

SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP

DRAFT COMMUNIQUÉ – MEETING No. 19 October 2008

Meeting 19: Tuesday 14 October 2008

Members of the Scientific Working Group would like to advise the Minister for Environment and Conservation that the following outcomes were achieved at its nineteenth meeting held on Tuesday 14 October 2008.

- ❖ SWG members present included Anthony Cheshire (Chair), Peter Fairweather, Cath Kemper, Martine Kinloch, Scoresby Shepherd and Hugh Kirkman; apologies from Bronwyn Gillanders, Hazel Lindsay and John Middleton.
- ❖ Peter Fairweather gave a presentation, before the meeting, on assessing the marine park boundaries (version 5C) against the design principles. Leanne Burch (DEH), Vera Hughes (CMCB), Sheila Brown (CMCB) and Chris Thomas (CMCB) were invited to view this presentation. Option 5C now returns 43% of State waters within the Network. The SWG were impressed with the performance metrics presented for example, we are protecting 66 (69%) of the 96 'Hot Spots', identified in *Conserving Marine Biodiversity in South Australia* (Edyvane 1996), in just 43% of the State waters and of the 30 outside of the Network, 11 are covered by other protection mechanisms; therefore, 77 out of 96 (80%) such features are conserved. Another example, is 20 out of 27 (74%) of 22 high risk sites for the Australian sea lion identified by Goldsworthy et al (2007), 19 are within the Network. The Performance Metrics clearly defined what we are trying to achieve in relation to the Design Principles for the Network of Marine Parks.
- ❖ Chris Thomas, CMCB Branch Manager, gave an update on the Marine Parks Program this included the Marine Parks Council is to meet shortly to consider the Boundaries; there are a series of Cabinet processes to go through, Boundaries will be released in late November, 2008, after which the Consultation will proceed with visits to 43 coastal communities. Chris invited the support of SWG during the Community Consultation process.
- ❖ Sarah Bignell (CMCB) gave a presentation on the web-based tool SAMPIT.
- ❖ Bryan circulated a brief summary on the technical lessons from the pilot Encounter Marine Park '*Encounter Marine Park Draft Zoning Plan – Key Learnings.*'
- ❖ Peter gave a brief overview of NEN Science Day and distributed an information sheet.