

Public Land (Administration and Forests) Act 1991

Sections 14 and 16

I, Steven Kons, Minister administering the *Public Land (Administration and Forests) Act 1991*, hereby issue a reference to the Resource Planning and Development Commission to conduct an inquiry and make recommendations on the establishment of Marine Protected Areas in the Interim Marine and Coastal Regionalisation of Australia Bioregion known as the Bruny Bioregion.

Pursuant to section 16 of the Act this reference amends the reference issued by the Minister for Environment and Planning on 6 June 2005 under section 14 of the Act.

1. Description of the Land

That area of public land within the Interim Marine and Coastal Regionalisation of Australia Bruny Bioregion as shown on the attached plan with the exception of that land which is specified in Schedule 1 of the *Ralphs Bay Conservation Area (Clarification) Act 2006*.

2. The Scope of the Inquiry

The inquiry is to:

- (a) use the identification criteria contained within the Tasmanian Marine Protected Areas Strategy adopted by the Tasmanian Government in August 2001 to assess which of those areas of public land under investigation are suitable as potential Marine Protected Areas.
- (b) use the selection criteria contained within the Tasmanian Marine Protected Areas Strategy to select those areas of public land under investigation that are suitable for declaration as Marine Protected Areas.
- (c) identify potential boundaries and arrangements for management of the areas of public land under investigation determined to be suitable for declaration as Marine Protected Areas as a result of completing (a) and (b) above.
- (d) make recommendations to the Minister for Planning on the following matters:
 - (i) those areas of public land under investigation which meet the identification and selection criteria contained within the Tasmanian Marine Protected Areas Strategy, and are suitable for declaration as Marine Protected Areas;
 - (ii) the potential boundaries of any area of public land under investigation determined to be suitable for declaration as a Marine Protected Area;

- (iii) the potential arrangements for management of any area of public land under investigation determined to be suitable for declaration as a Marine Protected Area.

3. Matters to be taken into account

In arriving at its recommendations the Commission is to take into account the following:

- (a) the marine habitat mapping which has been carried out in the bioregion.
- (b) the existing Marine Protected Areas within the Bruny bioregion (Tinderbox Marine Nature Reserve and Ninepin Point Marine Nature Reserve).
- (c) whether any areas within the public land under investigation that are subject to existing fisheries management restrictions, can be established as a Marine Protected Area, or form part thereof.
- (d) whether the provision of different management zones, allowing for differing forms of activity are an appropriate means of managing the area, when identifying potential arrangements for management.

4. Recommendations Report

In the final recommendations report to the Minister for Planning, the Commission is to provide a range of alternatives giving, in each case, its advantages and disadvantages.

5. Date of Submission of Final Recommendations

The Commission is to provide its final recommendations to the Minister by 28 February 2008 or such later date as the Minister may direct in writing.



Steven Kons LLB MHA
Minister for Planning

Date

- 8 AUG 2007