

Summary of Changes in AHF METT Scores and Management Effectiveness (2023–2026)

METT Score per Management Element (2026)

Element	Your Element Score	Maximum Element Score	Your Element %	Max %
Planning	15	21	71.43%	100.00%
Inputs	16	21	76.19%	100.00%
Process	40	66	60.61%	100.00%
Outputs	4	12	33.33%	100.00%
Outcomes	12	18	66.67%	100.00%
Total	87	138	63.04%	100.00%

METT Score per Management Element (2023)

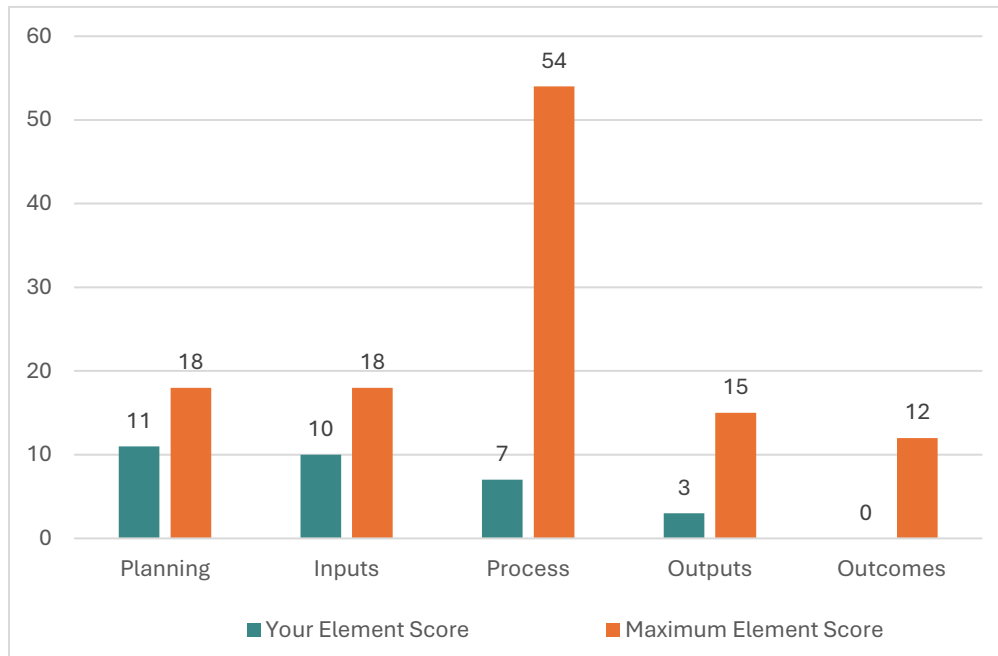
Element	Your Element Score	Maximum Element Score	Your Element %	Max %
Planning	11	18	61.11%	100.00%
Inputs	10	18	55.56%	100.00%
Process	7	54	12.96%	100.00%
Outputs	3	15	20.00%	100.00%
Outcomes	0	12	0.00%	100.00%
Total	31	117	26.50%	100.00%

The 2026 METT assessment demonstrated substantial improvement in management effectiveness relative to the 2023 assessment. While the total attainable scores differed between assessment periods, percentage scores indicate a marked increase from 26.5% in 2023 to 63.0% in 2026. The most significant gains were observed in the Process (12.9% to 60.6%), Outcomes (0% to 66.7%), and Inputs (55.6% to 76.2%) elements, reflecting strengthened operational capacity, implementation, and overall management effectiveness within the sanctuary.

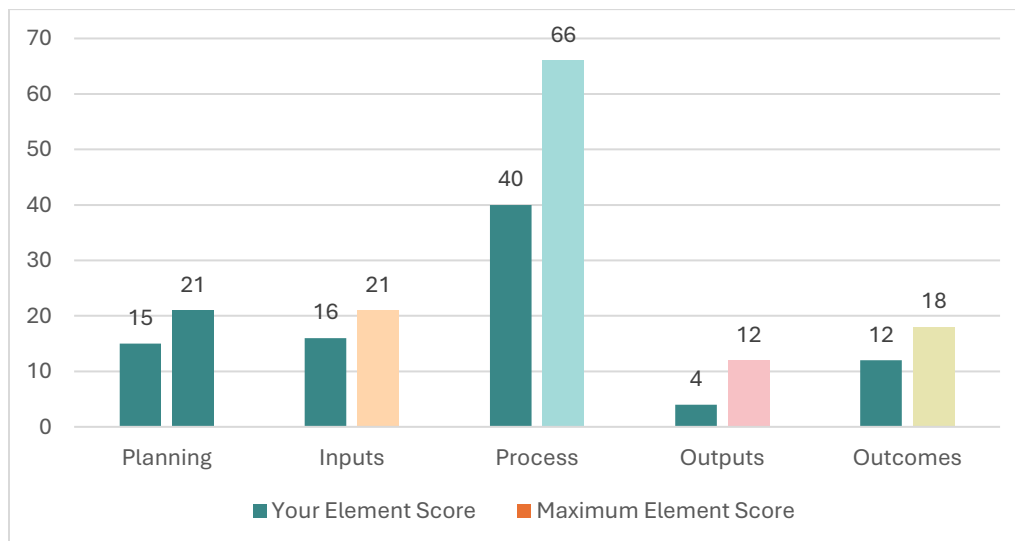
These improvements are likely attributable to the implementation of several key recommendations arising from the 2023 assessment. Notable actions included the hiring of a dedicated Sanctuary/MPA Manager, increased enforcement visibility and effectiveness through more frequent and randomized patrols (including night patrols), enhanced use of the SMART application to track and evaluate patrol efforts, and the expansion of land-based environmental monitoring activities. Climate resilience and sustainability measures were also advanced through the installation of solar energy infrastructure, with rainwater harvesting planned for future implementation.

