

## Temperate East Marine Parks Advisory Committee

### Meeting #5 Communiqué

#### 20 May 2021, Videoconference

#### Committee Meeting Overview

The fifth meeting of the Temperate East Marine Parks Advisory Committee was held via Microsoft Teams videoconference on Thursday 20 May 2021. As for Meetings 3 and 4, a face-to-face meeting was not possible due to COVID-19 pandemic travel restrictions.

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

Key topics covered at the meeting included a six-monthly management report about activities undertaken by Parks Australia and partners in the Temperate East Network. The Committee was provided with an update on the Australian Government's \$100 million Oceans Leadership package.

The Committee then continued the discussion commenced at Meeting 4 about a potential research project looking at shifting ecological baselines within marine ecosystems.

The Committee were provided with presentations on the Australian Marine Parks (AMP) Compliance Program and AMP Unmanned Aerial Vehicle trials scheduled in the Cod Grounds Marine

#### Member attendance:

Adrian Wayne  
Bob Creese  
Joe McNulty  
John Burgess  
Peter Cochrane  
Rick Stuart-Smith  
Rosemary Black  
Tricia Beatty  
Mike Misso (Chair)

#### Apologies:

Brian Busteed, David Major, Steve Whalan

#### Observer:

NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI)

Park (MP) and Pimpernel Rock (Solitary Islands MP).

#### Management Report

An update was provided on key activities carried out since October 2020. A summary of these include:

- **Authorisations**  
23 authorisations were issued across research (10), recreational fishing (9), commercial media (2), commercial tourism (1), and structures and works (1).
- **Compliance**  
12 recreational fishing incidents were reported in National Park Zones in the

Temperate East Network and one authorisation incident.

- **Science**

Recent research includes: reef health monitoring in Norfolk MP, analysis of data collected in the Galapagos shark project in the waters off Lord Howe Island, and the [project report](#) on mapping and characterising reef habitat and fish assemblages of the Hunter MP was finalised.

- **Indigenous engagement**

Parks Australia is exploring further opportunities to work with Aboriginal communities and NSW DPI to develop sea country education related programs in the northern NSW coastal area.

- **Parks Protection and Management**

The Pimpnel Rock marker buoy was successfully replaced. The TE Environmental Risk Assessment was finalised in September 2020. Report of an unexploded ordnance at Middleton Reef, Lord Howe MP (Dec 2020). Access to a small part the reef has been temporarily prohibited by Parks Australia due to safety concerns.

- **Communications, Education and Awareness**

A brochure about Pimpnel Rock National Park Zone in the Solitary Islands MP was developed and distributed to recreational fishers. Norfolk Island Reef Life Survey 'on-island' engagement during the shallow reef survey in March 2021.

that priority action was required to agree and implement monitoring priorities for the network. A broader approach to this monitoring (to encompass all AMPs) was also discussed.

### AMP Tourism Strategy

Parks Australia has developed a Tourism Strategy for AMPs to provide guidance on managing tourism and recreation activities in marine parks to ensure they are environmentally appropriate, high-quality and contribute to Australia's visitor economy. The Strategy was presented to the Committee for advice on regional implementation.

### Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be held in held at a date to be confirmed in late 2021. For more information about the Temperate East Marine Parks Network or the Committee:

Visit

[parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/parks/temperate-east/](https://parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/parks/temperate-east/)

Email [marineparks@awe.gov.au](mailto:marineparks@awe.gov.au)

### Shifting Baselines in the TE

Given the rapidly evolving impacts of tropicalisation on temperate marine ecosystems, the Committee discussed options for research in this area. It noted