



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Marine estate management strategy

FAQ #4

A **Marine Estate Management Strategy** (Strategy) is a requirement of the *Marine Estate Management Act 2014*. It will define the NSW Government's policy objectives for management of the NSW marine estate and guide the actions of service delivery agencies over the next decade.

WHAT WILL THE STRATEGY COVER?

The Strategy will aim to deliver on the Marine Estate Management Authority's vision is for a 'healthy coast and sea, managed for the wellbeing of the community, now and into the future'¹

The Marine Estate Management Strategy will establish the means by which the government's vision can be achieved and marine estate reforms are delivered. The Strategy will balance economic growth, use and conservation of the marine estate by better coordinating and prioritising agency program activities.

The Strategy will do this by identifying:

- overarching social, economic and ecological objectives and performance measures for use and management of the marine estate, informed by the views of the community and an evidence-based threat and risk assessment
- strategic actions in pursuit of these objectives, to address priority threats and maximise community benefits, and guide service delivery agency roles and responsibilities
- priority information and knowledge needs for marine estate research and monitoring programs
- a communications, education and stakeholder engagement framework to promote voluntary compliance with marine estate regulation
- governance systems for Strategy implementation, reporting and evaluation
- ways to promote regulatory best practice and provide for appropriate access
- ways to consolidate relevant legislation to achieve the vision and reduce red tape.

The Strategy will also be the means through which delivery agencies commit to action and coordinate government marine estate management programs.

¹ Managing the NSW Marine Estate: Purpose, Underpinning Principles and Priority Setting (MEMA 2013)

The government considers that development of the Strategy will serve as a considered and effective process for delivering on the NSW Government's response to the Independent Scientific Audit of NSW Marine Parks²) and supporting other related government initiatives and policies.

WHO WILL DEVELOP THE STRATEGY?

The Marine Estate Management Authority will develop a draft Strategy for public exhibition with input from the Marine Estate Expert Knowledge Panel and the community.

The Marine Estate Management Authority will have a clear role in overseeing and reporting on delivery agency implementation of the Strategy following approval.

WHAT CONSULTATION AND TIMEFRAMES APPLY TO THE STRATEGY?

Targeted stakeholder consultation will occur during the preparation of the draft Strategy, commencing 2017.

The draft Strategy will be publicly exhibited on the NSW Government's 'Have Your Say' website for a minimum of four weeks.

It is envisaged the Strategy will be finalised and approved by Ministers in 2018 taking into account expert feedback and public submissions.

MORE INFORMATION

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

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² Independent Scientific Audit of Marine Parks in NSW (Beeton et al., 2012)