



PORT STEPHENS – GREAT LAKES MARINE PARK CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS Outcomes Report

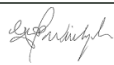

Reference: PSGLMP Management Planning Workshops - BMT - Final
Report Rev2.docx
Date: April 2020



Document Control Sheet

BMT Commercial Australia Pty Ltd Suite G2, 13-15 Smail Street Ultimo, Sydney, NSW, 2007 Australia PO Box 1181, Broadway NSW 2007 Tel: +61 2 8960 7755 Fax: +61 2 8960 7745 ABN 54 010 830 421 www.bmt.org	Document	PSGLMP Management Planning Workshops - BMT - Final Report Rev2.docx	Client	NSW Department of Primary Industries - Fisheries
	Title	PORT STEPHENS – GREAT LAKES MARINE PARK CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS Outcomes Report	Client Contact	Matthew Dasey - Manager, Marine Planning
	Project Manager	Geoff Withycombe	Client Reference	
	Authors	Geoff Withycombe	Synopsis	Outcomes report of PSGLMP Consultation Sessions

REVISION/CHECKING HISTORY

Revision Number	Date	Checked by	Issued by
1 (R.S20510.001.00_Final Report_1.docx)	28/11/19	Geoff Withycombe 	Geoff Withycombe 
2 (Fig 1-2, 5-1 removed, A3 size maps added, TOC updated)	16/04/20	Rodney James (DPI)	Sarah Fairfull (DPI)

DISTRIBUTION

Destination	Revision										
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
NSW Department of Primary Industry - Fisheries	PDF	PDF									
BMT File	PDF	PDF									
BMT Library	PDF	PDF									

Copyright and non-disclosure notice

The contents and layout of this report are subject to copyright owned by BMT Commercial Australia Pty Ltd (BMT CA) save to the extent that copyright has been legally assigned by us to another party or is used by BMT CA under licence. To the extent that we own the copyright in this report, it may not be copied or used without our prior written agreement for any purpose other than the purpose indicated in this report.

The methodology (if any) contained in this report is provided to you in confidence and must not be disclosed or copied to third parties without the prior written agreement of BMT CA. Disclosure of that information may constitute an actionable breach of confidence or may otherwise prejudice our commercial interests. Any third party who obtains access to this report by any means will, in any event, be subject to the Third Party Disclaimer set out below.

Third Party Disclaimer

Any disclosure of this report to a third party is subject to this disclaimer. The report was prepared by BMT CA at the instruction of, and for use by, our client named on this Document Control Sheet. It does not in any way constitute advice to any third party who is able to access it by any means. BMT CA excludes to the fullest extent lawfully permitted all liability whatsoever for any loss or damage howsoever arising from reliance on the contents of this report.

Commercial terms

BMT requests the ability to discuss and negotiate in good faith the terms and conditions of the proposed terms of engagement, to facilitate successful project outcomes, to adequately protect both parties and to accord with normal contracting practice for engagements of this type.



Contents

1	Background	1	4	Consultation Outcomes	9
1.1	NSW Marine Estate Management Act 2014	1	4.1	Activity 1 – Marine Park Management Objectives – Opportunities and Challenges	9
1.2	Review of Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park (PSGLMP)	2	4.1.1.1	Provide safe and equitable access to the marine park for a diverse range of experiences	9
1.3	Processes and consultation for preparing a draft management plan	2	4.1.1.2	Provide enhanced opportunities for sustainable tourism	10
2	Stakeholder and Community Engagement	3	4.1.1.3	Protect habitat and marine species, and restore or improve degraded habitat	11
2.1	Engagement Purpose	3	4.1.1.4	A renewed focus on research and education	12
2.2	BMT Role	3	4.1.1.5	Support water quality improvements	13
2.3	Consultation Workshop Agenda	3	4.1.1.6	Other	14
2.4	Stakeholders and Community	4	4.2	Activity 2 - Localising Marine Park Values	15
3	Consultation Workshops	5	4.2.1	Environmental Values	15
3.1	Workshop Aims	5	4.2.2	Economic Values	19
3.2	Desired Outcomes of the Workshops	5	4.2.3	Social / Cultural Values	23
3.3	Workshop Process	5	4.3	Workshop evaluation	26
3.3.1	Background and Context to the development of a Marine Park Management Plan	5	5	Next Steps	27
3.3.2	Workshop Activity 1 – Marine Park Management Objectives	6	5.1.1	Incorporating workshop outcomes into draft management plan	27
3.3.3	Workshop Activity 2 – Localising Marine Park Values	7	5.1.2	Additional opportunities for Stakeholder and Community Input	27
				Appendix A – Workshop Evaluation	28

List of Figures

Figure 1-1	Boundaries of the PSGLMP	2
Figure 2-1	Stakeholder Consultation Workshop agenda	3
Figure 4-1	Localised Environmental Values	15
Figure 4-2	Localised Economic Values	19
Figure 4-3	Localised Social - Cultural Values	23
Figure 4-4	Overall review on Workshops	26
Figure 4-5	Commonly Noted Highlights of Workshops	26
Figure A-1	Overall review on Workshop 1	29
Figure A-2	Workshop 1 Commonly Noted Highlights	29
Figure A-3	Overall review of Workshop 2	30
Figure A-4	Workshop 2 Commonly Noted highlights	31
Figure A-5	Overall review on Workshop 3	32
Figure A-6	Workshop 3 Commonly Noted Highlights	33
Figure A-7	Overall review on Workshops	34

List of Tables

Table 2-1	Stakeholder Groups and Community Members participating in the Workshops	4
Table 4-1	Community and Stakeholder comments on Environmental issues from PSGLMP workshops (October 2019).	16
Table 4-2	Community and Stakeholder comments on Economic issues from PSGLMP workshops (October 2019)	20
Table 4-3	Community and Stakeholder comments on Social and Cultural issues from PSGLMP workshops (October 2019)	24



Shoal Bay

Background

1 Background

1.1 NSW Marine Estate Management Act 2014

The NSW Government administers six marine parks. Marine parks in NSW are established and managed under the [Marine Estate Management Act 2014 \(the Act\)](#).

The Act also provides for strategic and integrated management of the whole NSW marine estate – our marine waters, coasts and estuaries.

The Act does this by:

- Providing for the management of the marine estate consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development.
- Establishing two advisory committees, a [Marine Estate Management Authority](#) and [Marine Estate Expert Knowledge Panel](#).
- Requiring the development of a [Marine Estate Management Strategy](#) to address priority threats identified through [threat and risk assessment](#).
- Facilitating the maintenance of ecological integrity, and economic, social, cultural and scientific opportunities.
- Promoting the coordination of government programs.
- Providing for a comprehensive system of marine parks and aquatic reserves.

The Act is supported by regulations that set out the management rules for marine parks:

- [Marine Estate Management Regulation 2017](#)
- [Marine Estate Management \(Management Rules\) Regulation 1999](#).

The Act also outlines the requirements for the preparation of the management plans (Part 5, Division 5). It requires that management plans be developed for each marine park. A management plan may be prepared for one of more marine parks. A management plan must:

- state the environmental, economic and social values to be conserved by the marine park,
- identify threats to those values,
- state the management objectives of the marine park in relation to those values and threats,
- specify actions to achieve those management objectives, based on a consideration of risks,
- set out the programs to be implemented for managing the marine park, and
- include any other matters that the relevant Ministers consider necessary to be included in the management plan or that the regulations require to be included.

Background

1.2 Review of Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park (PSGLMP)

The NSW Government has committed to conduct a review of the Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park (PSGLMP). The NSW Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries (DPI Fisheries) has commenced this review which will be implemented by:

- Developing a new marine park management plan (in 2019 / 2020),
- Reviewing the marine park's management rules (2020).

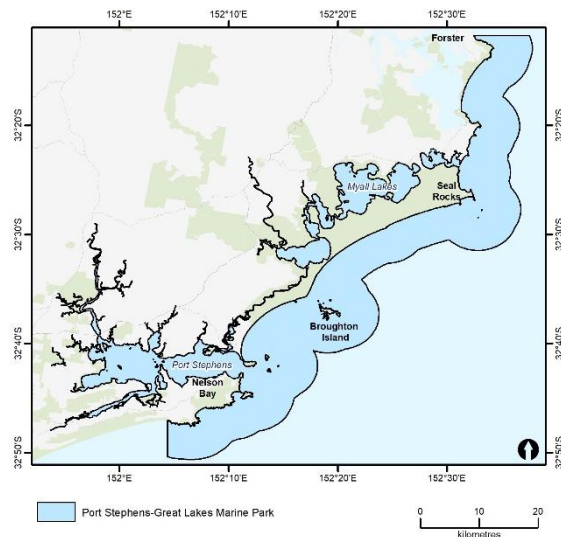


Figure 1-1 Boundaries of the PSGLMP

1.3 Processes and consultation for preparing a draft management plan

Section 49 of the Act outlines the processes and consultation requirements for preparing a draft management plan. These include:

- giving public notice of the draft management plan
- inviting of submissions for a 2 month period
- considering submissions
- adopting the management plan as soon as practicable including any appropriate changes in response to submissions.

Before these prescribed legislative requirements, DPI Fisheries is taking a proactive and participatory approach to engagement with the community and stakeholders early by facilitating a series of three interactive workshops. The aims of these are to:

- (1) Introduce the management plan preparation process,
- (2) Seek initial input into the draft management plan objectives, and
- (3) Gain local specific input regarding issues and values within PSGLMP.

Stakeholder and Community Engagement

2 Stakeholder and Community Engagement

2.1 Engagement Purpose

DPI Fisheries engaged an independent facilitator (BMT) to run three consultation workshops to inform and engage with stakeholders, community members and government agencies regarding the review and development of the management plan for PSGLMP.

2.2 BMT Role

- (1) Work with DPI Fisheries to develop key messages and a presentation for the consultation workshops.
- (2) To facilitate three workshops regarding the process that will be undertaken to develop the Port Stephens - Great Lakes Marine Park.
- (3) Provide a brief consultation workshop(s) outcomes report.

