

Supporting Information regarding application for development/building approval

Interpretive shark sign at Kingston and Cascade piers

Applicant: Charlie Huveneers

1. Brief description

As part of a collaborative project funded by Australia's Marine Parks (Our Marine Parks Grant Round 3 — Grant Activity ID: 4-HANQUL) and aligned with a main funding objective of providing educational material to help foster community stewardship towards the diverse and unique underwater environments found in Norfolk Marine Park, this application seeks approval to instal three educational/interpretive sign at two locations – Kingston (2x + a small identifying placard/insignia) and Cascade (1x) piers. The interpretive signs contain information about the shark tracking research that has been ongoing for several years at Norfolk Island, as well as interesting facts about shark behaviour and biology, and the role of the marine park and local community in conserving important marine resources. The purpose of the sign is to provide educational material to both tourists and locals to help foster community stewardship towards the diverse and unique environments within Norfolk Marine Park. As part of the application, various individuals and organisations within the Norfolk Island community were consulted regarding the design, placement, and construction of the sign to ensure it is permissible and allied with cultural and heritage values, as well as representative and supportive of the people and community on Norfolk Island. As such we have hired Jodie Williams (Norfolk Island Creative Art Studio) as a graphic designer for the signs. Jodie has completed several associated signs in the past, including fishery regulations signs currently installed in KAVHA. Jodie's involvement will ensure that the signs will be designed to not contradict existing signage style and will be professional in nature.

2. Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (KAVHA)

We, the applicants, acknowledge the cultural, historical, and heritage value of KAVHA, the site of one of the proposed sign locations. This application (and associated interpretive signs) has been completed with sensitivity towards any impact the proposed activity may have. We are confident that through extensive (and ongoing) consultation, the signs (including its location, design, and mounting structure) will match the values of KAVHA and the people of Norfolk Island and will help celebrate the unique area to locals and visitors. We believe this process should be iterative and are eager to continue working with the KAVHA secretariat, the NIRC, and community leaders, to ensure that all paths are taken to create a lasting and iconic contribution to KAVHA and the island. Above all, the goal of the sign in KAVHA is not to distract from or impede the significant heritage value of the area, but to add to it by working with the secretariat to ensure that the design and construction are aligned with KAVHA values. We also recognise the value of limiting signs in the area, and as such, have proposed a sign that is relatively small and in an area that will not distract or deter from the heritage value, while also attracting interest from visitors to the pier. Kingston Pier is a significant place where locals and visitors regularly spend time, often asking about the

sharks seen from above. In our view, and supported by our consultation within the community, the proposed sign will add distinct value to the area within the confines of KAVHA and the important themes it supports.

3. Consultations undertaken

Procedural enquiries relating to application

<p>1) Philip Reid (Norfolk Island Regional Council); philip.reid@nirc.gov.nf</p> <p>[initial contact regarding sign: November 12, 2023]</p> <p>Philip has provided helpful information regarding the application process and people/organisations to contact to ensure proper procedures were followed.</p>
<p>2) Sara Freeland (Norfolk Island National Park); sara.freeland1@dcceew.gov.au</p> <p>[initial contact regarding sign: January 18, 2024]</p> <p>Sara has provided invaluable context regarding the application process following her own experiences.</p>
<p>3) Sue-Ellen Quintal (Norfolk Island Regional Council); sue-ellen.quintal@nirc.gov.nf</p> <p>[initial contact regarding sign: January 17, 2024]</p> <p>Sue-Ellen has provided helpful insight regarding procedures to apply for permission to erect signage.</p>
<p>4) Grant Anderson (Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts); Grant.ANDERSON@infrastructure.gov.au</p> <p>[initial contact regarding sign: May 27, 2024]</p> <p>Grant has confirmed the proper steps had been taken in the application process.</p>
<p>5) Gizelle Sanders and Jodie Brown (Norfolk Island Regional Council); planning@nirc.gov.nf</p> <p>[initial contact regarding sign: June 25, 2024]</p> <p>Gizelle and Jodie have provided high-level information regarding specific steps to ensure the application was satisfactory for NIRC's Planning and Development department. Follow-up communication also included consultation regarding the need to provide a Heritage Impact Statement.</p>
<p>6) Sarlu LeCren (Norfolk Island Regional Council); cheryl.lecren@nirc.gov.nf</p> <p>[initial contact regarding sign: July 11, 2024]</p> <p>Provided title information for proposed land, as well as instructed to contact Administrator to act on behalf of the Crown as land-owner.</p>

7) Heather Bruce (KAVHA Committee representatives); kavhasecretariat@infrastructure.gov.au

[initial contact regarding sign: July 16, 2024]

Discussed providing the KAVHA secretariat information about the proposal since their support is for the Kingston sign is necessary.

8) Charles Brister (Director – Norfolk Island Operations – Infrastructure); charles.brister@infrastructure.gov.au

[initial contact regarding sign: November 19, 2024]

Discussed process for sign approval, as well as appropriate location to instal signs at Kingston Pier.

Professional consultations

1) Sara Freeland (Norfolk Island National Park); sara.freeland1@dceew.gov.au

[initial contact regarding sign: July 25, 2024]

Sara has provided information and contacts for the companies/personnel to print interpretive signs, as well as mount the signs (e.g., Mike Johnston NIRC/KAVHA).

2) Jodie Williams (Norfolk Island Creative Art Studio); design@jodiewilliams.com

[initial contact regarding sign: July 18, 2024]

Jodie has been hired to professionally design the sign based on her previous work on Norfolk Island (e.g., interpretive signs in KAVHA and the National Park).

3) Brian Clarke (Miller Metal Imaging); info@millermetalimaging.com

[initial contact regarding sign: April 4, 2025]

Brian is the Managing Director for company used by various organizations on Norfolk Island to create signs.

4) Hunky Evans; hunkeyevans@gmail.com

[initial contact regarding sign: April 14, 2025]

Huncky has been contacted as a contractor to instal structure and signage at Cascade Pier.

