

Marine parks community meetings sought

Community groups on the Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island are encouraged to get involved in the process of developing marine parks by inviting a representative from the Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH) to speak at their next meeting.

The South Australian Government is creating 19 marine parks in state waters by 2010.

Several marine parks will be located in the coastal waters around the Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island.

Areas from Strathalbyn to Cape Jervis, the Encounter Coast, Yankalilla and including Kangaroo Island are included in the current schedule for community engagement, with DEH's community engagement officer, Phil Hollow, meeting with about 30 community groups in the area in coming months.

Mr Hollow is keen to talk to additional Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island groups that would like him to speak about marine parks at an upcoming meeting, including groups not directly linked to marine issues.

"I would appreciate the opportunity to present information to community groups such as service clubs, business associations, tourist groups and conservation and environment groups, in places where people with strong links to the local community gather," Mr Hollow said.

"I can attend meetings at times that best suit group members and am happy to give an overview of marine parks with a particular emphasis on the parks proposed for the local area.

"It is important to remember that marine parks are still in the early planning stages and outer boundaries are not expected to be released until later this year, followed by extensive community consultation."

Members of community groups interested in having Mr Hollow or another community engagement officer speak at a meeting can contact Mr Hollow on 0428 102 985 or Andrew Burnell on 0411 285 902 to arrange a suitable time.

For more information contact DEH's Coast and Marine Conservation Branch on (08) 8124 4900 or visit www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/marineparks.html

Media contacts

Phil Hollow

Community Engagement Officer
Coast and Marine Conservation
Phone 8575 1200
Mobile 0428 102 985

Charles Maddison

Media & PR Manager
Corporate Communications
Phone 8204 9109
Mobile 0423 822 992

www.environment.sa.gov.au

