

MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Pederick MP JP

Member for Hammond

Shadow Minister for

The River Murray - Forests

Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

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Fisheries, farming, freight and forests under the opposition's microscope

Fisheries, forests, freight and farming along with marine parks and roads were high on the agenda during last week's visit to Kangaroo Island by Shadow Cabinet member Adrian Pederick.

Mr Pederick, opposition spokesman for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries and Forests had a busy schedule meeting with industry and civic leaders.

The spectre of marine parks and their potential to decimate the island's fishing industry was covered in detail by Michael Fooks, Bevan Patterson and Lance Tyley.

Mr Pederick said the whole state was up in arms about the declaration of so much of the coastline, putting it out of bounds to fishermen.

'The common objection from all regions is that the department's science is flawed and the consultation has been cursory and largely ignored,' Mr Pederick said.

'The concept of Marine Parks is widely accepted but the government's approach has been lazy and thoughtless and threatens coastal livelihoods and communities without properly identifying and protecting species at risk.'

A major subject for all island residents and tourists is the cost of transport and freight, which was explained in detail by Pierre Gregor of the KI Development Board.

'This matter affects every aspect of life on the island. My colleague, local MP Michael Pengilly has been hot on this ever since he got into Parliament and I support all efforts to gain a more equitable deal for the island.'

Roads, a travellers' levy, water supply and forests were discussed during Mr Pederick's in depth meeting with Mayor Jane Bates and CEO Carmel Noon.

Rodney Lade, Chairman of AgKI, was able to give Mr Pederick a broad picture of the island's varied farming practices and how governments can assist farmers to remain viable and competitive in national and world markets.

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