Consultations relating to content/design of interpretive sign

1) Sue-Ellen Quintal (Norfolk Island Regional Council); sue-ellen.quintal@nirc.gov.nf [May 14, 2024; initial email]
2) Marg Christian (Flora and Fauna society); xtian@norfolk.net.nf [May 17, 2024; initial email]
3) Sara Freeland (Norfolk Island National Park); sara.freeland1@dcceew.gov.au [May 22, 2024; initial email]
4) Mark Scott (Norfolk Island National Park); whatawaymark@yahoo.com.au [April 11, 2024; in-person] Mark suggested more info on the tagging process and simpler use of terms for identifying sharks. [May 24, 2024; initial email]
5) Philip Reid (Norfolk Island Regional Council); philip.reid@nirc.gov.nf [April 12, 2024; in-person]
6) Mitchell Graham (Norfolk Island Diving); mitchgraham73@gmail.com [April 15, 2024; in-person]
7) Scotty Greenwood (fishing); scottyg@ninet.nf [May 13, 2024; initial email]
8) Heather Bruce and KAVHA secretariat; Heather.bruce@infrastructure.gov.au [Aug 29, 2024; initial email]
Additional persons contacted but no feedback was received: Rael Donde (Accommodation and Tourism Association): rael.donde@gmail.com Luke Fitzpatrick (Advance Fishing): luke@advancefishing.nf Damien Snell (NIRC – Surf club): damien.snell@nirc.gov.nf

4. Proposed locations

Proposed locations (both preferred and alternate) for the signs at Kingston and Cascade piers are identified in the images below. Locations were selected based on the following criteria: safe access, accessible to tourists, located near fishing and boating activities, and do not impede boat or shipping access (e.g., loading and offloading), fish cleaning, or other recreational/commercial activities. See images below for specific rationale for the selection of each preferred site, noting that the main reason is that both sites safely overlook areas where sharks are regularly seen. Please note, the preferred location of signs at Kingston Pier were selected based on extensive consultations with Infrastructure and the KAVHA Secretariat.

The following designations of locations are as follows (please note that Title searches have been attached separately to the application):

Kingston Pier (KAVHA – Precinct H)

Preferred: Portion 182; Conservation Zone; Crown-owned

Alternate (pier): Portion 182; Conservation Zone; Crown-owned

Alternate (far north): Kingston Common Reserve; Conservation Zone; Crown-owned

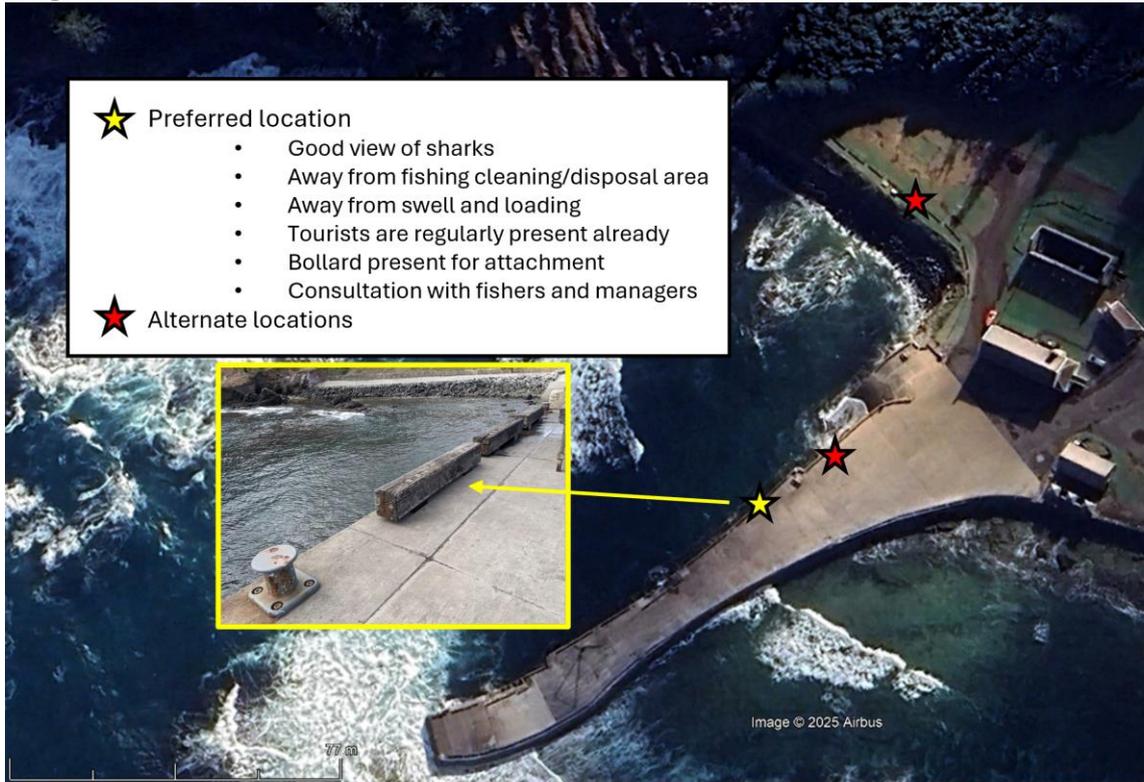
Cascade Pier

Preferred: Cascade Road Reserve; Road Zone; NIRC-owned

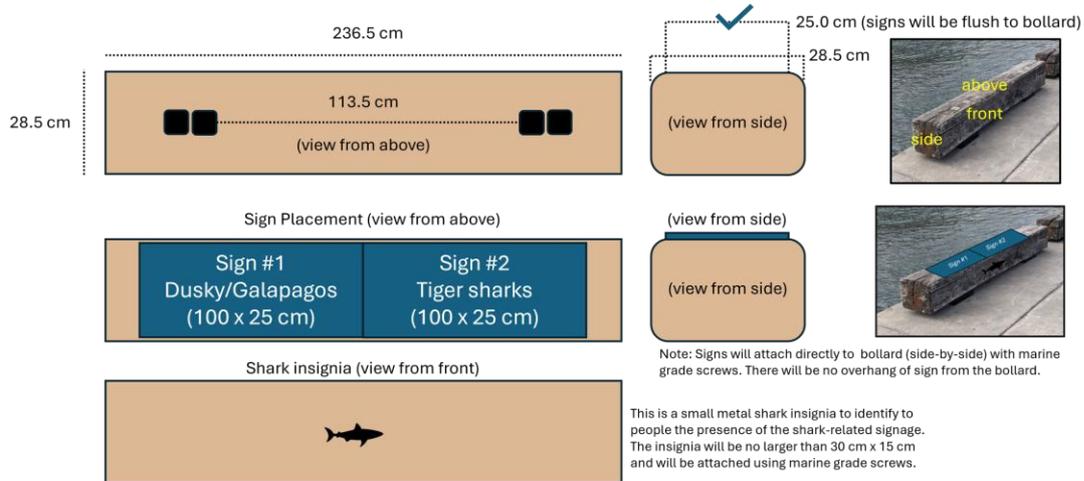
Alternate (western location): Portion 162; Special Use Zone; Crown-owned