2.3 Consultation Workshop Agenda

Agenda

Time	Item and description
Arrival:	9.45am for 10am start (tea and coffee available)
10:00am	Acknowledgement of country
10.05am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Introductions o Housekeeping o Outline of workshop
Background - Management Review of Port Stephens – Great Lakes Marine Park.	
10.05am – 10.25am (20 Min)	Background and Context Overview of Marine Park Management Plan requirements, development process <div style="text-align: right;">Matt Carr Senior Manager Marine Planning (DPI Fisheries)</div>
10.25-10.30am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Questions from the floor
Workshops	
10.30 – 10.55am	Activity 1 – Marine Park Management Objectives Identification of Challenges and Opportunities for each Objective <i>Individual / Room-wide collation in to key groupings / themes</i>
10.55am – 11.55 20 minutes / Element / map	Activity 2 – Localising Marine Park Threats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Map based activity to localise Marine Park threats under Environmental, Social / Cultural and Economic o Identify agency initiatives addressing local threats that should be acknowledged in the management plan <i>Individual / Mixed groups / Targeted groups / Room-wide</i>
Next Steps and Closure	
11.55-12 noon	Next Steps / Closure

Figure 2-1 Stakeholder Consultation Workshop agenda

Stakeholder and Community Engagement

2.4 Stakeholders and Community

BMT facilitated the three interactive and productive consultation workshops on 22 and 23 October at Port Stephens and 24 October at Forster.

Stakeholders who had previously expressed interest in being involved with management of the marine park were invited to attend the workshops. As the PSGLMP Advisory Committee was being reappointed, all previous members and nominees for the new Advisory Committee were invited to the workshops.

In total 84 key stakeholders and community members were invited to the workshops, with 49 individuals attending from more than 20 organisations.

Table 2-1 Stakeholder Groups and Community Members Participating in the Workshops

Stakeholders and Community	Government Agencies
Community members	Transport for NSW (Maritime)
Fishing Club members	Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment (including): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environment, Energy and Science ○ National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) ○ Environment Protection Authority
Marina Operators	Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries)
Commercial Fishers	Port Stephens Council
Research Leaders (Universities)	Hunter Local Land Services
Commercial Tourism Operators	MidCoast Council
Local Businesses	
Recreational Fishers	
Community Associations	



Consultation Workshops

3 Consultation Workshops

3.1 Workshop Aims

- Raise awareness and understanding of:
 - The process for developing the new management plan for PSGLMP
 - What a new management plan will mean in practical terms
 - The timeline for the process and opportunities for engagement.
- Seek local input into:
 - Draft marine park management objectives
 - Identify locations of key marine park values
 - Identify agency and community initiatives addressing local values and issues
- Facilitate discussions among stakeholders and community members at the initial stage of marine park management plan development.
- Effectively engage with stakeholders to participate ensuring positive outcomes and collation of a diversity of positions and knowledge.

3.2 Desired Outcomes of the Workshops

- Participants have a high level of understanding regarding:
 - The NSW marine estate and NSW marine parks

- The background and context of why a marine park management plan is required
- The statutory requirements of a marine park management plan
- The process for marine park management plan development
- Workshop with key stakeholders regarding:
 - Opportunities and challenges for marine park management objectives
 - Seek local input and knowledge regarding locations of key marine park values and management initiatives addressing these values
- Provide a brief workshop outcomes report (this document)
- Incorporation of workshop outcomes into the draft marine park management plan

3.3 Workshop Process

Each of the three workshops followed a similar format that included the following:

3.3.1 Background and Context to the development of a Marine Park Management Plan

Staff from DPI Fisheries provided an overview of the development of a management plan for PSGLMP.

Consultation Workshops

3.3.2 Workshop Activity 1 – Marine Park Management Objectives

Goals of this session were to identify the key Opportunities and Challenges for each of the draft marine park management objectives.

This session was split into three parts.

- **Part A**

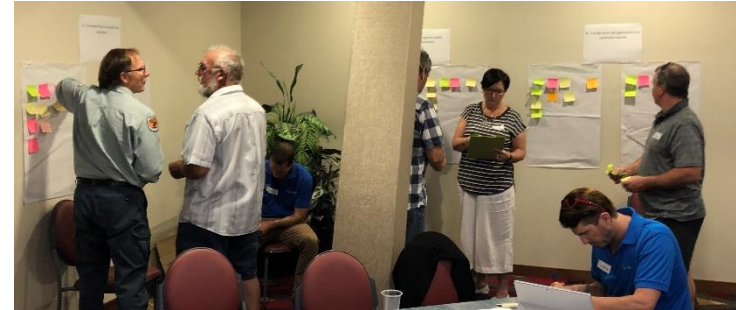
Stakeholders were requested to nominate and write down “Opportunities” or “Challenges” on Post-it notes for each draft objective and, if possible, to then identify the key locations where these opportunities or challenges exist.

- **Part B**

Stakeholders were requested to identify any alternative or additional management objectives, or any opportunities / challenges not captured by the draft management objectives.

- **Part C**

Collation of Post-it notes into key themes.



Draft Marine Park Management Objectives

- *Provide safe and equitable access to the marine park for a diverse range of experiences*
- *Provide enhanced opportunities for sustainable tourism*
- *Protect habitat and marine species, and restore or improve degraded habitat*
- *A renewed focus on research and education*
- *Support water quality improvements*

Consultation Workshops



NB: Results of this activity are presented in Section 4.1.

3.3.3 Workshop Activity 2 – Localising Marine Park Values

Workshop participants were randomly spilt into three equal groups.

Groups were rotated around three work areas addressing the following three categories of values:

- (a) Environmental
- (b) Economic
- (c) Social / Cultural

Utilising maps of the PSGLMP and worksheets, participants were requested to identify and mark locations within the marine park where there are specific

issues, opportunities and threats and to then provide additional details and commentary on associated worksheets.

Examples of values under the three categories were provided from the [NSW Marine Estate Threat and Risk Assessment 2017](#) . For example:

Environment	Economic	Social / Cultural
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estuarine and ocean waters • Flora and Fauna <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Saltmarsh, mangroves, seagrass, fish assemblages, protected species • Habitats <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beaches, mudflats, rocky shores, soft sediments, subtidal reefs, deep reefs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viability of businesses • Employment • Direct and indirect values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ safety, health and wellbeing ○ socialising and sense of community • Enjoyment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ biodiversity and beauty • Cultural heritage and use

Consultation Workshops

Workshop participants were asked to identify locations within PSGLMP by placing a dot reference on the map and then to provide a detailed commentary on a separate worksheet that included an explanation of the value in question. This linked the comment to a specific location or locations in PSGLMP.

Results of this activity are presented in Section 4.2



Consultation Outcomes

4 Consultation Outcomes

4.1 Activity 1 – Marine Park Management Objectives – Opportunities and Challenges

4.1.1.1 Provide safe and equitable access to the marine park for a diverse range of experiences

Opportunity (key themes and summaries)	Challenge (key themes and summaries)
<p>Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve information regarding access types and key locations 	<p>Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve multilingual signage (including at Boat ramps) ○ Involve local people in park zoning processes
<p>Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improved at marine park entry points ○ Develop specific areas for non-motorised recreational activities ○ Review Personal Water Craft (PWC) / water skiing restrictions ○ Allow more access to recreational fishing ○ Improve equity of access including ‘barrier free’ / disabled access ○ Review and improve boat ramp and water access (including in Smiths Lake and Pacific Palms) ○ Review general park infrastructure by relevant agencies to include car parking, public moorings, fish cleaning facilities, lighting, fuel services 	<p>Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Conflicts and sharing marine resources with user groups ○ Private lease legacies ○ Abilities of public infrastructure to provide safe park access with increasing tourism pressure ○ Understanding and acknowledging how users want to use the Park
<p>Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recognise connections to sea country and sites of significance ○ Identify areas of significant environmental and cultural significance and manage appropriately 	<p>Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Effective and resourced compliance and advisory services
<p>Linkage to other activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve management plan linkages and integration with other area management plans ○ Work with commercial operators (including tourism) 	<p>Linkage to other activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Multi agency management of the marine park ○ Relationships with activities of Local Government (e.g. Planning)

Consultation Outcomes

4.1.1.2 Provide enhanced opportunities for sustainable tourism

Opportunity (key themes and summaries)	Challenge (key themes and summaries)
<p>Sustainable / eco-tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve working relationships with commercial operations ○ Recognise and promote land and sea country ○ Quantify the value of sustainable tourism ○ Tourism providers to continue to operate under permit processes ○ Recreational fishing allowed in habitat protection areas ○ Provided for broader tourism experiences (e.g. education, cultural heritage, health and fitness) ○ Fund and support coastal walk(s) 	<p>Sustainable / eco-tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Defining what is sustainable tourism ○ Balancing quantity of visitors with sustainability objectives ○ Provide increased passive recreational opportunities ○ Provide connected walking and cycling opportunities ○ Review and provide sufficient car parking opportunities ○ Improving water quality
<p>Tourism promotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Market park unique experiences (including to the international market) ○ Promote local providers ○ Increased focus of tourism within inner estuarine areas ○ Promote educational opportunities 	<p>Tourism promotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improving media and distribution of information ○ Develop tourism information visitors centres in north and south ends of the park ○ Upgrade signage to promote key tourism based facilities
<p>Working with tourism industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work with commercial operators ○ Promote local providers ○ Streamline and decrease sanctuary zones with threats managed via other methods (e.g. no anchoring, lure fishing only) ○ Assist tourism industry to capture local markets during quiet seasons 	<p>Working with tourism industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensuring adequate and available visitor accommodation ○ Promote tourism focus of the area better ○ Improving consistency amongst the tourism industry ○ Address climate change impacts ○ Develop a clear and future focused management plan
<p>Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase cultural heritage tourism ○ Collaboration with Worimi to develop culturally sensitive ecotourism 	

Consultation Outcomes

4.1.1.3 Protect habitat and marine species, and restore or improve degraded habitat

Opportunity (key themes and summaries)	Challenge (key themes and summaries)
<p>Habitat Pressures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Management plan to deal with coastal processes and climate change ○ Address off park pressures including catchment runoff and other activities effected water quality (including sewerage and septic systems) ○ Improve feral animal control (including impacts on shorebirds) ○ Increase protection of short term shorebird nesting sites 	<p>Habitat management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding availability for restoration activities ○ Climate change pressures which are outside management interventions ○ Identify key habitats and linkages that support continued productivity ○ Managing not only marine species and habitats within the marine park ○ Challenges of plastic litter and non-organic debris ○ Water quality and pollution within lake systems (Myall, Smiths and Wallis)
<p>Rules and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No vessel waste discharges within Myall Lakes ○ Zoning access restrictions in shallow areas ○ Mambo wetlands listing to "connect" Myall Lakes and Kooragang Island ○ Relax recreational fishing zoning in some sanctuary zones ○ Develop environmentally sustainable design guidelines / benchmarks for in water and over water structures (e.g. jetties, ramps etc) 	<p>Rules and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improving zone signage and awareness ○ Ensuing availability of appropriate fish cleaning facilities ○ Improved education and enforcement ○ Multi agency inaction regarding mooring management ○ Removal of trawling with the marine park ○ Increased access of commercial fishing (e.g. yellow zones Smith Lake) ○ Manage boating, aquatic recreation and fishing to protect habitat
<p>Community Involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Encourage and facilitate citizen science and increase community Park management ○ Encourage local custodianship of park values and assets ○ Link <i>Landcare</i> with park habitat rehabilitation activities 	<p>Community Involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improving education regarding consequences of habitat disturbance and impact
<p>Working with stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure park activities operator via relevant guidelines ○ Ensure environmental management a key priority for all state government agencies 	<p>Working with stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Remove legacy oyster leases ○ Deploy wrecks to increase fish habitat

