

MARINE PARKS

553. Hon SALLY TALBOT to the Minister for Environment:

I refer the minister to her response to question without notice 499 in which she reaffirmed her government's commitment to marine parks. Which new marine parks does the government intend to create and when?

Hon DONNA FARAGHER replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

The Walpole and Nornalup Inlets Marine Park was created on 8 May 2009. This is the first marine park created since November 2004 and the first on the south coast of Western Australia. Furthermore, as part of the development of the Kimberley science and conservation strategy, I have written to stakeholders requesting their feedback on the enhanced protection of high-value natural and cultural areas such as Camden Sound, Lacepede Islands, Montgomery Reef and Islands, Walcott Inlet-Secure Bay and elements of Roebuck Bay. The government is currently considering its priorities in relation to further progressing the establishment of a representative system of multi-use marine parks and reserves that will provide for a balanced approach to conservation and sustainable use.