

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
LAID ON THE TABLE**

10 November 2011

**MARINE PARKS COUNCIL
OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011



**Government
of South Australia**

Presented to Parliament by Hon Paul Caica MP, Minister for Environment and Conservation

Marine Parks Council of South Australia Annual Report 2010-11

September 2011

Marine Parks
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
GPO Box 1047
ADELAIDE SA 5001

www.environment.sa.gov.au

ISSN: 1838-4935

ABN: 36 702 093 234



Marine Parks Project
GPO Box 1047
ADELAIDE SA 5001

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

The Hon Paul Caica
Minister for Environment and Conservation
Parliament House
North Terrace
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009*, I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Marine Parks Council of South Australia for the financial year ended 30 June 2011.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Lewis".

Professor Robert Lewis FTSE
Presiding Member
Marine Parks Council of South Australia

Date: 6. IX. 2011

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Marine Parks Council of South Australia	5
Marine Parks Council Functions	5
Marine Parks Council Membership	5
Activities of the Marine Parks Council	6
Marine Parks Council Performance	7
Reconciliation Statement	8
Human Resource Matters	8
• Staffing	8
• Disability Action Plan	8
• Equal Opportunity Employment Programs	8
• Gender Reporting	8
• Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare	9
• Use of Consultants	9
Financial Performance	9
• Finance	9
• Account Payment Performance	9
• Contractual Arrangements	9
Other Reporting Items	9
• Greening of Government (GoGo) Framework	9
• Energy Efficiency Action Plan Report	9
• Overseas Travel	9
• Fraud	10
• <i>Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993</i>	10
• Freedom of Information	10
• Regional Impact Assessment Statement	10
• Urban Design Charter	10

MARINE PARKS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Section 24 of the *Marine Parks Act 2007* (the Act) establishes the Marine Parks Council of South Australia (the Council) to provide advice to the Minister for Environment and Conservation on matters associated with the establishment and management of South Australia's marine parks.

MARINE PARKS COUNCIL FUNCTIONS

The Council's functions, as defined in section 29 of the Act, are as follows:

- (a) To provide advice to the Minister on the establishment of marine parks, including:
 - (i) advice on any community nominations for marine parks; and
 - (ii) advice on the areas to be specified as marine parks;
- (b) To provide advice to the Minister in relation to the introduction, variation or revocation of interim protection orders;
- (c) To provide advice to the Minister in relation to a proposal to alter the boundaries of a marine park;
- (d) To provide advice to the Minister in relation to a proposal to establish or alter a zone within a marine park;
- (e) To provide advice to the Minister in relation to the management of marine parks, the formulation and operation of management plans under this Act, and the extent to which the objects of the Act are being achieved through the implementation of management plans under this Act;
- (f) To provide advice to the Minister on ways to promote community participation in the management of marine parks and the conservation of relevant marine environments;
- (g) To carry out such other functions as may be assigned to the Council by or under this Act or by the Minister.

MARINE PARKS COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The Council consists of eleven members. Ten members are appointed by the Governor on the nomination of the Minister, and one member (*ex officio*) is the Chief Executive of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), or a person nominated by the Chief Executive. Of the ten members appointed by the Governor:

- One must be a person who has knowledge of, or experience in, the field of commercial fishing;
- One must be a person who has knowledge of, or experience in, the field of aquaculture;
- One must be a person who has knowledge of, or experience in, the field of recreational fishing;
- Three must be persons who have knowledge of, or experience in, the field of marine conservation;
- Two must be persons who have qualifications or experience in a field of science that is relevant to the marine environment;
- One must be a person who has extensive involvement in community affairs; and
- One must be a person who has extensive knowledge of indigenous culture, especially in connection with the marine environment.

The following were members of Council during the 2010-11 reporting period:

Member	Field of expertise	Attendance at meetings (total of 9)
Susan Stovell (Presiding Member)	Community affairs	7
Anthony Cheshire (Deputy Presiding Member)	Marine science	7
Peri Coleman	Marine conservation	8
David Ellis	Aquaculture	7
Michelle Grady	Marine conservation	8
Douglas Milera	Indigenous culture	1 (out of 3)
Peter Owen	Marine conservation	6
Christian Pyke	Commercial fishing	5
Hazel Vandeleur	Marine science	5
Trevor Watts	Recreational fishing	9
Leanne Burch (DENR)	<i>ex officio</i> member	9

Mr David Ellis and Mr Douglas Milera were appointed to the Council for a three-year term on 1 July 2010. Mr Milera resigned on 9 October 2010. The inaugural three-year terms of appointment of eight members concluded on 21 May 2011. Nominations were sought in early 2011 to fill vacancies on the Council.

ACTIVITIES OF THE MARINE PARKS COUNCIL

Summary of activities undertaken by the Council

The Council met nine times during the 2010-11 reporting period.

At each meeting the Council received presentations and/or papers relating to the South Australian marine parks program to help the Council to fulfil its functions under the Act. Council used this information to prepare advice for the Minister, and to provide valuable feedback to DENR.