Alternate (eastern location): Cascade Road Reserve; Road Zone; NIRC-owned

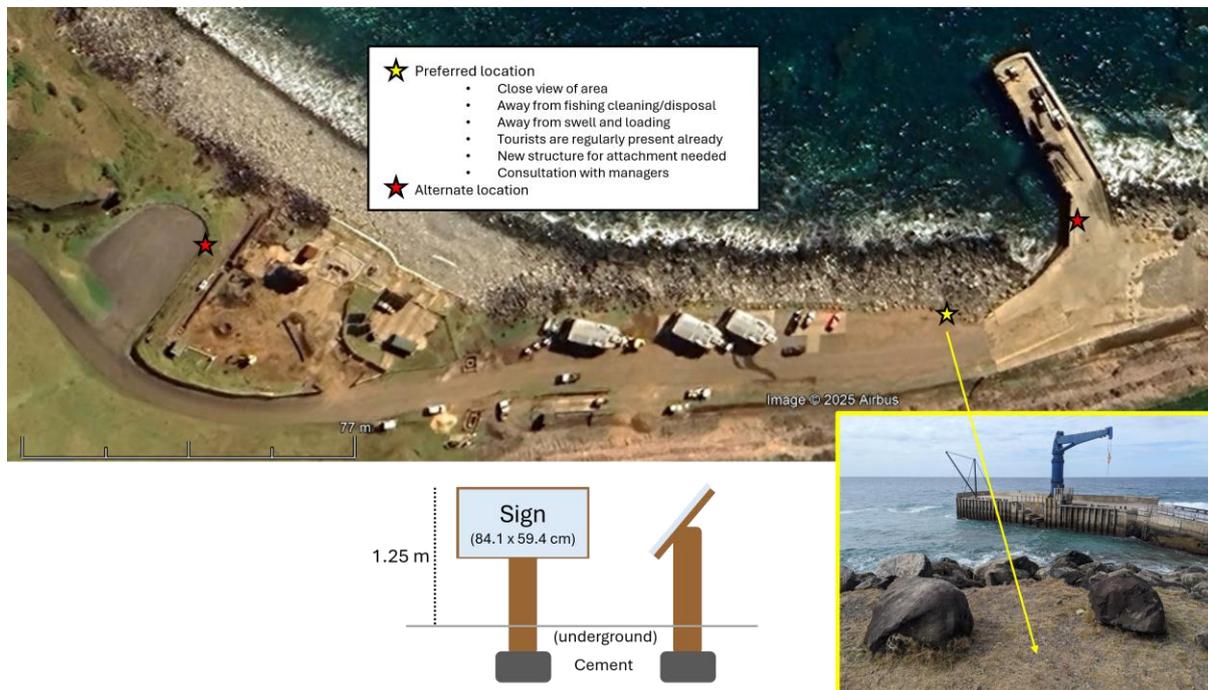
Kingston Pier



Bollard (preferred site)



Cascade Pier



5. Relevant building/development objectives and controls

Kingston Pier (KAVHA – Precinct H)

Kingston Pier is within Kingston and Arthurs Vale Historic Area (KAVHA), identified in the World Heritage List, National Heritage List and Norfolk Island Heritage Register. In addition to the historic significance of Precinct H, Kingston Pier is notable for its social values for its continued function as a working pier and fishing activity (Section 4.8.3 – Development Control Plan No. 7).

Primary objectives and controls for Precinct H (Section 4.8.5 – Development Control Plan No. 7) that would be supported by the proposed interpretive sign include:

Objective 38. To improve visitor access and amenities

The establishment of an interpretive sign would provide locals and tourists with information about the natural wildlife that are common at the pier and along the entire island. The amenity of an interpretive sign will improve visitor experience as a result.

Objective 41. To promote activities that relate to Kingston Pier as a working pier that also encourages traditional and local skills.

Fishing is an activity with significant social, cultural, and economic value at Kingston Pier. The establishment of an interpretive sign directly supports fishing activity by highlighting local skills and practices, while also providing educational material that is relevant to sustainable fishing long-term use of the pier for future generations.

Control 54. Development shall reserve significant views (360 degree) from Kingston Pier.

Control 58. Development shall conserve and protect the historic spatial layout of the Landing Place

Control 59. Development shall prioritise conservation and protection of heritage elements and archaeological features that are fragile, unstable and susceptible to visitor impact.

Control 60. No new buildings and structures shall be proposed within the Precinct without undertaking the following measures:

- a) Ensure that existing buildings are utilised to their full capacity.**
- b) Explore methods of adaptive re-use with little or no alteration to significant fabric.**
- c) Explore methods for temporary structures or reversible construction.**

Explicitly, the addition of an interpretive sign at Kingston Pier shall prioritise the preservation and conservation of the area, including natural or constructed items with natural or heritage value. As such, development will not restrict views from Kingston Pier (i.e., modest sign size, low profile – see *Sign type, structure, and construction* section below for more information) or intercede with the spatial layout of the area, heritage elements, or archaeological features. Development shall also utilise one existing wooden bollard, with the signs mounted flat directly on top of it so as to not add elements that obstruct natural or heritage view lines.

Control 61. Development shall prioritise new uses and activities at Kingston Pier that:

- a) involve traditional and local skills**
- b) continued activation of the Kingston Pier**
- c) is of small scale with no adverse impact to heritage elements.**

The installation of an interpretive sign at Kingston Pier is a small-scale development with no identified adverse impact to heritage elements. It will support new uses and activities by providing locals and tourists with knowledge concerning shark behaviour, fishing, and conservation relevant to the area. It will also highlight local fishing practices at the pier (e.g., fish cleaning) and support the continued use of the pier for boating and fishing.

