



The Australian Land Based Anglers Association Inc

Booderee National Park: Comments on the proposal to
draft a new management plan.

November 2008

Booderee National Park: Have Your Say

A new management plan for Booderee National Park 2009-2019

How to provide your comments.

Please send your comments in writing by the closing date of 28 November 2008 to:

Postal: Planning Officer
Booderee Plan of Management
Parks Australia
PO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Email: Booderee.plan@environment.gov.au
Facsimile: (02) 4443 8302

Comments received after 28 November 2008 may not be considered in preparing the draft plan. For further information about Booderee National Park visit the web site www.booderee.gov.au or contact the park on (02) 4442 1006.

Submission Details

Contact Details

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Confidential submission – No

1. Introduction

The Australian Land Based Anglers Association Inc. (ALBAA) promotes sustainable fishing practices and supports the conservation of marine environments and fish stocks through fair and equitable access, along with sustainable use of the publicly owned resources. Our aim, in conjunction with coastal management bodies, is to have a solid formula to continue building autonomous angler groups to demonstrate the appropriate involvement and environmental stewardship in their local parks and waterways across the country, building better relationships and understandings between these groups (anglers, coastal management bodies and other stakeholders). We identify a need to create co-management opportunities between these groups and work together in a practical way for the benefit of all concerned. The Objectives and Code of Conduct of ALBAA are outlined in Appendix A.

The unique marine environment of Jervis Bay is the “birthplace” of an equally unique form of recreational angling, namely land based game (LBG) angling. This style of angling involves techniques and equipment, developed, trialled and tested along the Jervis Bay coastline, which specifically targets large migratory pelagic species. A dedicated group of anglers continue to maintain the heritage of these early pioneers at the limited number of locations along the east coast of Australia where these angling opportunities exist. These anglers have the right to participate in the protection and management of their fishing heritage to ensure that it is available for future generations. This approach is consistent with the principles of the National Recreational Fishing Policy (1994). Jervis Bay is seen as the “jewel in the crown” of the limited land based game fishing locations, not only for the fishing but for the overall “experience”.

Despite being a major stakeholder with historical significance, the land based angler has not fared well in the current management strategies of the Jervis Bay coastline. Out of approximately 35.6km of coastline, 33% is sanctuary zone, 47% is restricted access, leaving 20% available for land based angling. When taking into consideration that vast sections of the available coastline do not provide the platforms required for land based angling, the available coastline would be further reduced to <5%. The implementation of the Booderee Plan of Management has been particularly restrictive in granting anglers access to the rocky headlands of the Bherwerre Peninsula. This severe reduction in access is inconsistent with the National Recreational Fishing Policy (1994). Weather conditions can dictate a further loss of many of the usable platforms, creating issues around crowd funnelling, overcrowding, user safety and overall enjoyment.

An environmental consciousness has been steadily growing amongst the recreational angling community, with new techniques and practices being continuously developed to minimise any potential ecological impacts. The recreational angler has and will continue to play a role in the knowledge base and protection of marine environments, including tag and release programs and reporting of marine pollution, non-endemic species, fish kills and illegal activities. The recreational angling community is a valuable stakeholder group that has the potential to provide a source of volunteers for research, habitat restoration, facilities development and community education. Anglers support the

development of a code of conduct to guide their activities within the Park. Many local and regional businesses rely or benefit from recreational anglers being present along the Jervis Bay coastline, and the ability to participate in this activity adds to the social well being of those involved.

As the Booderee National Park continues to evolve it is imperative that the cultural and heritage, recreational and participation values of land based anglers are considered. ALBAA urges the management to acknowledge this stakeholder group, which will assist in ensuring that Booderee has the best opportunity to achieve its vision of excelling in the natural and cultural heritage management and the prescription to provide opportunities for recreational fishing. Provisions should also be made that provide opportunities for recreational anglers to assist in the co-management of the Park.

The key objective of the ALBAA comments on the proposal to draft a new management plan is to promote the effective, equitable and traditional use of Booderee National Park for all users especially land based anglers, keeping within the statutory framework for sustainable use by all traditional users.

To achieve this objective ALBAA makes the following recommendations to Booderee National Park:

1) Land Based Angling (see Section 2)

- o Recognition of land based anglers as a traditional recreational user of the Bherwerre Peninsula coastline, with a history that predates the proclamation of the Park.
- o Acknowledgement of the unique opportunities that the coastline provides the recreational land based angler.
- o Necessity to provide land based anglers the opportunity to participate in their recreational activity in a safe and sustainable manner.

