

OUT22/1281

The Hon. Dugald Saunders MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW The Hon. James Griffin MP, Minister for Environment and Heritage GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001

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**Dear Ministers** 

Re: Delivering results under the NSW Marine Estate Management Strategy
- Marine Estate Education Strategy

The Marine Estate Management Authority has endorsed the Marine Estate Education Strategy (Education Strategy) at Attachment A and recommends that a joint Ministerial media release would highlight the achievement of this important milestone in the NSW Marine Estate Management Strategy.

This Education Strategy comes at a time when our coastal systems are under pressure from the bushfires and floods. Increasing community understanding and engagement in the stewardship of our coastal waters is important to rebuild community confidence and the resilience of the NSW marine estate.

This project delivers on the NSW Government's approach for a coordinated, holistic, quadruple bottom-line approach to the management of the NSW marine estate. They are meaningful contributions to the NSW Government's 10-year <a href="NSW Marine Estate Management Strategy">NSW Marine Estate Management Strategy</a> (2018–2028), the centrepiece of the NSW marine estate reforms program.

The Education Strategy has been developed by Marine Estate Management Authority member agencies to:

- coordinate, design, and deliver education programs to increase awareness and promote the values of our marine estate to the NSW community and the social, cultural and economic benefits it provides
- address attitudes and behaviours that are contributing to priority threats to the values of the marine estate
- encourage a sense of custodianship through enhanced participation and sustainable use of the marine estate.

The draft Education Strategy was released for targeted consultation in February 2021. The feedback received from stakeholders and the interagency working group throughout the consultation period have been considered, actioned, and incorporated within the final version of the Education Strategy.

The Education Strategy is a first of its kind in NSW and sets a clear direction for marine estate education effort. It will provide an opportunity for partnerships with a wide range of other stakeholders. Effective marine estate education requires a coordinated approach. Partnerships

among marine estate agencies, communities, schools, Aboriginal people, local government and other stakeholders are critical to implementing this Education Strategy. Together, we will focus on enhancing resourcing and building on successful programs to ensure meaningful interaction, maximise opportunities for implementation, and avoid duplication of effort.

A draft joint Ministerial media release has been prepared at Attachment B. If there are questions about this project please contact Ms Kate Burford, A/Director Strategy and Program Delivery, NSW Department of Primary Industries on mobile: 0437 765 650 or email: <a href="mailto:kate.burford@dpi.nsw.gov.au">kate.burford@dpi.nsw.gov.au</a>.

Yours sincerely

**Dr Russell Reichelt AO FTSE** 

Chair

**Marine Estate Management Authority** 

18 March 2022

## Enc.

- Attachment A Marine Estate Education Strategy
- Attachment B Draft media release Marine Estate Education Strategy