

Temperate East Marine Parks Advisory Committee Meeting #4 Communiqué 19 November 2020, Videoconference by Teams

Committee Meeting Overview

The fourth meeting of the Temperate East Marine Parks Advisory Committee was held via Microsoft Teams videoconference on Thursday 19 November 2020. A face-to-face meeting was not possible due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

The Chair provided an Acknowledgment of Country, paying respect to the Traditional Owners of the lands on which the meeting was held.

Key agenda items included: a discussion about collaboration with the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) and a progress report about the activities undertaken to implement the Temperate East Network Management Plan since it commenced on the 1 July 2018.

The Committee continued its discussion about research priorities and heard from the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment's Sustainable Global Oceans team about their upcoming initiatives.

Updates were provided by members and NSW DPI and the Committee was also provided with a presentation from the Parks/NSW DPI project team on the South Coast Sea Country Education Package.

Management Report

An update was also provided on key activities carried out since the last meeting on 18 June 2020. A summary of these include:

Member attendance:

Adrian Wayne
Bob Creese
Brian Busted
John Burgess
Peter Cochrane
Rick Stuart-Smith
Rosemary Black
Steve Whalan
Tricia Beatty
Mike Misso (Chair)

Apologies:

Chris Fulton
David Major
Joe McNulty

Observer:

Rodney James - NSW DPI

Authorisations – 10 authorisations were issued across research (3), commercial media (2), recreational fishing (1) and structures and works (4) activities.

Compliance activities

- 1 infringement notice was issued to a recreational fisher identified by a surface patrol operating within the Pimpernel Rock NPZ.
- 3 warning letters were issued to recreational fishers operating within the Pimpernel Rock NPZ.
- 1 warning letter was issued to a recreational fisher operating within the Cod Grounds MP.

Science activities –The Committee noted the development of a Science Plan for the network in 2021 under Parks Australia’s Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement (MERI) framework.

Other recent research activities include the continuation of rapid reef health monitoring in Norfolk Marine Park and the Galapagos shark project in Lord Howe Marine Park, which will be concluding in 2021.

Indigenous engagement activities

The results of a successful collaboration with traditional owners of the south coast sea country and NSW DPI were presented to the Committee by the Parks Australia/NSW DPI project team. A suite of educational resources was produced that present traditional knowledge about the sea country of the Jervis Marine Park for upper primary students. The package is available at: [Sea Country \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/sea-country).

Parks Protection and Management activities

Staff from the Marine Parks Branch have undertaken incident management training with the Australian Marine Safety Authority, and this training helped to manage two incidents in the Temperate East:

The first incident was the discovery of an unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the Recreational Use Zone of the Lord Howe Marine Park at Elizabeth Reef, which was removed in late September 2020.

The second incident was the grounding of a barge in Ball Bay, Norfolk Marine Park that was successfully refloated.

Communications, Education and Awareness activities

Significant efforts were made to communicate with Lord Howe Marine Park users about the closure and re-opening of Elizabeth Reef due to the UXO including two public notices, letters to Lord Howe Islanders, articles published in industry publications, updates to

the Australian Marine Parks website and social media posts.

A brochure aimed at recreational fishers about the Cod Grounds Marine Park was distributed and the preparation of a brochure promoting the conservation values of the Solitary Islands Marine Park has commenced.

Next Meeting

Subject to COVID-19, the next Committee meeting will be held in Sydney on 20 May 2021.

For more information about the Temperate East Marine Parks Network or the Committee:

Visit

<https://parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/management/partnerships/temperate-east-advisory-committee/>

Email AMPAdvisoryCommittees@awe.gov.au