

# Proposed South Coast Marine Park

Analysis of public submissions to the:

- Proposed Maambakoort Marine Park Indicative Joint Management Plan;
- Proposed Wudjari Marine Park Indicative Joint Management Plan;
- Proposed Western Bight Marine Park Indicative Management Plan; and
- Proposed Mirning Marine Park Indicative Joint Management Plan.



**Top Left** Bull kelp. Photo - Ocean Imaging, **Top Right** Leafy sea dragon. Photo - Peter Nicolas/DBCA, **Bottom Left** Harlequin fish. Photo - Ocean Imaging, **Bottom Right** Southern right whales. Photo - Peter Nicolas/DBCA.

Prepared by the Aboriginal Engagement, Planning and Lands Branch

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

NOVEMBER 2024

# PART A – BACKGROUND

## A1. Introduction

On 16 February 2024, the Minister for Environment formally released the *Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park Indicative Joint Management Plan 2024*; the *Proposed Wudjari Marine Park Indicative Joint Management Plan 2024*; the *Proposed Western Bight Marine Park Indicative Management Plan 2024*; and the *Proposed Mirning Marine Park Indicative Joint Management Plan 2024* (the management plans) for a public submission period of four months. The management plans were developed in consultation with Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar, Wudjari, Ngadju and Mirning Traditional Owners and included details of the proposed management arrangements for the marine parks. Collectively the four marine parks were referred to as the Proposed South Coast Marine Park (PSCMP).

The public submission period was extended from the statutory three-month period to four months. A total of 22,494 submissions were received, representing people from across Western Australia (WA), around Australia and internationally.

This document summarises the key points raised in the public submissions and aided the Conservation and Parks Commission in preparing advice to the Minister for Environment under section 14 (6)(a) of the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act).

## A2. Plan distribution and communication

Coinciding with the release of the management plans, a public notice about the proposal was published in the *Government Gazette* and advertised in *The West Australian*, *Albany Advertiser*, *Esperance Weekender*, *Great Southern Herald*, *Albany Extra*, *Ravensthorpe Community Spirit*, *Jerry Journal*, *Bremer Bay Bulletin* and *Norseman Today* newspapers, as required under s14 (2) of the CALM Act. The management plans were distributed to Ministers, State Government departments and Local Government as per CALM Act s14 (3A), s59 (5) and (8). Notification of the release of the management plans were also distributed to peak bodies, stakeholder groups and numerous individuals who expressed an interest during the planning process.

Copies of the management plans were made available at the Esperance, Albany, and Kensington offices of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) office in Albany and Fremantle. Over seven thousand Have Your Say brochures were posted to residents in 42 towns across the region. The brochures contained information about the proposed marine park and a QR code linking to the online submission survey. A number of fact sheets were developed and disseminated by DBCA to provide the community with additional information on the PSCMP, including: beach fishing, four-wheel driving and dogs in the PSCMP; How to make a submission; What are sanctuary zones and their benefits; Special purpose zones; and a factsheet on Misconceptions on the PSCMP.

DBCA staff visited 92 locations from Albany to Condingup (including Shire offices, libraries, community resource centres, hotels and holiday parks, fishing and tackle shops, local schools, electorate offices, general stores, visitor centres and tour company offices) to deliver brochures, factsheets and posters, as well as hard copies of the management plans to some locations. For remote locations (e.g. Norseman, Eucla and pastoral stations), copies of the plans, brochures and factsheets were posted. In addition, copies of the plans, brochures, factsheets and hard copies of the online survey were posted to Kalgoorlie Electorate offices. Have Your Say brochures were provided to the Esperance Deep Sea Angling Club who hosted the Esperance Archipelago Offshore Angling Classic 10-12 March 2024. These were provided to all competitors. Signage was also displayed at major boat ramps in the region.

A special page on DBCA's website was launched on the 16 February 2024. The page included easily accessible information such as:

- Digital copies of the management plans.
- A link to the survey to make a submission.
- Interactive Google Earth map explaining each zone and permitted uses.
- Downloadable maps detailing where people can recreationally fish in the proposed marine park.
- Downloadable copies of the factsheets.
- A list of frequently asked questions, which included information on beach access and four-wheel driving, walking dogs, drone use.
- An email and postal address were also provided on the website to allow submissions via these avenues.

For people in the community who did not have access to a computer, hard copies of the survey were available at DBCA offices, the Esperance information station, and printed and mailed to members of the public on request.

An Information Station was established in Esperance during the public submission period and was open every Thursday to Saturday (9am-3pm) from the 18 April to 15 June 2024. Staff were available to answer questions the public had on the proposal and to provide support to those wanting to make a submission. In addition, district DBCA staff set up information stands at the Condingup Fair (16/03/2024), Hopetoun Markets (31/03/2024 and 05/05/2024) and at the Esperance Markets (07/04/2024 and 05/05/2024) to provide the public with information on the PSCMP and submission process. During the public submission period DBCA staff also met with commercial fishers to provide mapping assistance for their submissions.

DBCA promoted the public submission process through 320 thirty-second advertisements across four months on four different regional radio stations. In addition, regular colour ads were placed in print media, including: The West Australian, Albany Advertiser, Esperance Weekender, Great Southern Herald, Albany Extra, Ravensthorpe Community Spirit, Jerry Journal, Bremer Bay Bulletin and Norseman Today. At the Esperance Airport, DBCA ran a 60 second advertisement on the advertising big screen, during the whole public submission period. Social media was used by DBCA to further notify the public about the proposal and submission period.

### A3. Submission processing and analysis methods

Of the 22,494 submissions, 1353 were received through the online survey form (four of which were handwritten), 788 were received as written submissions through letters and emails, and 20,353 were received as proforma submissions through conservation non-government organisations (CNGOs). Several CNGOs ran campaigns that resulted in a large number of submissions.

**Table 1: Total number of submissions**

Submission method	Number of submissions	%
Online survey	1353	6%
Written letters and emails	788	3.5%
Proforma submissions	20,353	90.5%
<b>Total submissions</b>	<b>22,494</b>	<b>100%</b>

All submissions were considered in the analysis against the criteria stated in the indicative management plans. Information was recorded relating to the submitter's contact details and location, submitter type/ interests (recreational fishing, tourism industry, local resident etc.) and key issues raised. Once the data entry was complete for all submissions, duplicate submissions were removed. Personal details provided by submitters remain confidential, are securely stored and cannot be used for any other purpose. This report includes an overview of submitter demographics, a summary of the key points raised in the submissions and how, if applicable, the management plans were amended as a result of public submissions.

### A4. Who provided feedback?

#### Proforma submissions

Proforma submissions from CNGOs came through: Save Our Marine Life (SOML), BirdLife Australia, Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS), The Wilderness Society (TWS), and Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF). The submissions were proforma style with standard text, however three of the proforma's allowed submitters to add personal comments (BirdLife Australia, AMCS and TWS). Most of the proformas required submitters to provide contact details including name, email, and postcode. The breakdown of submissions from CNGOs is found in Table 2.

**Table 2: Origin and total number of proforma submissions**

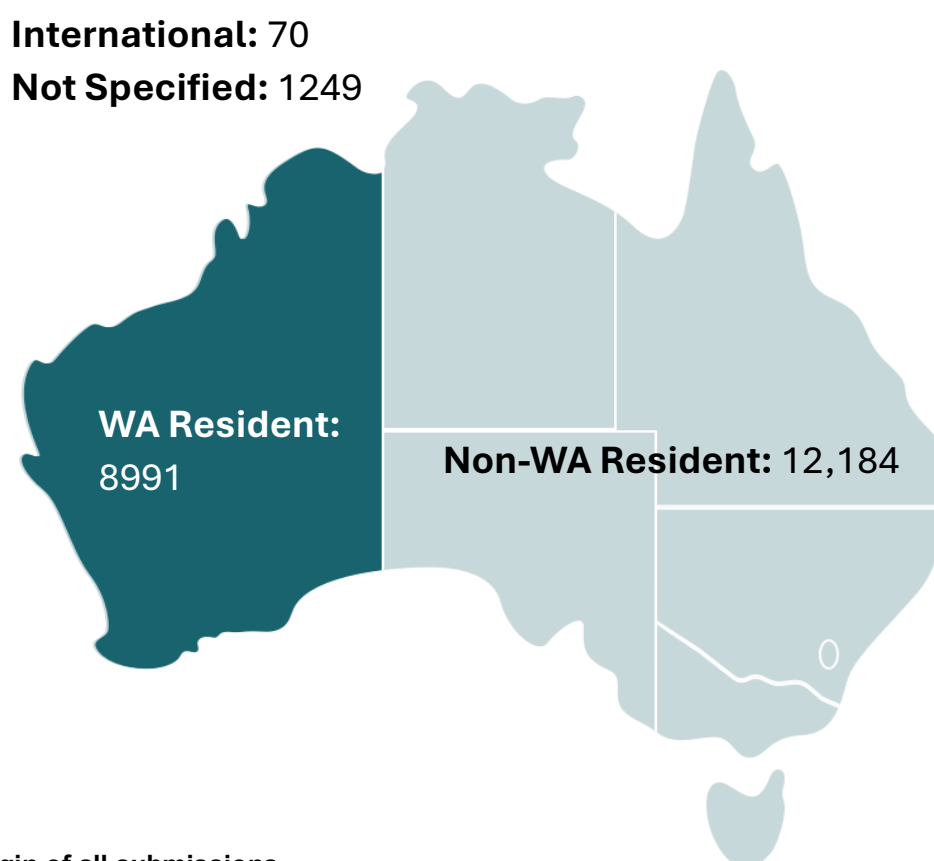
Proforma	Number of submissions
Save Our Marine Life (SOML)	15,192
BirdLife Australia	388
Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS)	3634
The Wilderness Society (TWS)	826
Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF)	313
<b>Total proforma</b>	<b>20,353</b>