Consultation Outcomes

4.1.1.4 A renewed focus on research and education

Opportunity (key themes and summaries)	Challenge (key themes and summaries)
<p>Community Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improved engagement with the community ○ World class education facilities (e.g. at Taylors Beach and Tomaree Head) ○ Develop (local) education package for (primary) schools ○ Broader tourist education targeting tourist prior to arriving at the Park (e.g. broader media, highway signage) ○ Improved digital communications 	<p>Resource outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consistency in key messaging ○ Publishing and distribution of research data and outcomes in digestible language ○ Broader use of social media to engage younger audiences ○ Lack of broader interest ○ Using research to ensure better decision making ○ Data sharing, ownership and commercial in confidence issues
<p>Community Involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Involve community with marine parks management for e.g., volunteers, community rangers and marine discovery series. ○ Engage and educate community regarding Worimi culture and practices 	<p>Resource outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding ○ Improving enforcement and compliance
<p>Research activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate cross agencies education and research activities ○ Research on changes in fish stocks as a result of zoning ○ Improve research to support zoning determinations ○ Engagement and collaboration with schools and universities for education and research programs ○ Increase research on key estuary species to identify prime breeding times and locations (including shorebirds) ○ Stock species including mulloway, flathead and kingfish ○ Actively support Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment: science unit including sharing knowledge and research outcomes with agencies and the broader community ○ Undertake an oral history project in Port Stephens regarding changing nature of habitats 	<p>Research activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Limited resources and funding ○ Climate change mitigation planning regarding habitat loss / modification ○ Limited understanding of ecosystem function(s) ○ Local of awareness, confusion and challenges to understand zoning ○ More data / information of historical park features to improve visitor appreciation

Consultation Outcomes

4.1.1.5 Support water quality improvements

Opportunity (key themes and summaries)	Challenge (key themes and summaries)
<p>Community – Stakeholder awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Development of a comprehensive consultation framework ○ Enhance water quality / estuary report cards (extending to marine parks) 	<p>Community – Stakeholder awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Gaining public 'Buy-in'/ownership of local marine park values so that they are more invested in reducing pollution ○ Acknowledge local user knowledge of lake management techniques (e.g. Smith Lakes)
<p>Rules and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate cross agency activity 	<p>Rules and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Define who takes a lead management and coordination role
<p>Management response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improved co-ordination and communication between responsible authorities ○ Increase enforcement ○ Increase assistance for National Parks [NPWS] to manage waste water issues on reserve lands e.g. Broughton Island ○ Increase boat pump out facilities with marine park ○ Partner with local councils to implement existing WQ [sic – water quality] actions, review WQ plans and develop new WQ plans where needed ○ Acid sulphate soils remediation ○ Research into hydrology of Myall Lakes ○ Additional funding for landholder groups to protect riparian areas ○ Implementation of <i>Water Sensitive Urban Design</i> and rain gardens ○ Whole of catchment approaches to Water quality improvement 	<p>Management response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lack of funding to implement catchment based improvements ○ Defining water quality objectives ○ More education on park boundaries, zones, aims and objectives ○ Plastics pollution ○ Maintenance of Myall Lake entrance to ensure open and navigable ○ Reduce sediment and nutrient pollution ○ Address algal bloom resulting for catchment pollution

Consultation Outcomes

4.1.1.6 Other

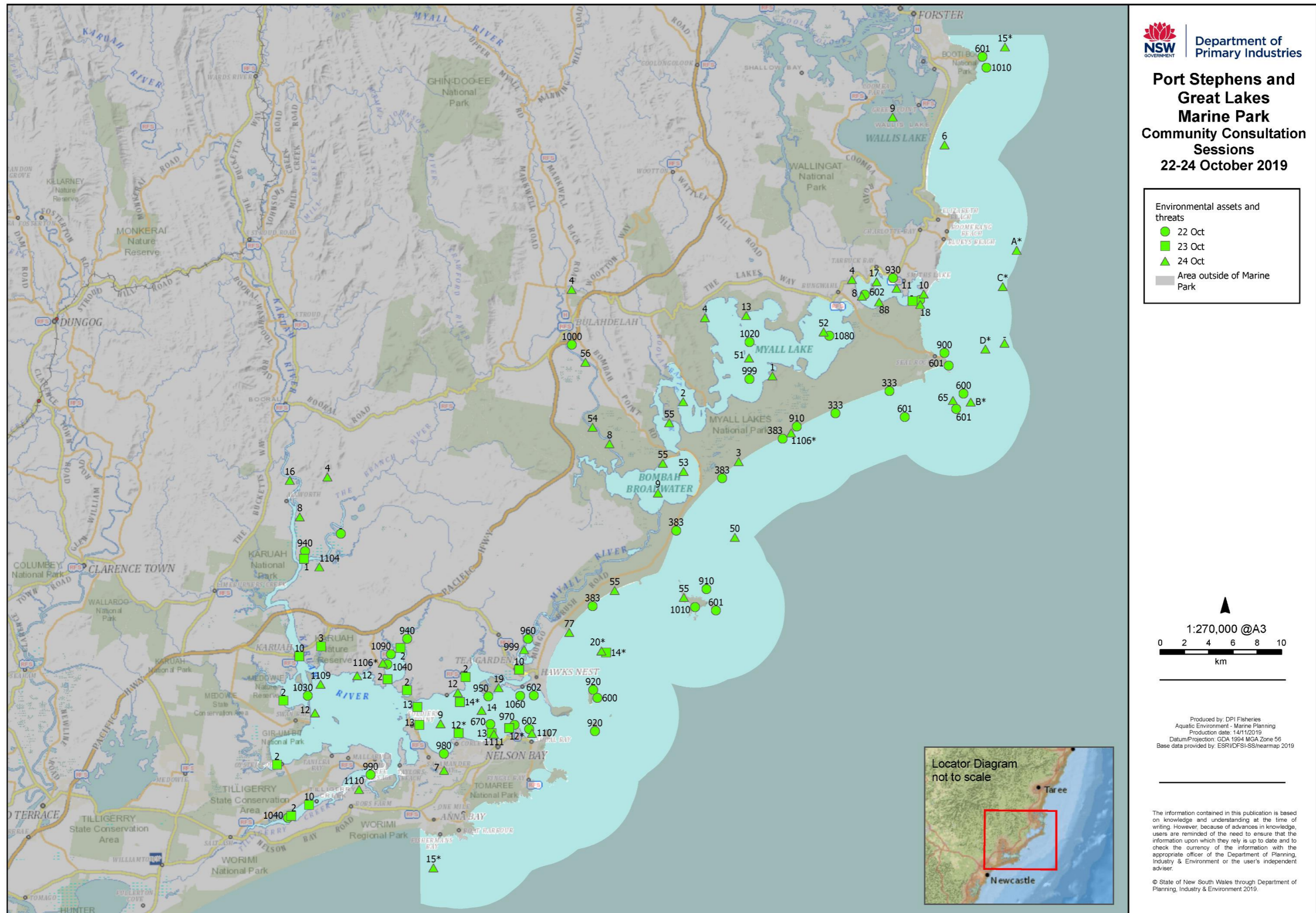
Opportunity (key themes and summaries)	Challenge (key themes and summaries)
<p>Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide better boating facilities to access and enjoy the Park 	<p>Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintain and continue a viable and sustainable commercial fishing industry ○ Ensure boat ramps have appropriate lighting for night-time access ○ Ensure facilities are keeping up with increasing use ○ Ensure adequate, reliable and accessible medical facilities ○ Ensure adequate and robust phone and internet availability
<p>Rules and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No anchoring zone to protect important habitat ○ Move the Cape Hawke northern boundary further south ○ Self-imposed standard/level of compliance by users with rules 	<p>Rules and regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Restrictions on vessel movement/operation left to one agency ○ Identify and address cross-jurisdictional management barriers ○ Create speed limits for fast watercraft ○ Better management of oyster leases ○ Increase fisheries inspections to ensure that fishers are taking appropriate size and number of catches ○ Lack of action on illegal foreshore structures (seawalls)
<p>Stakeholder coordination and communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Consider Boating Industry Association (BIA) new policy guidelines for social, environmental and economic benefits for sustainability of the marine environment ○ Re-enforce context of PSGLMP with need for MPAs [sic - marine protected areas?] generally ○ Improve linkages between marine parks and DPIE ○ Improve agencies ownership and management alignment ○ Incorporate historical information from locals and pro fishermen 	<p>Stakeholder coordination and communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commercial fishermen contribute to research on annual basis ○ There is little incentive to collaborate and work together ○ Need all government agencies to collaborate and form a committee that has funding ○ Ensure marine park management aligns with NPWS management plan of Myall Lakes National Park

Consultation Outcomes

4.2 Activity 2 - Localising Marine Park Values

4.2.1 Environmental Values

Figure 4-1 Localised Environmental Values



Consultation Outcomes

Table 4-1 Community and Stakeholder comments on Environmental issues from PSGLMP workshops (October 2019).

