

**PULU KEELING NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (PKNPCMC)
MEETING AND MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKSHOP**

Meeting Minutes Thursday 17 November 2022

8:30am-2:10pm Home Island Council Chambers

Members	Declaration of Interest	Contact
Azima Bat (Mak Ayub)	Parks elected member	[REDACTED]
Ratma Anthoney (Nek Umar)	Shire elected member	[REDACTED]
Isa Minkom (Pak Adi)	Shire elected member	[REDACTED]
Jamil Ibram (Pak Qoid)	Parks elected member	[REDACTED]
Zabidi Abedin	Parks elected member	[REDACTED]
Azlah Mihan (Pak Azriel)	Parks elected member	[REDACTED]
Riadi Feyrel (Nek Nazif)	Shire elected member	[REDACTED]
Thomas Battcher (Pak Tama)	Parks elected member	[REDACTED]
Jan Young	Shire Councillor representative	[REDACTED]
Kerrie Bennison	Park Manager, Pulu Keeling National Park	[REDACTED]
Observers		
Trish Flores (Chair)	Chief Ranger, Pulu Keeling National Park	[REDACTED]
Siddiq Juljali (minutes)	Ranger, Pulu Keeling National Park	[REDACTED]
Barbara Musso	Marine & Island Parks Branch Head	[REDACTED]
Apologies		
David McKinney	Parks elected member	[REDACTED]
Special guests		
Razali Zainel (Pak Rani)	Shire ranger	[REDACTED]
Allyn White	IOT Marine Park	[REDACTED]
Mike Misso	IOT Marine Park	[REDACTED]

AGENDA

No.	AGENDA ITEM
1.0	Introductions and purpose of the workshop. Review actions from last meeting 27.07.22.
	8:40am - 9:00am The meeting commenced at 8:40am in the Home Island Council Chambers. Apologies from David McKinney. TF formally recognised David McKinney's contribution to the committee and reported that Dave has resigned

from the committee due to his busy work schedule. Barbara Musso explained her role and PKNPCMC introduced themselves to BM. BM presented Nek Umar with a certificate for his long- serving contribution to the committee. KB congratulated TF on successfully getting the APS 6 Chief Ranger position.

The minutes of the previous meeting 27.07.22 had been emailed around and members had been asked to make any changes. No comments had been received.

TF gave an update on the eight outstanding actions from the previous meeting.

1. Parks to put the new committee members profile in the upcoming edition of the Atoll.

Completed. Profiles featured on Friday 29th July edition of the newsletter.

2. Parks will have a go at setting up survey monkey for the fish catch data returns and have it ready to use before the start of the doldrums in November 2022.

Completed. SJ has set up Paperform, which is an online form for the fish catch data returns.

3. Parks develop an Atoll article to explain the new fishing permit arrangement and the new survey monkey link to make the return of fish catch data easier.

Completed. SJ put out an article in the last Atoll and on Facebook Buy/Swap/Sell group explaining the new fishing permit arrangement for the doldrum season and uploaded the link to the new online fish catch data option.

4. Approach Media team (or Marine Parks) in Canberra for assistance with video clip to explain importance of returning fish catch data.

Completed. Media team in Canberra made a short video clip explaining the importance of returning fish catch data which SJ and TF showed at the fishing workshop on Saturday 29.10.22.

5. Parks make a formal request in writing to the CMC to include “North Keeling” as a tick box in the location option in their fish return form.

Completed. Cocos Marine Care (CMC) has agreed to put “North Keeling” as a tick box option for their fish return form.

6. SJ to organise an oral history interview with Nek Nazif.

In progress. SJ to conduct an interview with Nek Nazif next year when he is ready.

7. SJ to talk with Adim about next steps with the oral history interviews.

In progress. SJ has spoken to Adim and he is happy for Lanif Yakin and SJ to continue with the oral history interviews. There are plans to showcase the oral history interviews during Act of Self Determination Day in April 2023.

8. Parks to organise a paid day workshop with committee members to audit the actions in the PKNP Management Plan.

In progress 17 Nov 2022.