Control 63. All proposed development within the Landing Place must:

- a) resolve potential conflicts between the visitor services functions of the Landing Place and the needs of a working public through development and implementation of a precinct masterplan for the area.**
- b) allow continued boat launch and landing functions at the jetty.**

The installation of an interpretive sign at Kingston Pier will not adversely affect fishing activities, boat launch or landing functions, or other recreational or commercial activities.

Cascade Pier

The preferred and alternate (eastern) location for the interpretive sign at Cascade Pier is within the Cascade Road Reserve, owned by the Norfolk Island Regional Council. The alternate (western) location is crown-owned and zoned as Special Use. The relevant

Development Control Plan is DCP 4 – Outdoor advertising structures and signs. The proposed signage within a Road (preferred and alternate location – eastern) or Special Use (alternate location – western) Zone is permissible with development approval/consent (see *Sign type, structure, and construction* section below for more information).

Criteria to assist in the assessment of the proposed interpretive sign at Cascade Pier has been followed based on DCP 4 – Appendix 2 (added below). Overall, the type of structure and its development are aligned with development standards and guidelines, and will not detract from the character, natural beauty, or visual quality of the area, nor impede or restrict any existing structures. Additionally, the location, type, and placement of the interpretive sign will not adversely affect the safety to the public or health of the environment. The development is small-scale with no identified adverse impacts.

DCP 4 – Appendix 2: Criteria to assist in assessment of proposals for advertising structures

1. Type of advertising structure: Is the proposal a:	Yes	No
a. Roof advertising structure		
b. Above awning advertising structure		
c. Below awning advertising structure		
d. Fascia advertising structure		
e. Material advertising structure		
f. Pole, freestanding or pylon advertising structure	X	
g. Projecting wall advertising structure		
h. Mobile advertising structure		
i. Flush wall advertising structure		
2. Development Standards: Is the proposal consistent with relevant development standards for:	Yes	No
a. the advertising display area?	X	
b. Minimum height above ground level?	X	
c. Maximum height above ground level?	X	
d. All other relevant development standards that apply to the specific advertising structure?	X	
e. If the proposal is not consistent with relevant development standards and it is proposed to seek approval for variation of any development standards, is justification for the variation attached to the development application?	N/A	
3. Design guidelines	Yes	No
a. Is the proposal consistent with all relevant design guidelines that apply to the specific advertising structure?	X	
b. If the proposal is not consistent with any relevant design guidelines is justification for the inconsistency attached to the development application?	N/A	
4. Special design features associated with advertising structures: Does your proposal include any of the following special design features?	Yes	No
a. Illumination by an external source as described in clause 31		X
b. Illumination by an internal source as described in clause 32		X
c. Animated, flashing or scintillating lights as described in clause 33		X
d. Artificial movement as described in clause 34		X
e. Neon lights as described in clause 35		X
5. Permissibility of the advertising structure: Is the proposal:	Yes	No
a. As of right use or development? (No DA required).		X
b. Permitted use or development?		X

c. Permissible with consent use or development?	X	
d. Prohibited use or development?		X
6. Special areas	Yes	No
a. Does the proposal detract from the amenity or visual quality of any environmentally sensitive areas, heritage areas, natural or other conservation areas, open space areas, beaches, rural landscapes or residential areas?		X
7. Views and Amenity	Yes	No
a. Does the proposal obscure or compromise important views?		X
b. Does the proposal respect the viewing rights of others?	X	
c. Does the proposal detract from the scenic beauty and amenity of Norfolk Island?		X
8. Character, streetscape, setting or landscape		
a. Is the proposal sympathetic to the character and scale of development in Norfolk Island?	X	
b. Is the scale, proportion and form of the proposal appropriate for the locality in terms of streetscape, setting or landscape?	X	
c. Does the proposal reduce clutter by rationalising and simplifying existing signage?	N/A	
d. Does the proposal screen unsightliness?	X	
e. Does the proposal communicate the proponent's message clearly and concisely whilst complimenting the character and amenity of the surrounding area?	X	
f. Does the proposal adversely affect the surrounding area by appearance, size, illumination, overshadowing or in any other way?		X
9. Site and building	Yes	No
a. Is the proposal compatible with the scale, proportion and other characteristics of the site or building, or both, on which the proposed advertising structure is to be located?	X	
b. Does the proposal respect important features of the site or building, or both?	X	
c. Does the proposal show innovation and imagination in its relationship to the site or building, or both?	X	
d. Is the advertising structure that displays the sign attached to the building within structural elements i.e. pediments, gables or horizontal panels below the cornice of the building?	N/A	
e. Does the advertising structure cover or obscure decorative elements or architectural features of the building e.g. parapets?	N/A	
f. Is the area of the advertising structure in proportion to the building where it is going to be displayed?	N/A	
g. Does the proposal dominate the area of the building?		X
h. Does the advertising structure extend over a window or other opening?		X

6. Sign type, structure, installation, construction, maintenance, and standards

Following advice from Infrastructure, we plan to design and purchase the signs with Miller Metal Imaging, as they are reliable producers used by several organisations on Norfolk Island. These signs use a photo anodised process to create durable signs that last in any climate. Dyes are embedded into the metal and then sealed (7-year warantee). Size, design, and installation will vary by location (see sections below). Content of signs has been informed by various leaders within the local Norfolk Island community (see consultation list above). Ongoing maintenance and costs for sign upkeep will fall under the purview of the applicant (Charlie Huveneers), unless agreed upon separately with other parties. If major damages occur to signs (e.g., vandalism) and funds/resources are not available to upkeep

the sign, they will be removed. Similarly, when the signs reach a point of natural degradation, whereupon they do not effectively communicate the original text or are not aesthetically effective, beyond the manufacturer warranty of 7 years, they will be removed. No lighting or lighting structures are associated with this application.

Kingston Pier (KAVHA – Precinct H)

The proposed advertising structures at Kingston Pier are **Interpretive**. Given the social and environmental relevance of the signs to the Norfolk Island community, and associated heritage links to the ongoing use of Kingston Pier for boating and fishing, there is reasonable support for this designation, and has been endorsed by various NIRC managers and the KAVHA Advisory Committee. A Heritage Impact Statement waiver was filed with Jodie Brown (May 9, 2025) and was approved on July 29, 2025.

