

HEALTHY OCEANS

Our plan to protect our oceans

Our oceans are under serious threat. We must act if we are to protect our marine environment. Most of our people, most of our populations, live on or near our coastlines. Australians love our beaches, we love our coastlines, and they are such an important part of our culture.

The oceans are central to the spiritual and cultural well-being of First Nation Peoples. Skills and knowledge gathered through activities such as fishing and hunting have been passed down generations. This ocean wisdom has helped First Nations Peoples manage coastal resources sustainably for millennia. Despite dispossession and displacement caused by European colonisation, First Nations people maintain their connection to Country, waters, sky, songlines, language, totems and heritage areas along the ocean coasts.

Promoting and protecting healthy oceans will support First Nations to continue their stewardship. The Greens will continue to fight for healthy oceans and coastlines, supporting local communities, tourism and small business.

THE GREENS WILL:

- ▲ **Ban offshore exploration and seismic testing**
- ▲ **Expand the network of Marine Protected Areas**
- ▲ **Commit \$50 million to wetlands and coastal restoration**
- ▲ **Commit \$20 million for Sea Country Indigenous Protected Areas**
- ▲ **Extend the ban on super-trawlers to include 95 metre vessels**

PAYING FOR OUR PLAN

By making billionaires and big corporations pay their fair share of tax and winding back handouts to big polluters, we can build a better life for all of us.

1 in 3 big corporations pays no tax and many big corporations and billionaires send their profits offshore tax free.

The Greens will tax billionaires with a new 'billionaires tax', require big corporations making excessive profits to pay a 'corporate super-profits tax' and axe billions of dollars in handouts to the coal, oil and gas giants that are driving the climate crisis.

When big corporations and billionaires pay their fair share, everyone can have the services they need for a better life.

BAN OFFSHORE FOSSIL FUEL EXPLORATION

There is no excuse for our oceans, communities, and coastlines to be put at risk for the sake of a few profit-driven fossil fuel interests. We need to protect marine ecosystems and avoid irreversible changes to the Earth's climate.

The Greens will amend the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Bill 2021 to ban all new oil and gas exploration in our oceans.

SUPPORT MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Marine Protected Areas are a vital complement of ocean conservation, helping to safeguard biodiversity and manage resilient areas of the oceans in the face of challenges like climate change and pollution. Strengthening these areas,

and expanding the network of protection are critical to maintaining healthy oceans.

We will re-establish the original network of marine parks and then expand the network, and reform federal government fisheries management using an ecosystem based approach; both will be based on updated science. The Greens will support the establishment of three new Marine Park Authorities in the Southern Ocean around the Antarctic - East Antarctic, Weddell Sea and Antarctic Peninsula.

RESTORING WETLANDS AND COASTS

Coastal ecosystems are under significant challenge from climate change, associated weather patterns and poor water quality. The Greens will commit \$50 million towards wetlands and coastal restoration projects.

SUPPORTING INDIGENOUS PROTECTED AREAS

Indigenous protected areas play an important role in recognising traditional owner leadership to care for Country, they also play a critical role in protecting biodiversity. Expanding marine sites will help manage priorities for safeguarding sacred and culturally significant coastal areas. The Greens will support Sea Country Indigenous Protected Areas by investing \$20 million in creating new locations, and supporting existing areas.

IMPROVE FISHING SUSTAINABILITY

We will introduce a national seafood labelling system for country of origin and species, and introduce non-lethal measures for shark mitigation.

We will amend the Fisheries Management Act 1991 to extend the super trawler ban to include 95-metre vessels, to attain a proper permanent ban of super-trawlers in Australian waters. We will also reform federal government fisheries management using an ecosystem based approach, and based on updated science.

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