Dot number	Comment	Date
600	Seals	22/10/2019
601	TSP - GNS/Black cod protection / critical habitat areas [sic – threatened species: grey nurse shark?]	22/10/2019
602	Seagrass protection (Zostera / Posidonia)	22/10/2019
900	Snapper habitat	22/10/2019
910	Unspoilt region	22/10/2019
920	Bait grounds / Gould's petrel	22/10/2019
930	Saltmarsh areas at risk of tourism influx – ICCOL [sic - intermittently closed or open lake or lagoon?]	22/10/2019
940	Estuaries at risk from development	22/10/2019
950	RAMSAR listed. Threats to birdlife when channel silts up	22/10/2019
960	Dredging required	22/10/2019
970	Flypoint/Halifax - diversity of fauna, popular with scuba divers etc	22/10/2019
980	Mambo wetlands - mangroves etc. Potential future RAMSAR listing	22/10/2019
990	Tilligerry Creek - water issues - sewerage/possible PFAS [sic – per / poly-fluoro alkyl substances?]	22/10/2019
1000	Run off issues from development	22/10/2019
1010	Pinnacles / Cape Hawke - Grey Nurse Shark habitats	22/10/2019
1020	Myall Lakes - limited tourism, relatively undisturbed and unspoilt	22/10/2019
1030	Little Big Swan - derelict oyster leases needing remediations	22/10/2019
1040	Septic runoff impacting Port waters	22/10/2019
1050	Manage entrance (ICCOL) [sic - intermittently closed or open lake or lagoon?]	22/10/2019
1060	Shoal migration	22/10/2019
1070	Slipway and hardstand management inclusive of all marinas	22/10/2019
1080	Unique habitat	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Sponges and soft corals. Seagrass, protecting from moorings, other damage, run off jetties, marinas	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Climate change, rising sea levels, coastal erosion, changes in rainfall	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Link to Hunter (Commonwealth) Marine Park	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Marine mammal entanglements	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Marine debris (e.g. recent "YM Efficiency" spill)	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Consideration of migratory seabirds/shorebirds for whole park	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Consideration of turtle impacts from recreational vessels/plastic etc	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Maintain sewerage management throughout the lakes system. I.e. Myall Lakes sewerage barge currently funded by Maritime. Fishing huts at Tamboi need to have a sewerage management plan.	22/10/2019
1	Derelict oyster leases in Branch River causing sediment build up	23/10/2019
2	Address all communities that have not been sewerred on all estuaries in the marine park	23/10/2019
3	Runoff from Quarry during rain, second quarry approved next door	23/10/2019
4	Area suffers from regular fish kills when not tidal. Needs to be opened more regularly	23/10/2019
10	Pollution from runoff into estuary systems and rivers	23/10/2019
10	Storm damage Jimmys Beach	23/10/2019
10	More action needed to capture plastics and general rubbish from storm water	23/10/2019
10	Removal of debris from foreshore areas	23/10/2019
10	Address slipways to minimise pollution	23/10/2019
10	Boat pump outs - more information to go out	23/10/2019
10	Give marine parks more opportunity to address Smiths Lake (opening of the Lake)	23/10/2019
11	Consider cumulative effects of increased overall development on waterways rather than once off assessment of new DA's	23/10/2019
13	Review of boat speed limits in known turtle hot-spots	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Foreshore habitat protection and rehabilitation - mangrove and saltmarsh	23/10/2019

Consultation Outcomes

Dot number	Comment	Date
Whole Park	Rotation of sanctuary zones to allow fish stocks to recover and allow fishing access	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Current fisheries legislation protects from habitat within the marine estate	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Artificial wetlands for stormwater treatment	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Fish cleaning stations flow into a tank - removed and turned into fertiliser	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Habitat rehabilitation park wide	23/10/2019
12 Whole Park	Loss of unique habitats. For example Southern foreshore and soft corals. Loss of seagrass	23/10/2019
14 Whole Park	Enhancement of fish habitat - artificial reefs	23/10/2019
1	Ramsar site of international importance protecting variety of wetland types and lifecycles of variety of species associated with wetlands	24/10/2019
2	Largest fresh-brackish lake system in NSW with mostly undisturbed aquatic vegetation and organic ooze (gyttja) in shallow poorly flushed coastal lake	24/10/2019
3	Long stretches of coastal beaches with relatively low use habitat shore shorebirds including threatened species	24/10/2019
4	Support catchment management / water quality objectives. See number 8 regarding water filtering crops for farmers (miscanthus)	24/10/2019
6	Fish breeding areas under 16 fathoms	24/10/2019
7	Mambo wetlands	24/10/2019
8	Riverine habitat (much undisturbed in national park) including mangroves and river oak, paperbarks (casuarina and melaleuca) possible use cropping i.e. miscanthus for water filtering	24/10/2019
9	Filtering water quality in estuarine system	24/10/2019
10	ICCOL - Smiths Lake [sic - intermittently closed or open lake or lagoon?]	24/10/2019
11	Preventative maintenance on septic system around Smiths Lake	24/10/2019
12	Internationally important areas for migratory shorebirds	24/10/2019
13	Sanctuary zones - reassess zones and reclassify (due to silt build up and blue-green algae)	24/10/2019
14	Increased understanding of Port Stephens bathymetry and sediment dynamics (collaboration between agencies and unis)	24/10/2019
16	Additional funding for landholders to undertake sustainable grazing management and exclude livestock from riparian areas	24/10/2019
17	Consider management/monitoring of oil slicks off outboard motors	24/10/2019
18	Climate change - decreased openings of Smiths Lake. Increase public awareness	24/10/2019
19	Important Little Tern nesting site needs to be managed	24/10/2019
47	Are fish stocks in sanctuary zones monitored? Or is it more of a set a boundary and forget about it? Give awareness, educate everyone on importance of habitats	24/10/2019
50	Whale migrations and increasingly becoming entangled in commercial fishing gear. Need to address whale entanglement issues with fishing gear	24/10/2019
51	Very important macrophyte and chlorophyte habitat through the Myall Lakes NP for all sorts of fish etc	24/10/2019
52	Gytja is a unique ecosystem in the Myall Lakes occurring in shallow bays - keystone to nutrient recycling in the Lake	24/10/2019
53	The Myall Lakes is a Ramsar Wetland of international importance	24/10/2019
54	The Myall Lakes requires good water quality for functioning of lake ecosystem	24/10/2019
55	A lot of wetland bird seabird and migratory bird habitat throughout park that needs protecting	24/10/2019
55	Aquatic weeds are a huge threat to the Myall Lakes from the catchment	24/10/2019
56	Water pollution from the catchment is a huge treat go the Myall Lakes water quality and ecosystem function	24/10/2019
65	Protect Grey Nurse Shark from hooking impacts	24/10/2019
66	Protect benthic habitats from mooring damage in Esmeralda Cove	24/10/2019
77	White sharks	24/10/2019
88	Sponges in Smiths Lake	24/10/2019
999	Improve foreshore condition in the lower Myall River	24/10/2019
1104	Improve catchment management, wetlands, poultry litter in Karuah River	24/10/2019
1107	Reduce mooring impacts on seagrass	24/10/2019
1109	Oyster reef restoration - improve mapping of existing oyster reef and model restoration opportunities as per Ben Gilby's work in Noosa River	24/10/2019
1110	Improve ASS / floodplain management	24/10/2019
1111	Protect soft corals from anchoring and mooring	24/10/2019
Whole Park	Good water quality in the Lakes and coastal waters is fundamental to the marine park	24/10/2019
Whole Park	Threatened species - marine, brackish and freshwater - not only fish (grey nurse shark) but mammals (turtles, whales) and birds (Pied oystercatcher, little tern)	24/10/2019
Whole Park	Some juvenile fish stock areas are outside of protected zones, allowing them to be overfished. Review of the placement of current zones with all stakeholders to identify	24/10/2019

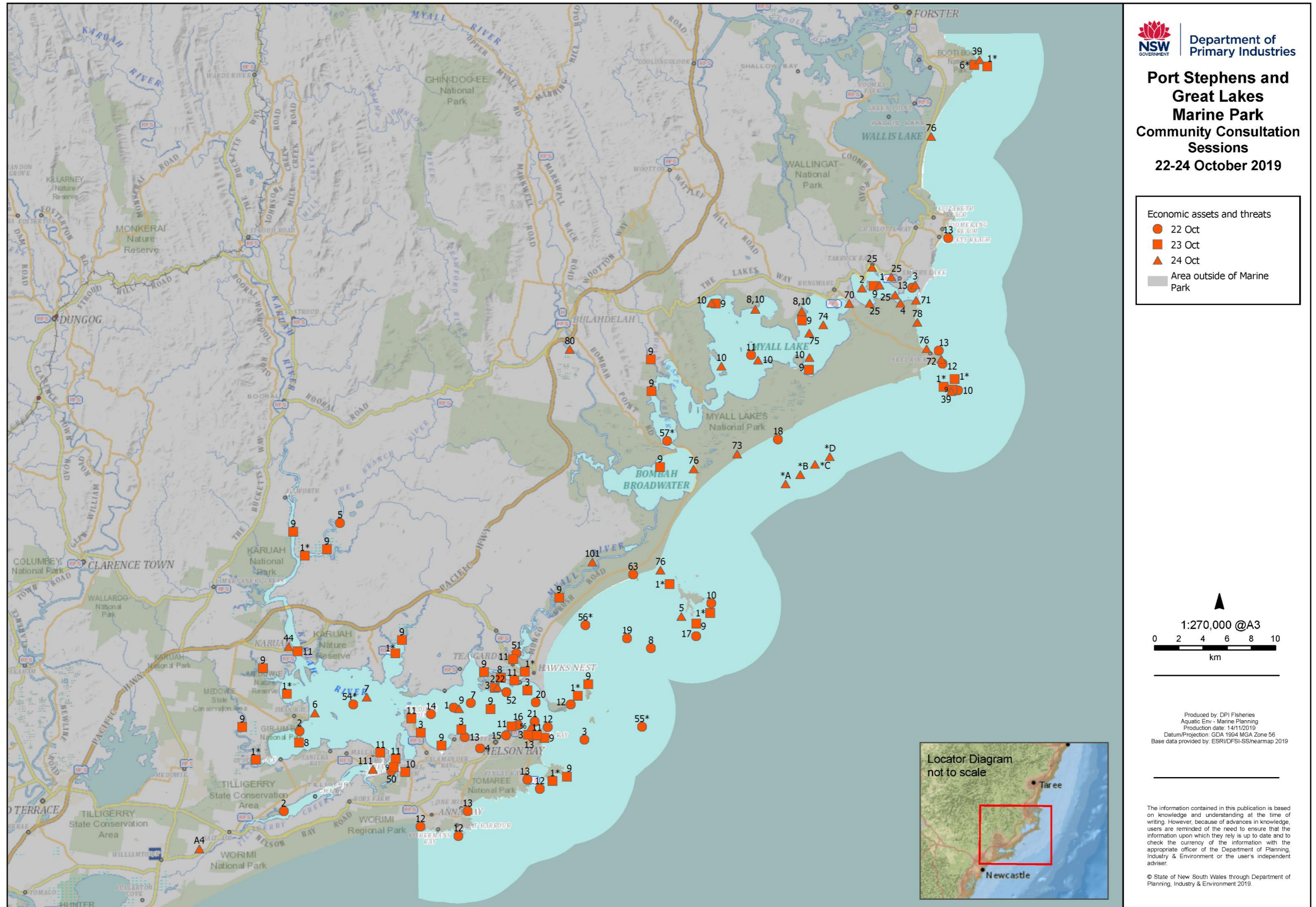
Consultation Outcomes

Dot number	Comment	Date
	locations to be protected	
1106 Whole Park	Marine debris clean-ups in remote areas including abandoned / bogged vehicles on beaches (source reduction to prevent local inputs)	24/10/2019
1108 Whole Park	Ensure septic / On-site sewage management systems managed well esp. in oyster harvest areas	24/10/2019
15 Whole Park	develop the sediment, current and wave processes entering and occurring within this marine park	24/10/2019
20 Whole Park	Ensure plans of management are working together	24/10/2019
A Whole Park	Scientific research into commercial fishing within marine park (impact on stocks)	24/10/2019
B Whole Park	Reef habitat for range of species including Grey Nurse Shark	24/10/2019
C Whole Park	Impact of land-use (development and use) on aquatic habitat values	24/10/2019
D Whole Park	Better understanding and community education of marine habitat mapping	24/10/2019

