



North-west Marine Parks Advisory Committee

Meeting #13 Communiqué

27 November 2025, Microsoft Teams videoconference

Committee Meeting Overview

The North-west Marine Parks Advisory Committee met via videoconference on Thursday 27 November 2025. Following Acknowledgement of Country by the Chair, the Committee approved the previous meeting Minutes and received **Marine and Island Parks Branch Updates**:

- Management plan review. The review of the management plan will assist in achieving 30 by 30. Minister Watt committed to a 30% target of highly protecting our oceans. Currently, Australia has 24% highly protected areas (includes Commonwealth and State areas), and needs an additional 523,986 km² of highly protected areas to reach our target by 2030.
- Parks has commissioned independent evaluators to undertake a review of the five existing Australian Marine Parks network management plans (covering 44 marine parks) in the lead up to the preparation of new management plans.
- A First Nations Reference Group (FNRG) was established to provide advice on the review.
- The 2025 South-east Marine Parks Network Fishing Business Assistance Grants package is now open. Grants can be accepted up until 9 pm AEDT on Thursday 22 January 2026.

Member attendance

Kerrie Bennison (Chair)
Peter Coote
Keld Knudsen
Madeline Davey
Cindy Bessey
Nicole Hamre
Martin Pritchard
Brad Norman
Todd Bond
Dean Mathews
Mick Fogg.

Apologies

Sean McNear
Matt Gillet

Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting is planned for 21 April 2026. For more information about the North-west Marine Parks Network or the Committee:

Visit parksaustralia.gov.au/north-west

Email marineparks@dcceew.gov.au

You can also report any suspicious or illegal activity to **1800 852 975** or marine.compliance@dcceew.gov.au