Despite this progress, opportunities remain for further improvement, particularly within the Outputs (33.3%) and Process (60.6%) elements, which remain below their maximum attainable scores. Future priorities should include strengthening sustainable financing mechanisms, increasing staffing and technical capacity, expanding ecological and socio-economic monitoring programmes, improving documentation and reporting of management actions and conservation outcomes, and enhancing stakeholder engagement and community co-management initiatives.

Continued adaptive management and long-term monitoring will be essential to further improving management effectiveness and achieving conservation objectives within the sanctuary.



METT Score per Management Element 2023



METT Score per Management Element 2026

Appendix
AHF 2026 METT Summary results

METT scores per question (2026)					
No	Question	Maximum METT score	Your METT score (this column will be filled automatically as the METT is completed)	Your METT score from last assessment (if available)	Management element
1	Does the PA have legal status or is it established through "other effective means"?	3	3		Planning
2	Is management undertaken to achieve the objectives of the protected area?	3	3		Planning
3	Are appropriate regulations/controls in place to manage use and activities in accordance with the management objectives of the protected area?	3	2		Process
4	Does land and sea use planning outside of the protected area recognise the protected area and contribute to the achievement of management objectives?	3	1		Planning
5	Is the protected area the right size and shape to protect species, habitats, ecological processes and water catchments of key conservation concern?	3	3		Planning
6	Is the boundary known and demarcated?	3	3		Process

7	Is there a management plan or equivalent and is it being implemented?	3	2		Planning
7 a - c	Additional points: Planning process	3	0		Planning
8	Is there a regular work plan and is it being implemented?	3	3		Planning
9	Do you have enough information to manage the area?	3	2		Inputs
1 0	Are there enough people to manage the protected area?	3	2		Inputs
1 1	Do the people involved in managing the protected area have the necessary knowledge and skills?	3	3		Inputs
1 2	Is the current budget sufficient?	3	2		Inputs
1 3	Is the budget secure?	3	2		Inputs
1 4	Is the budget managed to ensure effective administration of the protected area?	3	2		Process
1 5	Are equipment and facilities sufficient for management needs?	3	2		Inputs
1 6	Can staff (i.e. those with responsibility for managing the site) enforce protected area legislation and regulation?	3	2		Process
1 7	Are systems (e.g. patrols, permits, intelligence gathering etc) in place to control access/resource use in the protected area?	3	3		Process
1 8	Do protected area staff have safe working conditions and does management prioritise safety?	3	2		Process
1 9	Is there a programme of management-orientated survey and research work?	3	2		Process
2 0	Are management activities regularly monitored, evaluated and adapted?	3	2		Process
2 1	Is active resource management being undertaken?	3	2		Process
2 2	Is the protected area consciously managed to adapt to climate change?	3	2		Process
2 3	Is the protected area being consciously managed to prevent carbon loss and to encourage further carbon capture?	3	1		Process
2 4	Does management consider ecosystem service provision?	3	1		Process
2 5	Is there a planned education programme linked to the management needs?	3	2		Process

26	Is there co-operation with neighbouring land/sea State and commercial users?	3	0		Process
27	Do commercial tour operators contribute to protected area management?	3	3		Process
28	If fees (i.e. entry fees or fines) are applied, do they help protected area management?	3	0		Process
29	Are visitor facilities and services adequate?	3	2		Process
30	Have appropriate certification and accreditation schemes been pursued?	3	3		Process
31	Do local communities living in or near the protected area have input to management decisions?	3	2		Process
31a-c	Additional points - Impact on communities	3	0		Outputs
32	Is the protected area providing sustained livelihood benefits to local communities and/or Indigenous people, e.g. income, employment, payment for ecosystem services?	3	1		Outputs
33	Are the threats to the main values of the protected area being effectively addressed?	3	2		Outputs
34	Have the requirements for functional connectivity have been assessed and implemented?	3	1		Outputs
	Detailed assessment of condition and trend in values				Outcomes
35	What is the condition of the important natural values of the protected area as compared to when it was first designated?	3	1		Outcomes
35a-c	Additional points - Condition of natural values	3	0		Process
36	What is the condition of the important cultural values of the protected area as compared to when it was first designated?	3	3		Outcomes
36a-c	Additional points - Condition of cultural values	0	0		Process
	Detailed assessment of key species				Outcomes