## Location of respondents

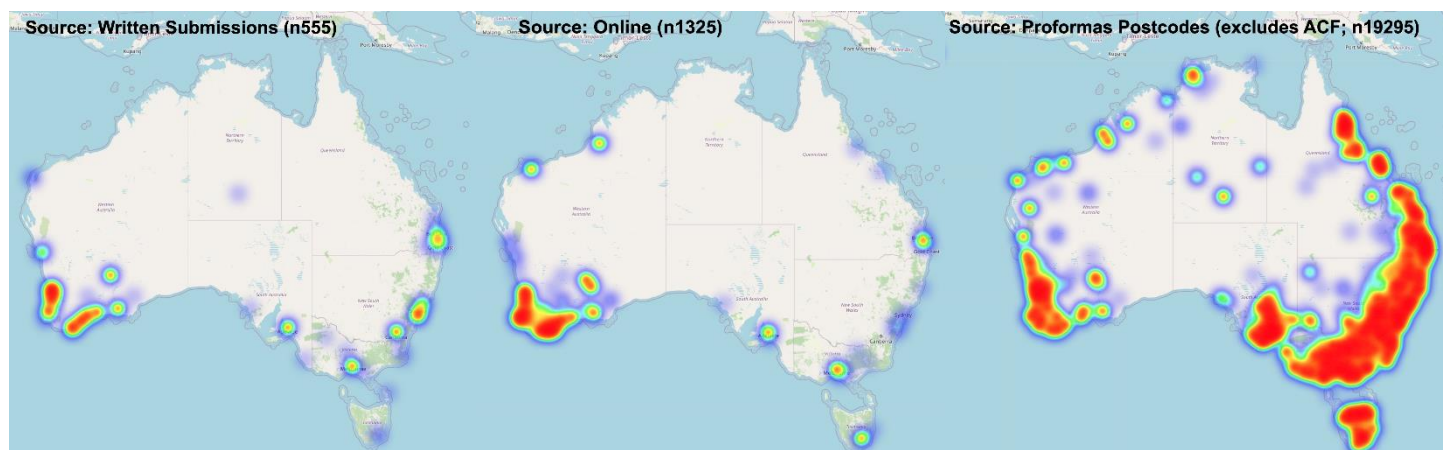
Submissions were categorised by the location of respondents into, Western Australian Resident, Non-Western Australian Resident (submitters from other States of Australia), Not Specified (submitters which did not provide a postcode) and International.

## Total submissions

A total of 12,184 submissions were received from Non-Western Australian residents, which mostly consisted of proforma submissions (12,096). There were 8991 submissions received by Western Australian residents. Of the submissions from WA residents, 7199 were proforma submissions, 1288 were received through the online survey, and 504 were received as written submissions. There were 1249 submissions categorised as non-specified and 70 submissions with an international postcode. Figure 1, Figure 2 and Table 3 further show the quantity and origin of the submissions received.



**Figure 1: Origin of all submissions**



**Figure 2: Origin of different types of submissions (written, online, and proforma). Figures are not based on total submissions but submissions that provided a postcode.**

**Table 3: Origin of submissions by submission type**

Location	Submission Type	Number of Submissions	% of Location	% of Submission Type
<b>WA Resident</b>	Written	504	5.6	63.9
	Online	1288	14.3	95.2
	Proforma	7199	80.1	35.4
<b>Non-WA Resident</b>	Written	51	0.4	6.5
	Online	37	0.3	2.7
	Proforma	12,096	99.3	59.4
<b>Non-Specified</b> (including international submissions)	Written	233	17.7	29.6
	Online	28	2.1	2.1
	Proforma	1058	80.2	5.2

## PART B – KEY THEMES RAISED IN SUBMISSIONS

The following key themes were raised during the public submission process. Note that while proforma submissions made up 90.5 per cent of all submissions, they largely had consistent messaging, and as such key themes raised from written and online submissions have been highlighted independently from overall submissions.

### B1. Establishment of the proposed marine park

All proforma submissions (20,353), representing 90.5 per cent of all submissions, supported the establishment of the PSCMP as a whole. A total of 675 written submissions provided overall sentiment on the PSCMP, including 101 submissions supporting, 188 submissions would support if some changes were made (conditional support), and 386 submissions not supporting the PSCMP.

Some written submissions provided sentiment for individual marine parks. The online survey asked submitters their views on the balance between use and conservation on the proposed design. Views on individual marine parks are outlined below:

- **Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park –**
  - a total of 253 written submissions provided sentiment on this marine park, including 59 supporting, 111 providing conditional support and 68 not supporting.
  - a total of 365 online survey responses commented on this marine park, including 35 which recommended significantly more emphasis on conservation, 44 which recommended more emphasis on conservation, 55 which suggested the proposed design has a good balance between conservation and use, 56 which recommended more emphasis on use and access, and 175 which recommended significantly more emphasis on use and access.
- **Wudjari Marine Park –**
  - a total of 383 written submissions provided a sentiment on this marine park, including 80 supporting, 138 providing conditional support and 148 not supporting.
  - a total of 550 online survey responses commented on this marine park, including 44 which recommended significantly more emphasis on conservation, 59 which recommended more emphasis on conservation, 77 which suggested the proposed design has a good balance between conservation and use, 86 which recommended more emphasis on use and access, and 284 which recommended significantly more emphasis on use and access.
- **Western Bight Marine Park –**
  - a total of 212 written submissions provided a sentiment on this marine park, including 55 supporting, 88 providing conditional support and 59 not supporting.
  - a total of 201 online survey responses commented on this marine park, including 18 which recommended significantly more emphasis on conservation, 19 which recommended more emphasis on conservation, 33 which suggested the proposed design has a good balance between

conservation and use, 39 which recommended more emphasis on use and access, and 92 which recommended significantly more emphasis on use and access.

- **Mirning Marine Park –**

- a total of 450 written submissions provided a sentiment on this marine park, including 98 supporting, 166 providing conditional support and 167 not supporting.
- a total of 172 online survey responses commented on this marine park, including 13 which recommended significantly more emphasis on conservation, 19 which recommended more emphasis on conservation, 24 which suggested the proposed design has a good balance between conservation and use, 31 which recommended more emphasis on use and access, and 85 which recommended significantly more emphasis on use and access.

Some submissions recommended changing the size of the marine park and/or zones, including 219 written and online submissions recommending extending the marine park and/or zones and 303 written and online submissions recommending reducing, removing or moving the marine park and/or zones. Submissions that referred to specific zones are noted against the relevant zone in Section B11.

## **B2. Strengthening proposed protection levels and protecting marine biodiversity and conservation**

All proforma submissions supported the retention of all sanctuary zones within the proposed management plans, with the majority, recommending strengthening protections in general or for specific species and habitats. Commonly mentioned species and habitats included Australian sea lions, southern right whales, various seabirds, and seagrass meadows. The proforma submissions also urged for additional sanctuary protections in numerous locations and these have been noted against the relevant zones in Section B11. A total of 323 online and written submissions also supported the indicative management plans or recommended further protection for marine biodiversity and conservation.

## **B3. Recreational fishing, boating and safety of those who fish**

A total of 732 written and online submissions supported the preservation of offshore fishing and raised safety concerns due to boats being forced out into deeper and unsafe waters, as a result of the proposed zoning. Submitters also expressed support for the Recfishwest submission, which mirror the concerns about the impact the current zoning would have on recreational fishing. Some submitters also had concerns that the proposal limited access to free food, therefore threatening food security, which was one benefit of recreational fishing. Despite proforma submissions being heavily conservation-focussed in their overall objective, all 20,353 proforma submissions supported the protection and continuation of sustainable fishing.

## **B4. Rationale, design, evidence and consultation process**

A total of 655 written and online submissions expressed dissatisfaction with the way the PSCMP was designed, and the consultation process associated with it. Some

people cited a lack of consultation and concerns with what was seen as a politically motivated project. Other concerns raised focused on a lack of evidence/rationale for the marine park, citing that the area is naturally protected by the weather and that fishing is also already highly regulated. A total of 22 proforma submissions made specific comment that the current PSCMP design was adequate.

## **B5. Recreational and family activities and traditions**

A total of 560 written and online submissions made comments referencing family holidays and recreational activities on the South Coast (commonly referenced recreational activities included beach driving and camping, swimming and walking dogs) which are perceived to be threatened by the proposal. These submissions were calling to protect the ability of families now and future generations to continue their traditions in the area. Included in this theme were specific calls to not restrict recreational activities.