2) Cultural & Historical Significance (see Section 3)

- o Recognition of the cultural and historical significance of the Bherwerre Peninsula coastline to land based anglers.
- o Recognition of the coastline as the “birthplace” of a unique form of recreational angling - LBG angling.
- o Necessity to work towards management’s vision of excelling in the natural and cultural heritage management of Booderee.

3) Coastline Accessibility (see Section 4)

- o Recognition that the current network of formal and informal tracks were cut and maintained by land based anglers prior to the proclamation of the Park.
- o Acknowledgement that access for land based anglers along the Jervis Bay coastline is severely limited by access restrictions imposed by Booderee National Park on the Bherwerre Peninsular and the Department of Defence on the Beecroft Peninsular, along with the current zoning of the Jervis Bay Marine Park.
- o Necessity to improve access for recreational land based anglers to a level that is fair and equitable with other park users.

4) Land Based Fishing Safety (see Section 5)

- o Acknowledgement that exclusion is not a suitable management option for a recreational activity.
- o Acknowledge the necessity to provide infrastructure to facilitate appropriate and safe use of the park by land based anglers.
- o Recognise that the development of a recreational angling Code of Conduct would improve land based fishing safety within the Park.

5) Value of Recreational Angling (see Section 6)

- o Acknowledgement of the social, economic and environmental values of recreational anglers to Booderee National Park and the local and regional communities.
- o Development of volunteer database to identify groups willing to protect and enhance the values of the Park and provide the opportunity to apply for funding/in kind contributions.

6) Co-Management

- o Provision of opportunities for recreational anglers to assist in the co-management of the Park.
- o Development of a stakeholder network that provides for ongoing consultation with land based anglers.



2. Land Based Game Angling

Australia is the home of Land Based Game (LBG) angling, especially the south coast of New South Wales (Lockwood 1979). The words and images of LBG angling at Jervis Bay are not only recorded on best selling DVDs and published literature predating the creation of Booderee National Park, the phenomena that is LBG is sold nationally and internationally by many agencies outside the recreational fishing sector. The most consistent producer of Striped and Black Marlin caught off the rocks any where in the world; the current land based All Tackle Marlin world records from our rocks (Jervis Bay Tourism and Tourist Information Centre undated).

When the warm East Australian Current extends into the waters of Jervis Bay during late spring, summer, and early autumn the coastal headlands provide a consistent location for the capture of migratory pelagic game fish. Targeted species include Kingfish (*Seriola lalandi*), Tunas such as Bonito (*Sarda australis*) and Yellowfin (*Thunnus albacares*), and both Black (*Makaira mazara*) and Striped Marlin (*Tetrapturus audax*). It is the unique nature of the coastline around the headlands of Jervis Bay, especially the adjacent deep water, which provides a rare opportunity for anglers to target these game fish species from the shore. A common fishing technique by LBG anglers is to suspend live baits, such as the Slimy Mackerel (*Scomber australasicus*), under balloons and float this rig—connected by a monofilament line to the angler's rod—a considerable distance out from the shoreline. (Lynch et al. 2004). This style of angling involves techniques and equipment, developed, trialled and tested in Jervis Bay, which specifically targets these large migratory pelagic species and result in minimal by-catch and low catch per unit effort.



Photo: (Lockwood 1979)

3. Cultural & Historical Significance

The unique marine environment of Jervis Bay is the “birthplace” of an equally unique form of recreational angling - Land Based Game (LBG) angling. The early pioneers of this recreational activity first stepped onto the sandstone platforms of Beecroft Peninsula and Bherwerre Peninsula in the early 1960's. It was here they began refining specialist techniques and equipment with a specific view to targeting large pelagic game fish from the shoreline.

The legendary exploits of these pioneers at locations along the Jervis Bay coastline are world famous, and now draw international visitors from as far a field as Japan and the UK. The ocean side platforms of the Beecroft Peninsula and Bherwerre Peninsula are steeped in a long LBG history and are renowned producers of large pelagic fish like Marlin, Tuna and Yellowtail Kingfish. Quite simply, the angling locations along the Jervis Bay coastline when taken from 21,000km of the Australian coastline has dominated the history of this recreational activity which is now practiced in various forms internationally.

