

Meeting	Lord Howe Island Marine Park (LHIMP) Advisory Committee		
Meeting No	2 - 2021	Date	8 December 2021
Location	Lord Howe Island Museum & Microsoft Teams	Time	4:00 - 5:45pm
Attendee	Marine Park Advisory Committee members Brian Busteed, Grant Devine, Cindy Shick, Ed Rourke, Suzie Christensen, Justin Sauvage, Emily Harris DPI Staff Norm Lenehan - A/Program Leader Marine Operations (PLMO) Rodney James - Program Leader Marine Planning Tanya Whiteway - Senior Manager Marine Planning Justin Gilligan - Marine Park Manager (MPM) Caitlin Woods - Marine Park Officer (MPO) External participants Jonathan Mitchell – University of Western Australia		
Apologies	Ian Hutton, Sophie Powell, Scott Wilson		
Prepared by	NSW DPI		

Previous meetings

Action	Status
Action 20.02 MPM to investigate options to initiate a project to capture community values	Ongoing
Action 21.01 Parks Australia to provide members with a copy of the final Galapagos Shark Report	Complete
Action 21.02 MPM to seek further information from PLMO on Destination NSW view to promote super yacht visitation	Complete
Action 21.03 MPM to circulate permit report to committee	Complete

Action 21.04 MPM to ask absent committee members if they require further information regarding moorings and visiting vessels	Complete
Action 21.05 MPO to check for issues preventing recipients viewing or receiving e-newsletter in preparation for next mail out	Complete

This meeting

Action summary
Action 21.06: Senior Manager Marine Planning to provide an update following the Marine Estate Management Authority meeting (9 December 2021) with feedback on the Project Plan outlining the LHIMP Management Plan process.
Action 21.07: Parks Australia to provide a link to the flythrough video, final report, and science atlas from the 2020 research voyage to Elizabeth Reef and Middleton Reef, to be circulated to committee members via the MPM (see Action 21.12).
Action 21.08: Parks Australia to provide an electronic copy of the LHMP update to MPM and Committee members.
Action 21.09: MPM to provide contacts for further information regarding Marine Flex mooring designs to the Lord Howe Island Board staff (Suzie Christensen & Justin Sauvage).
Action 21.10: MPM to send a copy of <i>Aquatic Biosecurity Response Guidelines for Visiting Vessels</i> to Lord Howe Island Board staff (Suzie Christensen & Justin Sauvage).
Action 21.11: MPM to provide further update on catch data report at the next Committee meeting.
Action 21.12: MPM to compile and circulate links to presentations and all recent research mentioned during the Committee meeting.

Item	Issue	Action
1.	Welcome and Introduction Chair/MPM	
2.	Apologies Chair/MPM. Refer to above.	
3.	Staffing and member update A routine call for nominations to fill existing vacancies was made in April 2021 across all	

	NSW marine park advisory committees and closed on 16 May 2021. A completed nomination form was received from Gary Crombie for the Lord Howe Island Board (Elected member) position. Gary subsequently withdrew this nomination, along with his Alternate member status for charter fishing. Following further discussions with the Lord Howe Island Board, the Lord Howe Island Board (Elected member) position was removed from the Committee due to lack of interest. Approval was sought from the Marine Estate Agency Steering Committee (MASC) to direct appoint the individual holding the position of Lord Howe Island Board Chief Executive Officer position to that position on the Committee. This approach was endorsed by MASC.	
4.	Actions from previous meeting MPM provided an update on the status of actions from previous meetings.	
5.	Adoption of minutes from previous meeting Chair/MPM	Motion: That the minutes of the meeting on 18 June 2021 be accepted as a true and accurate record. Moved: Brian Busteed Seconded: Cindy Shick Carried
6.	Draft NSW Marine Park Management Plan Program Leader Marine Planning provided an overview of the NSW Mainland Marine Park Network Draft Management Plan (2021-2031). Committee members were encouraged to review and submit feedback. MPM recommended consideration of a Committee meeting specifically to review and discuss the Draft Management Plan similar to the Marine Estate Management Act review meeting.	Action 21.06: Senior Manager Marine Planning to provide an update following the Marine Estate Management Authority meeting (9 December 2021) with feedback on the Project Plan outlining the LHIMP Management Plan process.

	Senior Manager Marine Planning provided an update on the Project Plan for the LHIMP Management Plan process, which is subject to review and approval of the Marine Estate Management Authority. It was noted that there will be opportunities for Committee input, and that the community values project, previously identified by the Committee (Action 20.02) was incorporated into the Project Plan.	
7.	Galapagos shark research project Presentation Jonathan Mitchell provided an update on the Galapagos shark research project and final report. The study investigated movement patterns and shark/fisher interactions in the marine parks off Lord Howe Island. Future research strategies were outlined including a social survey available online or via the LHIMP office.	
8.	Commonwealth Marine Park update Emily Harris provided the Commonwealth Marine Park Update (Annexure 1). Discussion was had around the collaborative deed between Parks Australia and NSW DPI, which is in the final stages of execution to allow more streamlined collaboration. Program Leader Marine Operations confirmed that finalisation of the deed was imminent.	Action 21.07: Parks Australia to provide a link to the flythrough video, final report, and science atlas from the 2020 research voyage to Elizabeth Reef and Middleton Reef, to be circulated to committee members via the MPM (see Action 21.12). Action 21.08: Parks Australia to provide an electronic copy of the LHIMP update to MPM and Committee members.
9.	LHIMP management report MPM provided key updates from LHIMP including: • Permits assessed since June 2021 • Environmentally friendly mooring trial Justin Sauvage enquired about possibility of using Marine Flex designs for Lord Howe Island Board moorings. MPM informed that the 11 public courtesy moorings were installed at sites that had high visitation by tourists and	Action 21.09: MPM to provide further information regarding Marine Flex mooring designs to the Lord Howe Island Board staff (Suzie Christensen & Justin Sauvage). Action 21.10: MPM to send a copy of <i>Aquatic Biosecurity Response Guidelines for Visiting Vessels</i> to Lord Howe Island Board

