



THE HON JOSH FRYDENBERG MP

Minister for the Environment and Energy

SENATOR THE HON ANNE RUSTON

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

THE HON MELISSA PRICE MP

Assistant Minister for the Environment

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NEW PROTECTIONS FOR AUSTRALIA'S WORLD CLASS MARINE PARKS

An additional 2.3 million kilometres of Australian waters will be managed under a world-leading system of marine parks for the first time, as five new management plans come into effect from today.

This brings all 60 Australian Marine Parks, covering some 3.2 million square kilometres, under protection – the second largest network of managed marine parks in the world.

The new management arrangements cement Australia as a leader in marine protection and provide certainty for marine park users. These parks strike the balance between outstanding conservation outcomes and securing the future of Australia's sustainable fishing and tourism industries.

To assist industries and communities transition to the new management arrangements, the Government has announced an adjustment package of \$35 million.

The package will include:

- direct assistance to those affected commercial fishers with a recent history of fishing in Australian Marine Parks as they transition their business to the new operating environment;
- grants to help marine users and industries engage in marine park management, including a sub-component of up to \$2 million for infrastructure to provide recreational and charter fishers as well as other tourism operators with secure moorings; and
- support to encourage uptake of vessel monitoring systems.

Through the grants program, there are great opportunities for all marine users to engage with managing these amazing places for future sustainability.

Industry consultation will soon commence on the fishing business assistance program.

Further information about Australian Marine Parks is available via www.parksaustralia/marineparks.

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Media contact: Kane Silom – Office of the Hon Josh Frydenberg MP – 02 6277 7920
The Hon Josh Frydenberg MP | Minister for the Environment and Energy | MELBOURNE
Media contact: Tom Edwards – Office of Senator the Hon Anne Ruston – 0438 791 913
Senator the Hon Anne Ruston | Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources | ADELAIDE
Media contact: Andrew Brosnan – Office of the Hon Melissa Price MP – 0418 203 356
The Hon Melissa Price MP | Assistant Minister for the Environment | PERTH