

CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT AMENDMENT BILL 2021

210. Hon TJORN SIBMA to the minister representing the Minister for Environment:

I refer to the minister's confirmation yesterday of advice relating to indicative joint management plans for Buccaneer Archipelago marine parks, specifically that existing activities in proposed special purpose zones—cultural protection—are potentially incompatible with, and I quote, “the protection and conservation of the value of marine parks to the culture and heritage of Aboriginal people”.

- (1) Why was this information not provided in answer to my original question of 27 May?
- (2) What information—for example, peer-reviewed archaeological or ethnographic studies—will be material in determining whether extant lawful activities are compatible or incompatible with the creation of these new special purpose zones?
- (3) By what process and by whom will such determinations be made?

Hon STEPHEN DAWSON replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question. The following answer has been provided on behalf of the Minister for Environment.

- (1) The question on 27 May 2021 was generic in nature and not specific to the proposed Buccaneer Archipelago marine parks.
- (2) A range of information will be used in determining whether existing lawful activities are compatible or incompatible in proposed special purpose zones—cultural protection. Material information includes benthic habitat mapping; species distributions; known Aboriginal heritage sites; historic and current cultural areas, areas for customary activity and areas that are significant to law, ceremony and oral histories; and information on the lawful activities themselves. Information is gathered from published and unpublished reference material when this is available and directly from traditional owners and other stakeholders during the planning process.
- (3) The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions prepares marine park management plans and the Minister for Environment is responsible for approving them with the concurrence of the Minister for Fisheries and the Minister for Mines and Petroleum.