The Interpretive signs, consisting of two separate signs, will be affixed side-by-side and flat (with no overhanging parts) directly onto an existing pier bollard (see diagram above for specific location and attachment). Each sign will be 100 cm x 25 cm. The signs will be no higher than 40 cm above the concrete level of the pier. Mounting the signs onto the bollard will be assisted by Mike Johnston (Infrastructure) and will consist of drilling marine-resistant screws into the sign and bollard. A small metal shark insignia (~30 x 15 cm) will be similarly mounted to the front of the bollard to identify it as having interpretive material.

Primary objectives and controls for Precinct H (Section 7.2.1 and 7.2.2 – DCP 7) that would be supported by the proposed advertising structure include:

Objective 137. Ensure that signage compliments the KAVHA heritage site and its locality and does not adversely affect the heritage character of the area.

As part of the consultation process, we have contacted various members of the Norfolk Island community including the KAVHA Advisory Committee representatives for feedback on the content, design, and development of the signs. These steps were completed to ensure the signage is supported by the local community and complements the KAVHA heritage site and its character. We have also contracted a local graphic designer to complete the final version of the signs.

Objective 139. Ensure that the content of signage will not interfere with the amenity of the locality or cause offence to the general public.

As discussed above, the development of the Interpretive signs have been completed with feedback from the Norfolk Island community, specifically we consulted with various leaders within the NIRC, KAVHA Secretariat, industry, and tourism. Having the support of this leaders is imperative as their views and support will reflect that of the overall community (and tourists).

Control 302. Proposals to erect or display an advertising structure or sign shall comply with the development standards and design guidelines that apply to that particular type of advertising structure or sign that are established in Table 25.

The proposed **Interpretive** advertising structure at Kingston Pier complies with development and design standards set forth in DCP 7 and has been supported by the KAVHA Advisory Committee. A Heritage Impact Statement waiver has been approved by Infrastructure.

Cascade Pier

The planned size of the sign (1x) at Cascade Pier is 84.1 x 59.4 cm (A1) oriented landscape-style (length x height).

The proposed advertising structure at Cascade Pier is ***Pole or freestanding or pylon*** (permissible with consent in ‘Road’ zones). The Interpretive sign is proposed to be affixed to one column extending from the ground overlooking the pier (and at the eastern margin of the main parking area above the pier). The height of the sign will not exceed 1.25 m (from the ground) and will be affixed at an angle for optimal viewing. A section of ground will be dug up to allow for the sign to be stabilised (also using cement). The affected area will be ~4m² and 4m³. The sign will be constructed with weather-resistant materials using locally sourced wood and installed professionally with a local contractor (Hunky Evans) to ensure quality and longevity.

See Appendix 2 (*Criteria to Assist in Assessment of Proposals for Advertising Structures*) above for the self-assessment list for more information about how the advertising structure meets requirements.

7. Approval from Commonwealth Government Authorities

A self-assessment of the proposed advertising structures, as instructed by Section 2.8 of DCP 7, concluded that the ‘action’ of development and installation of the proposed sign is not likely to have a significant impact (within the EPBC Act) on the environment, cultural values or heritage significance of KAVHA or other areas. As such an EPBC Act referral process has not been undertaken. Note, A Heritage Impact Statement waiver was filed with Jodie Brown (May 9, 2025) and was approved on July 29, 2025. The following table highlights considerations relating to whether the action proposed would have a significant impact (based on criteria outlined by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts).

Potential for significant impact	Context in relation to proposal
<ul style="list-style-type: none">permanently remove, destroy, damage or substantially alter the fabric of a World Heritage/National Heritage property	The interpretive signs in KAVHA are proposed to be added to an existing horizontal bollard by mounting them directly onto the bollard (flat and side-by-side). We consider this to be a minor alteration that will not disturb any significant fabric, while also adding to the heritage value of the pier. This approach has been evaluated and supported by the KAVHA Secretariat and Infrastructure [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]
	As above, the addition of two interpretive signs (matching the current style of signs in KAVHA and to

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> extend, renovate, refurbish or substantially alter a World Heritage/National Heritage property in a manner which is inconsistent with relevant values 	<p>be designed by the graphic designer who created such signs) will only be a minor alteration, and will be consistent to relevant values through our extensive consultation with the Norfolk Island community and KAVHA. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> permanently remove, destroy, damage or substantially disturb archaeological deposits or artefacts in a World Heritage/National Heritage property 	<p>The main proposed location would be situated on an already existing human-made wooden bollard. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> involve activities in a World Heritage/National Heritage property with substantial and/or long-term impacts on its values 	<p>The proposed signs will provide educational information pertinent to the area (e.g., fishing and boating at Kingston Pier has historical significance); thus, it will have a positive impact for locals and visitors alike, and will be tied to the values of the area. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> involve construction of buildings or other structures within, adjacent to, or within important sight lines of, a World Heritage/National Heritage property which are inconsistent with relevant values 	<p>The proposed signs will not be extravagant or excessively large, and it will be mounted flat and low to ensure that no important sight lines are disrupted. Additionally, as per Figure 5 (DCP 7) no views or vistas are interfered with. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> make notable changes to the layout, spaces, form or species composition in a garden, landscape or setting of a World Heritage/National Heritage property which are inconsistent with relevant values 	<p>The main proposed location would be situated on an already existing human-made wooden bollard and not affect any landscaping, species composition, or other layout. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]</p>

8. Controlling provisions of the KAVHA Heritage Management Plan

The KAVHA Heritage Management Plan (HMP) has also been consulted to ensure that the action of installing interpretive signs within KAVHA is aligned with overarching visions and key objectives of the area. The following table highlights how the proposed sign serves to support or not interfere with relevant strategic principles and conservation and management policies of KAVHA outlined with the HMP.

