



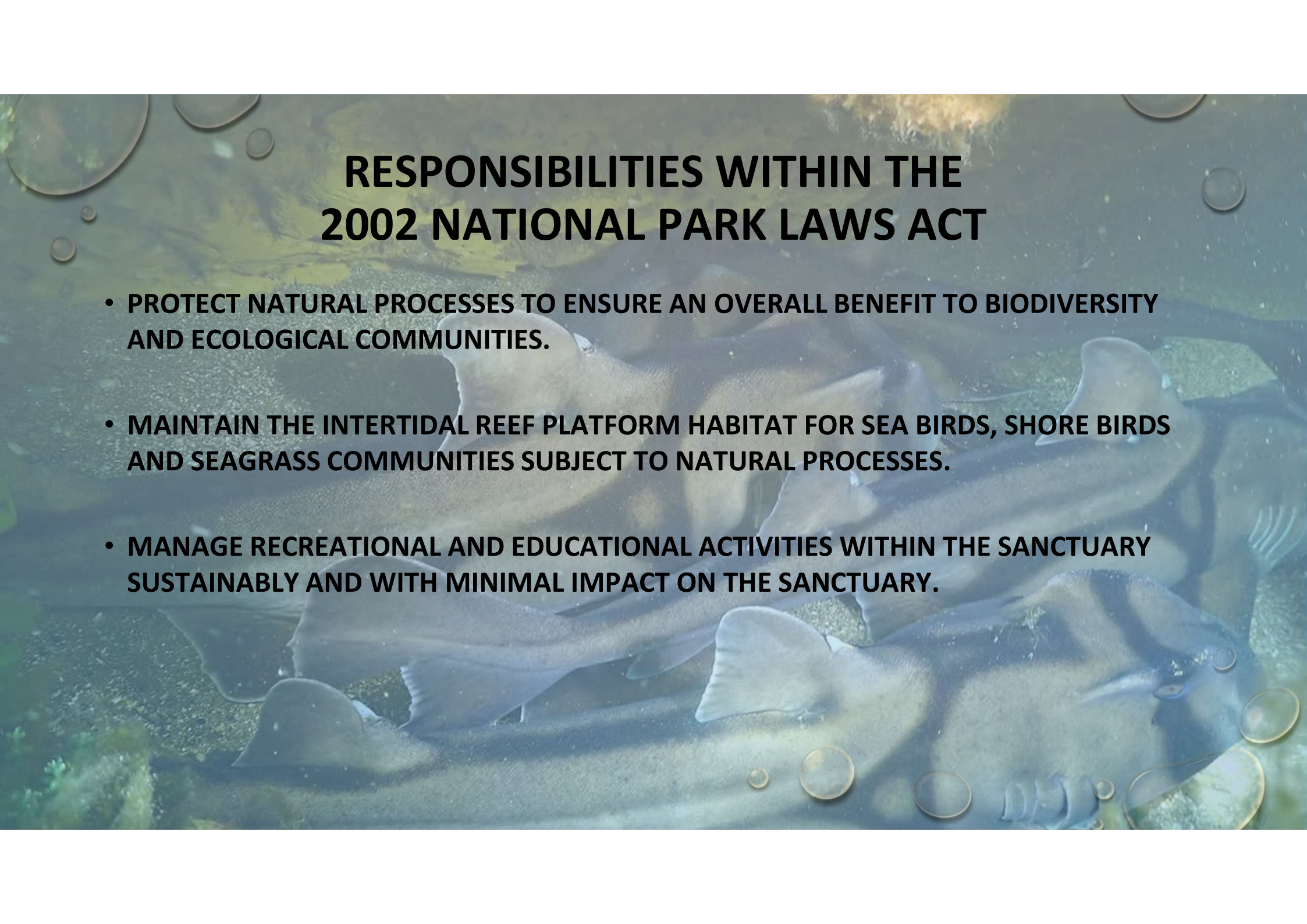
MCRP RESPONSE TO THE INVITATION TO REVIEW THE DOMESTIC ANIMALS MANAGEMENT POLICY

MARINE CARE RICKETTS POINT

VOLUNTEERS

RICKETTS POINT MARINE SANCTUARY

- **CREATED IN 2002 AFTER 16 YEARS OF EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY LOBBYING TO PROTECT A UNIQUE ENVIRONMENT**
- **PROTECTED BY NATIONAL PARK LAWS ACT 2002**
- **THE ONLY SANCTUARY CO-MANAGED BY PARKS VICTORIA AND A CITY COUNCIL (BAYSIDE)**

An underwater scene featuring several large, flatfish, possibly groupers, swimming over a sandy and rocky seabed. Numerous air bubbles of various sizes are visible throughout the water, creating a sense of depth and movement. The lighting is somewhat dim, typical of an underwater environment.

RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN THE 2002 NATIONAL PARK LAWS ACT

- **PROTECT NATURAL PROCESSES TO ENSURE AN OVERALL BENEFIT TO BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES.**
- **MAINTAIN THE INTERTIDAL REEF PLATFORM HABITAT FOR SEA BIRDS, SHORE BIRDS AND SEAGRASS COMMUNITIES SUBJECT TO NATURAL PROCESSES.**
- **MANAGE RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE SANCTUARY SUSTAINABLY AND WITH MINIMAL IMPACT ON THE SANCTUARY.**

DOGS IN THE SANCTUARY

ISSUES

- **RAPIDLY INCREASING POPULATION NUMBERS.**
- **INCREASING DOG OWNERSHIP.**
- **SOCIAL NETWORKING, WHICH ENABLES PEOPLE, INCLUDING FROM OUTSIDE THE BAYSIDE COUNCIL AREA, TO EASILY FIND COASTAL AREAS FOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.**
- **SIGNAGE IS CONFUSING**
- **RICKETTS POINT MARINE SANCTUARY IS UNDER INCREASING PRESSURE FROM HUMAN AND DOG USE.**



EVIDENCE OF IMPACT OF DOGS AT THE SANCTUARY

- **DOG FAECES AND THE PLASTIC BAGS THEY ARE COLLECTED IN, ARE POLLUTING THE MARINE SANCTUARY.**
- **THE MONTHLY VOLUNTEER BEACH PATROL, AS PART OF OUR GROUP'S WORK, COLLECT DOG- FAECES-PLASTIC-BAGS EVERY MONTH THAT HAVE NOT BEEN BINNED.**
- **UN-BAGGED FAECES ARE LEFT FOR HYGIENE REASONS BY THE BEACH PATROL.**
- **BAYSIDE COUNCIL RECOGNISED THE IMPACT DOGS FAECES WERE HAVING IN THE BAY AND IMPLEMENTED A LAW TO ENFORCE THE COLLECTION OF DOG FAECES IN PUBLIC AREAS BY THEIR OWNERS IN THE EARLY 1990S.**
- **2 FINES IN 2 YEARS**

“POO STATISTICS”

AT ANY ONE POINT 300M/30M AREA WITHIN THE SANCTUARY

- **MARCH 2023 23 BAGGED**
- **JULY 2023 6 BAGGED**
- **MARCH 2024 22 BAGGED**
- **APRIL 2024 5 BAGGED**
- **JUNE 2024 20 BAGGED, 7 LOOSE**
- **NOV 2024 15 BAGGED, 1 LOOSE**
- **FEB 2025 19 LOOSE AND BAGGED**

COMMUNITY ENJOYMENT OF THE SANCTUARY

- **THE SANCTUARY IS VERY POPULAR WITH**
 - **FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS,**
 - **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES,**
 - **SNORKELLERS AND DIVERS.**
- **MIGRATING BIRDS –**
I.E. SHARP TAILED SANDPIPERS AND RED NECKED STINTS
FROM SIBERIA AND WEST ALASKA –
PROTECTED BY INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY AGREEMENTS.
- **THESE ACTIVITIES ARE INCOMPATIBLE WITH DOGS OFF-LEASH.**

MCRP RECOMMENDATIONS

- **WE ARE ASKING
ON BEHALF OF THE FLORA, BIRDS AND MARINE LIFE
TO ENSURE THAT BAYSIDE CITY COUNCIL EXERCISES ITS
LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT THIS ENVIRONMENT.**
- **MCRP WANT
DOGS BANNED FROM THE SANCTUARY
(DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN NATIONAL PARKS) –
THERE ARE MANY OTHER BEACHES WHERE DOGS ARE ALLOWED IN THE BAY.**
- **AT THE VERY LEAST –
DOGS ON LEADS WITHIN THE WHOLE SANCTUARY AT ALL TIMES –
ONE CONSISTENT SIGN.**

THANK YOU FROM THOSE WHO COULDN'T BE HERE

