



FLORA AND FAUNA GUARANTEE - SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FINAL RECOMMENDATION ON A NOMINATION FOR LISTING

**FLORA & FAUNA
GUARANTEE**

San Remo Marine Community

Date of receipt of the nomination: 27 April 1989
Date of preliminary recommendation: 22 January 1991
Date of final recommendation: 22 May 1991

File No.: 89/1958

Validity:

The nomination is for a valid item and the prescribed information was provided. The nominated community is clearly described in such a way as to be distinguished from all other biotic communities. The San Remo Marine Community is as an intertidal and subtidal reef community on a mixed substrate of mud, old basaltic rock and sand, characterised by an unusually large number of species of opisthobranch molluscs and bryozoans, many of which are considered rare. Other species include common intertidal algae and crustaceans.

Eligibility for listing as a community under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee

The nominated item satisfies at least one criterion of the set of criteria prepared and maintained under Section 11 of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*, and stated in Schedule 1 of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Regulations 1990*.

Evidence that criteria are satisfied:

Criterion 2.2 *the community is significantly prone to future threats which are likely to result in extinction*

Evidence:

The community of flora and fauna is under potential threat from processes associated with construction of a marina (excavation, construction and possible changes to water flow patterns) proposed for the site of the only known occurrence of the community, at San Remo (Anon. 1989).

Sub-criterion 2.2.1 *the community is very rare in terms of the total area it covers or it has a very restricted distribution or it has been recorded from only a few localities*

Evidence:

Descriptive survey data were provided by the nominator and were supplemented by additional expert data, and demonstrated to the SAC's satisfaction that such a community of flora and fauna is presently known from only one locality in the State.

The data presented on distribution and abundance are not the result of comprehensive surveys but do cover a broad enough sample of the community's known habitat to indicate strongly that the community is rare in terms of abundance and distribution.

Background Information

- On the basis of evidence currently available, the Scientific Advisory Committee believes the nominated item to be a unique community of flora and fauna.
- The nomination argues that the community is rich in bryozoans. The SAC supports this claim and considered that it contributed to the strength of the nomination.
- The SAC is of the opinion that 93 species of opisthobranchs is rich for an intertidal habitat.

Advertisement for public comment

In accordance with the requirements of Section 14 of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*, the preliminary recommendation was advertised for public comment for a period of at least 30 days.

The preliminary recommendation was advertised in:

"The Age" - on 6 February 1991

"South Gippsland Sentinel Times" - on 12 February 1991

"Phillip Island and San Remo Advertiser" - on 14 February 1991

Government Gazette - on 6 February 1991

Submissions closed on 8 April 1991.

Further evidence provided:

A submission was received, but no new evidence was provided to warrant a review of the Scientific Advisory Committee's preliminary recommendation that the community is eligible for listing.

Documentation

The research data provided to the SAC have been assessed. To the best of their knowledge, the SAC believes that the data presented are not the subject of scientific dispute and the inferences drawn are reasonable and well supported.

Final Recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Committee:

The Scientific Advisory Committee concludes that on the evidence available the nominated item is eligible for listing in accordance with Section 11(1) of the Act because primary criterion 2.2 has been satisfied.

The SAC also concludes that sub-criterion 2.2.1 has been satisfied and that no evidence exists to suggest that primary criterion 2.2 cannot be satisfied as a consequence of sub-criterion 2.2.1 being satisfied.

The Scientific Advisory Committee recommends that the nominated item be supported for listing on Schedule 2 of the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*.

Selected references:

Anon. (1989) The San Remo Saga. *Marine News* - Newsletter of the Marine Research Group of Victoria. No. **92**. (April 1989).

Kinhill Engineers Pty Ltd (1988) *Environmental Effects Statement - San Remo Quays- Volumes 1 & 2*. Prepared for the Shire of Bass by Kinhill Engineers in association with Tract Consultants and Price Waterhouse June 1988.

Marine Research Group of Victoria. (1987) Unpublished species lists from field surveys at San Remo, 3rd May 1987 and 27th December 1987.

Report of Panel Hearing into San Remo Quays Marina EES.

San Remo Quays - Design Guidelines May 1989 - referred to in Shire of Bass Planning Scheme Amendment No. L5.

Endorsement by the Convenor of the Scientific Advisory Committee

Date

SIGNED BY

19 June 1991

Dr. Neil Murray