



Jervis Bay Marine Park: zoning plan review report

Appendix 2: Summary of stakeholder consultations and submissions

Executive Summary

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Executive summary

Jervis Bay Marine Park on the south coast of NSW and Solitary Islands Marine Park on the mid-north coast of NSW were the first marine parks to be established in NSW. The zoning plan for Jervis Bay Marine Park commenced in 2002 and protects the natural and cultural values of the marine park, while providing for a range of sustainable uses including commercial and recreational fishing, diving, water sports and other activities.

The NSW Government committed to a review of the zoning plan for Jervis Bay Marine Park after five years of operation, and a review has been undertaken in accordance with section 17D of the *Marine Parks Act 1997*.

Public consultation for the zoning plan review ran for two months in April and May 2008. During this period, 41 formal meetings were held with individuals and stakeholder groups, including information sessions with the community, presentations to local community groups and focus group meetings. Several meetings were also held in the month before the official public consultation phase to discuss the review with adjacent land managers and local community leaders.

Meetings	Location	Number of community attendees
Commercial tour operators	Huskisson Community Centre	10
Huskisson Chamber of Commerce	Fresh café, Huskisson	15
Jervis Bay Tourism Association	Huskisson Community Centre	3
Commercial fishers – Greenwell Point	Greenwell Point Scout Hall	12
Commercial fishers – Huskisson	Huskisson Community Centre	8
Commercial fishers – Lake Illawarra	DPI – Fisheries Lake Illawarra office	6
Callala Bay Progress Association	Callala Bay Progress Hall	30
Currarong Progress Association	Currarong Community Hall	19
Huskisson Woollamia Community Voice	Huskisson Community Centre	45
Hyams Beach Progress Association	Hyams Beach Rural Fire Service shed	25
St Georges Basin Community Forum	St Georges Basin Community Centre	30
Sussex Inlet Community Forum	Sussex Inlet Community Centre	15
Vincentia Residents and Ratepayers Association	Vincentia Community Centre	40
Conservation – Huskisson	Huskisson Community Centre	6
Peak conservation groups	Botanic Gardens, Sydney	14
Jerrinja Aboriginal Community	The old school house, Roseby Park (Orient Point)	29
Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council	Meeting room, Nowra Showground	40
Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community	Wreck Bay Community Hall	20
Marine science	Botanic Gardens, Sydney	12
Recreational fishers – Callala Bay	Callala Bay Progress Hall	12
Recreational fishers – Huskisson	Huskisson Community Centre	8

Meetings	Location	Number of community attendees
Recreational fishers – Nowra	Nowra School of Arts	20
Spearfishers and free divers	Huskisson Community Centre	7 (spearfishers)
Sailing	The Postmans Tavern meeting room, Nowra	8
Scuba divers	Huskisson Community Centre	14
TOTAL		448

In addition to focus group meetings, various other mechanisms were used to advertise the zoning plan review and to encourage public comment on the current zoning plan. These included an information package for the review, media releases, advertising, information displays and briefings conducted with individuals and groups. Nearly 400 people attended information days on the review in the Jervis Bay area. Information on the review was made available at local libraries, council offices and other community outlets.

A total of 680 submissions were received from a wide range of interest groups: 648 from individuals and 32 on behalf of organisations. Of the total number of submissions, 34.6% were received from within the local marine park area, 58.9% were received from other areas in NSW and the ACT and 2.6% came from other states or overseas (3.9% did not provide a postcode).

On the submission form, respondents were asked to identify their main interests in the marine park, and many indicated several interests:

Main interest	No. of responses
Recreational fishing	247
Swimming	216
Beach activities	202
Recreational boating	189
Snorkelling	171
Conservation	162
Wildlife observation	158
Scenic amenity	158
Kayaking/canoeing	99
Scuba diving	82
Surfing	77
Spearfishing	76
Charter fishing	51
Personal watercraft / water sports	43
Commercial fishing	42
Other	14

Note: the total number of interests exceeds the number of submissions received because individuals were able to identify multiple interests. 'Other' includes visual arts, yacht racing, aquaculture, free diving, shell collecting, access to the coastline, practice of culture and heritage and environment protection activities.

Submission formats varied and included individual and group submissions, letters, emails, form letters, maps, reports and the review submission forms in hardcopy or from the Marine Parks Authority (MPA) website.

Three different form letters (42.5% of total submissions) were received, generated by the Coastal Rights Association (92 submissions), Nature Conservation Council (36 submissions) and the National Parks Association (161 submissions). The MPA did not give any particular weighting to the various formats of the submissions or the numbers received, and has reviewed and considered all of them.

The majority of the submissions originated from the recreational fishing and the environment/conservation sectors.

The most commonly expressed opinions were:

- keep the current zoning plan as it is with no changes
- sanctuary zones should be made larger to incorporate more habitats, better represent examples of habitats and improve protection for threatened species and marine biodiversity
- disagreement with the need for sanctuary zones.
- recreational fishers should have more access because their impact on marine biodiversity is unproven
- grey nurse sharks need increased protection
- commercial fishing, especially beach hauling, purse seine netting and trawling, should be prohibited or reduced
- appropriate boating infrastructure is needed
- signage delineating zone boundaries needs to be improved
- use of personal watercraft (jet skis) should be prohibited or restricted.

This report presents the results of the public consultation and submission components of the zoning plan review and is in two parts: Part A summarises the feedback received from focus group meetings and other public meetings held during the consultation phase of the review; Part B is a summary of the information provided in the submissions received during the review period.