In the thirty five years following the development of LBG, a dedicated group of anglers have developed the same close affinity with the area - and have continued to maintain the fishing heritage of these early pioneers. Each new generation has traditionally met and shared knowledge of preferred LBG angling techniques from those already established in the sport. The minimal number of locations suited to this form of angling has led to the formation of a strong sense of community amongst the participants. Long hours spent suffering sea, sun, and weather over years of committed angling has seen long standing friendships formed and family ties established in the local area.

Modern techniques and equipment coupled with years of shared research have led to outstanding results by these anglers, and they are blessed with an incredibly unique inshore pelagic fishery. A fishery in which during the summer months anglers can realistically target the Black Marlin from the shoreline. Although marlin have been taken at several locations in NSW, it is not feasible to solely target these fish outside of the Jervis Bay area.

These anglers have the right to participate in the protection and management of their fishing heritage to ensure that it is available to future generations. This approach would be considered consistent with the principles of the National Recreational Fishing Policy (1994).



Photo: (Lockwood 1979)

Timeline of LBG Angler Presence in Jervis Bay:

- **Pre 1950's:** Fishing is one of the two main recreational activities undertaken along the Bherwerre Peninsula.
- **1960-65:** LBG angling developed as a recreational activity along the coastline of Jervis Bay.
- **1960-71:** Dedicated LBG anglers continue to refine and develop techniques LBG angling techniques, and discover the most suitable locations / platforms.
- **1971:** Declaration of Jervis Bay Nature Reserve.
- **30th December 1972:** Mile stone in LBG angling history – first recorded land based capture of a Black Marlin in the world, taken by Tony Axiak of Appin Fishing Club, along the coastline of Jervis Bay.
- **January 1973:** Second marlin landed by Peter Holey of Sydney Sportfishing Club.
- **March 1979:** First 2 officially recognised land based captures of Black Marlin.
- **March 1979:** Records of tag and release program being implemented by LBG anglers along the Jervis Bay coastline.
- **1980:** 24 Black Marlin caught by LBG anglers along the Jervis Bay coastline, since the first capture in 1972.
- **1992:** Proclamation of the Jervis Bay National Park.
- **1994:** First recorded land based capture of a Broadbill Swordfish in the world by Barry Preston at Governor Head.
- **1995:** Jervis Bay Marine Park zoning plan (draft) released.
- **Circa 2003:** Initial draft of Jervis Bay Marine Park zoning plan is amended to grant access to the Outer Tubes and a number of angling platforms at the front of the Beecroft Peninsula.
- **March 2002:** Booderee National Park Management Plan released, with the ensuing implementation of the Plan effectively excluding LBG angling, with the exception of 2 small locations, through the closure of tracks that predate the Park.
- **Circa 2003:** Access arrangements for the front of the Beecroft Peninsula changed by the Department of Defence, severely limiting the number of available LBG angling locations along the Jervis Bay coastline.
- **Jan 2008:** Angler forcibly removed from well know LBG angling location within Booderee National Park.
- **Jan 2008:** Australian Land Based Angling Association Inc (ALBAA) formed.
- **November 2008:** Review of the Booderee National Park Management Plan.

This timeline was constructed from Kidd (1973); Cassettari (1979); Lockwood (1979); Lockwood (1980); Booderee National Park Board of Management (2002); Harnwell (2008).

Jervis Bay is seen as the “jewel in the crown” of the limited LBG angling locations, not only for the fishing but for the overall “experience”. As illustrated, LBG anglers have a significant cultural and heritage value, spanning 50 years, within Jervis Bay, with recreational anglers having an even longer history along the Bherwerre Peninsula. It is imperative that the cultural heritage values of LBG anglers are considered in the management of Booderee National Park. This consideration would assist Park management in achieving the vision of excelling in the natural and cultural heritage management of Booderee.

