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Community survey about concept plan for development of Ocean Reef Marina

A survey to identify levels of community support for the concept plan for the proposed Ocean Reef Marina development closes on 20 July. Some features in the plan are not negotiable and HAVE to be incorporated.

http://www.joondalup.wa.gov.au/cms/templates/coj2_business_grp.asp?id=391

Shellfish warning for South West waterways

WA Dept of Health has reissued its warning not to eat shellfish (oysters, mussels, razorclams, clams, pipis, scallops, cockles) collected from the wild following the detection of toxic algae in South West waterways. Included are the Peel-Harvey Estuary, Serpentine River, Molloy Island, Blackwood River and Scott River.

http://www.health.wa.gov.au/press/view_press.cfm?id=839

Working with boat owners to help manage marine pests

Marine pests are great hitchhikers and readily attach themselves as biofouling to vessels and boating gear, some spreading around the Australian coastline wiping out native marine life. Information for boat owners to help prevent their spread has been released, with descriptions of pests and interactive maps of infected areas.

(www.maff.gov.au/media/media_releases/2009/may/working_with_boat_owners_to_help_manage_marine_pests) and <http://www.marinepests.gov.au/> and www.marinepests.gov.au/pest_outbreaks/interactive_map

Research for long-term sustainability of demersal species in West Coast region.

A suite of research activities will be carried out in 2009 and beyond following the implementation of the outcomes of the independent review of the 2005/06 Department of Fisheries demersal stock assessment. Egg and other surveys will monitor the status of the pink snapper breeding stock in Cockburn and Warnbro Sounds.

([www.parliament.wa.gov.au/Hansard%5Chansard.nsf/0/fa3eeb8e7e957f1ac82575ba0021816a/\\$FILE/C38%20S1%2020090514%20p4015b-4015b.pdf](http://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/Hansard%5Chansard.nsf/0/fa3eeb8e7e957f1ac82575ba0021816a/$FILE/C38%20S1%2020090514%20p4015b-4015b.pdf)) and www.thewest.com.au/default.aspx?MenuID=157&ContentID=139683

Island invaded by 14 kayak fishermen

Keen fishermen from the other side of Australia who organised an unusual kayak fishing safari to WA's remote Dirk Hartog Island and Steep Point were well rewarded with wonderful fishing experiences.

http://www.fishvictoria.com/pprotips/may/dirk_hartog_island.php

Farm fertiliser and pesticide use targeted in reef protection plan

A target of reducing the levels of dangerous pesticides and fertilisers in reef waters by 50 per cent in four years will affect around 4,500 property owners; requiring management plans and records, applying correct levels of fertiliser, using pesticides responsibly and taking measures to minimise run-off. Some researchers say there is no significant threat to the reef from human activity and the targeted farmers are not killing the reef.

(<http://nqr.farmonline.com.au/news/state/agribusiness-and-general/general/barrier-reef-still-pristine-despite-concerns-scientist/1532999.aspx?storypage=0>) and http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/reefprotection/pdf/protection_factsheet.pdf

City river fish “are safe to eat” - but not many

A study of fish has confirmed the fish are still safe to eat, with agricultural pesticides no greater than the results from a 2006 survey, and contaminant concentrations below the guideline levels for Food Standards. Limits are four serves of fish, one serve of eel a month. Limits for children and women of child bearing age are one serve of fish a month and no eels. No consideration has been given to the potential implications on fish health, viability or survival of eggs or juveniles from such fish, fisheries outcomes or habitat quality.

<http://www.fishingworldmag.com.au/news/yarra-river-fish-safe-to-eat> and

<http://www.oem.vic.gov.au/2009LowerYarraRiverFishStudy>

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