



## **PART 2: BUILDING RESILIENCE**

### **6. Introduction, Part 2 Bioregional Analysis**

This section follows on from *The Torn Blue Fringe Part 1 – Building Resilience. Part 2: Bioregional Analysis* identifies areas of the NSW marine jurisdiction recommended for establishment as Marine Parks and Aquatic Reserves.

Part 1 set out the arguments for the need to establish two additional Marine Parks - in the Hawkesbury Shelf and Twofold Shelf Marine Bioregion - within this term of the NSW Government, and to have at least 20% of the NSW Marine jurisdiction included in IUCN Category Ia sanctuaries by 2020. This figure derives from the IUCN recommendation that strictly protected areas should amount to at least 20-30% of each marine habitat type.

Part 2 analyses each NSW Marine Bioregion and identifies specific areas for reservation using the methodology set out in Part 1.

To achieve the targets set out in Part 1, NPA has analysed available information and data and undertaken thorough community and scientific consultation to identify areas that are required to be established as Marine Protected Areas - Marine Parks, coastal and estuary Aquatic Reserves, and the extension of an existing Marine Park - which together with existing Marine Parks, make up almost 60% of the NSW marine jurisdiction.

Existing Marine Parks and the Marine Parks recommended in this report make up about 50% of the NSW marine jurisdiction. NPA recommends that these Marine Parks include at least 33% of their area as IUCN Category Ia sanctuaries. This is consistent with sanctuary levels in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the state waters of Ningaloo Marine Park in Western Australia.

Thorough and comprehensive community consultation should be undertaken when zoning and re-zoning these Marine Parks to identify the most appropriate sites for sanctuaries, habitat protection, general use and special purpose zones.

Recommended Aquatic Reserves make up a further 10% of the NSW marine jurisdiction. NPA recommends that the estuary and coastal Aquatic Reserves identified herein should exclude all commercial and recreational resource extraction – fishing, collecting and mining - and be assigned as IUCN Category Ia sanctuaries. We recommend that those areas that are currently established as Recreational Fishing Havens be established as Aquatic Reserves that exclude all commercial resource extraction and be assigned as IUCN Category VI reserves.