

MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Pederick MP JP

Member for Hammond
**Shadow Minister for
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Agriculture, Food and Fisheries**

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New uniforms and fast boat a 'drop in the ocean'

The imminent advent of Marine Parks along almost half South Australia's coastal waters will stretch Fisheries department resources to the limit says Shadow Minister for Fisheries Adrian Pederick.

Mr Pederick said new uniforms and a new 'interception and boarding vessel' announced recently were positive steps in protecting the state's fisheries.

'But with the new Marine Parks boundaries, new uniforms and a quick boat will be a drop in the ocean to the application and enforcement over unreasonably and unrealistically large tracts of our coastal waters.

'The Liberal Party is all in favour of protecting our important fisheries that contribute significantly to the state's economy and export income.

'Recreational fishing is also a big economic generator – especially in country regions - with 20-25 percent of the state's population dropping a line in somewhere around the state.

'The new Marine Park boundaries threaten both commercial and recreational fishing industries. Recommendations of industry groups have largely gone un-heeded, putting at risk what has been regarded as one of the best self-managed fisheries in the world.

'The government has taken the easy option here. Instead of doing the work to determine and describe exactly which species and habitats are under real threat, they've broad-brushed the lot and promised to work out the fine detail later.

'Perhaps they believe by 'declaring' half the state's coastline, they won't need as many compliance staff and vessels. Time will show the opposite to be the case.

'It's another example of this government being arrogant and out of touch with South Australians.'