

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 380
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Programme: Director of National Parks
Topic: COMMONWEALTH MARINE RESERVES
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Singh asked:

What purpose are the reserves serving without management plans?

Answer:

Prior to management plans being in place, Commonwealth Marine Reserves are managed in accordance with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and IUCN principles. Transitional management arrangements have been implemented for the Commonwealth Marine Reserves proclaimed in 2012 to cover the period during which the statutory management plans are developed and then given effect. There will be no changes to "on the water" activity for any users during this period.