## **B6. Tourism, economic development and coastal lifestyle**

Four hundred and thirty-eight written and online submissions raised concerns that the current proposal posed a threat to local tourism, the economy and coastal lifestyle of residents and visitors and called to protect these areas as such. There was an expressed perception that tourism would be reduced by lack of access to fishing and other recreational use which was seen as a big drawcard to the region, and others felt that the PSCMP posed a threat to local businesses. There was also a clear expression captured by this theme, that recreational fishing was tied to a way of life and to the local lifestyle which also related to positive mental health and wellbeing in such an isolated location. A total of 218 written and online submissions supported the protection of community health and wellbeing by maintaining this coastal lifestyle. All proforma submissions called for increased levels of protection around the PSCMP in the view that increased protection would safeguard the area's coastal lifestyle into the future.

## **B7. Land-based fishing**

A total of 427 submissions called for sanctuary zone setbacks from the shoreline, mostly a 200m setback, but some respondents suggested 100m, 300m or 500m setbacks to allow land-based fishing. Some submissions made reference to specific area/beaches where setback should be considered, and others called for setbacks across the entire marine park. Submissions that made reference to specific areas/beaches are noted against the relevant zone in Section B11.

## **B8. Mining, oil and gas exploration and other extractive activities**

All proforma submissions and 413 online and written submissions called for mining, oil, gas and extractive industries to be excluded from the entirety of the marine park. One submission was received from the industry sector which requested management arrangements to allow for development within the proposed Mirning Marine Park, either through excision from the proposed marine park, general use zoning or a curtilage.

## B9. Joint management with Traditional Owners

One hundred per cent of the 20,353 proforma submissions submitted through CNGOs expressed support for the marine parks to be jointly managed with Traditional Owners and noted that the management plans recognised the integral role of Traditional Owners in management of the proposed marine parks. Conversely, 87 written and online submissions from south coast postcodes expressed concern that Traditional Owner involvement would increase tension and division within the community.

## B10. Commercial fishing

Most proforma submissions (98.5 per cent) supported the provision of fair and reasonable compensation for any affected South Coast commercial fishers to adjust their operations if required, as a result of the PSCMP being implemented. Some views on commercial fishing were raised through online and written submissions, with 130 submissions recommending restricting commercial fishing and 21 supporting commercial fishing. Areas of concern for commercial fishers are noted against the relevant zones in Section B11.

## B11. Submissions about specific zones

This section focuses on submissions which made specific comments about particular Sanctuary Zones (Table 4), Special Purpose Zones (cultural protection and cultural management) (Table 5) and Special Purpose Zones (wildlife conservation and whale conservation) (Table 6). If a zone is not included in the tables below, no specific comments were received for that zone during the public submission period. It should be noted that not all submissions made comments on individual zones.

**Table 4: Submission comments on proposed sanctuary zones (SZ = sanctuary zone; SPZ = special purpose zone)**

Marine Park	Zone Name	Submission comments
Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Proposed Point Hood Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing (200m, 500m setbacks).</li> <li>• 42 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests for the full removal of this zone due to its duplication at Doubtful Islands.</li> <li>• 6 submissions requesting to reduce/remove or move marine parks or this zone, and to allow shore and boat-based fishing within this SZ.</li> <li>• Specific suggestions to move the southern boundary 2km north to allow boat fishing and allow fishing up to 1000m from shore.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 submissions requesting complete removal.</li> <li>• 2 submissions requesting a 200m wide SPZ allowing abalone fishing along the shoreline.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including general support for ensuring shoreline protection.</li> <li>• Specific suggestions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Join Point Hood SZ with Doubtful Islands SZ.</li> <li>○ Expand Point Hood SZ to the south.</li> <li>○ Extend the boundary to Little Boat Harbour, Bremer Bay.</li> <li>○ Extend shoreline protection to accessible areas in Bremer Bay.</li> <li>○ Combine and expand the Proposed Point Hood and Doubtful Islands (east) sanctuary zones to meet a minimum standard of 100 km<sup>2</sup>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Proposed Doubtful Islands (east) Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 59 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish by allowing land based and boat fishing in this SZ.</li> <li>• Suggestion to close the zone only during significant breeding times and/or review bag limits and species taken.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission recommending full removal.</li> </ul>

Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park		<b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>53 submissions to extend marine park and/or zones including specific suggestions to expand and combine the Point Hood and Doubtful Islands (east) SZ and extend the western edge of the marine park.</li> <li>27 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection including general support for ensuring shoreline protection extends 200m from shore, and for the retention and expansion of fully protected sanctuary zones for southern right whale calving in Doubtful Island Bay.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Gordon Inlet Nearshore Sanctuary Zone	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>71 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing with the general recommendation for at least a 200m setback.</li> <li>61 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, with general comments providing conditional support for this zone if fishing was allowed in this SZ.</li> <li>The south end of Trigelow Beach was specifically mentioned as an area that allows small boats to be launched, it was requested that boat launching should be retained here.</li> <li>Trigelow was also mentioned in relation to land-based fishing.</li> </ul> <b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection including general support for ensuring shoreline protection.</li> <li>Specific suggestion to expand the boundary to “encompass accessible areas in Bremer Bay”.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Cheadanup Sanctuary Zone	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish.</li> <li>General support for this proposed SZ if land-based fishing could continue.</li> </ul> <b>Commercial fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 submissions requesting a 200m offshore buffer or rezone a 200m wide section to SPZ to allow abalone fishing along the entire shoreline of this SZ.</li> </ul> <b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>29 submissions requesting to extend the marine park and/or this zone.</li> <li>Comments explicitly called for this zone to be enlarged or increased, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To include the bay north-east of Point Ann, possibly merging with Point Charles to Red Island Sanctuary zone.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To include Saint Mary estuary or extend to the limit of state waters.</li> <li>• 25 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including calls for preserving shoreline protection and expanding it to include easily accessible areas in Bremer Bay like Point Ann Beach.</li> <li>• 19,652 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of the Point Ann area, due to the area being one of only three endangered southern right whale calving hotspots in Australia.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Point Charles to Red Island Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>• 29 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish including general requests for a 500m recreational fishing zone around the islands.</li> <li>• Specific requests to reduce this zone to protect the inlets only.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 submissions requesting a 200m wide SPZ allowing abalone fishing along the shoreline and 300m around Red Island.</li> <li>• 1 submission suggested to incorporate a 200m offshore buffer and exclude Red Island from the SZ.</li> <li>• 1 submission highlighted the SZ is of value to multiple fisheries and suggested the full removal or reduction in size to only 1 NM offshore as well as the full removal around Red Island.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection including general support for ensuring shoreline protection.</li> <li>• Specific suggestions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Extend shoreline protection to Point Ann beach.</li> <li>○ Extend the zone between Point Charles and Point Ann for better whale conservation.</li> <li>○ Make the western area a SPZ and the eastern area sanctuary with boundary close to Twins Bay beach. Keep inlet as a SZ.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Proposed Hamersley Inlet	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 28 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish with general comments providing conditional support for this zone if recreational fishing was allowed here.</li> </ul>

Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 submissions recommended a 200m wide SPZ allowing abalone fishing along the shoreline and around the headland at the eastern end of the SZ.</li> <li>• 1 submission recommended full removal due to the zone being of value and providing safe fishing grounds in strong NE-NW winds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including general support for ensuring shoreline protection and expanding it to encompass accessible areas of Hamersley Beach and into the inlet.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Hopetoun (east) Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>• 34 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general comments providing conditional support for this zone if recreational fishing was allowed here.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 submissions recommended a 200m wide buffer or SPZ allowing abalone fishing along the shoreline of the entire SZ.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 19 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection including general comments about ensuring the shoreline is protected.</li> <li>• Specific mention of including accessible spots like the Twelve Mile Beach carpark in shoreline protection.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Mason Bay and West Island Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 92 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>• Specific requests to reduce the zone to allow greater nearshore and offshore fishing access around West Island and Black Rock.</li> <li>• 86 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to reduce or remove zones around key boating areas e.g., Starvation Bay boat harbour.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 submissions noted the high value of this SZ area to many different fisheries.</li> </ul>

Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 submissions recommended rezoning to SPZ to allow the continuation of commercial fishing in this zone.</li> <li>• Specific requests to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Remove the inshore area of the sanctuary zone and align it with the Australian Sea Lion (ASL) offshore boundary.</li> <li>○ Remove or reduce size to align with Recfishwest submission which suggests implementing a 200m setback to allow for shore-based fishing and reduce the zone to allow greater nearshore boat fishing access and offshore fishing access around West Island and Black Rock.</li> <li>○ Reduce the size of the SZ or remove the eastern portion within the Proposed Wudjari Marine Park.</li> <li>○ Exclude the southern portion from the SZ to allow southern rock lobster operations to continue.</li> <li>○ Remove the SZ as adjusting the zone will not be sufficient due to all areas being essential for different fisheries.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection including general support for retaining shoreline protection.</li> <li>• 20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Mason Bay due to the area having the highest concentration of mapped shallow reefs outside the Recherche Archipelago.</li> </ul>
Proposed Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Mason Bay and West Island Offshore Sanctuary Zone	See submission comments for this zone in the Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park section above.
	Proposed Munghlinup Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 82 submissions requested setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>• 64 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 submissions requesting adjustment to borders and reduction in size due to the area being highly valued by commercial fishers.</li> </ul>