Strategic principles	Context in relation to proposal
<p>Heritage Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural environment Cultural landscape Structures and objects Archaeology 	<p>The interpretive signs in KAVHA is proposed to be relatively small and low profile with materials that match current signs and design principles of KAVHA, based on consultation with KAVHA representatives. Mounting will have minimal impact on surrounding lands, ensuring that no significant fabric of the area or archaeological items are altered via guidance</p>

	from the KAVHA representatives, the site manager and archaeologist.
<p>Life in the Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebration of local traditions, uses and activities, including recreation and leisure • Engagement with the Norfolk Island community 	<p>The interpretive signs will reflect a long history of fishing and boating on Norfolk Island that the local community identifies with. The relationship between sharks and humans at Norfolk Island is also culturally significant. Throughout the application and design process, community members with diverse expertise, have been consulted to ensure that the signs' design and placement are acceptable to the community. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and there is evident excitement that the sign will be a beneficial addition reflecting the local community while still meeting heritage values.</p>
<p>Sustainable Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive and engaging experience which communicate heritage values • Tourism should support local traditions • Tourism should provide benefits to local people • Tourism should minimise impacts on heritage values 	<p>Observing sharks at Kingston Pier is a highlight for many tourists. But there is limited information about the sharks available to them. The presence of interpretive signs will help bolster tourism by improving the tourist experience through education and a personal connection to the area. An improved tourist experience will ultimately benefit local people relying on this industry. Consultation with the site manager and KAVHA representatives will ensure that tourist activities around the sign do not impact heritage values.</p>
<p>Education and Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage values should be transmitted to future generations • Outstanding interpretation should be provided • Education outreach should be provided 	<p>As above, a history of the area in the context of fishing and boating, as well as the relationship that sharks have with the area will enhance education and interpretation activities, benefitting the local community and tourists long-term.</p>

9. Heritage Impact Statement

A Heritage Impact Statement waiver * was filed with Jodie Brown (May 9, 2025) and was approved on July 29, 2025.

Attached

Heritage Impact Statement Waiver Request

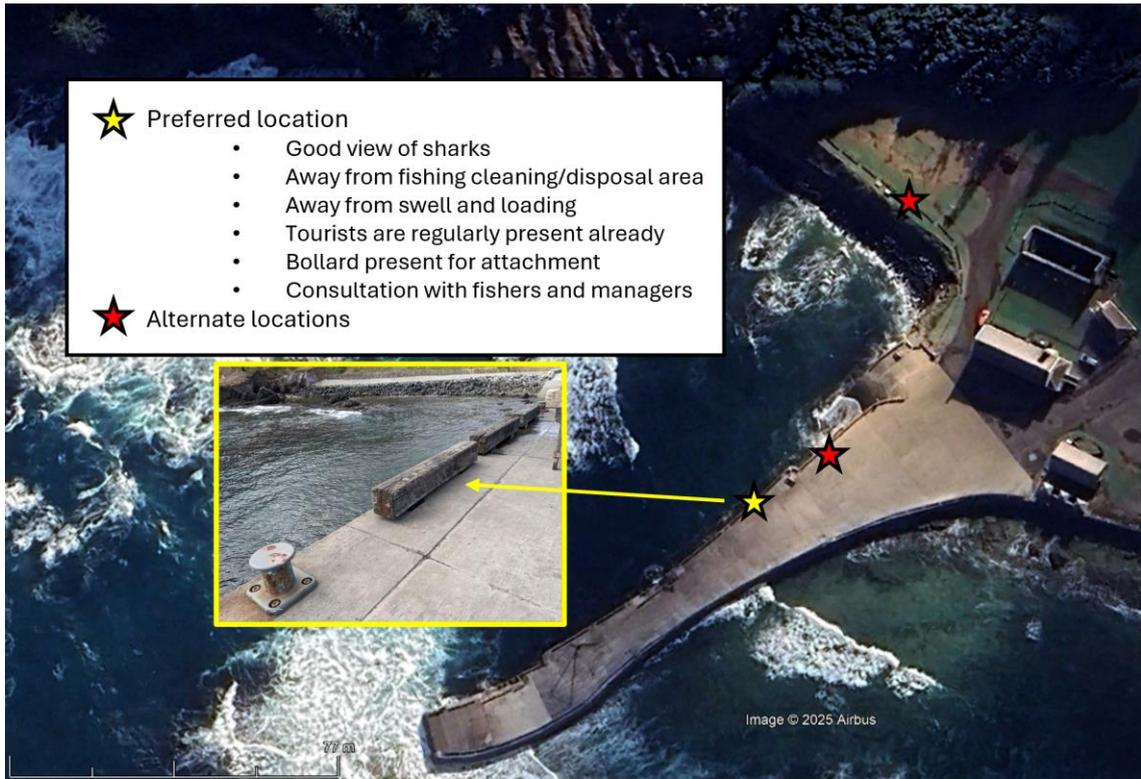
Interpretive shark signage at Kingston Pier

Prepared by: Jordan Matley and Charlie Huveneers

August 4, 2025

Within this document, we are requesting the waiver of a Heritage Impact Statement (HIS), as required under section 28 of the Heritage Act 2002 (NI) to accompany a Development Approval (DA) application, under section 34(s) of the Planning Act 2002 (NI). Below we outline relevant information that will be incorporated as supplementary information within our DA application that serve as support for this request.

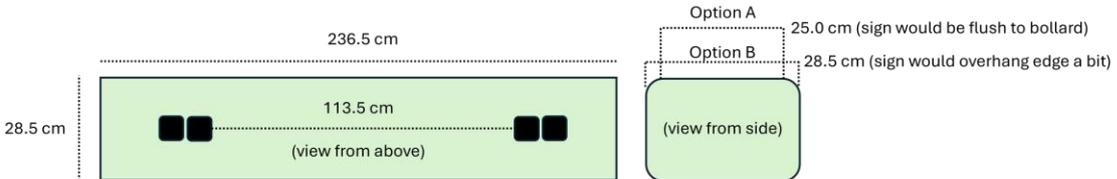
The planned location for interpretive signage at Kingston Pier, following consultations with KAVHA and DITRDCA representatives, will be directly atop one existing boating bollards along the side of the pier (see image below). Two separate signs will be created (both have unique content) and affixed side-by-side to the same bollard. The dimensions of each sign will each be ~100 cm x 25 cm. The signs will be directly affixed to the bollards (flat) using marine-grade screws and dimensions of sign will match the dimensions of the bollards as to not overhang from them (Option A in diagram below). The sign will be constructed with weather and sun resistant materials (guaranteed 7-year life).