37	Has the status of key indicator species changed over the last 5 years?	3	2		Outcomes
	Detailed assessment of habitats				Outcomes
38	Has the status of habitats changed over the last 5 years?	3	1		Outcomes
39	Has gender mainstreaming equity been considered in protected area management?	3	2		Process
40	Do female staff have the access to education, technical knowledge, and/or skill which allows them to take an active role in protected areas management?	3	3		Inputs
41	Do women have equal access to education, technical knowledge, and/or skills to enable involvement in business activities related to the protected area?	3	3		Outcomes
42	Has the vulnerability of protected area values, indicator species and key habitats to climate change been assessed and management actions implemented accordingly?	3	2		Process
43	Have restoration activities been planned, implemented, monitored and adapted as necessary?	3	2		Outcomes
	Total	138	87	0	

AHF 2023 METT Summary results:

METT scores per question		Year of assessment			
			2023		
No.	Question	Maximum METT score	Your METT score (this column will be filled automatically as the METT	Your METT score from last assessment	Management element

			is comple ted)	nt (if ava ila ble)	
1	Does the PA have legal status or is it established through "other effective means"?	3	3		Planning
2	Is management undertaken to achieve the objectives of the protected area?	3	2		Planning
3	Are appropriate regulations/controls in place to manage use and activities in accordance with the management objectives of the protected area?	3	2		Process
4	Does land and sea use planning outside of the protected area recognise the protected area and contribute to the achievement of management objectives?	3	1		Planning
5	Is the protected area the right size and shape to protect species, habitats, ecological processes and water catchments of key conservation concern?	3	3		Planning
6	Is the boundary known and demarcated?	3	3		Process
7	Is there a management plan or equivalent and is it being implemented?	3	0		Planning
7 a - c	Additional points: Planning process	0	0		Planning
8	Is there a regular work plan and is it being implemented?	3	2		Planning
9	Do you have enough information to manage the area?	3	2		Inputs
1 0	Are there enough people to manage the protected area?	3	2		Inputs
1 1	Do the people involved in managing the protected area have the necessary knowledge and skills?	3	2		Inputs
1 2	Is the current budget sufficient?	3	2		Inputs
1 3	Is the budget secure?	3	2		Inputs
1 4	Is the budget managed to ensure effective administration of the protected area?	3	0		Process
1 5	Are equipment and facilities sufficient for management needs?	3	0		Inputs
1 6	Can staff (i.e. those with responsibility for managing the site) enforce protected area legislation and regulation?	3	0		Process

1 7	Are systems (e.g. patrols, permits, intelligence gathering etc) in place to control access/resource use in the protected area?	3	0		Process
1 8	Do protected area staff have safe working conditions and does management prioritise safety?	3	0		Process
1 9	Is there a programme of management-orientated survey and research work?	3	0		Process
2 0	Are management activities regularly monitored, evaluated and adapted?	3	0		Process
2 1	Is active resource management being undertaken?	3	2		Process
2 2	Is the protected area consciously managed to adapt to climate change?	3	0		Process
2 3	Is the protected area being consciously managed to prevent carbon loss and to encourage further carbon capture?	3	0		Process
2 4	Does management consider ecosystem service provision?	3	0		Process
2 5	Is there a planned education programme linked to the management needs?	3	0		Process
2 6	Is there co-operation with neighbouring land/sea State and commercial users?	0	0		Process
2 7	Do commercial tour operators contribute to protected area management?	3	0		Process
2 8	If fees (i.e. entry fees or fines) are applied, do they help protected area management?	0	0		Process
2 9	Are visitor facilities and services adequate?	3	0		Outputs
3 0	Are Indigenous people involved in management decisions?	3	0		Process
3 1	Do local communities living in or near the protected area have input to management decisions?	3	0		Process
3 1 a - c	Additional points - Impact on communities	3	3		Outputs
3 2	Is the protected area providing sustained livelihood benefits to local communities and/or Indigenous people, e.g. income, employment, payment for ecosystem services?	3	0		Outputs
3 3	Are the threats to the main values of the protected area being effectively addressed?	3	0		Outputs
3 4	Have the requirements for functional connectivity have been assessed and implemented?	3	0		Outputs

	Detailed assessment of condition and trend in values				Outcomes
3 5	What is the condition of the important natural values of the protected area as compared to when it was first designated?	3	0		Outcomes
3 5 a - c	Additional points - Condition of natural values	3	0		Process
3 6	What is the condition of the important cultural values of the protected area as compared to when it was first designated?	3	0		Outcomes
3 6 a - c	Additional points - Condition of cultural values	3	0		Process
	Detailed assessment of key species				Outcomes
3 7	Has the status of key indicator species changed over the last 5 years?	3	0		Outcomes
	Detailed assessment of habitats				Outcomes
3 8	Has the status of habitats changed over the last 5 years?	3	0		Outcomes
	Total score	117	31	0	