Proposed Wudjari Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission requesting full removal.</li> <li>• 2 submissions requesting the zone be changed to SPZ to allow abalone fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection including general support for ensuring shoreline protection.</li> <li>• 20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Munghlinup, because of the estuary's connectivity with the land nature reserve and offshore reefs.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Investigator Island Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 submissions requested to reduce, remove or move marine parks or zones, in particular this zone.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 submissions requesting full removal.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 60 submissions requesting to extend the marine park and/or zones, including general comments calling for increased sanctuary protection in this SZ for ASL habitat.</li> <li>• General comments suggested expanding this SZ for better connectivity with other SZs.</li> <li>• 16,406 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Investigator Island due to the area being ASL breeding habitat, also having some of the area's most unique reefs, pinnacles and banks.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Benwenerup Warden Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 41 submissions requested setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>• 65 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> <li>• Specific requests to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Move the SZ further west to allow dinghy fishing from Fanny Cove.</li> <li>○ Be able to boat fish in an east and west direction of Fanny Cove to use wind as a safety aid.</li> <li>○ Shift the park west with eastern boundary to the start of Stokes Inlet.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission requesting full removal.</li> <li>• 2 submissions recommended a 200m wide buffer or SPZ allowing abalone fishing where the SZ adjoins the shoreline.</li> </ul>

Proposed Wudjari Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 comment that commercial access should not be restricted within this SZ.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including general support for ensuring shoreline protection and extend this to easily accessible areas.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Barker Inlet to Monroe Point Beach Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>93 submissions requested setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>Specific locations mentioned for setbacks included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From the mouth of the inlet to the tip of the headland.</li> <li>Eastern end of the SZ boundary at the headland extending along the beach westward for at least 1km.</li> </ul> </li> <li>74 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 submissions requesting for full removal of the SZ, including one submission which suggested full removal or large reduction in size, and two submissions suggesting the inlet remains within sanctuary.</li> <li>1 submission requesting for a 200m offshore buffer/setback to allow abalone and recreational fishing to continue across the shoreline of the whole zone.</li> <li>1 submission requesting a SPZ within 200m of shoreline allowing abalone fishing around headlands and 300m around the offshore island, plus add a SPZ covering the area around the central headland.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>25 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, general support for ensuring shoreline protection and extend this to easily accessible areas.</li> </ul>
	Proposed West Group Islands Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>43 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>74 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including changes to the SZ to allow continued boat fishing.</li> <li>59 submissions requesting to remove or reduce this SZ, potentially only including Boxer Island.</li> <li>Specific requests to reduce the zone to allow boat fishing access to the northern side of Figure of Eight, and islets/rocks in between Figure of Eight and Boxer Island.</li> <li>Specific requests to reduce zone around Figure of Eight Island to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul>

Proposed Wudjari Marine Park		<b>Commercial fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission requesting full removal of SZ.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to remove the southern area.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to reduce the size and remove the eastern half.</li> <li>• 3 submissions requesting to remove the northern area of the SZ.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to rezone the northeastern portion to SPZ to allow abalone fishing to continue, particularly within 300m of islands.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Kepa Kurl Sanctuary Zone	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 81 submissions requesting to reduce/remove or move marine parks or zones, including specific requests to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Reduce or remove the Kepa Kurl sanctuary zone to allow fishing on the northern side of Woody Island (including Shearwater Bay and Skinny Dip Bay), and Thomas and Gunton Islands.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 70 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> <li>• 47 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <b>Commercial fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 submissions requesting full removal of SZ.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to include a 300m onshore SPZ to allow abalone fishing around Woody Island and surrounding islands.</li> </ul> <b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including general support for shoreline protection.</li> <li>• Specific suggestion to expand Kepa Kurl SZ to include Long Island, Sandy Hook, Remark, and Fredrick Islands to increase connectivity.</li> <li>• Specific request to remove the General Use zone from Kepa Kurl SZ.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Termination Island Sanctuary Zone	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 56 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this zone or to remove or reduce SZ around Termination Island to allow greater boating access.</li> <li>• Specific suggestion to protect the islands and southern area but reduce the SZ to allow greater fishing access in the northern area of the zone.</li> </ul>

Proposed Wudjari Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 33 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission requesting to allow access to the northern side of this zone which aligns with the Recfishwest recommendation to reduce the SZ area to allow greater fishing access to the northern portion of the zone.</li> <li>• 1 request suggested reducing the size of the zone (1NM radius from Termination Island) or full removal.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including general support for retaining shoreline protection.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Cape Le Grand Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 101 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>• Specific requests for setbacks at Thistle Cove and Hellfire Bay.</li> <li>• 77 submissions requested to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ and requests to start the SZ 500m offshore.</li> <li>• Specific requests to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Remove northern portion of Ram Island to maintain boat fishing around Thistle Cove, Hellfire Bay and associated headland.</li> <li>○ Move the eastern edge of SZ further west to the eastern point of Little Hellfire Bay.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 submissions recommending the complete removal or reduction in size.</li> <li>• 6 submissions requesting full removal due to the impact on many different fisheries.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to create an abalone SPZ allowing abalone fishing within 200m of shoreline, 300m around offshore islands and add in a small SPZ over islands along eastern border (adjacent to Mondrain Island).</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to remove the entire offshore area of the SZ but maintain and extend the nearshore area to the east to cover Lucky Bay.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 76 submissions requesting to extend this SZ, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Further west to cover more of the Recherche Archipelago.</li> <li>○ To include western portion of Lucky Bay to protect leafy seadragon colony.</li> <li>○ To the limits of State waters.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Proposed Wudjari Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including general support for shoreline protection.</li> <li>• Specific suggestions to extend shoreline protection to the waters around both Lucky Bay and Mondrain Island.</li> <li>• 20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Cape Le Grand due to the area having some of the most extensive rhodolith, seagrass, rocky reefs, kelp and island habitats that are under-represented in the Recherche Archipelago.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Victoria Harbour Beach to Hammer Head Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> <li>• Specific suggestions to remove or reduce SZ to allow fishing around Duke of Orleans e.g., remove the zone 6 miles west of Duke of Orleans boat launching facility.</li> <li>• 47 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 submissions requesting full removal.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to remove the northern half of the SZ due to commercial fishing value.</li> <li>• 2 submissions raised concerns about this SZ due to the area being highly valued for commercial fishing operations.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to create a SPZ allowing abalone fishing within 200m of shoreline, 300m around offshore islands and add in an SPZ covering the northeastern area of the SZ.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to extend SPZ boundary line to the offshore side of Hammer Head and Station Island, to decrease the size of the SZ, and to incorporate a 200m offshore buffer to allow abalone fishing.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Membinup Beach Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 67 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> <li>• Specific suggestions to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Move this SZ to the east.</li> <li>○ Reduce or remove to allow boat fishing access near Duke of Orleans.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 32 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission requesting full or partial removal of this SZ due to the area being a key area for commercial fishing.</li> </ul>

Proposed Wudjari Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 submission suggested to allow recreational fishing in the SZ due to easy access from Duke of Orleans.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>65 submissions requesting to extend the marine park and/or zones, including general suggestions to increase the area of this SZ.</li> <li>31 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including general support for ensuring shoreline protection.</li> <li>Specific requests for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater nearshore to deep water protection for the kelp forests.</li> <li>Duke of Orleans to be included in the SZ.</li> <li>Extend SZ to Mart Islands.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Proposed Kennedy Beach and Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>76 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>28 submissions requesting to reduce or remove this zone, including specific requests to remove or reduce the zone to allow greater boat fishing access to the islets east of North Twin Peaks Island as well as Kermadec Island and Foam Rocks.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 submissions requesting full removal due to high commercial value, including one submission which suggested removing the offshore portion if full removal was not possible.</li> <li>1 submission requesting to create abalone SPZ allowing abalone fishing within 200m of the shoreline, 300m around Taylor Island, plus a SPZ zone covering the islands and width of the SZ adjacent to North Twin Peal Island.</li> <li>1 submission suggested to extend the proposed Munglignup Warden Biel SPZ offshore (which will reduce size of the SZ) and allow fishing access to Kermadec Island.</li> <li>1 submission raised concerns about including the nearshore portion due to the area being a key area for commercial fisheries.</li> <li>2 submissions requesting for adjustments to the borders to allow commercial operations to continue around Kermadec Island.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Salisbury Island - Cooper Island Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>41 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ or by including a 500m fishing zone around all islands.</li> <li>Specific suggestions to remove Cooper Island from SZ.</li> </ul>

Proposed Wudjari Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 submissions requesting the removal of at least one island from this SZ, with most recommending removing Cooper Island and retaining Salisbury Island within the SZ.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 submissions requesting to strengthen proposed protection, including general support for retaining shoreline protection.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Cape Pasley Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 41 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> <li>• Specific requests to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Move western boundary to the eastern end of Sandy Bight beach.</li> <li>○ Remove the SZ west of Pasley Island to allow access for small boat fishers launching from Seal and Poison Creek boat launching beaches.</li> <li>○ Allow fishing off the southern half of SZ.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 36 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 submissions requesting full removal or large reduction in size.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting for a SPZ to allow abalone fishing within 200m of the shoreline.</li> <li>• 2 submissions highlighted the area as extremely important for many fisheries.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22 submissions requesting for strengthen proposed protection, including general support for shoreline protection.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Eastern Group Islands to Southern Bilbunya Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Proposed Eastern Group SZ comments</b></p> <p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ, through setbacks or removal of the SZ.</li> <li>• 13 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p>