During the reporting period the Council provided advice to the Minister and DENR on matters directly relevant to its functions under sections 29(1)(d), (e) and (f) of the Act, as well as a range of matters associated with the marine parks project, including the following:

- advice from the Scientific Working Group regarding the application of the marine park 'adequacy' Design Principle in relation to sanctuary zoning;
- the community engagement process, including the Marine Park Local Advisory Group (MPLAG) exercise;
- processes and issues associated with the management of displaced recreational and commercial fishing effort which may result from marine parks zoning;
- the review of environment and sustainability targets for the revision of South Australia's Strategic Plan;
- considerations for the preparation of marine park environmental, social and economic impact statements;

- the application of marine park socio-economic Design Principles to marine park zoning;
- assessment and reporting frameworks to assess the effectiveness of operational marine parks;
- draft Indigenous Engagement and Communication Strategies relating to the marine parks management planning process;
- the marine parks zoning matrix;
- the Marine Parks Act and its interaction with other legislation;
- the development of preliminary sanctuary zone scenarios prior to their consideration by Marine Park Local Advisory Groups;
- media representation of the marine parks project;
- the identification and establishment of marine park restricted access zones;
- communications and community engagement prior to the release of draft management plans for public comment;
- advice on how to reconcile divergent views of stakeholders regarding sanctuary zones; and
- operating procedures of the Council.

Plans and Objectives

The reporting on the achievement of relevant targets under South Australia's Strategic Plan is contained within the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

MARINE PARKS COUNCIL PERFORMANCE

The Council held a special meeting during the 2010-11 reporting period to review its performance. The Council advised the Minister on its recommendations to improve the overall performance of the Council and therefore the quality of advice provided to the Minister. A range of initiatives has been implemented as a result of this advice, including:

- the Presiding Member will meet with the Minister prior to each Council meeting;
- a representative from PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture will attend Council meetings;
- representatives from other government agencies will be invited to attend Council meetings at times relevant to specific agenda items;
- the level of information sharing between relevant other groups, such as the Scientific Working Group and national committees, will be increased to improve members' awareness of the overall strategy objectives and objects of the Act;
- the terms of appointment of new Council members will be staggered to assist with succession planning; and
- improved governance support to Council to ensure timely provision of meeting papers.

During the reporting period, the Council also developed and endorsed a Marine Parks Council Risk Management Plan.

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

The Council acknowledges that the land on which it meets is the traditional lands for the Kaurna people and that it respects their spiritual relationship with their country. The Council also acknowledges the Kaurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kaurna people today.

In fulfilling its functions, the Council is aware of the cultural heritage of traditional owners and strives to achieve mutually satisfying outcomes wherever these matters are concerned.

HUMAN RESOURCE MATTERS

An appointed member of the Marine Parks Council is entitled to remuneration, allowances and expenses as determined by the Minister. Remuneration was paid at the rate of \$221.12 for the Chair and \$176.90 for members per four-hour session.

Appointed members during the reporting period were: Anthony Cheshire, Peri Coleman, David Ellis, Michelle Grady, Peter Owen, Christian Pyke, Douglas Milera, Susan Stovell, Hazel Vandeleur and Trevor Watts.

Staffing

Executive and administrative support is provided by DENR. The Executive Officer for the Council during the reporting period was Ms Julie Rohde and administrative support was provided by Mr Micah Mango.

Disability Action Plan

The Council uses the facilities and services of staff of DENR. The members of the Council are aware of and abide by their obligations under the *Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and the *State Equal Opportunity Act 1984*. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

Equal Opportunity Employment Programs

The Council has no staff of its own and is serviced by staff of DENR. Members are aware of and abide by the equal opportunity policies and programs of DENR. Reporting on this matter may be viewed in the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

Gender Reporting

The gender balance of the Council is taken into consideration when members are appointed. At any point in time within the reporting period, the Council consisted of up to five male and five female members appointed by the Governor.

Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare

There were no Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare (OHS&W) incidents reported by the Council in the reporting period.

As a user of DENR facilities and equipment, the Council is aware of and abides by DENR OHS&W policies. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

Use of Consultants

The Council did not engage any consultants during the reporting period.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The Council is not a corporate entity and has no funds of its own.

Finance

The costs associated with the administration of the Council are met from within the existing resources of DENR and are included in the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

Account Payment Performance

DENR provides administrative resources for processing account payments for the Council. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

Contractual Arrangements

The Council did not enter into any contractual arrangements during the reporting period.

OTHER REPORTING ITEMS

Greening of Government (GoGo) Framework

The Council uses the facilities and services of the staff of DENR. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

Energy Efficiency Action Plan Report

The Council uses the facilities and services of the staff of DENR. Reporting on this matter is contained in the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

Overseas Travel

It is declared that no member of the Council travelled overseas on the business of the Council during the reporting period.

Fraud

It is declared that there were no instances of fraud detected in the activities undertaken by the Council.

Financial services are provided to the Council by DENR and reporting on strategies to detect instances of fraud are reported in the DENR Annual Report 2010-11.

Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993

Reporting requirements against the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 1993* require the Council to report on the number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a Responsible Officer of the agency. There were no disclosures made during 2010-11.

Freedom of Information

As a DENR administered entity, the Council participates and abides by the arrangements outlined in the DENR Freedom of Information regime. Reporting on this matter is available on the DENR internet site. Please visit www.environment.sa.gov.au to view the FOI Statement.

Regional Impact Assessment Statement

The Council did not undertake any Regional Impact Assessment Statements in 2010-11.

Urban Design Charter

No events occurred in 2010-11 that required the Council to consider the principles of urban design contained in the South Australian Urban Design Charter.