	<p>Workshop started at 9:00am. TF explained that the purpose of the workshop was to review the actions in the current PKNP Management Plan and as a group, to prioritise outstanding actions. This process will help Trish and Siddiq over the next two years (remainder of the Plan) to ensure future work aligns with the Management Plan.</p> <p>BM added that there has been consistent feedback in other Management Plans to make the language simpler and easier to understand.</p>
2.0	Cocos Keeling Islands Marine Park update
	<p>9:15am - 9:55am</p> <p>Mike and Allyn gave an update on the Marine Park and what's to come in 2023.</p>
3.0	Summarise actions from the PKNP Management Plan (MP)
	<p>9:55am - 12:00pm</p> <p>Workshop reconvened at 9:55am. Before the MP review commenced, TF gave a summary on the two topics that are often talked about at meetings: Red footed booby harvest and the PKNP lagoon.</p> <p>Parks will assist where possible, but do not have the authority to approve a harvest. TF added that the community have to show interest and nominate a body to take the lead. Cr JY commented that when she was on council a few years back, it was raised but this time around there hasn't been any talk of a booby harvest due to other major topics like sea level rise etc. IM also added that CMC are keen to look at the harvest but will have to get other fisheries matters done before venturing into something like a booby harvest. Cr JY added that she has been seeing a lot of frigate birds flying around the last three weeks. There was a quick discussion on whether there is movement between the birds at PKNP and the birds at Christmas Island National Park (CINP).</p> <p>TF advised that Parks had visited Pulu Keeling yesterday and were still seeing red-footed booby birds on nests, which was late for the nesting season. The lagoon was also really full despite moderate rainfall recently. NU would like to see the lagoon open again if there is no significant impact on the flora and fauna.</p> <p>IM asked if wasps is an issue as an invasive species for Pulu Keeling. It is unclear what effect the wasps would have, but it will change how Parks operate in the Park.</p> <p>Jl and IM suggested that the permit holders should inspect their boat before heading off to Pulu Keeling.</p> <p>Over the next two hours, TF went through the actions from the PKNP Management Plan with the committee and explained what Parks have done, haven't done and are planning to do in the next two years before the final audit of the Plan.</p> <p>IM asked if it has been a positive move for Parks to relocate to Home Island and if there were any resistance from the West Island community. TF commented that there was a bit of resistance from West Island in terms of where to find Parks staff on West Island.</p> <p>TF suggested to install a whiteboard at the front of the Home Island office for HI locals to request dates for a fishing permit for PKNP. Important for those who don't have email access.</p> <p>Lunch and prayer break (12:00pm - 1:00pm).</p> <p>ACTION: Parks to purchase a whiteboard for front of HI office - Making it more accessible to HI elders with no email and for people working that doesn't have time to come to the office.</p>

4.0 Group discussion to prioritise outstanding action items

Workshop reconvened at 1:10pm. TF explained the priorities for the PKNP Management Plan. TF summarised the six actions to prioritise for the next two years before the Plan expires which are:

- 1. Reviewing Biosecurity measures to assess and minimise the risk of the introduction and establishment of new invasive species and pathogens.
- 2. Invasive species - control/eradication programs for yellow crazy ants.
- 3. Research and monitoring - monitoring of land crab diversity, population and ecology.
- 4. Maintain a registry of scientific and research reports and articles relevant to the park.
- 5. Develop and maintain a register of heritage sites and artefacts for the park which includes an inspection and maintenance schedule.
- 6. Review and implement procedures for visitor access, boating, recreational fishing and scuba diving.

TF asked the committee to vote on the top 3 projects they would like to see prioritised over the next two years.

RESULTS FROM THE VOTE

Review Biosecurity measures - 10 votes

Invasive species control programs (YCA) - 4 votes

Research and monitoring of land crabs- 0 votes

Registry of scientific and research reports (BM has indicated that this is a work in progress with the Marine & Island Branch) - 8 votes

Register of heritage sites and artefacts for the park - 7 votes

Review and implement access procedures - 0 votes

Jl asked what will happen with the actions that the committee doesn't prioritise. KB & TF said that it will get rolled over to the next Management Plan.

TF could look at reviewing and implementing procedures for visitor access, boating, recreational fishing and scuba diving as the documents are brief (but now outdated).

KB asked the committee if there is anything that is not in the Plan that the committee would like Parks to do, would like Parks to do more of, that Parks have done enough of, or not doing enough of etc.

Cr JY asked about CHRMAP (sea level rise) at Pulu Keeling? TB advised only Home & West Island were being looked at.

TB also want to know more about the Pisonia Forest when the botanist come to Cocos and why they grow so well on Pulu Keeling compared to the southern atoll.

KB asked if Jnr Ranger programs should be included in the curriculum like what Christmas Island has done with the Crab Cadets. There was a quick discussion and most of the committee agreed that it would be a great idea.

Cr JY asked if there was any opportunity to do some volunteer work? TF advised yes.

KB added that a technical audit will happen in the next two years and hopefully the new Management Plan will be easier to read and understand as BM has mentioned that there has been consistent feedback from other Parks that the current Management Plans aren't user friendly.

Meeting closed at 2:10pm.

ACTION: Review procedures for visitor access, boating, recreational fishing and scuba diving.

ACTION: Follow up with Cr Young about volunteer work

5.0	Next meeting
	The next meeting will coincide with Kerrie's next visit to Cocos in February 2023.
	ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING
1	SJ to organise an oral history interview with Nek Nazif. Continue liaising with Adim about oral histories.
2	Purchase a whiteboard for front of HI office for permits.
3	Review procedures for visitor access, boating, recreational fishing and scuba diving.
4	Follow up with Cr Young about volunteer work