Proposed Western Bight Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 submissions requesting full removal as the area is important to many different fisheries, and essential for southern rock lobster operations.</li> <li>• 2 submissions requesting to reduce the size, one of which suggested to divide the zone in half and remove the western part from the SZ.</li> <li>• 2 submissions highlighted the area as highly valued for many fisheries.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed Southern Bilbunya SZ comments</b></p> <p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All four submissions for this SZ were either requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing or reduce, remove or move this zone.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission suggesting full removal of the northern section, which is not included within the ASL closure area.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Israelite Bay (south) Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 98 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission suggesting full removal.</li> <li>• 1 submission suggesting including a SPZ in the western portion of the SZ due to the area being a high priority area for abalone.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to incorporate a 200m offshore buffer to allow abalone fishing (including recreational) and reshape to avoid high priority abalone ground.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 68 submissions requesting to increase the size of this SZ, including specific suggestions for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Greater connectivity between Israelite Bay and Baxter Cliffs SZs.</li> <li>○ Widening the SZ to the south.</li> <li>○ General suggestions for a larger SZ and increased sanctuary protection at Israelite Bay, citing the area as one of only three large established calving areas known to exist for endangered southern right whales in Australia.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Proposed Bilbunya Beach (central) Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul>

Proposed Western Bight Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ through 200m setbacks of SZ from the shore.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 submission suggesting full removal.</li> <li>2 submissions highlighted the area as highly valued and very important for their fishing operations.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Bilbunya Dunes Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>29 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing, with specific mentions of the area from Bilbunya Dunes up to Baxter Cliffs as a popular fishing spot.</li> <li>17 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ, with mention that it's a productive shark and rock lobster area.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 submission suggesting full removal.</li> <li>2 submissions highlighted the area as highly valued and very important for their fishing operations.</li> </ul>
Proposed Western Bight Marine Park	Proposed Baxter Cliffs (west) Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>15 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ through at least a 200m setback.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 submission requesting full removal due to importance to their fishing operations.</li> <li>1 submission suggested to include a 200m SPZ to allow abalone fishing along the shoreline cliff face, due to area being of high priority.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Baxter Cliffs (east) Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this zone.</li> <li>13 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 submission suggested decreasing the size to 5 NM in length with longitude 125.20 E being the center.</li> </ul>
Proposed Mirning Marine Park	Proposed Twilight Cove Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> <li>10 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>Specific request for setbacks from the eastern boundary to the junction of the beach and the high cliffs.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 submission suggested to include a 500m SPZ allowing abalone fishing along the shoreline of the SZ.</li> <li>1 submission suggested to include a new candidate area with similar conservation values between Twilight Cove SZ area and Poison Creek SPZ area, and to incorporate a 200m setback from the shoreline to allow for abalone and recreational fishing.</li> <li>1 submission raised concerns that the implementation of this SZ will force their business to cease DPIRD fisheries Zone 4 operations.</li> <li>1 submission highlighted the importance of this area to their operations and made the following requests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The cultural management zone be extended to the 3 NM limit.</li> <li>Maintain middle area as SZ (to create continuity with the SZ from the Commonwealth Marine Park).</li> <li>The western section changed to general use to allow fishing and to align with the Commonwealth Marine Park.</li> </ul> </li> <li>1 submission suggested changing the boundaries so that they fall within the existing Gillnet Exclusion Zone boundaries.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Madura Beach to Red Rocks Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing, including specific requests for a 200m setback from the eastern boundary to immediately west of the track at Middini Beach.</li> <li>17 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> <li>Specific request to shift the sanctuary zone west to remove the area around Red Rocks Point.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p>

Proposed Mirning Marine Park		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission requesting to move the SZ to the west to remove the area around Red Rocks Point.</li> <li>• 1 submission requesting to remove the eastern portion of this SZ.</li> <li>• 1 submission highlighted the area as important for their operations and suggested full removal or reducing the area to 5 NM in total using longitude 127.00 E as the center point.</li> <li>• 1 submission raised concerns that the implementation of this SZ will force their business to cease Esperance operations.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Eucla Sanctuary Zone	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 39 submissions requesting setbacks of SZ from the shore to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>• 20 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ.</li> </ul> <p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 submissions requesting full removal.</li> <li>• 1 submission requested to include a 200m SPZ allowing abalone fishing along the shoreline of the eastern portion of the SZ.</li> <li>• 1 submission suggested moving the SZ 10 km west or consider if appropriate to change to a cultural protection SPZ to allow fishing access and safe anchorage.</li> <li>• 3 submissions requesting for adjustments to the borders, due to the area being the main channel to Eucla mooring, and a productive fishing area.</li> </ul>

**Table 5: Submission comments on special purpose zones (cultural protection and cultural management)**

Marine Park	Zone Name	Submission comments
Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Proposed Point Hood Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 submissions requested setbacks to allow recreational fishing (e.g., 200m, 500m setbacks).</li> </ul>
	Proposed Hamersley Inlet Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 submission made a general suggestion to remove this zone.</li> </ul>

		<b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 submission made a general comment to expand the sanctuary zone to include this area to represent more habitats and enable shoreline protection.</li> </ul>
Proposed Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Coujinup Warden Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three comments focused on protecting recreational fishing in this SPZ through setbacks or reducing the SPZ.</li> </ul> <b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One comment was related to increased protection for sea lion habitat.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Munglinup Warden Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 comments focused on protecting recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 comment on extending the marine park and/or zones specifically by making this a sanctuary zone to ensure connectivity with land nature reserves.</li> <li>20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Munglinup, because of the area's connectivity with the land nature reserve and a unique estuary with reefs.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Coujinup Kubitj Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16,406 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Investigator Island due to the area being Australian sea lion breeding habitat, also having some of the area's most unique reefs, pinnacles and banks.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Benwenerup Warden Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20 submissions requesting setbacks to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>8 submissions requesting to reduce, remove or move zone.</li> </ul> <b>Commercial fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 submission made a general comment that commercial access (including use of gillnets) should not be restricted within the Stokes Inlet.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Quagi Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21 submissions requesting to reduce/remove or move marine parks or zones, including general requests to remove or reduce this SPZ to allow boat fishing, with Fanny Cove mentioned.</li> </ul>

Proposed Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Warrenup Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>58 submissions requesting setbacks to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Mandoowirup Booynitj Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 submissions requesting to extend this SPZ.</li> <li>20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Cape Le Grand due to the area having some of the most extensive rhodolith, seagrass, rocky reefs, kelp and island habitats that are under-represented in the Recherche Archipelago.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Dunn Rocks Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>60 submissions requesting setbacks to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Membinup Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 submissions requesting to extend the marine park and/or zones, including general comments to extend and/or increase protection citing the offshore area in this SPZ.</li> <li>9 submissions requesting to protect marine biodiversity and conservation.</li> <li>20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Membinup due to the offshore area featuring extensive seagrass meadows, kelp, reefs and island habitats.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Mungliginup Wardan Biel Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>37 submissions requesting to extend this SPZ.</li> <li>Specific requests to ensure full protection for the extensive kelp forests and sea grasses in Alexander Bay.</li> </ul>
Proposed Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Cape Arid to Middle Island Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 submissions requesting to reduce, remove or move this zone.</li> <li>3 submissions requesting setbacks to allow recreational fishing.</li> </ul> <b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 submissions requesting to extend this SPZ.</li> <li>20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Cape Arid due to the area's high diversity of endemic fish species and extensive bare reef habitat.</li> </ul>

	Proposed Jorndee Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Recreational fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>65 submissions requesting setbacks to allow recreational fishing.</li> <li>Specific requests for at least a 200m setback at Poison Creek.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Kubitj Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	<b>Conservation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>22 submissions requesting to extend this SPZ, including specific comments to extend or increase sanctuary protection of Round Island as a critical breeding habitat for the survival of endangered Australian sea lions and a breeding site for little penguins.</li> <li>20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Round Island, due to the area being critical breeding habitat for the survival of endangered Australian sea lions, also a breeding site for little penguins.</li> </ul>
Proposed Mirning Marine Park	Proposed Kaniaal Beach West Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	<b>Commercial fishing:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 submissions highlighted their long-term use of the area, in particular the Eyre Bird mooring, which is adjacent to this zone.</li> </ul>

