

NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NSW
working together to protect natural areas

A Case for Marine Protection in NSW today and beyond

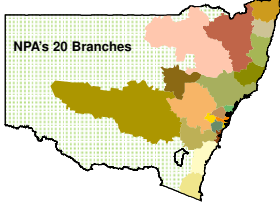
Nicky Hammond, Marine Program Manager
National Parks Association of NSW

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NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NSW


National Parks Association of NSW

- Leading conservation organisation
- 50 years old!
- Statewide network
- 20 branches
- Programs include:
 - Campaigns
 - On-ground conservation
 - Activities program




NPA's 20 Branches


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NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NSW


NPA-Marine

- Sanctuaries campaign
- On-ground programs
- Education



www.marine.org.au




Lucy
Our Grey Nurse Shark



HarbourKeepers
It's Our Harbour




CoastKeepers
It's Our Coast




SeaStars

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NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NSW

Our Environment

- 1000km of coastline
1 million ha of water
- A unique mix of subtropical waters & cool temperate waters
- Endemic species
- A wide variety of marine habitats
 - Seagrass beds
 - Rocky reefs
 - Coral and sponges

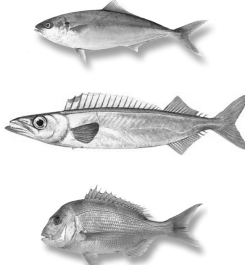


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Our marine treasures

- Some species are now threatened like
 - Grey Nurse Shark
 - Turtle
 - Seahorse
- These waters are also home to popular fishes like
 - Gemfish
 - Snapper
 - Yellow Tailed Kingfish




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How our marine treasures affect us

Our oceans are responsible for:

- Over 70% of the oxygen we breathe
- Our weather patterns and climate, temperature & our global water cycle
- Helping stabilise shorelines & being a filter system
- The lifestyle we know and love!



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Destroying our marine treasures



- More intensive commercial fishing practices
 - 36 target species in decline
 - not financially viable
- Recreational fishing impacts
 - upset predator - prey balance
 - remove better breeders
- Other threats
 - pollution
 - habitat destruction
 - climate change

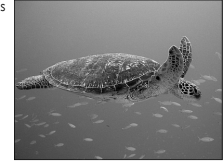


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Protecting our marine treasures



- Global efforts to create marine sanctuaries
- Most effective conservation tool
- Biggest move in marine conservation ever
- Legacy for future generations

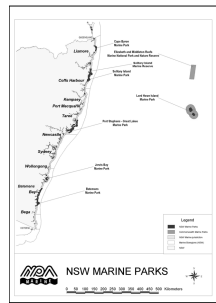


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Protecting our marine treasures



- In NSW we have 3 types of MPAs:
 - Marine parks
 - Aquatic reserves
 - Marine extensions of national parks
- Cover 34% of NSW oceans
- Only 6.7% protected as sanctuary
- Need a minimum 20% as sanctuaries



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The best protection



- NPA's *Torn Blue Fringe* report investigates the best way to protect marine areas
- The report is an extensive study of existing marine sanctuaries
- It presents evidence that sanctuaries can work to:
 - ✓ boost the number of species by an average of 23%
 - ✓ boost favourite wild fish stocks by allowing fish to live longer, larger and proliferate more effectively
 - ✓ boost yields for fishers outside marine sanctuaries
 - ✓ protect threatened species
 - ✓ make marine ecosystems 21% more resilient to climate change

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Benefits of sanctuaries



- Conservation benefits
- Social benefits
- Economic benefits
- Fisheries benefits



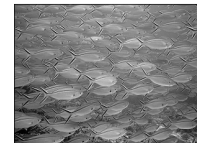
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The best protection



The Torn Blue Fringe shows there are :

- extensive gaps in sanctuary network
- many habitats underrepresented
- whole bioregions ignored
- threatened species habitat unprotected



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The NPA Solution



- To protect **20%** of NSW oceans as sanctuaries
- Shortly launch campaign to:
 - create a detailed web of protection
 - protect high priority areas
 - protect forgotten bioregions
 - provide real, long-term conservation



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Making this happen



- We need a collaborative approach
- Involving the public through to politicians
- Support from councils to CMAs to divers to fishers to school kids
- Already great community support



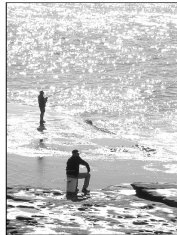
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Why should we care?



Why?

- So we can continue to enjoy aussie favourites like snapper & tuna
- So our families can enjoy pristine coastline and waters now & in future
- So our marine species have a better chance of surviving climate change



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Get involved!



- More info: www.marine.org.au
- Contact:
Nicky Hammond, Marine Program Manger
(02) 9299 0000; marine@marine.org.au
- Download *Tom Blue Fringe*
Part 1 from website
Part 2 – shortly to be released!



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