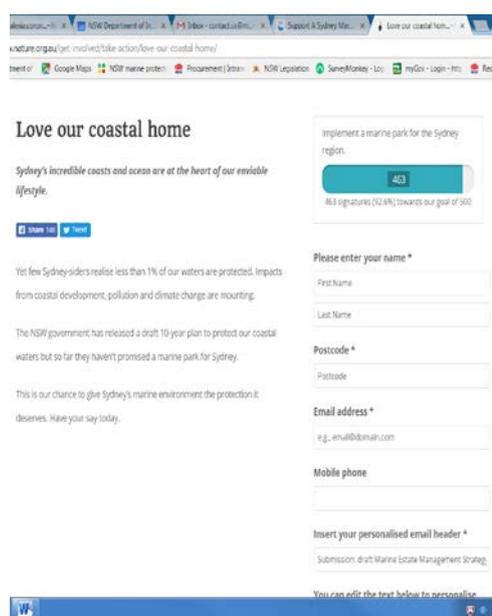
Recommendation 4: Ensure the final strategy has a clear Implementation plan in place, a financial commitment to key actions, and clear lines of responsibility to ensure implementation.

I consider that the online submission tool is unnecessarily restrictive and onerous to submit my suggestions and concerns regarding this draft Strategy. Please consider the above email as my submission to the draft Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028.

CAMPAIGN 2 (Total = 623)

Draft Strategy – Nature Conservation Council campaign

<https://www.nature.org.au/get-involved/take-action/love-our-coastal-home/>



You can edit the text below to personalise your message *

To the Marine Estate Management Authority,

I welcome the draft Marine Estate Management Strategy and efforts to better protect our beautiful blue backyard. I support all of the initiatives outlined in the Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy as they will all contribute to improving the health of our coastal environment, however I understand that spatial management is the most important initiative.

We need a marine park for the central region to protect our marine life and coastal lifestyle for generations to come. We have stunning terrestrial national parks around our harbour and coastline,

Send my action now

* Indicates mandatory input

Subject: Submission: draft Marine Estate Management Strategy

To the Marine Estate Management Authority,

I welcome the draft Marine Estate Management Strategy and efforts to better protect our beautiful blue backyard. I support all of the initiatives outlined in the Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy as they will all contribute to improving the health of our coastal environment, however I understand that spatial management is the most important initiative.

We need a marine park for the central region to protect our marine life and coastal lifestyle for generations to come. We have stunning terrestrial national parks around our harbour and coastline, but we have none in the sea in the central region.

Pollution, inappropriate coastal development, increasing population, and climate change impacts are taking their toll on our marine environment. Plastic pollution is choking our waterways and harming wildlife, and even coral bleaching has reached Sydney Harbour.

Sanctuary zones are proven to enhance the abundance and diversity of marine life and provide the best mitigation against climate change by ensuring the marine ecosystem has a strong foundation to be as resistant, resilient and adaptable as possible.

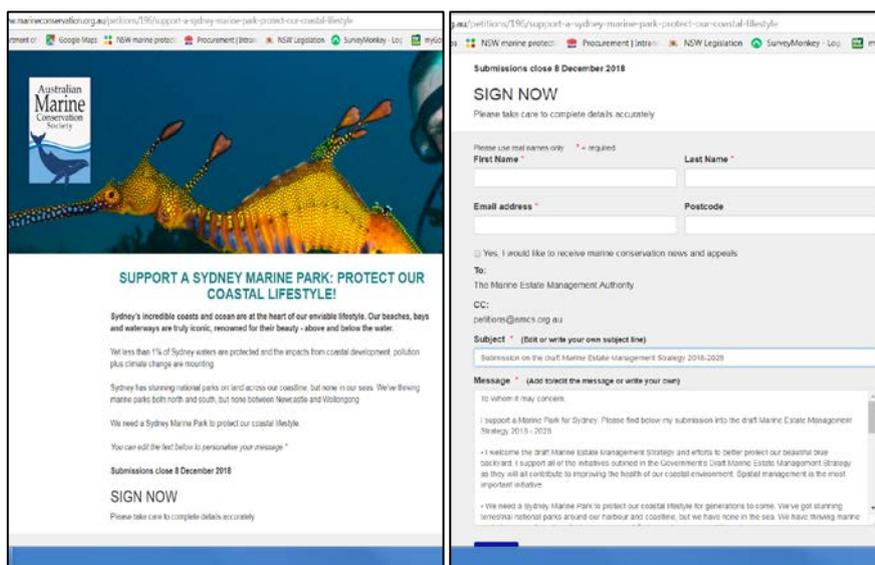
We need a marine park for the Sydney (central) region to protect our coastal home and marine life. A science based multi-use marine park with sanctuary zones for the central region will secure a healthy blue backyard for our boating, swimming, surfing, and fishing lifestyle.