4. Accessibility Issues for Land Based Anglers

"The area of Booderee has a historical association with tourism dating back to 1896 when Christian Minde's guest house on Sussex Inlet provided the first tourist accommodation. Until the 1950s, fishing and walking were the main recreational activities undertaken" Booderee National Park Board of Management (2002). It was these early users of the area that formed many of the current tracks within the area and opened up access to the coastline of the Bherwerre Peninsular to the larger community, in particular anglers to gain access to fishing locations. Access to the coastline within the Booderee National Park has now been greatly restricted through the declaration of these tracks as being 'unformed' and therefore not accessible. This is despite the coastline being identified as a major drawcard to the Booderee National Park and the tracks in question pre-dating the Park itself. The implementation of this 'unformed tracks policy' resulted in the dangerous forced eviction of an Land Based Game (LBG) angler from a rocky headland within the park, while at the same time other recreational park users were promoting the undertaking of activities along 'unformed' tracks.

Despite being a major stakeholder with historical significance, the land based angler, in particular the rock and LBG angler, has not fared well in the current management of the Jervis Bay coastline, especially along the Bherwerre Peninsular of Booderee National Park.

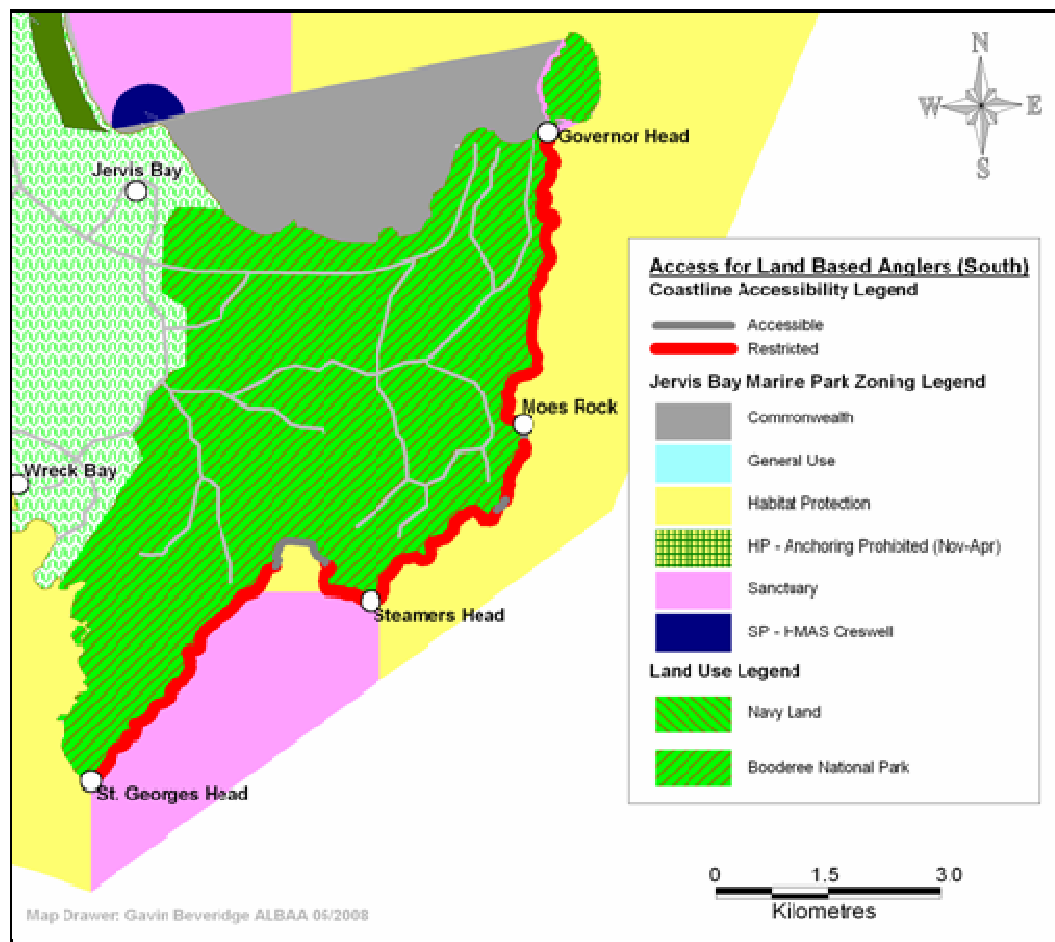
LBG angling opportunities exist along the Jervis Bay coastline:

- o In the north from Little Beecroft Headland to the western extent of the Docks Sanctuary Zone; &
- o In the south from Governor Head to St Georges Head / Corangamite.