Consultation Outcomes

4.2.2 Economic Values

Figure 4-2 Localised Economic Values



Consultation Outcomes

Table 4-2 Community and Stakeholder comments on Economic issues from PSGLMP workshops (October 2019)

Dot number	Comment	Date
Whole Park	Carrying capacity for existing and future economic recreational activities or development	22/10/2019
1	Restriction of moorings and vessel operations was economic constraint of boating/marine industry (all mooring areas in Port Stephens)	22/10/2019
2	Oyster fishery	22/10/2019
3	Confusing/onerous permit process for dolphin and whale watching commercial operators but the industry is of significant economic value	22/10/2019
4	Constraints on land based development to minimise impact on water quality	22/10/2019
5	Cost of catchment rehabilitation (fencing, reestablishment of riparian buffers)	22/10/2019
6	Fishing restrictions will impact recreational fishing	22/10/2019
6	Fishing restrictions will impact local businesses	22/10/2019
7	Diversity of access opportunities to the water. Community economy driven by tourism/visitation to area.	22/10/2019
8	Sustainable fish farm industry	22/10/2019
9	Trips to Broughton Island, fishing, diving	22/10/2019
10	Diving charters	22/10/2019
11	Values of Myall Lakes: houseboats/camping/fishing/birdwatching/canoeing and kayaking.	22/10/2019
12	Land-based whale watching	22/10/2019
13	Surf and SUP schools [sic – stand-up paddle board]	22/10/2019
14	Sailing	22/10/2019
15	PSGLMP Education Centre	22/10/2019
16	Scuba snorkelling values of Fly Point/Halifax Sanctuary Zone. Broughton Island is an all wind diving area with huge diversity both sedentary and travelling	22/10/2019
17	Charter fishing opportunities	22/10/2019
18	Land-based charter fishing	22/10/2019
19	Offshore aquaculture opportunities?	22/10/2019
20	Wine/dine cruising opportunities	22/10/2019
21	Seaplane	22/10/2019
50	Taylor's Beach Fisheries Institute - employment opportunities, through research, aquaculture etc	22/10/2019
51	Tea gardens / Nelson Bay Slipways - employment opportunities and economic benefit	22/10/2019
52	Ferry services	22/10/2019
53	Beach 4WDing and flow on effect to local economy	22/10/2019
54 - Whole Park	Through whole of Marine Park and National Parks - employment opportunities for local Aboriginal people to provide unique cultural experiences	22/10/2019
55 - Whole Park	Economic / employment opportunities with tourism	22/10/2019
56 - Whole Park	Maintaining access for recreational fishers which has a flow on effect to local economy	22/10/2019
57 - Whole Park	Lack of marine fuel services on north side of PSGLMP (e.g. Myall Lakes)	22/10/2019
1 - Whole Park	Adequate fishing opportunities for fishing (tourists, recreational, professional) - Seal Rocks, Forster, Port Stephens, Broughton Island inside and out.	23/10/2019
2	Adequate parking, boat ramps, fish cleaning facilities, lighting	23/10/2019
3	Address foreshore protection and erosion (Jimmys beach, Short cut, Shoal Bay, Soldiers Point, Conroy Beach) and access to Myall River and Corrie Island	23/10/2019
4 - Whole Park	Adequate car parking around beaches and tourism highlight areas	23/10/2019
5 - Whole Park	Improved information on Sanctuary Zones for visitors to avoid getting penalised	23/10/2019
6 - Whole Park	Adequate provision of fresh and local seafood for people in local restaurants and shops	23/10/2019
7 - Whole Park	Simplify and clarify what people can do in and around Sanctuary areas	23/10/2019
8	Dredge channel at Oyster Cove and Lower Myall River to allow access to larger vessels	23/10/2019
9	Estuary Sanctuaries were only created to achieve a percentage and have no scientific basis. Remove all sanctuaries will increase tourism	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Adequate accommodation in desired areas - caravan parks	23/10/2019

Consultation Outcomes

Dot number	Comment	Date
Whole Park	Change Estuary Sanctuary to Habitat Protection to allow recreational fishing and commercial crabbing	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Improve access for boats, ramps etc	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Improve habitat by creating it, wrecks etc	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Foreshore erosion and maintenance	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Ensure that regulations do not close off too many areas in marine areas to increase impacts on remaining areas	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Emphasise 2 hours from Hornsby, 1 hour from Newcastle and 3 hours from Sydney CBD	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Provide facilities for more residents coming into Hunter Valley and Newcastle Areas to live	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Recognise that many people now visiting Port Stephens from inland areas to escape drought affected areas	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Highlight and improve areas for people not using waterway but visiting area	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Protection of scuba diving and snorkelling spots (Fly Point, Halifax Park)	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Notification of areas affected by tides	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Look at career paths for young people to work in area rather than moving to Sydney and Newcastle	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Sustain sustainable tourism through the marine park	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Target market areas for education on marine park issues	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Economic impacts of erosion - research beach erosion	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Streamline institutional governance (agencies)	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Finfish aquaculture economically viable in the marine park	23/10/2019
10	Change legislation to allow fish stocking throughout the park	23/10/2019
1	Health of water and fish species in Smith Lake	24/10/2019
1	Get rid of red zone (Smiths Lake)	24/10/2019
2	Respect and value the input from historical fisher families - Smiths Lake	24/10/2019
2	Historic local fishermen/fishery cont. involvement (Smiths)	24/10/2019
3	Timely two way communication between government departments and community - Smiths Lake	24/10/2019
3	Tourism drop off due to Lake level/access. Boat ramp maintenance, non-boat ramp access (Kayak). Water level in Smiths Lake affects tourism/economics. Council to streamline processes for action.	24/10/2019
4	Value ongoing community education about the marine park - Smiths Lake	24/10/2019
4	Fishing. Four fish kill events since red zone implementation. Fishers not returning to Lake for use. Tourists not coming to Smiths Lake accommodation/village	24/10/2019
5	Important seabird nesting site - tourism attraction	24/10/2019
6	Important bird watching site for migratory shorebirds - tourism	24/10/2019
7	Tourism around the beauty and natural assets of Port Stephens	24/10/2019
8 10	Red zones at top of Myall Lakes need reassessment. Management practices have caused algae bloom issues which limits/reduces tourism.	24/10/2019
9	Increased employment of coastal managers? (Ecotourism) More funding for coast/marine management (Council?), educators (tours of the park - issues and management). Co-sponsor with groups/locals to manage/maintain certain value areas/assets	24/10/2019
Whole Park	Each year approval is given, money is paid by tourism operators to use marine park. Where does that money go? What is it used for? What is the benefit compared to someone that doesn't have approval? How many of the 5 operators out of Forster have permission for the identical business model?	24/10/2019
Whole Park	Improve understanding of fish/aquaculture production benefits of est. habitats (e.g. seagrass, oysters, oyster racks)	24/10/2019
A- Whole Park	Commercial fishery value in the marine park is not backed up by scientific research. Need research to support a sustainable commercial fishing industry	24/10/2019
B - Whole Park	Recreational fishing - as above- research needs to back up sustainable recreational fishing. Rec fishers have economic benefit to local communities	24/10/2019
C - Whole Park	Restriction of commercial fishing activities within marine park causes a greater impact outside the marine park. Transfers effort and impact elsewhere. Has more economic pressures for fishers.	24/10/2019
D - Whole Park	The marine park offers a variety of water-based tourism industry opportunities. Dolphin and whale watching, fishing charters, boating, kayaking, Aboriginal culture experiences, recreational fishing.	24/10/2019
101	Sustainable logging of pine trees in Myall Lakes national park to improve water quality/catchment condition	24/10/2019
111	Incentivise oyster industry to stop using tar in Port Stephens	24/10/2019
222	Value economic benefit of bird watching	24/10/2019
36	The Great Lakes area is reliant on tourism. With management, tourism could be increased. Marine areas sent certain people to other areas.	24/10/2019