- ★ Preferred location
- Good view of sharks
 - Away from fishing cleaning/disposal area
 - Away from swell and loading
 - Tourists are regularly present already
 - Bollard present for attachment
 - Consultation with fishers and managers
- ★ Alternate locations



Bollard (preferred site)



Sign Placement (Option A)

Sign #1 Dusky/Galapagos (100 x 25 cm)	Sign #2 Tiger sharks (100 x 25 cm)
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Note: Sign will attach directly to Bollard with marine grade screws

1. Relevant building/development objectives and controls under DCP 7

In addition to the historic significance of Precinct H, Kingston Pier is notable for its social values for its continued function as a working pier and fishing activity (Section 4.8.3 – Development Control Plan No. 7). As such, primary objectives and controls for Precinct H (Section 4.8.5 and Section 7.2.1 and 7.2.2 – Development Control Plan No. 7) that would be supported by the proposed interpretive sign include:

Objective 38. To improve visitor access and amenities

The establishment of interpretive signs would provide locals and tourists with information about the natural wildlife that are common at the pier and along the entire island. The amenity of an interpretive signs will improve visitor experience as a result.

Objective 41. To promote activities that relate to Kingston Pier as a working pier that also encourages traditional and local skills.

Fishing is an activity with significant social, cultural, and economic value at Kingston Pier. The establishment of interpretive signs directly supports fishing activity by highlighting local skills and practices, while also providing educational material that is relevant to sustainable use of the pier for future generations.

Control 54. Development shall reserve significant views (360 degree) from Kingston Pier.

Control 58. Development shall conserve and protect the historic spatial layout of the Landing Place

Control 59. Development shall prioritise conservation and protection of heritage elements and archaeological features that are fragile, unstable and susceptible to visitor impact.

Control 60. No new buildings and structures shall be proposed within the Precinct without undertaking the following measures:

- a) Ensure that existing buildings are utilised to their full capacity.***
- b) Explore methods of adaptive re-use with little or no alteration to significant fabric.***
- c) Explore methods for temporary structures or reversible construction.***

Explicitly, the addition of interpretive signage at Kingston Pier shall prioritise the preservation and conservation of the area, including natural or constructed items with natural or heritage value. As such, development will not restrict views from Kingston Pier (e.g., modest sign size, low profile) or intercede with the spatial layout of the area, heritage elements, or archaeological features. Development shall also utilise materials and design that match current signs in KAVHA. The proposed location (and construction) of the interpretive signs has been informed by consultations with KAVHA and DITRDCA representatives, the site archaeologist, and site manager to ensure that all controls listed above are properly considered. No alteration to any significant fabric is planned, except that the signs will be attached directly to an existing bollard.

Control 61. Development shall prioritise new uses and activities at Kingston Pier that:

a) involve traditional and local skills

b) continued activation of the Kingston Pier

c) is of small scale with no adverse impact to heritage elements.

The installation of interpretive signs at Kingston Pier is a small-scale development with no identified adverse impact to heritage elements. It will support new uses and activities by providing locals and tourists with knowledge concerning shark behaviour, fishing, and conservation relevant to the area. It will also highlight local fishing practices at the pier (e.g., fish cleaning) and support the continued use of the pier for boating and fishing.

Control 63. All proposed development within the Landing Place must:

a) resolve potential conflicts between the visitor services functions of the Landing Place and the needs of a working public through development and implementation of a precinct masterplan for the area.

b) allow continued boat launch and landing functions at the jetty.

The installation of interpretive signs at Kingston Pier will not adversely affect fishing activities, boat launch or landing functions, or other recreational or commercial activities, by ensuring that its location is in a safe and accessible location that does not impede use of the launch for recreational or commercial activity. Consultations with KAVHA and fishers have ensured the location meets these requirements.

Objective 137. Ensure that signage compliments the KAVHA heritage site and its locality and does not adversely affect the heritage character of the area.

As part of the consultation process, we have contacted various members of the Norfolk Island community including the KAVHA Secretariat for feedback on the content, design, and development of the sign. These steps were completed to ensure the signage is supported by the local community and complements the KAVHA heritage site and its character. We have also contracted a local graphic designer with experience completing interpretive signs on Norfolk Island to ensure a professional look that aligns with the values of KAVHA.

Objective 139. Ensure that the content of signage will not interfere with the amenity of the locality or cause offence to the general public.

As discussed above, the development of the Interpretive signs has been completed with feedback from the Norfolk Island community, specifically we consulted with various leaders within the NIRC, KAVHA Secretariat, industry, and tourism. Having the support of these leaders is imperative as their views and support will reflect that of the overall community.

Control 302. Proposals to erect or display an advertising structure or sign shall comply with the development standards and design guidelines that apply to that particular type of advertising structure or sign that are established in Table 25.

The proposed **Interpretive** advertising structure at Kingston Pier will comply with development and design standards set forth in DCP 7 and the KAVHA Heritage Management Plan with support from the NIRC and KAVHA Secretariat.

2. Self-assessment of impacts on environment and heritage values of KAVHA

A self-assessment of the proposed advertising structure, as instructed by Section 2.8 of DCP 7, was conducted. The assessment concluded that the ‘action’ of development and installation of the proposed signs is not likely to have a significant impact (within the EPBC Act) on the environment, cultural values or heritage significance of KAVHA or other areas, based on the qualification that none of the activities have more than a 50% change of realistically happening. As such an EPBC Act referral process has not been undertaken. The following table highlights considerations relating to whether the action proposed would have a significant impact (based on criteria outlined by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts).

