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Our Organisation and its Goals

Who are we?

“Tasmanians for Marine Parks” is a community campaign asking for a high quality (comprehensive, adequate, representative) network of marine parks along the Tasmanian coast.

We also want to have a new kind of conversation with Tasmanians about better protecting for the marine environment.

The campaign is run under an umbrella organisation Marine Life Network, which is a not-for-profit community association with goals simply to “educate and advocate for the marine environment”.

Why do we need more marine parks?

Marine parks can:

- Protect special marine plants and animals
- Protect special ocean places.
- Provide places where scientists can study areas free from human impacts.
- Help fix damaged areas.
- store Carbon and help manage climate change.
- Provide place for education, science and tourism
- Provide healthy nurseries for animals to breed and grow, including species we fish.
- Provide refuges (places of resilience) against changes in the marine environment

What is the problem with having more marine parks?

Combined with other strategies, marine parks are a quick and affordable way to improve the health of our oceans.

All political parties agreed to establish a system of marine protected areas in Tasmanian coastal waters. This agreement broke down in 2007, leaving us with a moratorium (ban) on creating new marine protected areas, in an attempt to shut down a conversation about the idea. Only 1.1% of the Tasmanian mainland coast is protected in marine sanctuary zones far behind mainland States.

Since then, there has been a steady growth in the damage being caused to our special and unique ocean areas. This has been affecting all the benefits we get from the ocean, including our fisheries.

Let's Talk

Tasmanians for Marine Parks volunteers are advocating for new kind of two-way conversation with Tasmanians. An opportunity to have a respectful say about the way marine parks are created. We are after discussion that respects science and recognises the many different things that people value in the marine environment.

Exploring Ideas

Tasmanians for Marine Parks are willing to explore any new ideas and perspectives. Some ideas and activities that members have been talking about:

- Joint design of quality marine parks with all stakeholders to lessen conflict, e.g. multiple use zoning, co-management.
- Broader marine planning that looks at the health of the whole marine estate, not just single species that we fish.
- Education about marine parks and the ocean more broadly.
- Ways we can support better science.
- Ways to have healthy fisheries with a longer term focus.
- Better ways to protect rare and unique marine species.
- Restoring damaged places.
- Economic and social impacts of development
- protecting jobs and new economic benefits like tourism opportunities.
- Enjoyment of the ocean, just some plain fun events.

What are your ideas and values? How do I get more involved?

Want to do something really useful?:

- talk to your friends about the ocean.
- support people who are being brave and speaking up about the ocean.
- respect people you disagree with.
- talk to your elected representative about it.

Tasmanians for Marine Parks can offer you a head start on this journey, and you only have to be involved as little or as much as you like.

- Just want to get a one or twice a week news feed? – follow us on instagram and facebook
- Want to find out more and support it a bit more? - sign up as a member, send us an email.
- Don't have the time to chat, but really want to support it? – Donate via the website.

Facebook: At the "Tasmanians for Marine Parks" site.

Instagram: [tasmanians_for_marine_parks](#)

Website info: <http://marinelife.org.au>

Say Hi by Email: moremarineparks@gmail.com