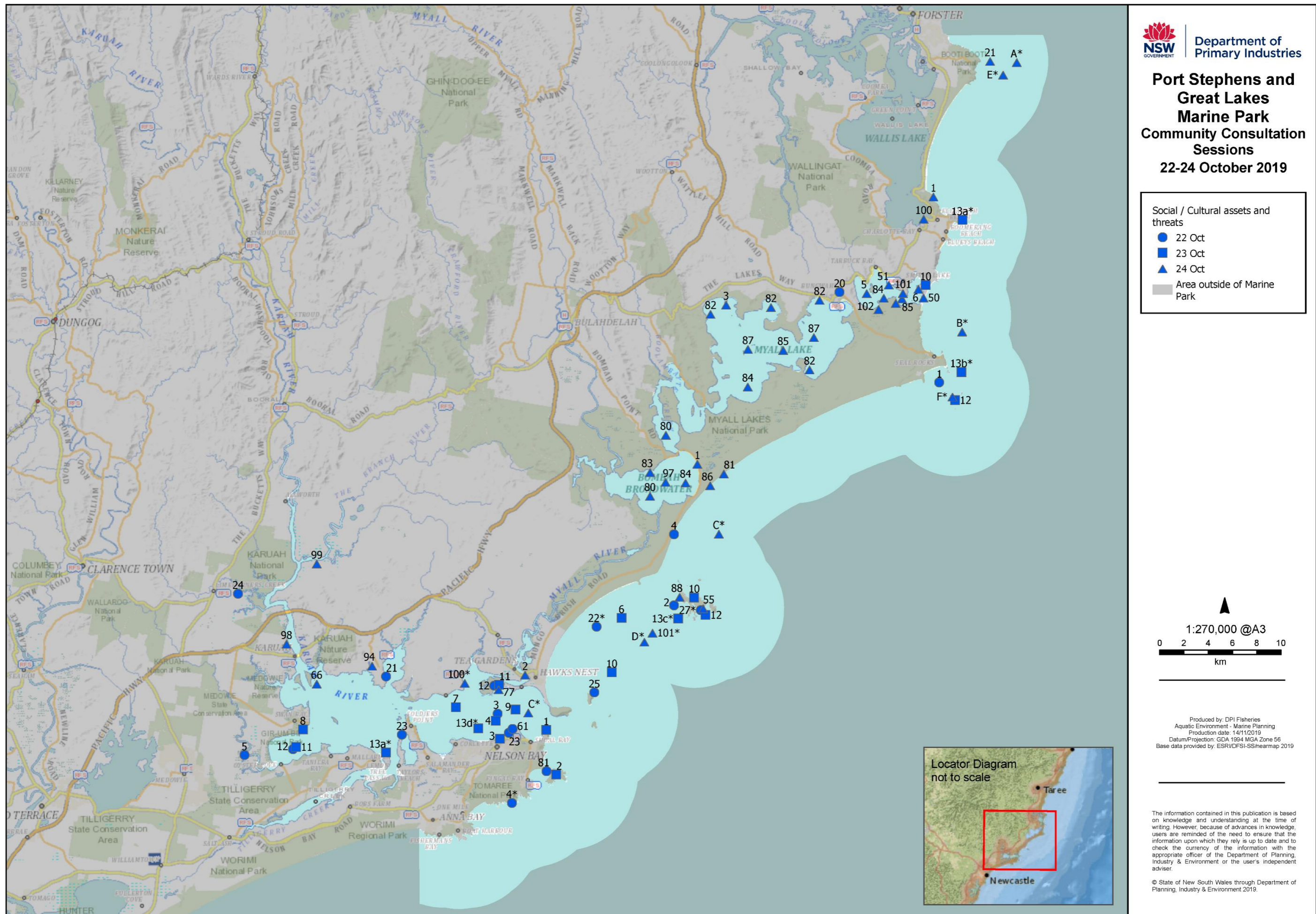
Consultation Outcomes

Dot number	Comment	Date
37	Help build businesses that use the marine park. This can be done with still having restrictions on businesses but also by relaxing certain areas and monitoring tourism operators.	24/10/2019
38	Marine parks in certain areas have created missed tourism opportunities, missed business opportunities	24/10/2019
39	Since implementation of Sanctuary Zones, the viability and sustainability of tourism based fishing businesses has become almost non-viable due to overhead running costs as charter operators now have to travel further. Also certain fish species are almost impossible to target as they reside in Sanctuary Zones.	24/10/2019
44	Employment opportunities with ALC's - improve collaboration (pool money between agencies to improve outcomes) [sic – aboriginal land councils?]	24/10/2019
56	Incentivise boat owners to convert to EFMs [sic – environmentally friendly mooring?]	24/10/2019
70	Commercial fishing is not viable at the moment but it could be - whole park but Smiths and Myall Lake specifically	24/10/2019
71	Dredging sandbar to make commercial fishing better. Change it to blue zone, not yellow zone. Sandbar is closed up.	24/10/2019
72	Conservation and natural values are a huge tourism draw card. They need to be protected- especially Myall and Wallis coastlines and lakes.	24/10/2019
73	Missed opportunities around marine park tourism around natural and cultural values	24/10/2019
74	Meshing should be allowed in yellow zones in Smiths and Myall Lakes	24/10/2019
75	Hauling should not be allowed in Smiths and Myall Lakes system.	24/10/2019
76	The Wallis, Smiths and Myall Lake systems and coastlines have immense natural beauty and environmental values. Need protecting to protect tourism industry and also quality of life for residents.	24/10/2019
80	Supported access for tourism providers	24/10/2019
81	Support coastal walk Forster to Hawks Nest huge tourism benefit	24/10/2019
Whole Park	Huge Indigenous cultural values throughout the park and opportunities for tourism around Worimi culture.	24/10/2019

Consultation Outcomes

4.2.3 Social / Cultural Values

Figure 4-3 Localised Social - Cultural Values



NSW Department of Primary Industries

Port Stephens and Great Lakes Marine Park Community Consultation Sessions 22-24 October 2019

Social / Cultural assets and threats
 ● 22 Oct
 ■ 23 Oct
 ▲ 24 Oct
 ■ Area outside of Marine Park

1:270,000 @A3
 0 2 4 6 8 10 km

Produced by: DPI Fisheries
 Aquatic Environment - Marine Planning
 Production date: 14/11/2019
 Datum/Projection: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 56
 Base data provided by: ESR/DFSI-SS/heatmap 2019



The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment or the user's independent adviser.

© State of New South Wales through Department of Planning, Industry & Environment 2019.

Consultation Outcomes

Table 4-3 Community and Stakeholder comments on Social and Cultural issues from PSGLMP workshops (October 2019)

Dot number	Comment	Date
1	Recreational diving, swimming, beach activities	22/10/2019
2	Diverse usage - fishing, camping, diving	22/10/2019
3	Managing PWC's within the Port [sic - personal water craft?]	22/10/2019
4	Linking National Parks and Marine Parks values (land and sea country)	22/10/2019
5	Resolve current conundrum within 12 mile Creek Sanctuary Zone (i.e. air force / sanctuary)	22/10/2019
6	Recreational value - diving in Sanctuary Zone and boating in area	22/10/2019
12	Continuation of Aboriginal cultural values in fishing/foraging	22/10/2019
20	Smith's Myall Lakes - recreational areas for camping/ fishing etc. Risks from commercial fishers. Required infrastructure for legal access	22/10/2019
21	Right of access - issues with commercial aquaculture destroying natural beauty of area	22/10/2019
23	Nelson Bay / Corlette / Soldiers Point / LTP marinas. Tourism hubs. Starting points for many competitions and events [sic – lemon tree passage?]	22/10/2019
24	Recreational area for camping/fishing etc. Require infrastructure for legal access	22/10/2019
25	High value area for snorkelling and natural beauty	22/10/2019
26	Safety issues with recreational vessels (pedestrians at Fingal Spit) - requires multi-agency approach	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Marinas and boating clubs (Bulahdelah, karuah, Port Stephens, Myall Lakes). Facilities required to operate	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Wash management from certain sized vessels	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Cultural heritage sites to be identified on another individual map	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Lack of awareness of Commonwealth Marine park boundary / regulations	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Multiple agency objectives with confusing outcomes and conflict strategies to comply	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Alignment of management objectives with Marine Parks and National Parks	22/10/2019
Whole Park	Advertising values generally of PSGLMP - within the area, as a place to visit	22/10/2019
22 Whole Park	Maintaining access to recreational areas. Providing access with designated tracks	22/10/2019
27 Whole Park	Provision of Government and public mooring(s) at Broughton Island	22/10/2019
4 Whole Park	Improving sea/land country links i.e. most of PSGLMP has common boundary with National park estate. Social recognition of these links. Shared resourcing (compliance/advisory) between DPI/NPWS. Issues include fires, dogs (domestic animals), vehicles etc	22/10/2019
3	Nelson Bay focal point - how do we spread load around	23/10/2019
4	Loss of natural beauty (e.g. sea horses)	23/10/2019
5	General whole park is affected by signage (lack of)	23/10/2019
6	More visible Park boundaries (better marked). Broughton Island especially	23/10/2019
8	What is ruling where property boundaries meet the marine park	23/10/2019
9	Personal Water Craft (PWC) review of regulations	23/10/2019
10	Cellitto Beach needs 4WD access improved, to stop people driving around Smiths Lake over critical habitat	23/10/2019
11	Dredging of channels to improve access to facilities and waterways for the general public	23/10/2019
12	Open Seal Rocks to recreational fishing - Lure only- no anchoring and Broughton	23/10/2019
Whole Park	Enhance and improve boat launching and retrieving facilities. Public moorings facilities	23/10/2019
1 & 2	Cultural and social	23/10/2019
13a Whole Park	Simple marine ark rules and zoning (clearly identified)	23/10/2019
13b Whole Park	Better facilities for passive recreation	23/10/2019
13c Whole Park	Areas with no zoning so tourists can easily enjoy recreational activities without being prosecuted or fined	23/10/2019
13d Whole Park	We need to know about our Aboriginal representatives so we can 1 body (not 2)	23/10/2019
1	Public rec sites in Booti / Myall Lakes National Park. To appreciate and enjoy PSGLMP. Provide natural experiences. Marine Park to support this	24/10/2019
2	Recreational boating (incl. jet skis, power boats, kayaks and SUPS) getting out and enjoying it. Review of boating activities in current zones to identify if this activity is consistent	24/10/2019