commercial operators with significant environmental value. Some of these locations will be suitable to upgrade to environmentally friendly moorings based on the outcomes of the trial. • Aquatic Biosecurity The continuation of marine pest surveys and visiting vessel hull inspections. Development of <i>Aquatic Biosecurity Response Guidelines for Visiting Vessels</i>. High risk vessels include vessels arriving from international ports; Vessels not meeting biosecurity requirements prior to departure; Vessels arriving from domestic ports with known marine pest incursions (attached to guidelines). Cindy Shick and Brian Busteed enquired whether LHIMP/Lord Howe Island Board staff are provided with information about voyage history for local vessels returning from mainland. MPM confirmed only port of departure is requested, not prior history. Justin Sauvage noted the administrative overlap between Lord Howe Island Board and LHIMP and DPI Aquatic Biosecurity in regard to action taken in response to an aquatic biosecurity risk posed by a visiting vessel. • Engagement, education and communication • Research Project Kingfish, a collaborative research proposal to document movements of kingfish in NSW waters including the LHIMP. Grant Devine and Cindy Shick noted recent difficulties finding kingfish during fishing trips. New Baited Remote Underwater Video paper published from ongoing BRUVs research in LHIMP.	staff (Suzie Christensen & Justin Sauvage). Action 21.11: MPM to provide further updates on catch data report at the next Committee meeting. Action 21.12: MPM to compile and circulate links to presentations and all recent research mentioned during the Committee meeting.
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	Grant Devine requested links to all research etc mentioned in current meeting be summarised in an email. • Future research projects	
10.	General business None raised	
11.	Meeting close	

Next meeting

TBC - It was noted the next general meeting be held in May before the winter break, subject to management planning requirements. MPM noted that Alternate member Dean Hiscox and Talent Pool member Kayla Hiscox expressed interest in attending the next meeting as observers and would prefer a Thursday meeting. Brian Busteed noted the next Temperate East Marine Park Advisory Committee meeting will likely be held in May 2022. Cindy Shick noted she will be unavailable from 13th May for several weeks.

Annexure 1:



Parks Australia report for the Lord Howe Island Marine Park Advisory Committee meeting on 8 December 2021

This report provides an outline of activities undertaken under by Parks Australia relevant to the Lord Howe Marine Park since the last meeting in June 2021.

Key challenges

- COVID-19 restrictions continued to hamper our efforts to get to Lord Howe Island to engage with the community and participants of the VMS Charter Fishing Program but we expect to get there as soon as travel restrictions allow.

Some key activities/achievements

- Negotiation of a seven-year Collaboration Deed with NSW Department of Primary Industries that formalises the relationship into a longer-term partnership under which new three-year schedules for marine park management services and new projects will be developed. Awaiting final approval/sign off. Once signed, the negotiation of 3 year schedules to cover the delivery of services for Lord Howe Marine Park will commence.
- The final outputs from the National Environmental Science Program (NESP) Marine Biodiversity Hub (MBH) research voyage to Elizabeth and Middleton Reefs in the Lord Howe Marine Park in 2020 were published, including a final report, an AMP Science Atlas article and a fly through, all of which was promoted by a joint launch with Geosciences Australia and other NESP MBH partners.
- An AMP Science Atlas article about Elizabeth and Middleton Reefs completed available [here](#), it was promoted along with [the flythrough](#) by a joint social media post with the NESP MBH partners.

Completion of Galapagos shark research

- The four-year collaborative research program funded by Parks with in-kind support from NSW Department of Primary Industries and Integrated Maritime Observer System (IMOS) was completed in July with the delivery of the final report that is available on the Parks Australia website [here](#).
- As you know, The research was commissioned to by Parks and NSW DPI inform management responses to the issues presented by the abundance of the sharks in Lord Howe Island marine



parks. The research provided important baseline data about the species and movement patterns around the parks, it also produced some practical measures to reduce fisher-shark interactions (overleaf) and recommendations for future research.

- The report had to be updated belatedly to include the detection of one of the tags from the 30 Lord Howe tagged sharks 30 km off the coast of NSW (south of Hunter MP and east of Port Stephens and Great Lakes MP (NSW) by one of NSW DPI's acoustic receivers. This was possibly the first detection of the species in mainland waters, however, the Galapagos shark may have been eaten by another larger shark so it was not a conclusive detection.
- The outcomes of the project and recommendations for fishers will be communicated to Lord Howe Islanders and scientists, recreational fishers more broadly in the coming months.



Mitigating shark-fisher conflict

Rotate fishing areas so you don't visit the same spots too regularly	Use handlines or electric reels to get fish up quicker
Move fishing location regularly (e.g. every 30 mins) to reduce chances of sharks finding your boat	Use lures and jigs instead of bait to reduce odours which attract sharks
Fish shallower than 20m or deeper than 100m as this avoids the main depth range of Galapagos sharks	Prepare all fishing gear before arriving at your fishing spot so you can start fishing straight away
Bring fish waste back to land for composting instead of feeding the sharks by cleaning at sea	Diversify your target species from kingfish to demersal fish e.g. redthroat emperor, because sharks are less likely to take them when hooked