

South-east Marine Parks Advisory Committee

Meeting # 6 Communique

16 November 2021

Committee Meeting Overview

The sixth meeting of the South-east Marine Parks Advisory Committee was held via Microsoft Teams video conference on Tuesday 16 November 2021.

The Chair provided an Acknowledgment of Country, paying respect to the Traditional Owners of the land on which the meeting was held.

The Chair thanked outgoing members Emma Woodcock and Michael Burgess for their contributions to management of the South-east Network of marine parks and informed the committee that a recruitment process to appoint new members is underway.

Key topics covered at the meeting included an overview of the South-east Network Year 9 & 10 Implementation Plan and the SE Management Plan Evaluation.

Agenda items included:

- Explore Sea Country Update
- South-east Science Update
- South-east Network Year 9 & 10 Implementation Plan
- The South-east Marine Park Management Plan Evaluation

Member attendance

Hilary Schofield (Chair)
Marg O'Toole
Shannon Hurley
Tony Koslow
Neville Barrett
Jane Gallichan
John Whittington

Observers

Parks Victoria
Tasmania Department of Primary
Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

Explore Sea Country program

Parks Australia and the Department of Education Services have developed primary school marine focused education programs that embed Tasmanian Aboriginal culture and connections to Sea Country. The Committee were provided an overview of the pilot program, which was delivered at Port Sorrell and Taroona primary schools. Students had the opportunity to learn about Sea Country cultural practices such as kelp water carrier making and muttonbirding.

The Committee noted that The Orb website (www.theorb.tas.gov.au) hosts a collection of publicly available Tasmanian Aboriginal histories and cultural resources to assist with teaching.

South-east Network Management Report

Parks Australia tabled the SE Network Management Report, which provides an overview of management activities since June 2021.

Highlights included the following:

- Field work for the Tasman Fracture Marine Park fish, rock lobster and sessile benthic survey was completed and sampling for the *Characterisation and monitoring of demersal fish communities in Huon and Freycinet Marine Parks* project is underway.
- Significant progress has been made towards finalising the South-east Science Plan.
- Animated 3D models of sponges and animals have been developed to populate the XR experiences as part of the *Creating immersive virtual experiences that build connection, understanding and value of Australian Marine Parks* project undertaken by Deakin University for parks Australia.

South-east Management Plan Evaluation

The Committee was provided with an update on the South-east Network management plan evaluation. The consultant company Sustineo was engaged to evaluate the implementation of the management plan and to assess achievements around management strategies.

Sustineo provided a presentation on progress to date including preliminary data analysis results and recommendations. Interviews with interested SEMPAC members will be an integral part of the review process.

South-east Network Year 9 & 10 Implementation

The Chair asked Dan Murphy to provide an overview of the SE Network Year 9 and 10 Review Phase Implementation Plan. The plan

was presented to the Committee for advice on regional implementation.

Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be held in Hobart in June 2022.

For more information about the South-east Marine Parks Network or the Committee:

Visit parksaustralia.gov.au/South-east

Email marineparks@environment.gov.au