



**Carmel Tebbutt MP**

**Deputy Premier**

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment | Minister for Commerce

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## **Have your say on Sydney Harbour National Park future**

The NSW Government has launched a new interactive website to encourage Sydneysiders to have their say on the future of Sydney Harbour National Park.

The Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Carmel Tebbutt, said the Government was undertaking the biggest rethink of how the national park is managed since its creation in 1975.

“We have flagged that we are working on a new plan of management and we want to make it as easy as possible for people to give us their feedback and share their ideas,” Ms Tebbutt said.

“The new website [www.sydneyharbourpom.net.au](http://www.sydneyharbourpom.net.au) provides an online platform for the community to do that.

“People can post comments, share stories, submit ideas and join discussion forums to help guide the development of the new plan.

“The Sydney Harbour National Park belongs to all Sydneysiders and we want everyone to be involved in ensuring it remains both a haven for wildlife and a recreation hub for people for generations to come.”

Sydney Harbour National Park contains some of the last bushland remnants of Sydney’s original ecosystem, spread across the north and south of the harbour and its five islands. It also contains more than 70 Aboriginal sites, 200 historic buildings, numerous beaches and sites of important military and early settlement heritage.

The new Plan of Management will look at conservation of native vegetation, and protection of threatened plant and animal species as well as recreational activities and community facilities.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service has established an independent stakeholder working group to oversee the development of the new plan, headed by the former chair of the Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority Bob Junor.

A series of community forums are also being held over the coming months for young people, indigenous people, commercial operators and other interest groups to contribute their vision for the park. People will also be able to submit views in writing.

The new draft Plan of Management is expected to be completed for public exhibition by early 2010.

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