

**Question on Notice  
No. 1528  
Asked on 30 November 2006**

QUESTION:

MR WELLINGTON asked the Minister for Environment and Multiculturalism (Ms Nelson-Carr)—

With reference to a review of the *Moreton Bay Marine Park Act* which has to be conducted by the end of 2008—

Will she outline the timeframe for this process?

ANSWER:

Moreton Bay Marine Park is a very special place for locals and visitors as it has a diverse range of marine flora and fauna due to its subtropical location.

This marine park is a popular recreational boating and fishing destination. It is also a productive commercial fishery.

Being on the doorstep of one of the fastest growing regions in Australia brings increasing pressure to the marine park from a range of threats and uses including development, pollution, water quality, fishing, boat strike of turtles and dugong, flooding and climate change.

We need to ensure that the marine park is resilient enough to cope with these increasing pressures. The upcoming review of the Moreton Bay Marine Park Zoning Plan will provide this opportunity. It enables appropriate measures to be put in place for the conservation of the marine environment while maintaining access to the marine park for its various users.

The review of the marine park zoning plan will commence in early 2007.

The commencement of the review process will be widely publicised and all marine park users and interested members of the public will be encouraged to participate in what I assure you will be an open and transparent process.

Before any revised zoning plan is finalised, the Government will be talking to all stakeholders to collect the range of views about the marine park and the best measures for its protection.

The current zoning plan expires in September 2008 and it is anticipated a new plan would be finalised and publicised prior to that date to allow an orderly transition into the new plan.