



SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP COMMUNIQUÉ – MEETING No. 45 - 16 August 2011

The following members were present at the Scientific Working Group (SWG) meeting held 16 August 2011: Anthony Cheshire (Chair), Peter Fairweather, Scoresby Shepherd, Sean Connell, Hazel Vandeleur and Luciano Beheregary. Apologies were received from Hugh Kirkman, Luciana Moller, Bronwyn Gillanders, Milena Fernandes and Charlie Huveneers. Martine Kinloch is on a leave of absence as she is away for several months.

The SWG wishes to advise the Minister of the following key outcomes from its meeting:

1. The SWG received a brief update on the report card template for assessing the design principles against the Government's proposed zoning arrangements. The SWG agreed to continue the discussions on the template out of session. The SWG also discussed their role in providing advice on the draft zoning and agreed they would advise on what has been achieved through the zoning in relation to the objects of the *Marine Parks Act 2007*.
2. The SWG continued discussions on the development of a MER program for the marine parks network. The SWG discussed a number of key principles that would guide the development of the MER program. The SWG would also like to reiterate their previous advice on the critical importance of the MER program for the ten year management plan review process.
3. The SWG also received updates on the timelines for the development of the management plans, the SARDI report on displaced effort calculations and the Marine Parks Parliamentary Inquiry.

Prof. Anthony Cheshire
Chair, Scientific Working Group for Marine Protected Areas and Marine Planning

NOTED

Hon Paul Caica MP
Minister for Environment and Conservation

Date: