

Meeting	Port Stephens – Great Lakes Marine Park Advisory Committee		
Meeting No	2020.5	Date	10 December 2020
Location	Port Stephens Council Chambers/via Zoom	Time	4 – 6 pm
Invitees	<p>Port Stephens – Great Lakes Marine Park Advisory Committee Members</p> <p>John Nell (Chair), Lorraine Lilley, Robert Gauta, Iain Watt, James McArthur, Paul Lennon, Allan Freihaut, Margo Smith and Marisha Ewart.</p> <p>Observers and support:</p> <p><u>Port Stephens – Great Lakes Marine Park Advisory Committee Alternative Members</u></p> <p>Chris Taylor, Jamie Culver, Frank Future.</p> <p><u>DPI Staff</u></p> <p>Sarah Fairfull, Director Aboriginal Fishing & Marine & Coastal Environments, Rodney James, Program Leader Marine Planning, Nicole Strehling, A/Senior Manager Marine Planning, Natalie Molschaniwskyj, Director Fisheries Research, Luke Erskine, Marine Park Manager, Heath Folpp, A/Research Leader Marine Ecosystems, Mim Knollys, Manager Marine Planning, Sally Hopkins, Administration Officer</p>		
Apologies	Peter Gallagher, Program Leader Marine Operations, Chris Fulton, Karen Hutchinson, Greg Finn, Daniel Aldrich.		
Prepared by	DPI		

Previous meeting

Action	Status
ACTION 20.13 Circulate the three expressions of interest for chair to PSGLMPAC	Completed
ACTION 20.14 Circulate Greynurse Shark Report to PSGLMPAC	Completed

ACTION 20.15 Circulate draft Engagement Plan to PSGLMPAC	Completed
ACTION 20.16 Details for providing comments on the Marine Estate Management Act review will be shared with the PSGLMPAC	Completed

This meeting

Item	Issue	Action
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	
2.	Apologies	Please refer to above.
3.	Actions from meeting 4	Completed as per table above
4.	<p>Adoption of minutes from meeting 4</p> <p>The Committee was asked to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting</p>	<p>Motion:</p> <p>That the minutes of the 6 August 2020 be accepted as a true and accurate record:</p> <p>Moved: James McArthur</p> <p>Seconded: Margo Smith</p> <p>Carried unanimously</p>
5.	<p>Update on changes to DPI Fisheries divisional structures and implications</p> <p>Director Aboriginal Fishing and Marine and Coastal Environments provided an overview on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Estate Management Authority governance structure • new DPI Fisheries structure. 	
6.	<p>Update on draft management plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A/Senior Manager Marine Planning provided an update on development 	PSGLMPAC question: is there a time frame when the plan will be presented to the Committee?

	<p>of the draft marine park management plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the last meeting in August, DPI Fisheries has worked hard to incorporate the valuable advice received from the five marine park advisory committees, nine government agencies and all branches of DPI Fisheries into a preliminary draft marine park management plan. • The draft is currently subject to internal review to ensure it is the best possible initial product for further consideration. • DPI Fisheries appreciates the Committee's patience as the draft plan has been developed and hopes to share the preliminary draft with the Committee as soon as possible so that it can continue to be enhanced with their feedback and advice into a draft plan for the approval of the Marine Estate Management Authority and the Ministers. <p>Once approved as a draft, the draft plan will be subject to a minimum of two months community consultation.</p>	<p>Response: The timeframe will be confirmed in early 2021.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC question: Are the comments positive or do people see potential issues?</p> <p>Response: Generally positive but there are also issues that may be considered contentious.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC question: With the Christmas crowds, are there going to be any surveys taking place?</p> <p>Response: No surveys are planned.</p>
7.	<p>Research update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A/Senior Manager Marine Planning introduced the research presentation. • As DPI Fisheries worked through the marine park planning process this year with the marine park advisory committees, the science around three specific issues has been a particular concern for the community: 	<p>Action 20.17 DPI Fisheries to circulate a summary of NSW research around each of the three issues to Committee members and invite feedback on how these findings could be effectively communicated to the community.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC question: The marine reserves are young, is there any monitoring being done to establish where we are in the early stage of this</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sanctuary zones ○ Greynurse Sharks ○ Sea urchins (particularly for Batemans and Jervis Bay) ● A/Research Leader (Marine Ecosystems) provided a summary of NSW research findings across the mainland marine park network for each of the three key topics to support a common understanding. Key knowledge gaps were discussed. ● The DPI Fisheries focus is on continually improving the research, knowledge and evidence base into the future. ● Marine park advisory committees and agencies have identified the need for a research prospectus that identifies priorities for future research in marine parks. ● DPI Fisheries has also identified a need to improve communication of research to the community in future and invited the Committee’s advice on how DPI Fisheries may do so. ● The members were also invited to consider possible future research presentations on issues of interest to the Committee. 	<p>spill-over effect to see if it has worked in 5 to 10 years’ time?</p> <p>Response: Not at this stage.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC comment: Sanctuary Zones (SZ) role is to maintain biodiversity and ensure we have reference sites. SZ in New Zealand it was 25 years before they started seeing any real impact of spillover effect.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC comment: There was no mention of impact of recreational fishing?</p> <p>Response: Three statewide recreational fishing surveys have been undertaken and completed by DPI Fisheries, the latest in 2017-18. A survey is currently underway for the 2019-20 period.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC question: Big advocate of citizen science, how can we coordinate that to be a reality?</p> <p>Response: the potential for citizen science has come through as a key issue in feedback informing the draft plan and will be included.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC question: Water quality has been flagged as a very high threat. No real research going on and we have oyster farming and abalone. How bad is our water quality?</p> <p>Response: Water quality is a priority issue for the Port Stephens – Great Lakes Marine Park. The statewide threat and risk assessment for the NSW marine estate noted that water quality was the highest threat and the Marine Estate Management Strategy is focusing on addressing this problem statewide.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC question: What is the Greynurse Shark (GNS) breeding cycle,</p>
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8.	<p>Harvest strategy update</p> <p>Director Aboriginal Fishing and Marine and Coastal Environments provided an introduction to the draft fishery harvest strategy policy and guidelines which are out for public comment.</p> <p>The Committee was invited to view information at https://www.marine.nsw.gov.au/strategy-implementation/ensuring-sustainable-fishing-and-aquaculture/harvest-strategies.</p> <p>Members were invited to review the draft NSW Fisheries Harvest Strategy Policy and Guidelines and provide comment by 22 January 2021.</p>	<p>Action 20.18</p> <p>Link will be emailed to PSGLMPAC</p> <p>PSGLMPAC question: Demographic changes of areas of the state. Massive growth here. Are you considering the changes?</p> <p>Response: It will be taken into consideration.</p> <p>PSGLMPAC question: Trawling industry – boat comes here regularly from QLD/ whiting trawler. We cannot catch flathead for months. If he has an endorsement for whiting can he catch flathead?</p> <p>Response: question on notice</p>
9.	Other business/next meeting date	TBC
10.	Close	

Next meeting

TBC