Access for land based anglers within this stretch of coastline is severely limited by the current zoning of the Jervis Bay Marine Park and restricted access imposed by Booderee National Park on the Bherwerre Peninsular and the Department of Defence on the Beecroft Peninsular. Out of approximately 36 km of coastline, 33 % is sanctuary zone, 47 % is restricted access, leaving 20% available for land based angling. This does not take into consideration the sections of the available coastline that do not provide the opportunity for LBG angling. No other stakeholder has been as detrimentally affected through the current management of the Jervis Bay coastline. This severe reduction in access to the coastline is also inconsistent with the National Recreational Fishing Policy (1994).

LBG angling requires accessible deep water rock platforms which are limited in distribution along the steep sandstone cliffs of the Jervis Bay coastline. Australian Land Based Anglers Association (ALBAA) utilised its members, including long-term residents of Jervis Bay and experienced LBG anglers, to identify LBG angling platforms along the Jervis Bay coastline. 59 LBG angling locations were identified at a density of 1.6 locations / km of coastline. Of these identified locations only 11 are still accessible, with 81% being inaccessible. Inaccessibility to these locations was due to 25 sites being access restricted by Navy Lands, 10 sites being access restricted by Booderee National Park and 13 sites

occurring within JBMP Sanctuary Zones. These results highlight the impact of Booderee National Park management restricting accessibility to the vast majority of rocky headlands along the coastline of the Bherwerre Peninsular.



Current accessibility to land based angling locations along the coastline of Booderee National Park

The coastline of Jervis Bay provides the rare opportunity for land based anglers to target large migratory pelagic fish species. To restrict access to the coastline effectively discriminates against those anglers who choose to target these pelagic species from land based platforms or those anglers who cannot afford the luxury of owning a boat. A range of alternative locations are needed so that land based anglers are not concentrated and limited to one or two small areas, which can create issues around crowd funnelling, overcrowding, user safety and overall enjoyment / experience.

The work that ALBAA is doing with Australian National Sportfishing Association and the Recreational Fishing Alliance of on rock fishing safety in conjunction with the NSW Government has revealed that safe, alternate rock fishing spots are needed to save lives. These anglers are not afforded the luxury of having a boat to fish elsewhere within the Park. Safe, protected areas from the prevailing weather conditions are needed, so that anglers must not be forced to fish

unsafe locations when the weather shifts or changes. These rocky headlands need to allow anglers fishing the rocks access to at least 100m of the adjacent waters without any major gear restrictions.

LBG anglers fish off rock platforms that provide angling opportunities unique to the Jervis Bay coastline and not available anywhere else in the world. The current management of the Jervis Bay coastline has essentially locked LBG anglers out of areas that are so unique no replacements are available. ALBAA requests that anglers are granted greater access to the coastline of Booderee National Park so as to provide the ability to maintain the cultural and historical significance of the recreational activity in a safe and sustainable manner. To assist the management of Booderee National Park in this request ALBAA has constructed a map identifying the key land based angling locations previously utilised by anglers prior to the implementation of the current Plan of Management.



Key land based angling locations along the coastline of Booderee National Park

5. Rock Fishing Safety

While it is recognised that rock and Land Based Game (LBG) angling presents certain risks to individuals participating in this recreational activity, the Australian Land Based Angling Association (ALBAA) promotes education and awareness over exclusion as an effective control measure.

ALBAA supports the recommendation by the “Investigation into the Coronial Files of Rock Fishing Fatalities that have occurred in NSW between 1992 and 2000” (Jones 2003) to establish and implement a code of practice among rock and LBG anglers. With the continued support of NSW Australian National Sportfishing Association (ANSA) and the Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW (NSWRFA) and its members, ALBAA is committed to execute its core objectives of promoting safe and sustainable practices for its members and the wider angling community.

It has also been observed that Angel Rings have been removed within the Booderee National Park to discourage fishing at “dangerous” locations. This is inconsistent with the views shared by ALBAA, NSW ANSA and NSWRFA who have actively been promoting safe fishing practices. It is also worthy to note that these Angel Rings are not placed for the sole benefit of anglers but for tourists alike. On many occasions anglers have pointed out the dangers in being at a specific place at a specific time to tourists, bush walkers, whale watchers and passers by. In this light anglers should be recognised as stewards of their area of practice. ALBAA requests that these installations are reinstated for the benefit of all park users.

