

Stakeholder engagement regarding the south coast marine park proposal

Your thoughts on the proposed South Coast Marine Park Plan

Community Forum



PLAN FOR OUR PARKS
SECURING 5 MILLION HECTARES OVER 5 YEARS

Albany community forum

10th March 2020

Summary Report

Background

The Western Australian State Government's Plan for Our Parks is an initiative to create five million hectares of new national parks, marine parks and conservation reserves by 2024. As part of this initiative a marine park on the south coast was identified as a key priority.

A series of community forums are being undertaken to help inform the development of the proposed south coast marine park planning process.

This forum was held in Albany to tap into the experience and expertise of local people to gain:

- A clearer understanding of issues important to stakeholders (values)
- Clarity regarding stakeholder's key concerns that need to be addressed during the planning process
- Development of a study area boundary

Forum outputs

What participants value about the south coast marine areas (prioritised list)

Value	Score (%)
Natural wilderness	98
Clean clear cold water	93
Protection of estuaries	92
Remoteness	91
The ability to recreate	86
Healthy marine systems for marine life, land life and humans	85
Healthier marine systems	85
Protection of seagrasses for erosion control	81
The beautiful clear waters	81
Whales and birds	80
Excellent recreational fishing opportunities	71
Sea Dragons and seahorses	59
Opportunities for snorkelling	54

Participant concerns (prioritised list)

Concern	Score (%)
Forcing too many people to fish in a restricted area	100
Plastic pollution	91
Sustainable tourism (e.g. balancing industry/tourism/protecting environment)	87
Recreational fishing access	71
Too much area being closed	67
Oil spills	59
Runoff from Agriculture practices	52
Commercial fishing, trawling, and over-fishing resources.	50
Losing migratory bird stop overs	33
Killing of whales in other countries	16
Gaining a return from the closed areas	6
What is the problem we are trying to fix	0

What participants value about the south coast marine areas (full list)

Values
The beautiful clear waters
Sea dragons and seahorses
Healthy marine systems for marine life, land life and humans
Whales and birds
The ability to recreate
Clean, clear cold water
Excellent recreational fishing opportunities
Remoteness
Healthier marine systems
Natural wilderness
Protection of seagrasses for erosion control
Protection of estuaries
Opportunities for snorkelling

Participant concerns (full list)

Concerns
Commercial fishing, trawling, and over-fishing resources
Killing of whales in other countries
Losing migratory bird stop overs
Plastic pollution
Recreational fishing access
Oil spills
Gaining a return from the closed areas
Too much area being closed
Forcing too many people to fish in a restricted area
Sustainable tourism (e.g.: balancing industry / tourism / protecting environment)
What is the problem we are trying to fix
Runoff from Agriculture practices