Potential for significant impact	Context in relation to proposal
Permanently remove, destroy, damage or substantially alter the fabric of a World Heritage/National Heritage property	The interpretive signs in KAVHA are proposed to be relatively small and low profile (<1 m from ground) with materials that match current signs and values of KAVHA, based on consultation with KAVHA and DITRDCA representatives. Mounting will have minimal impact, ensuring that no significant fabric of the area is altered via guidance from the site manager and archaeologist. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]
Extend, renovate, refurbish or substantially alter a World Heritage/National Heritage property in a manner which is inconsistent with relevant values	As above, the addition of interpretive signs (matching the current style of signs in KAVHA and to be designed by the graphic designer who created such signs) will only be a minor alteration and will be consistent to relevant values through our extensive consultation with the Norfolk Island community and KAVHA. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]
Permanently remove, destroy, damage or substantially disturb archaeological deposits or artefacts in a World Heritage/National Heritage property	The proposed preferred location was based on consultations with the KAVHA Secretariat to ensure there will be no substantial or permanent damage done to important items. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]
Involve activities in a World Heritage/National Heritage property with substantial and/or long-term impacts on its values	The proposed signs will provide educational information pertinent to the area (e.g., sharks around the island, as well as fishing and boating activities at Kingston Pier that have historical and cultural significance); thus, it will have a positive impact for locals and visitors alike, and will be tied to the values of the area. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]
Involve construction of buildings or other structures within, adjacent to, or within important sight lines of, a World Heritage/National Heritage property which are inconsistent with relevant values	The proposed signs will be modest and mounted directly on top of a boating bollard (flat) to ensure that no important sight lines are disrupted. Additionally, as per Figure 5 (DCP 7) no views or vistas are interfered with. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]

<p>Make notable changes to the layout, spaces, form or species composition in a garden, landscape or setting of a World Heritage/National Heritage property which are inconsistent with relevant values</p>	<p>The proposed preferred location was based on consultations with the site manager ensuring that there are no notable changes made to landscaping, species composition, or setting, which are inconsistent with values of the area. [estimated chance of significant impact: 0%]</p>
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3. Controlling provisions of the KAVHA Heritage Management Plan

The KAVHA Heritage Management Plan (HMP) has also been consulted to ensure that the action of installing an interpretive sign within KAVHA is aligned with overarching visions and key objectives of the area. The following table highlights how the proposed sign serves to support or not interfere with relevant strategic principles and conservation and management policies of KAVHA outlined with the HMP.

Strategic principles	Context in relation to proposal
<p>Heritage Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural environment • Cultural landscape • Structures and objects • Archaeology 	<p>The interpretive signs in KAVHA are proposed to be relatively small and low profile (<1 m from ground) with materials that match current signs and design principles of KAVHA, based on consultation with KAVHA representatives. Mounting will have minimal impact on surrounding lands, ensuring that no significant fabric of the area or archaeological items are altered via guidance from the KAVHA representatives, the site manager and archaeologist.</p>
<p>Life in the Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebration of local traditions, uses and activities, including recreation and leisure • Engagement with the Norfolk Island community 	<p>The interpretive signs will reflect a long history of fishing and boating on Norfolk Island that the local community identifies with. The relationship between sharks and humans at Norfolk Island is also culturally significant. Throughout the application and design process, community members with diverse expertise, have been consulted to ensure that the sign design and its placement are acceptable to the community. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and there is evident excitement that the sign will be a beneficial addition reflecting the local community while still meeting heritage values.</p>
<p>Sustainable Tourism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive and engaging experience which communicate heritage values • Tourism should support local traditions • Tourism should provide benefits to local people • Tourism should minimise impacts on heritage values 	<p>Observing sharks at Kingston Pier is a highlight for many tourists. But there is limited information about the sharks available to them. The presence of interpretive signage will help bolster tourism by improving the tourist experience through education and a personal connection to the area. An improved tourist experience will ultimately benefit local people relying on this industry. Consultation with the site manager and KAVHA</p>

	representatives will ensure that tourist activities around the sign do not impact heritage values.
<p>Education and Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage values should be transmitted to future generations • Outstanding interpretation should be provided • Education outreach should be provided 	<p>As above, a history of the area in the context of fishing and boating, as well as the relationship that sharks have with the area will enhance education and interpretation activities, benefitting the local community and tourists long-term.</p>

For the Attention of:

Norfolk Island Regional Council (NIRC), the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA) Norfolk Island, the Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (KAVHA) Advisory Committee, and members of the Norfolk Island community.

Dear interested parties,

Parks Australia (Marine and Island Parks Branch) supports the installation of an interpretive sign at Kingston and Cascade piers on Norfolk Island. The sign is part of a project affiliated with Parks Australia through a Marine Parks grant (Our Marine Parks Grant Round 3 — Grant Activity ID: 4-HANQUL) that aims to broaden scientific knowledge and foster community stewardship towards the Norfolk Marine Park, one of the most remote marine parks in Australia.

The Norfolk Marine Park hosts unique assemblages of temperate and tropical marine species, many of which are endemic to the area, and features prominent seamounts (and Norfolk Island) which serve as biological hotspots. The coastal waters of Norfolk Island have a long history of fishing, whaling and other uses which are an integral component of the cultural identity of Norfolk Islanders.

The piers at Kingston and Cascade are gateways to this identity and act as important ties to social and economic activities. Kingston Pier holds significant heritage value linking present-day fishing and boating with the island's remarkable history. The piers are also a highlight to the many tourists that visit Norfolk Island who stand in awe as boats are craned into and out of the turbulent waters, timing their exit and entry based on the rolling waves. Tourists converse jubilantly with fishers as they clean their daily catch and peer down into the waters below to catch a glimpse of a shark — one of the few places in Australia to reliably do so in the wild.

Even the sharks have a noteworthy place in the identity of Norfolk Island with records of fishing interactions dating back to Philip Gidley King and many tales passed down among locals since.

A sign that conveys the ecological, social and cultural importance of the Norfolk Marine Park, the piers, and the sharks that inhabit their waters would be a beneficial contribution to both locals and tourists to Norfolk Island. There is currently limited information conveying the connection of Norfolk Islanders to the productive waters around Norfolk Island, nor the diverse range of animals that are found within the Norfolk Marine Park. We also believe that, with effective engagement with the local community, members of local government, and individuals responsible for the preservation of heritage value at KAVHA, the sign can be completed tastefully and add to the significance of the piers (and associated activities).

The team at Flinders University who are producing the sign have demonstrated a commendable commitment to engaging directly with members of the community and responsible governing bodies to design the sign and ensure that all criteria and viewpoints are considered.



Russell Gueho
Director
Marine and Island Parks Branch (East Network)
Parks Australia
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water