



The Hon Katrina Hodgkinson MP

Minister for Primary Industries

Minister for Small Business

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 21st June 2012

LAST CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY ON MARINE PARKS AUDIT REPORT

Minister for Primary Industries Katrina Hodgkinson and Minister for the Environment Robyn Parker are today reminding individuals and community groups that public submissions in response to the Independent Scientific Audit Report into Marine Parks in NSW must be received by 30 June 2012.

“To ensure considered and detailed responses could be made, sufficient time has been given for public consultation, however that’s now coming to an end,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“It’s vital that stakeholders and those with an interest in this area are able to have their say, so I encourage them to make their submission by the closing date,” Ms Parker said.

Ms Hodgkinson said as part of its election commitment, the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government committed to an independent scientific audit into marine parks.

“We commissioned the audit in June 2011 and released the Audit Report in February 2012, along with an invitation to the public to respond to the recommendations,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“Our consultative approach is in stark contrast to the flawed and politically driven method in which marine park zoning was carried out by the former Labor Government.

“Once the public consultation period ends, the NSW Government will consider the audit recommendations and community feedback to develop a formal response,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

To view the report and the information considered by the audit, and to make an on-line submission please visit: www.marineparksaudit.nsw.gov.au

Email submissions can be lodged at: yoursayonmarineparks@dpc.nsw.gov.au