

Conservation In Action

The Denmark Environment Centre

promotes environmental conservation through education, advocacy and research.

For information on becoming a member phone 9848 1644 or visit us at 33 Strickland St DENMARK.

The Shire of Denmark has a Coastal

Management Plan outlining recommendations for Shire of Denmark Coastal Reserves. The Shire implements and funds coastal management works throughout the Shire of Denmark and supports voluntary management groups. Examples of this work include installing access stairs at Ocean Beach and installation of consistent signage across coastal areas to reduce erosion from visitor impacts. Works conducted are essential for effective management of coastal reserves. For further information on coastal management matters contact Shire of Denmark NRM Officer: (08)9848 0300 enquiries@denmark.wa.gov.au or see the Shire website: <http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au/councilservices/naturalresourcesmanagement.file/coastal>



Left: Shire of Denmark Coastal Management Works
Photo: Courtesy of Shire of Denmark

The William Bay National Parks Association

does hands on work in the William Bay National Park including weeding, dune brushing and restoration work, marine monitoring at Green's Pool and conduct regular walks in National Parks for fitness and leisure.

Contact: Barry Goldsmith 9840 9024

Curious Creatures

The Leafy Sea Dragon is found around the southern coastline of Australia.

This mysterious and ornate creature floats around like a piece of seaweed. The conservation status of Leafy Sea Dragons is 'Near Threatened'.



Curiously, the male sea dragon becomes pregnant and gives birth to live young. The female lays her eggs onto a special brood pouch on the underside of the male's tail where they are fertilised. You can protect the leafy sea dragon by protecting their sea weed homes.

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Conserving Marine and Coastal Areas Around Denmark



Our Unique Coastline. Photo: John Sampson

Highlights of the region

Threats to the environment

Conserving these areas for their intrinsic value and for future generations.

Protect Our Unique Marine and Coastal Biodiversity



Green's Pool Photo: John Sampson

What do we mean by the Marine and Coastal Environment?

The marine environment includes the ocean, the sea floor, landforms and everything that lives here. The coastal environment includes beaches, landforms and sand dunes and everything that lives in this area.

What is biodiversity?

Biodiversity is the range of different organisms, genes and ecosystems found in a particular area. To conserve biodiversity it is important that we protect the homes where creatures live.

Denmark - A Special Place

Denmark's marine and coastal environment is very special. A number of rare species live in this area that rely on the environment around Denmark for their survival. The hooded plover is a local bird under threat. They live and nest on beaches like Parry's beach. Nests are no more than a scrape in the dirt, making it easy for people to run over or step on their eggs.

The Western Blue Groper frequents reefy habitats around Denmark. It is an extraordinary fish which spends most of its life in the same general area. Gropers do not reach sexual maturity until they are 15 years old and can live to 70 years old. They are a fish highly sought by fisher people and have been listed as one of five most vulnerable species of fish. Western Blue Groper are essential for maintaining a balanced food chain and for the survival of so many marine creatures.



Green's Pool - A Popular Recreation Site Photo: John Sampson

Threats to the Marine and Coastal Environment

- Irresponsible Recreation • Water Pollution • Litter •
- Erosion • Dieback • Inappropriate Fire Regimes and Wildfire • Invasive Species • Habitat Destruction •

What Can You Do?

- ➔ **Fish Responsibly**
Obtain copies of recreational fishing guides and rulers to ensure you stick to the limits.
- ➔ **Snorkel With Care**
Take care not to damage or remove anything. Stand away from coral, seagrass and seaweed. Enter the water at a sandy location to avoid damage.
- ➔ **Boaties Beware**
Careful where you anchor your boat, sandy areas are best. Be aware when coming ashore so as not to damage seagrasses and other habitats. Take all rubbish home with you.
- ➔ **Stick To The Tracks!**
When four wheel driving or walking stick to maintained tracks to reduce erosion in coastal areas. Erosion leads to habitat loss for creatures. When driving on beaches stick close to the water line. Hooded plovers lay their eggs higher on the beach. Watch where you step!

Did you know?
Wilson Inlet is a key nursery for many juvenile fish species, including pink snapper.
The minimum size limit for pink snapper in Wilson Inlet is 41cm.