# Template FOR INPUT INTO THE

**AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE STRATEGY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Overview  This template should be used to provide comments on the content of the Australian Heritage Strategy. | |
| Contact Details | |
| **Name of Organisation:** | Maritime Archaeological Association Western Australia (MAAWA) |
| **Name of Author:** | **Mark Wanless** |
| **Date:** | **6th June 2014** |
|  | |
| Questions  Please add your comments for some or all of the questions provided with the Strategy’s three high level themes below. If you have other information you wish to provide, please add this in the “Other comments” field. | |
| 1. **Improve National Leadership**   What are the most important things the Australian Government should be doing to offer leadership in heritage?  How can the Australian Government provide guidance and support for our national heritage—while still empowering other government, industry and community members to take responsibility and get involved?  What priority areas are important to you, your organisation or group?  What practical actions would you suggest to improve national heritage leadership? | |
| It is important for the government to increasing heritage policy and process alignment across all levels of government, by promoting consistency in Commonwealth and State legislation consistent in the area of UCH.  The government should complete the review of *Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976* and implementing the recommended changes  As a priority, the government must apply protection to a greater range of UCH and update the UCH legislation up to international standards. | |
| 1. **Pursue Innovative Partnerships**   What partnerships are most needed within the heritage sector?  What heritage roles and responsibilities should be led by governments, peak heritage organisations or community groups in the 21st century?  How should resources be shared through heritage partnerships to ensure the greatest return on agreed priorities?  Can you provide examples of successful innovative partnerships you or your organisation have established? | |
| Community groups to have support from government and local authorities in areas that are applicable.  The government and all community groups work together to raise Australia’s international profile in all aspects of UCH  Resources to be divided equally between the states and territories.  MAAWA members work side by side with museum staff at the museum Western Australia – Ship wreck galleries. MAAWA works with the Rottnest Island Authority in cleaning underwater plaques on the Rottnest Island ship wreck trail. | |
| 1. **Enable encourage communities to understand and care for their heritage**   What should the Australian heritage sector be doing to help the Australian community better engage in heritage activities?  How can a shared understanding of our national heritage be developed and best celebrated together?  Do you have any examples of activities that have been successful in promoting local heritage to a broader audience?  What is the role of technology and new media in providing greater community access to heritage? | |
| Support and recognition to all community groups involved in any UCH activities.  A national database where information and resources can be shared equally and fairly. Recognition to people and/or groups with exceptional contributions to UCH.  A new phone app is being developed by MAAWA members, documenting the local ship wrecks in the Swan river with further development to include Rottnest Island and West coast. This app includes photographs and historic information relating to each wreck. Other community groups have an interest to develop this app for their own cause. The use of technology will share information freely and easily to any party interested. MAAWA’s own website is regularly updated with information and news articles and is freely available to all.  Technology in all forms is vital to collecting, processing, storing and sharing of information around the community and beyond. Public access and continuing development to share information is paramount to the next generations. | |
| **Other comments** | |
|  | |