I impress upon NSW DPI to recognise that this submission is a submission with equal importance as others made in any other format. That just because it is made online facilitated by community groups does not diminish its importance.

CAMPAIGN 3 (Total = 1,292)

Draft Strategy – Australian Marine Conservation Society campaign

<https://www.marineconservation.org.au/petitions/196/support-a-sydney-marine-park-protect-our-coastal-lifestyle>



Subject: Submission on the draft Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018-2028

To Whom it may concern,

I support a Marine Park for Sydney. Please find below my submission into the draft Marine Estate Management Strategy 2018 - 2028

- I welcome the draft Marine Estate Management Strategy and efforts to better protect our beautiful blue backyard. I support all of the initiatives outlined in the Government's Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy as they will all contribute to improving the health of our coastal environment. Spatial management is the most important initiative.
- We need a Sydney Marine Park to protect our coastal lifestyle for generations to come. We've got stunning terrestrial national parks around our harbour and coastline, but we have none in the sea. We have thriving marine parks to our north and south, but none around Sydney, where we need it most.
- Our harbour is the heart of our city and our beaches a source of inspiration. But they are under mounting pressure. Pollution, inappropriate coastal development, increasing population, and climate change impacts are taking their toll. Plastic pollution is choking our waterways and harming wildlife, and even coral bleaching has reached Sydney Harbour.
- Sanctuary Zones provide the best mitigation against climate change by ensuring the marine ecosystem has a strong foundation to be as resistant, resilient and adaptable as possible. (Roberts et al (2017) Marine reserves can mitigate and promote adaptation to climate change.)
- We need a Sydney Marine Park to protect our coastal home and marine life. A science based multi-use Marine Park for the Sydney region will secure a healthy blue backyard for our boating, swimming, surfing, and fishing lifestyle.
- The NSW marine parks around Jervis Bay, Port Stephens, and Cape Byron are highly valued destinations for all types of ocean users with flourishing tourism and recreational fishing opportunities.
- Sydney-siders also deserve a marine park to demonstrate to the world how much we love our marine life and coastal lifestyle and we are serious about protecting what we love. This is our chance to get it right.
- I impress upon NSW DPI to recognise that this submission is a submission with equal importance as others made in any other format. That just because it is made online facilitated by community groups does not diminish its importance. I ask that you act on this and all other submissions equally.

Yours sincerely,

A champion of our oceans.

APPENDIX 3 – LIST OF ORGANISATION WHO SUBMITTED

- Abalone Association of NSW
- Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies
- Australian Marine Sciences Association - NSW Branch
- Australian National University
- Bathurst Community Climate Action Network
- Bellingen Environment Centre
- Byron Bay Deep Sea Fishing Club
- Cape Byron Marine Park Advisory Committee – Member
- ECOfishers
- Environmental Defenders Office - NSW
- Euro Fishing Associations
- Fisheries Scientific Committee
- Gordons Bay Scuba Diving Club
- Hunter Joint Organisation of Councils
- Inner West Council
- Lake Macquarie City Council
- Living Ocean
- MidCoast Council
- Narooma Fishing Club
- Narooma Port Committee
- National Parks Association - Southern Sydney Branch
- Nature Coast Marine Group
- Newcastle City Council
- NSW Aboriginal Affairs
- NSW Aboriginal Land Council
- NSW Farmers' Association - Oyster Committee
- NSW Greens
- Oceanwatch
- Port Stephens Council
- Ports NSW
- Professional Fisherman's Association
- Randwick City Council
- Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW
- Recreational fishing NSW
- Safe Navigation Action Group Inc Sussex Inlet
- Solitary Islands Underwater Research Group
- Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils
- Sydney Coastal Councils Group
- Sydney Fish Market Pty Ltd
- Tangaroa Blue Foundation
- The Nature Conservation Council NSW, The Australian Marine Conservation Society and the National Parks Association NSW – Joint submission
- Underwater Research Group
- Waverley Council

APPENDIX 4 – LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The Authority or MEMA - Marine Estate Management Authority

CMP - Coastal Management Program

DPE – Department of Planning and Environment

DPI – Department of Primary Industries

Draft Strategy or Strategy – Draft Marine Estate Management Strategy

LLS – Local Land Services

Monitoring Program - Marine Integrated Monitoring Program

NSW – New South Wales

NRM – Natural Resource Management

NGOs - Non-Government Organisations

OEH – Office of Environment and Heritage

Statewide TARA - Statewide threat and risk assessment for the NSW marine estate