

North Marine Parks Advisory Committee

Meeting #9 Communique

30th May 2023

Attendance

Members

Frances Verrier (Chair)
Carol Conacher
Christine Lamont
David Ciaravolo
Ian Knuckey
Jackie Gould
John Glaister
Peter Cox
Ricky Archer
Robert Fish
Jade Ritchie (apology)
Jason Fowler (apology)
Rachel Baird (apology)

Observers

Jonathan Vea (NT Government)
Luke Albury (QLD Government)

Guests

Barbara Musso (Parks Australia)
Grant Johnson (NT Fisheries)
Katherine Winchester (Northern Territory Seafood Council)
Mary Williams (Larrakia descendent with Iwaidja heritage)
Robert (Bo) Carne (Aboriginal Sea Company)

Secretariat (Parks Australia)

Deklyn Townsend

At meeting #9 Parks Australia updated the Committee on recent management activities in the North Network, the Ghost Nets Program, and relevant National initiatives, including Our Marine Parks Grants, consultation on commercial fishing Vessel Monitoring Systems in Australian Marine Parks, and updating of the Advisory Committees Terms of Reference and new membership appointment process.

A key focus of the meeting was discussing the significant progress that's been made in achieving park-specific priorities, which were identified by the Committee at Meeting #3, and looking ahead to future priorities for the Consolidation and Review Phases of the Management Plan. This included member feedback on the content and design of draft summaries, which aim to communicate key information about each park in the North Network to a general audience.

The meeting also focused on Northern Territory and Queensland Fisheries' operations in the context of North Marine Park Network values. Presentations featured Northern Territory and Queensland fisheries managers, and guests, including:

- the Northern Territory finfish trawl biodiversity and habitat mapping project,
- work of the Aboriginal Sea Company, and
- the Northern Territory Seafood Council's Our Marine Parks Grant Sustainability Strategy project.

The session improved understanding of key fisheries activities in the North Network, including gear types, catch levels and bycatch, and encouraged knowledge sharing between Committee members, guests and observers.

About the Committee and Meeting #9

The North Marine Parks Advisory Committee advises the Director of National Parks on the implementation of the [North Marine Parks Network Management Plan](#).

Meeting #9 was held in Darwin on Tuesday 30th May 2023.

Next meeting

The next Committee meeting is planned for late-2023. For more information about the North Marine Parks Network or the Committee:

Visit parksaustralia.gov.au/north

Email marineparks@dcceew.gov.au