Consultation Outcomes

Dot number	Comment	Date
	with zone.	
3	Love non-motorised areas - as per Myall Lakes - review this and support in other areas of marine park	24/10/2019
5	Not enough access for commercial fishers. Sanctuary zone review	24/10/2019
6	Commercial fisher access	24/10/2019
21	More access to marine Sanctuary Zones for approved marine park users and fishers. E.g. No bait, no anchor, increased tourism)	24/10/2019
22	Support and promote businesses who invest and are approved in Marine Parks (e.g. fishers, cruises). What do you get for the money paid each year?	24/10/2019
23	local residents and tourists involvement	24/10/2019
50	Balancing motorised access to sandbar and recreation and environment	24/10/2019
51	Jetskis, motorised nuisance, poor behaviour	24/10/2019
55	Increase practical engagement with BI conservation society (2 way)	24/10/2019
66	Undertake oral history project in Port Stephens regarding changing nature of habitats in living memory especially oyster reefs	24/10/2019
77	Improve engagement with dog owners to assist with shorebird management	24/10/2019
80	Recreational boating is an important value in Myall Lakes. However certain activities can be disruptive e.g. jet skis (need limitations)	24/10/2019
81	Marine park zoning and recreational activities in Myall Lakes National Park need to align with National Parks Plan of Management	24/10/2019
82	Pink zones in Myall Lake - make them Yellow and allow meshing in them. More access for commercial fishing	24/10/2019
83	More access for commercial fishing	24/10/2019
84	Commercial hauling in the Myall Lakes and Smiths Lake causes conflict with the public and gives commercial fishing a bad name	24/10/2019
85	Remove commercial fishing from Smiths Lake and Myall Lake	24/10/2019
86	Recreational 4WD is a social value and point of conflict in the marine park	24/10/2019
87	meshing is passive - hauling is active and more destructive	24/10/2019
88	Improve / increase opportunities for Aboriginal communities to engage with cultural heritage values on Broughton Island	24/10/2019
94	Reduce conflict between residents and Oyster farmers in NAC [sic – national aquaculture council?]	24/10/2019
97	High community recreation values in the Myall Lakes.	24/10/2019
98	Improve engagement with KLALC and local Aboriginal community [sic – Kempsey local aboriginal land council?]	24/10/2019
99	Improve understanding of Aboriginal cultural heritage values in the Karuah River	24/10/2019
101	Historical records have been taken by BRAMBLE family/CHEERS family from 1938 to recent times of Smith Lake (record of fish caught, state of lake and lake usage)	24/10/2019
102	Mullet are not a recreational fish	24/10/2019
100 Whole Park	Review methodology for boat and trailer usage - marine park wide (economic). Fish cleaning and boat ramp usage. Better funding distribution and site usage – esp. during summer)	24/10/2019
101 Whole Park	Increased education programs (esp. to community) on science, research and management of marine park	24/10/2019
A Whole Park	Access infrastructure for Marine Park, to use it. Review locations of infrastructure. Partner with Councils, RMS and NPWS to identify/improve/relocate. Marine Parks to support partners to do this with ease [sic – roads and maritime service]	24/10/2019
B Whole Park	Beach erosion impact on private property. Marine Park to look at environmental processes. How can Marine Park support environmental programs to 'buffer' this Marine park to partner with DPIE and Councils to work towards management of this.	24/10/2019
C Whole Park	Beach erosion impact on public recreation (beaches etc), as above. Especially hot spot erosion sites (Jimmys and Old Bar-Manning Point)	24/10/2019
D Whole Park	Diving site adequately protected to maintain/improve these sites	24/10/2019
E Whole Park	Review of target species fishing (pelagic species) through marine park zones for recreational fishing	24/10/2019
F Whole Park	4WD on beaches. Balance between use and impact. Damaged dunes. Invertebrate and shorebird impacts	24/10/2019

Consultation Outcomes

4.3 Workshop evaluation

Participants at each workshop were asked to complete an evaluation sheet. A total of 36 evaluation sheets were completed. Detailed outcomes of the evaluation of the presentation updates and workshop sessions are provided in Appendix A.

Overall the three workshops received a very positive response from participants as shown in **Error! Reference source not found.**. With 97% of respondents considering the workshops overall to be good to excellent.

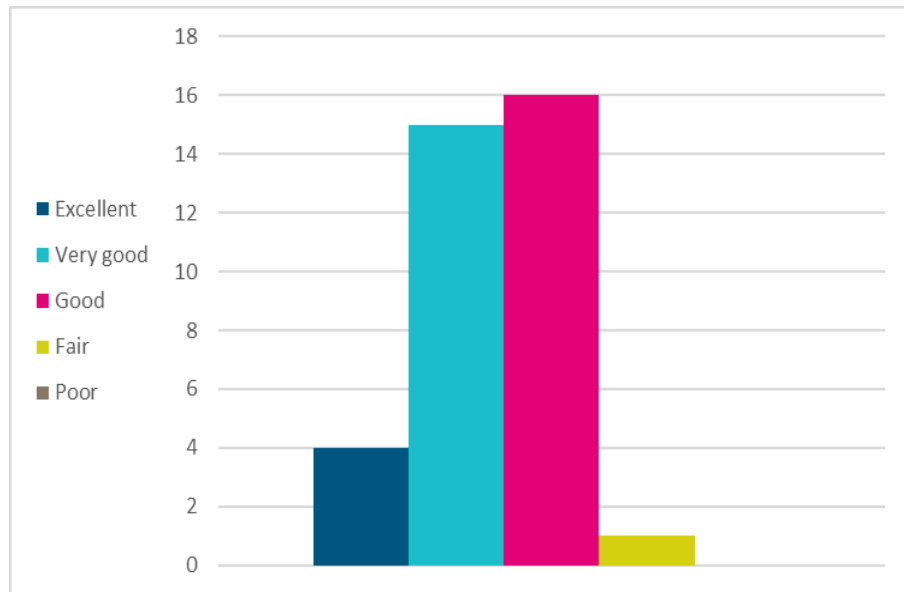


Figure 4-4 Overall review on Workshops

The most notable highlight of the workshops was the opportunity for discussions to occur between participants. Participants also highly valued the opportunity to provide input into the planning process and work together.

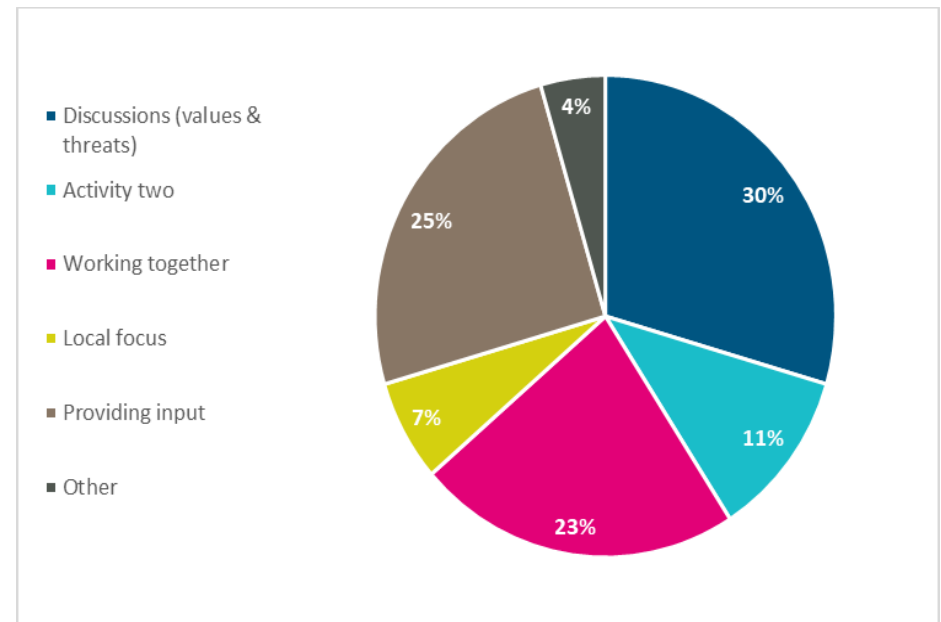


Figure 4-5 Commonly Noted Highlights of Workshops

Next Steps

5 Next Steps

5.1.1 Incorporating workshop outcomes into draft management plan

DPI Fisheries will analyse the outputs from these workshops, along with other information gathered since the establishment of PSGLMP to develop management actions in consultation with the PSGLMP Advisory Committee.

The management objectives addressed in these workshops will be incorporated into a draft management plan along with these management actions.

5.1.2 Additional opportunities for Stakeholder and Community Input

This workshop report will be made publicly available so that participants and those who were unable to attend the workshops are able to see the range of ideas and views that were discussed and contribute further information.

Once a draft management plan has been developed in consultation with the PSGLMP Advisory Committee, it will be publicly exhibited for a minimum of two months and submissions will be invited.

Appendix A – Workshop Evaluation

A.1 Stakeholder Engagement Evaluation – PSGLMP Consultation Workshops

A.1.1 Introduction

This section outlines the general feedback provided by participants attending the stakeholder engagement workshops in regard to the Port Stephens, Great Lakes Marine Park management planning workshops. A total of 84 key stakeholders were invited to the workshops held on 22 and 23 October (Port Stephens) and 24 October at Forster. 49 individuals attending representing more than 20 organisations. They represented government agencies, private businesses, and the general public.

The evaluation form provided the opportunity for participants of the workshop to review the workshop on its overall content, highlights, areas of improvement, areas lacking in detailed information as well as general feedback comments. 36 responses were received.

Organisations represented at the Workshops

Stakeholders and Community	Government Agencies
Community members	Transport for NSW (Maritime)
Fishing Club members	Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment (including): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Environment, Energy and Science ○ National Parks and Wildlife Service ○ Environment Protection Authority
Marina Operators	Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries
Commercial Fishers	Port Stephens Council
Research Leaders (Universities)	Hunter Local Land Services
Commercial Tourism Operators	MidCoast Council
Local Businesses	
Recreational Fishers	
Community Associations	

A.1.2 Workshop evaluation

A.1.2.1 Workshop 1 - Port Stephens Government Agencies, 22 October

The first workshop facilitated by BMT received a strongly positive response from a variety of participants as shown in **Error! Reference source not found.** 100% of the respondents considered the workshop to be “good” to “excellent” overall.