In the spirit of public consultation and co-management ALBAA would like to work with the Booderee National Park management to develop a code of practice for recreational angling within the Park. In partnership with ANSA, RFAA and ALBAA, Booderee National Park could be supplied with the rock safety educational and awareness material to be distributed to visiting recreational anglers, along with assistance in the installation of rock safety infrastructure.



Rock Safety Educational and Awareness Material developed by NSW ANSA, NSWRFA and Commonwealth Government.

6. The Value of Recreational Angling

Recreational fishing is an important activity in Australia, ranking sixth out of 50 activities in a survey by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2000). An important activity for about 3.36 million Australians, the recreational sector of the fishing industry is larger and more widely dispersed than in any other natural resource industry that supports a prominent commercial sector. Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (undated) reported that the majority of people participate in recreational fishing to relax, with many recreational anglers placing the benefit of experiencing fishing well above the benefit of making a catch. Also reported was that many people place a very high value on having the opportunity to take their children fishing and knowing that the opportunity to fish will be there for another generation.

Sport participation has reduced from previous years (ABS, 2000), showing that there is a need to ensure that participation in outdoor activities is made easier. Recreational fishing is an outdoor activity that assists the physical and mental wellbeing of a large sector of society. Decisions implemented by Booderee National Park management have contributed to the difficulty of the public to participate in recreational fishing and have caused mental anguish to many anglers, especially to those that have fished this section of coastline for generations. Prescription 7.1.3 stated that the Park will continue to be managed to provide opportunities for recreational fishing (Booderee National Park Board of Management 2002), however, under the current Plan of Management the ability to participate in recreational fishing has been greatly restricted. The Australian Land Based Anglers Association suggests that the management of Booderee National park have a responsibility to the community to cater for the recreational activities that they wish to engage in, such as recreational fishing.



Photo: (Lockwood 1979)

Recreational fishing supports significant economic benefits to many regional areas including jobs in the tourism, tackle, boating, and charter industries. One estimate of employment from national recreational fishing expenditure is conservatively estimated at between 27 000 and 54 000 jobs nationally, with an annual direct, indirect and capital expenditure on recreational fishing being \$1.8 billion (Fisheries Research and Development Corporation undated). The unique coastline of Jervis Bay is highly valued for recreational fishing, with many anglers travelling to exclusively fish these locations. More than 30% of visitors to the Shoalhaven fish at some stage during their visit (Shoalhaven City Council 2002), with income derived from anglers being extremely important to the economy of the region (Shoalhaven City Council 2002; Shoalhaven City Council 2006). Booderee National Park is an important location for tourists, with fishing stated as one of the main activities undertaken within the Park (Booderee National Park Board of Management 2002).

An environmental consciousness has been steadily growing amongst the recreational angling community, with new techniques and practices continuing being developed to minimise any potential ecological impacts. The recreational angler has and will continue to play a role in the knowledge base and protection of marine environments, including tag and release programs, reporting of marine pollution, non-endemic species, fish kills and illegal activities. The recreational angling community is a valuable stakeholder group that has the potential to provide a source of volunteers for research, habitat restoration, facilities/infrastructure development and community education.

ALBAA is committed to working with management bodies to identify areas of concern and develop strategies to address these in a timely and sustainable manner. As a result of this commitment, the proactive 'Ledge Care Initiative' has been established, to meet a number of ALBAA's core objectives, through the promotion of local environmental awareness and stewardship. Localised area action groups provide a vehicle for ALBAA members to engage management bodies and stakeholders, and carry out grassroots environmental actions within their respective areas. These groups are capable of implementing, monitoring and managing actions within their designated areas. ALBAA supports the development of a code of conduct to guide their activities within Booderee National Park, and believes that the adoption of a co-management philosophy would benefit all of the Parks stakeholders.



ALBAA 'Ledge Care Initiative' being implemented at Jervis Bay.

7. Conclusion

Land Based Game (LBG) angling is limited to a few very specific locations around Australia. The Jervis Bay coastline is held, to those in LBG angling circles, as the heart of the sport in Australia and the birth place of LBG angling internationally. With the support of management bodies, such as Booderee National Park, ALBAA is confident that these areas can be maintained for the quiet enjoyment of anglers now and into the future.

As the Booderee National Park continues to evolve it is imperative that the cultural, heritage, recreational and participation values of LBG anglers are considered. These anglers look to the management of Booderee National Park to protect and enhance areas of cultural and historical significance, and to ensure access to the coastline is provided for the long term safe and sustainable use.

ALBAA comments on the proposal to draft a new management plan was to promote the effective, equitable and traditional use of Booderee National Park for all users, especially land based anglers, keeping within the statutory framework for sustainable use by all traditional users. ALBAA believes that the adoption of a co-management philosophy would benefit all of the Parks stakeholders and management.

ALBAA requests that the following recommendations / comments are carefully considered during the proposal to draft a new management plan for Booderee National Park:

- Recognition of land based anglers as a traditional recreational user of the Bherwerre Peninsula coastline, with a history that predates the proclamation of the Park. Acknowledgement of the unique opportunities that the coastline provides the recreational land based angler and the necessity to provide the opportunity to participate in their recreational activity in a safe and sustainable manner.
- Recognition of the need to manage, protect and enhance the cultural and historical significance of the Bherwerre Peninsula coastline to land based anglers.
- Recognition that the current network of formal and informal tracks were cut and maintained by land based anglers prior to the proclamation of the Park. Acknowledgement that access for land based anglers along the Jervis Bay coastline is severely limited and that there is a necessity to improve access for recreational land based anglers to a level that is fair and equitable with other park users.
- Acknowledgement that exclusion is not a suitable management option for a recreational activity and that there is a necessity to provide infrastructure to facilitate appropriate and safe use of the park by land based anglers. Recognition that the development of a recreational angling Code of Conduct would improve safety.
- Recognition of the social, economic and environmental values of recreational anglers to Booderee National Park and the surrounding communities, and the necessity to protect and enhance these values within the Park.
- Necessity to provide opportunities for recreational anglers to assist in the co-management of the Park and the ongoing consultation with recreational angling stakeholders.

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9. Appendices

Appendix A: ALBAA Objectives & Code of Conduct

ALBAA OBJECTIVES

- o To work together with relevant Government agencies so that access to Land Based Game fishing locations can be maintained for the quiet enjoyment of fishers throughout Australia**
- o To foster and demonstrate an environmental conscience throughout Australia by adhering to a self-imposed code of conduct as well as the laws and regulations in each Australian state.**
- o To facilitate the accreditation of Land Based Anglers Australia wide.**
- o To mentor the young and less experienced to adopt the policies set down by the association for responsible, safe and ecologically sustainable fishing.**
- o To recognise and respect the management authorities and traditional owners of the land, oceans and living resources in which fishers interact.**
- o To provide ongoing support to environmental actions taken on a volunteer basis within the club.**
- o To remain an impartial recreational fishery stakeholder group and agree to present fair, just and representative opinions of club members in order to achieve the above objectives. Our priorities are to be of service to all stakeholders in which we share common resources.**
- o To promote safe and sustainable land based fishing within all state and commonwealth controlled lands.**

Note: Where 'stakeholders' are defined as 'denoting a type of organisation or system in which all the members or participants are seen as having an interest in its success'.

ALBAA CODE OF CONDUCT

- o LITTER IS UNACCEPTABLE. Zero litter is achievable with care and planning. ZERO litter is the only acceptable planned outcome. This is a serious issue for the environment, recreational fishing and a serious issue for the club. Club members are required to have a zero litter exit strategy for all outings.**
- o THE ENVIRONMENT. Club members should be aware of re-vegetation or land-care works areas and act in care and support accordingly. Club members should demonstrate care for all native flora and fauna, and areas of cultural heritage whilst accessing fishing locations. On extended trips Club members should take ablutions into consideration and equip themselves appropriately.**
- o OUR FISHERY. Club members should adopt 'sustainable fishing practices'. Take only what you need. Club members should release unwanted fish with due care. Club members should be aware of fisheries and Marine Park restrictions/and National Parks regulations in their area/s of practice and act accordingly.**

o CLUB FORUMS. Club members should feel free at all times to contribute by sharing or publishing in our forums any information or links relevant to the betterment or achievement of our goals and objectives. Any document that could be perceived as published by the club should be reviewed and approved by no less than three committee members.

o SAFETY. Club members should familiarise themselves with the published 'safe fishing guidelines' and take absolute care and personal responsibility when safety is concerned. Those club members mentoring new fishers should encourage the use of, and contribution to the club resources and instil the highest ideals to which we inspire in our goals and fishing practices, assuring environmental stewardship and safety are given the highest priority.