**Table 6: Submission comments on special purpose zones (whale conservation and wildlife conservation)**

Marine Park	Zone Name	Submission comments
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Proposed Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Proposed Doubtful Island Bay Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation)	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>18 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SZ through at least a 200m setback.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 submissions requesting to extend the marine park and/or zones, including general suggestions focused on extending this zone or changing to a fully protected sanctuary to increase protection for southern right whales.</li> <li>24 submissions requesting to protect marine biodiversity and conservation, including general comments supporting the park but requesting more sanctuary zones to better protect our iconic south coast marine life, especially for endangered southern right whales, endangered Australian sea lions, endemic seadragon species, coastal nearshore areas, and in the Recherche Archipelago.</li> </ul>
Proposed Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Thomas River - Yokinup Bay Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation)	<p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>45 submissions requesting to extend the marine park and/or zones, including comments to extend or increase protection in this SPZ for southern right whales and sea lions, and to make it a fully protected sanctuary zone.</li> </ul>
	Proposed Cape Arid Special Purpose Zone (wildlife conservation)	<p><b>Commercial fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 submissions requesting to change zone from SPZ (wildlife conservation) to SPZ (cultural management) to allow current permitted fisheries to continue.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>71 submissions requesting to extend the marine park and/or zones, including general comments to extend this SPZ and therefore its protection of key species and habitats.</li> <li>Specific requests for full sanctuary protection for George Island and Wickham/Stanley Island as they are critical breeding sites for endangered Australian sea lions.</li> </ul>

<p>Proposed Western Bight Marine Park</p>	<p>Proposed Israelite Bay - Bilbunya Beach Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation)</p>	<p><b>Recreational fishing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 submissions requesting to protect recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish, including general requests to allow recreational fishing in this SPZ.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conservation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 submissions requesting strengthen proposed protection, including general requests for full sanctuary protection for this area, particularly Six Mile Island as it is a critical breeding site for endangered Australian sea lions.</li> <li>• 20,040 proforma submissions requesting to increase sanctuary protection of Israelite Bay and Six Mile Island, due to Israelite Bay being one of only three endangered southern right whale calving hotspots in Australia, and Six Mile Island having one of the highest numbers of Australian sea lion pups in the region and being a breeding site for little penguins.</li> </ul>
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## PART C – SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO KEY THEMES AND MODIFICATIONS TO THE MANAGEMENT PLANS

All themes raised during the public submission period were considered by DBCA, and Traditional Owner joint management partners.

After considering all the public submissions the following key changes have been made between the indicative and final management plans:

- removal of sanctuary zone at Point Hood;
- changes to the size and location of some of the sanctuary zones, special purpose zones (cultural protection), and general use zones;
- some sanctuary zones have been set back from the shoreline to allow for recreational fishing, a key concern from local communities;
- all special purpose zones (cultural management) were removed from the Wudjari Marine Park at the request of Esperance Tjaltjraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC);
- minor boundary amendments to accommodate existing adjacent tenure and future development at coastal access points (i.e. Hopetoun Jetty);
- minor amendments made to management strategies and other text;
- an area has been excised from the Mirning Marine Park (approximately 20 km wide and out to the limit of state water) to accommodate the proposed Western Green Energy Hub;
- prioritisation of management strategies for all four management plans into High, Medium, Low, As required and Ongoing;
- assignment of each strategy to a management program (management framework, education and interpretation, public participation, patrol and enforcement, management intervention and visitor services, research and monitoring) to ensure a coordinated and prioritised approach is taken to implement strategies;
- changes to the name of some zones to reflect Traditional Owner language; and
- thorough review of all management plans to ensure that factual information is current, comprehensive, and accurately reflects the current aspirations and intent from the Western Australian Government and Traditional Owners.

The following sections details the responses to the key themes outlined in Part B, and any resulting modification to the management plans.

### C1. Establishment of the proposed marine park

The majority of submissions supported the creation of the marine parks. The creation of the South Coast Marine Park was a key outcome of Government's Plan for Our Parks initiative. The four individual marine parks comprising the South Coast Marine Park were created on 5 November 2024.

## C2. Strengthening proposed protection levels and protecting marine biodiversity & conservation

The zoning scheme for the marine park has been amended in response to public submissions and further consultation with key stakeholders and Traditional Owners to better reflect the values and objectives of the marine park and the existing and potential uses of the marine park. While the level of protection has slightly decreased compared to the original proposal, the placement and type of zones has been changed to reduce the impact on existing and potential use. The zoning scheme is based on a comprehensive, adequate and representative design and aims to protect ecologically and culturally important values, while also considering the needs of other park users such as commercial and recreational fishers.

## C3. Recreational fishing, boating and the safety of those who fish

The indicative plans proposed approximately 75 per cent of the proposed marine park waters to remain open for recreational and commercial fishing, with approximately 78 per cent of the shoreline available for land-based fishing. After considering all the public submissions some changes have been made to the zoning scheme, including setbacks of sanctuary zones from popular fishing beaches and the designation of special purpose zones (cultural protection) in key areas which had high ecological, cultural and socio-economic values. This has resulted in an increase in area available for recreational fishing. Key locations include Point Hood, Doubtful Islands, Tooregullup Beach, Twelve Mile Beach, Mason Bay, Lake Shaster Beach (including offshore area), headlands at Barker Inlet and Warrenup Beach, waters around Woody Island, Hellfire Bay, Thistle Cove, Victoria Harbour and Wharton Beach area (including offshore), Membinup offshore area and Kennedy Beach, Bilbunya Dunes, Twilight Cove, Red Rocks Point and Middini Beach, and Eucla. The final plans allow recreational fishing in approximately 80 per cent of the waters and along approximately 85 per cent of the shoreline.

Sanctuary zones have also been located away from boat ramps and high use boat launching areas to ensure ongoing opportunities for recreational boat-based fishing are maintained. Some submissions raised concerns that no-take sanctuary zones might displace fishing efforts and cause changes to fish stocks. However, many scientific studies have demonstrated that sanctuary zones of the right size in the right area can increase fish populations outside the zones as adult fish move out of the 'no take' zone to be captured in adjoining areas. Fertilised eggs and larvae also drift out of the sanctuary to settle in other non-reserve areas. Nevertheless, in response to this, a new management strategy has been included in the recreational fishing section of the final management plans to monitor this issue, *'Assess possible displacement of fishing effort, changes in fishery dynamics (exploitation patterns) and other impacts that may be influenced by restrictions on fishing access in the marine park to ensure ongoing efficacy of stock assessment data-inputs and examine potential management responses.'* The management strategy is included in all four plans as a high priority and will be undertaken within the first 2-3 years of implementation.

## C4. Rationale, design, evidence and consultation process

### Rationale, Design and Evidence

Marine parks are internationally recognised and accepted as an important tool for conserving marine biodiversity by protecting ecosystems, conserving endangered species, and maintaining the health of marine environments. The establishment of the South Coast Marine Park is part of the Plan for Our Parks initiative which will create five million hectares of new national and marine reserves across Western Australia. The Fitzgerald Biosphere Reserve, Stokes Inlet, Recherche Archipelago and Twilight Cove were identified by The Marine Parks and Reserves Selection Working Group (MPRSWG) as areas worthy of consideration as marine reserve along the South Coast in their 1994 report, *A Representative Marine Reserve System for Western Australia* (i.e. the Wilson Report). Since this report, scientific studies (such as a major 2001-2005 study by UWA in the Recherche Archipelago) have shown the state waters of the South Coast are a globally significant marine biodiversity hotspot. The WA Auditor General's 2016 report on the Management of Marine Parks and Reserves noted that the South Coast Bioregion is under-represented in WA's existing network of marine parks and reserves (currently less than 1%), and that several bioregions, including the Eucla Bioregion, do not have any marine parks or reserves.

Multiple-use marine parks in Western Australia are designed using principles based on national and international criteria, accepted conservation planning principles and the latest knowledge from scientific research. The final zoning scheme has been designed using these principles and aims to minimise impacts on commercial and recreational fishers, while comprehensively and adequately representing the biodiversity and cultural values across the entire marine park.

While WA's oceans are some of the healthiest in the world the pressures on these areas are growing. Marine parks play an important role in protecting those areas that are still in the most natural condition (where threats and pressures are minimal). Areas set aside as 'no-take' sanctuary zones allow scientists to carry out research and long-term monitoring of marine habitats and biodiversity which are relatively unimpacted by human activities. From this research and monitoring baselines can be developed, against which to compare areas where impacts may be occurring. The design of the sanctuary zones within the marine park comprehensively represents the incredible diversity of this environment in a way that will ensure it is present for future generations to visit and enjoy.

### Consultation Process

The entire consultation process went above and beyond the Government's statutory requirements for the creation of a marine park and reflects the collaborative approach warranted for a project of State significance. Community and stakeholder consultation has been ongoing since 2019 and has been integral to informing the planning and development of the indicative plans. The primary engagement mechanism from late 2021 to early 2023 was the Community Reference Committee (CRC), which was informed by Sector Advisory Groups, that have provided advice on the development of the indicative management plans, including the indicative boundary and zoning schemes. The CRC first met in December 2021 and met a further 5 times over 18

months and was formed to ensure views from the local community could be heard. Prior to the release of the indicative management plans DBCA also conducted 31 individual meetings with commercial fishers and seven with recreational fishers. These meetings took place in Albany, Hopetoun, Esperance and Perth.

The release of the indicative management plans and four-month public submissions period was widely advertised across the region (see Section A2). During this period DBCA also met with commercial fishers to give GIS support for their submissions. All public submissions received were considered, and changes were made to the management plans and zoning scheme to address the issues raised through this process.

