



DISPLACED EFFORT WORKING GROUP

COMMUNIQUE — MEETING No. 5

Monday, 28 July 2008

1.00pm – 4.00pm

The Marine Parks Displaced Effort Working Group (DEWG) was established in late 2007.

The objective of the DEWG is to advise on the development of policy, processes and mechanisms for dealing with the effects of any displaced commercial fishing and/or aquaculture effort arising from the dedication, zoning and management of South Australian marine parks, or any other matter referred to it by the Minister for Environment and Conservation (as per the Group's Terms of Reference).

DEWG members would like to advise the Minister that the following outcomes were achieved at their fifth meeting, held on Monday 28th July 2008.

- The DEWG noted the recent appointment of the Hon. Jay Weatherill MP as Minister for Environment and Conservation. The DEWG looks forward to meeting the new Minister to discuss its work to date.
- The DEWG also thanked former Minister Gago for her support and her active interest and involvement in the DEWG's business.
- At this meeting members focused their attention on refining the draft instructions for regulations relating to displaced commercial fishing and aquaculture effort.
- Members noted that government agencies would recommend to Ministers that a statement be made at the time of release of the marine park boundaries that marine parks will be zoned in a manner that accommodates existing aquaculture developments, proposed developments that have appropriate licences / authorisations in place, and existing Aquaculture Management (Zone) Policies (as occurred in the Pilot Encounter Marine Park zoning process).
- In particular, members noted that it is proposed that aquaculture would be included within marine parks through pragmatic zoning and/or designation as Special Purpose Areas (consistent with the DEH/PIRSA Ministerial accord of 2007). In turn, it is considered that a public statement to this effect, ideally at the time of the release of marine park boundaries, would avoid the need for any regulations in relation to displaced effort for aquaculture.
- At their next meeting, DEWG members resolved to:
 1. Work through various scenarios to inform costing estimates, in respect to displaced commercial fishing effort, for the benefit of the Department of Treasury and Finance.
 2. Provide advice on the next version of the regulation drafting instructions.
 3. Note progress of establishment of a co-funded industry liaison position, to be appointed before the release of marine parks boundaries, to facilitate development of collective industry views in the process of establishing marine parks.