

Submitted on Monday, September 11, 2017 - 13:16 Submitted by anonymous user: 139.130.143.25
Submitted values are:

First Name: Peter

Last Name: Smith

Organisation: Perth Game Fishing Club

Which sector do you represent?

- General public
- Recreational fishing

Which draft plans are you commenting on? South-west Network Which marine park(s) are you commenting on? Perth Canyon Marine Park What topic(s) or activity(s) are you commenting about?

- General use and access (including recreational)
- Recreational fishing

What part of the plan(s) are you commenting on? Part 3 - Zoning Which program are you commenting on? Park protection and management program Please tick this box if you would like to keep up to date with all the latest information on Australian Marine Parks by subscribing to our email updates. :

Yes please subscribe me to Australian Marine Parks news Your submission may also be published online by the Director of National Parks. Please tick 'No' if you do not want it published. Your submission will still be considered in the Director's Report on the Preparation of the Management Plans, and may be provided to the Minister and tabled before

Parliament: Yes

Does your comment relate to the renaming of marine parks? No Please type your comments below:

Game Fishing has taken place on a yearly basis in the Perth Canyon since 1949. It has been well regulated largely by two clubs, Perth Game Fishing Club, and Fremantle Sailing Club Game Fishing section.

The game fishing clubs are a neglected source of potential scientific data, as they have records of catch per fishing effort for each of their competitions. These data have been completely ignored by the scientific community.

The activities of the game fishing community in the Perth Canyon since 1948, have not resulted in a single accident involving whales or dolphins, and as they only pull surface lures and dead baits targeting pelagic species, they pose no threat to the bottom habitat (Benthic).

All the tournaments are "tag and release", with no points awarded for killing Marlin, as they are recognised as a major attraction to the game fishing community, and are worth far more alive than dead.

The access of the game fishing community to the Perth Canyon is vital for continuance of game fishing in Perth, and the loss of access, will result in collapse of the industry significant economic loss to the State of Western Australia.

The draft plans seem to allow access to the Perth Canyon for game fishing, which is not only sensible it will allow the collection of scientific data for the State of WA and Commonwealth of Australia. This is very sensible., and is to be applauded.

Most of the members of these game fishing clubs are successful business people or professionals, and they have a broad experience often over 30 years or more in fishing this area, and have shown in the past that they are pro conservation of the pelagic species that they target, and so their input should be treated with the respect it deserves.

Or members deserve a voice, even though the majority of us by choice, tend to remain silent in regard to issues conservation, and let our actions and behaviour do the talking.

Unlike other minority groups, who demonstrate, and agitate order to get their message across.