## C5. Recreational and family activities and traditions

Access for most recreational activities including swimming, diving, snorkelling, surfing and nature appreciation has not changed and remains permitted across the whole marine park. Access for activities such as walking dogs, camping and four-wheel driving along beaches has also not changed as a result of this process and can still be done where currently permitted. It is important to note that beach access arrangements are matters for the relevant land manager (e.g. local shire) and are a separate issue not addressed by the marine park management plans. As has always been the case, beach access can be temporarily closed for safety or other reasons. While temporary or seasonal closures can be used over the marine environment to protect wildlife values, the need for such closures has not been identified in the planning process. Access for recreational fishing was identified under this key issue however has been addressed in Sections C3 and C7.

## C6. Tourism, economic development and coastal lifestyle

Marine parks stimulate the local economy through raising the profile of marine values and providing new opportunities for nature-based tourism, including eco and cultural tourism opportunities. An example of this has been shown through the Ningaloo Marine Park which has 34 per cent sanctuary zones and adds \$100M annually to the WA economy. The development and management of new tourist facilities would contribute to the wider appeal of the South Coast as a must-visit destination and lead to increased economic opportunities for Esperance and the wider South Coast region.

As detailed in Section C5, there are no access restrictions for recreational activities including swimming, diving, snorkelling, surfing, nature appreciation, dog walking, and beach camping and four-wheel driving. These activities were commonly cited in public submissions and associated with the coastal lifestyle, which remains unimpacted. After considering all public submissions some changes have been made to the zoning scheme to increase access for recreational fishing (including land and boat-based fishing). These changes are explained in Sections C3 and C7.

## C7. Land-based fishing

The indicative management plans proposed approximately 78 per cent of the proposed marine park shorelines to remain open for land-based fishing, including all jetties within the marine park. After considering all public submissions some changes have been made to the zoning scheme, particularly the inclusion of setbacks to some

shorelines within sanctuary zones and the designation of special purpose zones (cultural protection) in key areas which had high ecological, cultural and socio-economic values. This has resulted in an increase in popular fishing beaches being available for recreational fishing and the final zoning scheme allowing access to approximately 85 per cent of shorelines for land-based fishing.

## C8. Mining, oil and gas exploration and other extractive activities

The South Coast Marine Park has been gazetted as a Class A reserve, meaning there will be implications for approvals for resource exploration or development activities within any future mining tenements directly intersecting or overlapping the marine park boundary. The CALM Act specifies that mining and petroleum exploration and production is permitted in a marine park general use zone or special purpose zone if it is compatible with the specified purpose of that zone. All mining (including exploration) activities within the marine park boundary will require the consent of the Minister for Mines, with the concurrence of the Minister for Environment and prior recommendations of the Minister for Fisheries and the Minister charged with the administration of the *Marine and Harbours Act 1981*. The granting of a mining lease or general-purpose lease will require the approval of both Houses of Parliament, and any mining related activities within the marine park boundary, including exploration, will require approvals pursuant to Section 24A of the *Mining Act 1978*.

Proposals to install or construct infrastructure in or adjacent to the marine park may arise during the life of the management plans. The nature of the proposed development will determine the appropriate level of assessment. Any developments with the potential to have environmental impacts may be subject to an environmental impact assessment under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. Exploration and development that may have a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance may also require approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Since the release of the indicative management plans some changes have been made within the Mirning Marine Park. The *Proposed Mirning Marine Park Indicative Joint Management Plan 2024* identified the Western Green Energy Hub (WGEH) as an upcoming development within the park. Planning for the WGEH has commenced, and to accommodate its potential future footprint in the marine environment a marine buffer area (approximately 20 km wide and out to the limit of State waters) around the conceptual development footprint has been excised from the Mirning Marine Park. Subject to WGEH gaining all necessary approvals, this excision will allow for the future creation of port waters, which will be managed by an appropriate port authority. The area remains of interest for inclusion into the marine park. If the WGEH project does not proceed, the excision area will be included into the marine park at a later date. Additionally, if the excision area is larger than required for port operations, waters not included in the future port will be included in the marine park.

## C9. Joint management with Traditional Owners

The support for joint management across the marine parks has been noted. The marine parks have been developed in partnership with Traditional Owners and have been aligned with the four, Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar, Wudjari, Ngadjju, and

Mirning native title determination areas. Importantly, these four marine areas will be managed as one interconnected ecological system. Whilst only three of the four marine parks will initially be jointly managed, the *Western Bight Marine Park Management Plan 2024* enables joint management of the Western Bight Marine Park with Ngadju Traditional Owners in the future. In addition, the intertidal portions of the Wudjari Marine Park will be jointly vested with ETNTAC.

Currently, six jointly managed marine parks have been established in WA and no issues of community unease have been documented as a result. Benefits of jointly managed marine and national parks have been well documented and include: improved land and sea management by incorporating traditional, scientific and technical knowledge held by Aboriginal people with western science; creation of long-term employment on Country for Traditional Owners; better protection and management of Aboriginal cultural heritage; and more opportunities for nature-based and cultural tourism.

## C10. Commercial fishing

The indicative management plans proposed approximately 75 per cent of the proposed marine park to remain open for commercial fishing. After considering all the public submissions in particular those of commercial operators, and consulting with DPIRD, changes have been made to the zoning scheme, particularly the removal of areas of sanctuary zone and designation of special purpose zones (cultural protection) in key areas which had high ecological, cultural and socio-economic values. This has resulted in an increase in area accessible for commercial fishing. Key locations include Point Hood and Doubtful Islands, Mason Bay area, Lake Shaster Beach area, West Group Islands, Woody Island area, Cape Le Grand area (including offshore area), Victoria Harbour and Wharton Beach area (including offshore), Kennedy Beach area and offshore area, Cooper Island and Cape Pasley, Eastern Group area and Eucla. The final management plans allow commercial fishing to be undertaken in approximately 80 per cent of the marine park.

Some submissions raised concerns that no-take sanctuary zones might displace fishing efforts and cause changes to fish stocks. However, many scientific studies have demonstrated that sanctuary zones of the right size in the right area can increase fish populations outside the zones as adult fish move out of the 'no take' zone to be captured in adjoining areas. Fertilised eggs and larvae also drift out of the sanctuary to settle in other non-reserve areas. Nevertheless, in response to this, a new management strategy has been included in the commercial fishing section of the final management plans to monitor this issue, *'Assess possible displacement of fishing effort, changes in fishery dynamics (exploitation patterns) and other impacts that may be influenced by restrictions on fishing access in the marine park to ensure ongoing efficacy of stock assessment data-inputs and examine potential management responses.'* The management strategy is included in all four plans as a high priority and will be undertaken within the first 2-3 years of implementation.

Submissions which made comment on fair compensation for commercial fishers have been noted. Commercial fishers who hold an authorisation and suffer a loss arising from the creation of a marine park in WA may be eligible for compensation under the

*Fishing and Related Industries Compensation (Marine Reserves) Act 1997*. DPIRD is the responsible agency for administering this Act.

## C11. Summary of changes to specific zones

After considering all public submissions, changes have been made to the zoning scheme. If a zone is not included in the tables below, no changes were made from the indicative management plan.

It should be noted a number of submissions made specific comments on special purpose zones (cultural protection and cultural management) and special purpose zones (whale conservation) (Table 5 and 6), requesting to remove or setback zones to allow recreational fishing. These types of special purpose zones do not restrict access for recreational or commercial fishing therefore no changes have been made to reflect these comments.

**Table 7: Changes to the sanctuary zones proposed in the indicative management plans**

Marine Park	Zone Name	Changes
Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Proposed Point Hood Sanctuary Zone	This zone was removed to provide for better recreational and commercial fishing access.
	Doubtful Islands (east) Sanctuary Zone	This zone was reduced in size by removing the area in the north-west corner to allow for recreational and commercial fishing around a section of the Doubtful Islands.
	Proposed Gordon Inlet Nearshore Sanctuary Zone	<p>The sanctuary zone was offset from the shoreline across the entire zone to provide for better recreational fishing access. In addition, the zone was extended south to protect more inshore habitat (seagrass).</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Tooregullup Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar (WКСN) language.</p>
	Proposed Cheadanup Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by offsetting the sanctuary area along the southern half of the shoreline to provide for better recreational and commercial fishing access.</p> <p>The spelling of this zone has changed to, 'Cheedenup Sanctuary Zone', to reflect WКСN language.</p>
	Proposed Hamersley Inlet Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by removing the area in the northwest corner. The area removed was included within the Proposed Hamersley Inlet special purpose zone (cultural protection) (which has been renamed to Wongalingup Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)), to allow recreational and commercial fishing around this headland.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Wonjarup Sanctuary Zone', to reflect WКСN language.</p>
	Proposed Hopetoun (east) Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by offsetting the sanctuary area along the western half of the shoreline to provide for better recreational and commercial fishing access.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Kundong-unjip Sanctuary Zone', to reflect WКСN language.</p>

Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Mason Bay and West Island Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p>The area of the zone within the Wudjari Marine Park was reduced in size by removing the inshore portion and area to the north-east of West Island to allow for better recreational and commercial fishing access.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Jerdacuttup Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
	Munglinup Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by removing the area adjacent to Lake Shaster Beach to allow for better recreational and commercial fishing access.</p>
	Proposed Barker Inlet to Monroe Point Beach Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by removing the area around the headlands at Warrenup Beach and Barker Inlet to allow for better recreational and commercial fishing access. A new special purpose zone (wildlife conservation) was added around Red Island which allows hand collection only (Red Island Special Purpose Zone (wildlife conservation)).</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Wari-irning Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
	Proposed West Group Islands Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by removing the north-eastern area (around the small islands) from sanctuary zone to allow for better boat-based recreational and commercial fishing access.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Murningup Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
	Proposed Kepa Kurl Sanctuary Zone	<p>The majority of this zone was removed to allow for better recreational and commercial fishing access. Sanctuary zone was maintained in the bay adjacent to the accommodation at Woody Island. The waters surrounding the jetty were removed from the marine park due to existing tenure constraints.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Moort Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
	Proposed Cape Le Grand Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by offsetting the area adjacent to Hellfire Bay and Thistle Cove from the shore and shifting the western boundary east to allow for better recreational and commercial fishing access.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Mandooweernup Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>

Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Victoria Harbour Beach to Hammer Head Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by moving the northern inshore boundary offshore, south of Station Island and offsetting the headland at the eastern end of Dunn Rocks Beach from the shore to allow for better recreational fishing access.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Puudal Mia Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
	Proposed Membinup Beach Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone has been reduced in size, moved further east and extended inshore. The zone remains offset approximately 200m offshore to allow for recreational fishing access.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Membinup Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
	Proposed Kennedy Beach and Offshore Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by offsetting the eastern portion approximately 200m from the shore. The western boundary has also been moved east and the offshore northern boundary moved south of Foam Rocks to allow for better recreational and commercial fishing access.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Yirrangudding Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
	Proposed Salisbury Island - Cooper Island Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by removing the eastern portion surrounding Cooper Island to allow for better commercial fishing access.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Madjet Kubitj Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
	Proposed Cape Pasley Sanctuary Zone	<p>Eastern and western extents reduced to allow for better recreational and commercial fishing access, maintaining a central strip of sanctuary zone from shore to around offshore islands.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Marlee-Maletup Sanctuary Zone', to reflect Wudjari language.</p>
Western Bight Marine Park	Eastern Group Islands to Southern Bilbunya Sanctuary Zone	<p>This zone was reduced in size by removing the southwestern half to allow for better commercial fishing access.</p>

Western Bight Marine Park	Bilbunya Beach (central) Sanctuary Zone	This zone was reduced in size by offsetting the sanctuary area from the shore south of the existing setback to allow for better recreational fishing access.
	Bilbunya Dunes Sanctuary Zone	This zone was reduced in size by offsetting the sanctuary area from the shoreline across the whole zone to allow for better recreational fishing access.
Mirning Marine Park	Twilight Cove Sanctuary Zone	This zone was reduced in size by offsetting a section of the central shoreline adjacent to Twilight Cove to allow for better recreational and commercial fishing access. The area removed from sanctuary was included in the Proposed Kaniaal Beach West Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection) to protect the cultural values of the area.
	Madura Beach to Red Rocks Sanctuary Zone	This zone was reduced in size by offsetting the eastern shoreline extending from Red Rocks Point to Middini Beach to allow for better recreational fishing access.
	Eucla Sanctuary Zone	This zone was moved further to the west and now borders the Noonaera Beach Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection). The sanctuary zone remains the same size and protects similar habitat and has been renamed to, 'Noonaera Sanctuary Zone.'

**Table 8: Changes to the special purpose zones (cultural protection and cultural management) proposed in the indicative management plans**

Marine Park	Zone Name	Changes
Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Tooregullup Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	This is a new zone which has been added in the southern end of Tooregullup Beach in Doubtful Island Bay. The area this zone covers was identified by Traditional Owners as a culturally significant area.
	St Mary Inlet Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	This is a new zone and covers the area of the St Mary River which was previously included in the Proposed Doubtful Island Bay Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation).
	Boondalup Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	This is a new zone and covers the area of the Boondalup River which was previously included in the Proposed Doubtful Island Bay Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation).
	Proposed Hamersley Inlet Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	This zone has been increased in size to include a section of headland on the western side of the zone which was removed from the Proposed Hamersley Inlet Offshore Sanctuary Zone.

Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park		This zone has also been renamed to, 'Wongalingup Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)', to reflect WКСN language.
Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Coujinup Wardan Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	All special purpose zones (cultural management) were removed from the Wudjari Marine Park at the request of ETNTAC.
	Proposed Munglinup Wardan Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Coujinup Kubitj Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Benwenerup Wardan Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Quagi Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Warrenup Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Mandoowirup Booynitj Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Dunn Rocks Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Tjaltjraak Boodja Wardan Biel Special	

Wudjari Marine Park	Purpose Zone (cultural management)	All special purpose zones (cultural management) were removed from the Wudjari Marine Park at the request of ETNTAC.
	Proposed Cheyne Point Offshore Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Membinup Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Munglignup Warden Biel Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Cape Arid to Middle Island Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Jorndee Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Marmlimaatup Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
	Proposed Kubitj Special Purpose Zone (cultural management)	
Mirning Marine Park	Kaniaal Beach West Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	This zone was increased in size to cover the shoreline to the west of the zone which was removed from the Twilight Cove Sanctuary Zone. This zone protects important cultural values but allows commercial and recreational fishing.
	Red Rocks Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	This is a new zone which was added to cover the shoreline removed from the Proposed Madura Beach to Red Rocks Point Sanctuary Zone.

	Eucla Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	This zone replaces the Proposed Eucla Sanctuary Zone which was moved further west. The zone has also been extended further to the west to Eucla jetty and provides for recreational and commercial fishing whilst protecting important cultural I values.
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**Table 9: Changes to the special purpose zones (whale conservation and wildlife conservation) proposed in the indicative management plans**

Marine Park	Zone Name	Changes
Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Doubtful Island Bay Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation)	<p>The area covering the St Mary River and Boondalup River was removed from this zone and added to two new zones, the St Mary Inlet Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection) and Boondalup Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection) respectively. Because of this, the overall size of this zone has been reduced.</p> <p>This zone has also been renamed to, 'Mamang Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation)', to reflect WКСN language.</p>
Wudjari Marine Park	Red Island Special Purpose Zone (wildlife conservation)	A new special purpose zone (wildlife conservation) was added around Red Island. This zone allows for limited commercial and recreational fishing (hand collection only) activities to occur whilst maintaining a high level of protection for wildlife in the area including sea lion breeding and foraging.

## Other key changes

### Prioritisation of the management strategies for the Maambakoort Marine Park, Wudjari Marine Park, Western Bight Marine Park and Mirning Marine Park management plans

Since the release of the indicative management plans, all strategies in the plans have been prioritised in collaboration with Traditional Owners. Management strategies are prioritised as high (H), medium (M), low (L), to indicate their relative importance in the management plans. High priority strategies have been identified as foundational and need to be started as soon as possible (within the first 2-3 years of the implementation of the marine park). Medium priority strategies are those that need to be started within 3-5 years, and low priority strategies are those that need to be done when possible and as resources allow. Some strategies have been listed as, 'Ongoing,' which are those that require consistent actions to achieve and are not triggered by external influences, and 'As required,' for strategies that address events that are infrequent and require action from the JMB. All strategies apart from those which are 'as required' are intended to be implemented over the 10-year life of this management plan.

### Changes to zone names

Some changes have been made to the names of some zones to reflect Traditional Owner language. The changes have been outlined in the Table 10. Currently, no name changes have been made to zones in the Mirning Marine Park Joint Management Plan, however it is intended that the JMB develop culturally appropriate names in the future.

**Table 10. Changes to zone names between the indicative and final management plans**

Marine Park	Zone name in indicative management plan	Zone name in final management plan
Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Proposed Gordon Inlet Nearshore Sanctuary Zone	Tooregullup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Doubtful Island Bay Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation)	Mamang Special Purpose Zone (whale conservation)
	Proposed Cheadanup Sanctuary Zone	Cheedenup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Point Charles to Red Island Sanctuary Zone	Dwoort Barl Kartup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Hamersley Inlet Offshore Sanctuary Zone	Wonjarup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Hamersley Inlet Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)	Wongalingup Special Purpose Zone (cultural protection)
	Proposed Hopetoun (east) Sanctuary Zone	Kundong-unjip Sanctuary Zone

Mamang Maambakoort Marine Park	Proposed Mason Bay and West Island Sanctuary Zone	Jerdacuttup Sanctuary Zone
Wudjari Marine Park	Proposed Mason Bay and West Island Sanctuary Zone	Jerdacuttup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Investigator Island Sanctuary Zone	Nangarup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Benwenerup Wardan Sanctuary Zone	Benwenerup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Barker Inlet to Monroe Point Beach Sanctuary Zone	Wari-irning Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed West Group Islands Sanctuary Zone	Murningup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Kepa Kurl Sanctuary Zone	Moort Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Termination Island Sanctuary Zone	Dwert Balgart Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Cape Le Grand Sanctuary Zone	Mandooweernup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Victoria Harbour Beach to Hammer Head Offshore Sanctuary Zone	Puudal Mia Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Membinup Beach Offshore Sanctuary Zone	Membinup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Kennedy Beach and Offshore Sanctuary Zone	Yirrangudding Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Cape Pasley Sanctuary Zone	Marlee-Maletup Sanctuary Zone
	Proposed Salisbury Island - Cooper Island Sanctuary Zone	Madjet Kubitj Sanctuary Zone