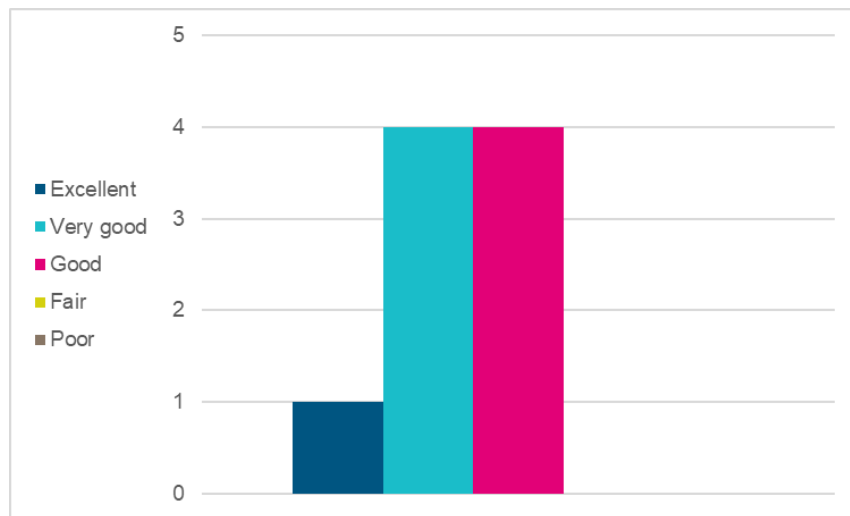


Figure A-1 Overall review on Workshop 1

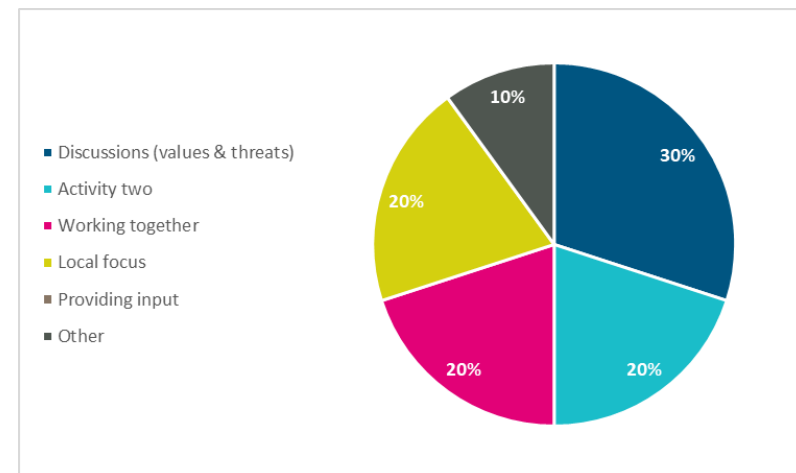


Figure A-2 Workshop 1 Commonly Noted Highlights

The most notable highlight of the workshop was the opportunity for open discussion to occur between individuals from different interest groups. Many participants appreciated meeting new people, exploring differing perspectives, and the discussion of new ideas. In addition, many participants noted that the information presented in the workshop, the diversity of participants and the interactive components of the workshop provided a positive experience.

A.1.2.2 Workshop 2 – Port Stephens Community, 23 October

The second workshop received a generally positive response from a variety of participants as shown in **Error! Reference source not found..** With 90% of respondents considering the workshop overall to be “good” to “excellent”.

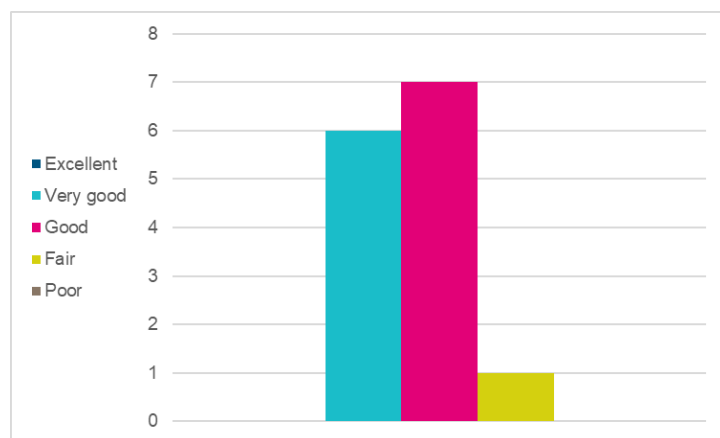


Figure A-3 Overall review of Workshop 2

The most notable highlight of the workshop was the opportunity for open discussion in addition to being informative. Some participants noted that the interactive activities of the workshop provided a positive experience.

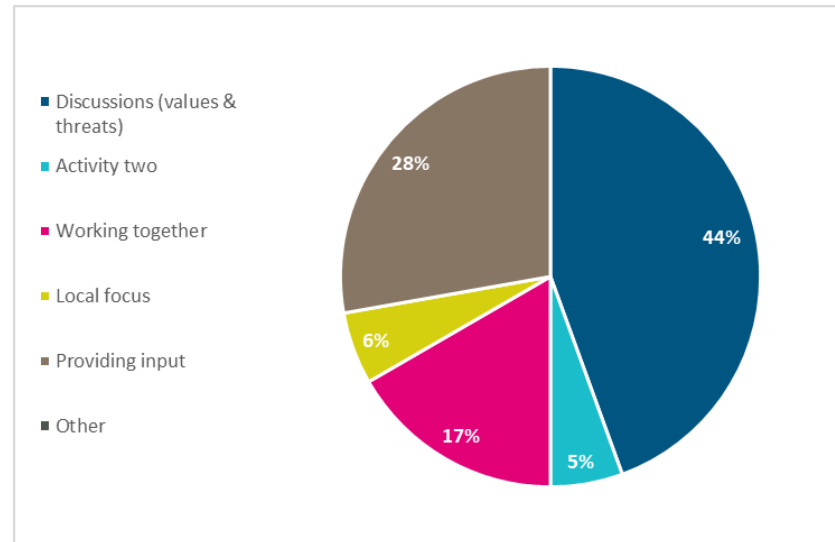


Figure A-4 Workshop 2 Commonly Noted highlights

A.1.2.3 Workshop 3 – Forster Community and Government Agencies, 24 October

The third workshop received a positive response from a variety of participants as shown in **Error! Reference source not found..** With 100% of respondents considering the workshop overall to be “good” to “excellent”.

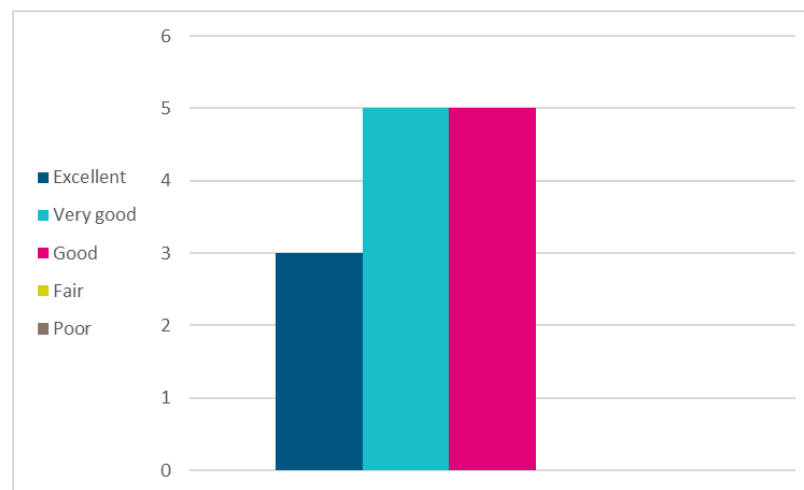


Figure A-5 Overall review on Workshop 3

The most notable highlight of the workshop was the opportunity to provide input into the marine park management planning process and the opportunity to work together.

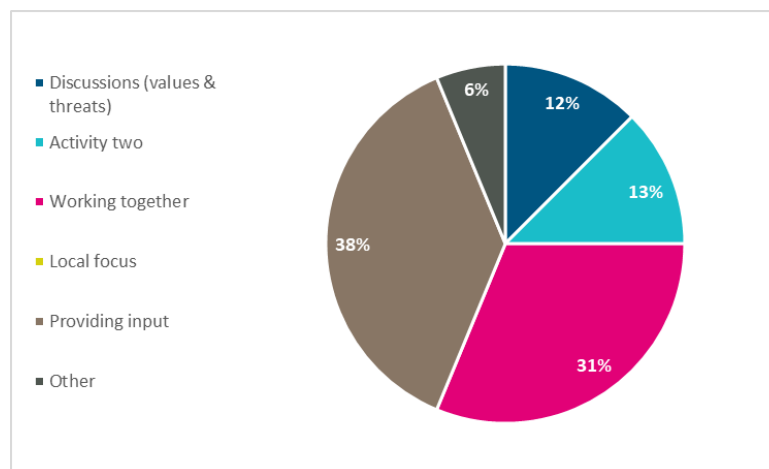


Figure A-6 Workshop 3 Commonly Noted Highlights

A.1.2.4 Overall feedback

The overall the three workshops received a significantly positive response from a variety of participants as shown in **Error! Reference source not found.** With 97% of respondents considering the workshops overall to be “good” to “excellent”.

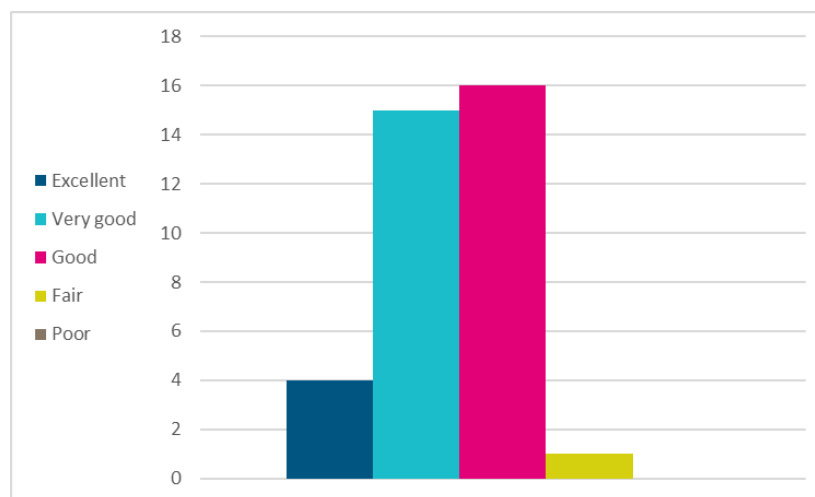


Figure A-7 Overall review on Workshops

A.1.2.5 Workshop areas for improvement

While the majority of attendees found the workshop activities to be useful, participants have also raised points on how the activities could have been improved. A commonly raised issue from both workshops was the time constraint of the activities. Participants also found that some personalities dominated the discussion, limiting the ability for other individuals to raise their opinions.

In terms of the content and topics covered in the workshop, participants provided feedback on what areas they would like more information on. Majority of respondents wanted more information on the environmental impacts associated with the project and alternative site venues for the project. Some respondents also noted that more information on BMT's background, technical information and statistical data would have been useful.

Areas of the overall workshop that participants were not satisfied about involved an imbalance in the number of participants representing each interest group. Several attendees found that this imbalance caused the discussion to be sometimes one-sided.

Several attendees of the first workshop also raised that the scope of the project presented was limited. This provided a challenge to assess the issues without specified design details.

A general feedback comment raised by respondents of the second workshop, noted that project planners should investigate Patterson River as a potential alternative venue for the project.

A.1.2.6 Additional information requests

- Any subsequent reports
- Ongoing developments of management plan
- Summary of the process
- TARA consultation process - specially the northern half (Tea Gardens, Hawks Nest etc.)