



Australian
Marine Parks



North Marine Parks Network Management Plan 2018

This factsheet outlines the zoning and rules for Australian Marine Parks in the North Marine Parks Network, as set out in the North Marine Parks Network Management Plan.

The zoning and rules for activities in marine parks of the North Network, as described in this factsheet, will help to achieve a positive outcome for the environment and the Australian community, by protecting important marine habitats, features and species, while supporting use and enjoyment of these special places. It is important that users of the marine parks are familiar with the rules and zones in marine parks. This factsheet should be read in conjunction with the plan.

Managing activities in the North Network

The management plan is located on the Parks Australia website. It describes the management of the marine parks in the North Network over the next ten years. The plan enables a range of activities and sets out which activities are allowed (without authorisation), allowable (with authorisation), or not allowed. For those activities that are allowed or allowable, the plan also provides information on the assessment and decision-making processes, the types of authorisations and how activities need to be undertaken.

About Australian Marine Parks in the North Network

Marine parks of the North Network were established in 2012 to protect examples of the region's marine ecosystems and biodiversity. The Network is located in Commonwealth waters, between three nautical miles (approximately 5.5 km) and 200 nautical miles (approximately 370 km) offshore.

There are eight marine parks off the coast of the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia that make up the North Network. These parks cover 157,480 km² and are popular for fishing, snorkelling, diving and boating. Tourism operators offer visitors unique experiences on offshore reefs, islands, cays and in deeper waters. These marine parks also support commercial fishing, mining and shipping, which contribute to economic growth, employment and social wellbeing in coastal towns and communities.

The marine parks of the North Network include habitats such as coral reefs, soft sediments, shelf, canyons and limestone pinnacles. They have high species diversity and globally significant populations of internationally threatened species.

Further information

If you have questions about the rules for activities, the North Marine Parks Network Management Plan or Australian Marine Parks, please visit the Australian Marine Parks website parksaustralia.gov.au/marine, send an email to marinereserves@environment.gov.au, or call 1800 069 352.

Overview of the rules for activities (refer to the plan for full details)

Activity		Special Purpose Zone (Trawl) (IUCN VI)	Special Purpose Zone (IUCN VI)	Multiple Use Zone (IUCN VI)	Habitat Protection Zone (IUCN IV)	National Park Zone (IUCN II)
GENERAL USE, ACCESS, AND WASTE MANAGEMENT	Ballast water discharge and exchange	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Disposal of waste from normal operations of vessels (MARPOL)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Camping	A	A	A	A	A
	Recreational use (non-fishing, nature watching, boating, etc.)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Non-commercial remote piloted aircraft, drones etc.	A	A	A	A	A
COMMERCIAL SHIPPING	Anchoring	✓	✓	✓	X ^B	X ^B
	Vessel transiting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
COMMERCIAL FISHING	Dropline	A	A	A	A	X
	Hand collection (including using hookah, scuba, snorkel)	A	A	A	A	X
	Hand net (hand, barrier, skimmer, cast, scoop, drag, lift)	A	A	A	A	X
	Longline (demersal, auto-longline)	X	X	X	X	X
	Longline (pelagic)	A	A	A	A	X
	Minor line (handline, rod & reel, trolling, squid jig, poling)	A	A	A	A	X
	Net (demersal)	A	A	X	X	X
	Net (pelagic)	A	A	X	X	X
	Purse seine	A	A	A	A	X
	Trap, pot	A	A	A	X	X
	Trawl (demersal)	A	X	X	X	X
	Trawl (midwater)	A	X	X	X	X
Trotline	A	A	A	X	X	
COMMERCIAL PEARLING	Pearling	A	A	A	A	X
COMMERCIAL AQUACULTURE	Aquaculture	A	A	A	A	X
COMMERCIAL MEDIA	Media	A ^C	A ^C	A ^C	A ^C	A ^C
COMMERCIAL TOURISM	Non-fishing related tourism (including nature watching, scuba/snorkel tours)	A	A	A	A	A
	Charter fishing tours (including spear diving tours)	A	A	A	A	X
	Commercial aviation tours (up to 3000 m above sea level)	A	A	A	A	A
RECREATIONAL FISHING	Recreational fishing (including spear-fishing)	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
	Anchoring and vessel transiting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
MINING	Mining operations including exploration	A	A	A	X	X
	Construction and operation of pipelines	A	A	A	A	A
STRUCTURES AND WORKS	Excavation, erection/maintenance of structures, works	A	A	A	A	A
	Dredging and disposal of dredged material	A	A	A	X	X
	Artificial reefs	A	A	A	A	A ^D
	Fish aggregating devices	A	A	A	A	X
RESEARCH & MONITORING	Research	A	A	A	A	A
NATIONAL SECURITY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE	National security and emergency response	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

- ✓ Activity is allowed.
- X Activity is not allowed.
- A Authorisation required. Activity is allowable, subject to assessment.
- B Anchoring is not allowed except in anchoring areas determined under r.12.56 of the EPBC Regulations.
- C News-of-the-day reporting may be undertaken on terms determined by the Director from time to time, and subject to the Director being notified.
- D Activity is allowable only for the protection, conservation or restoration of habitats.

Note:

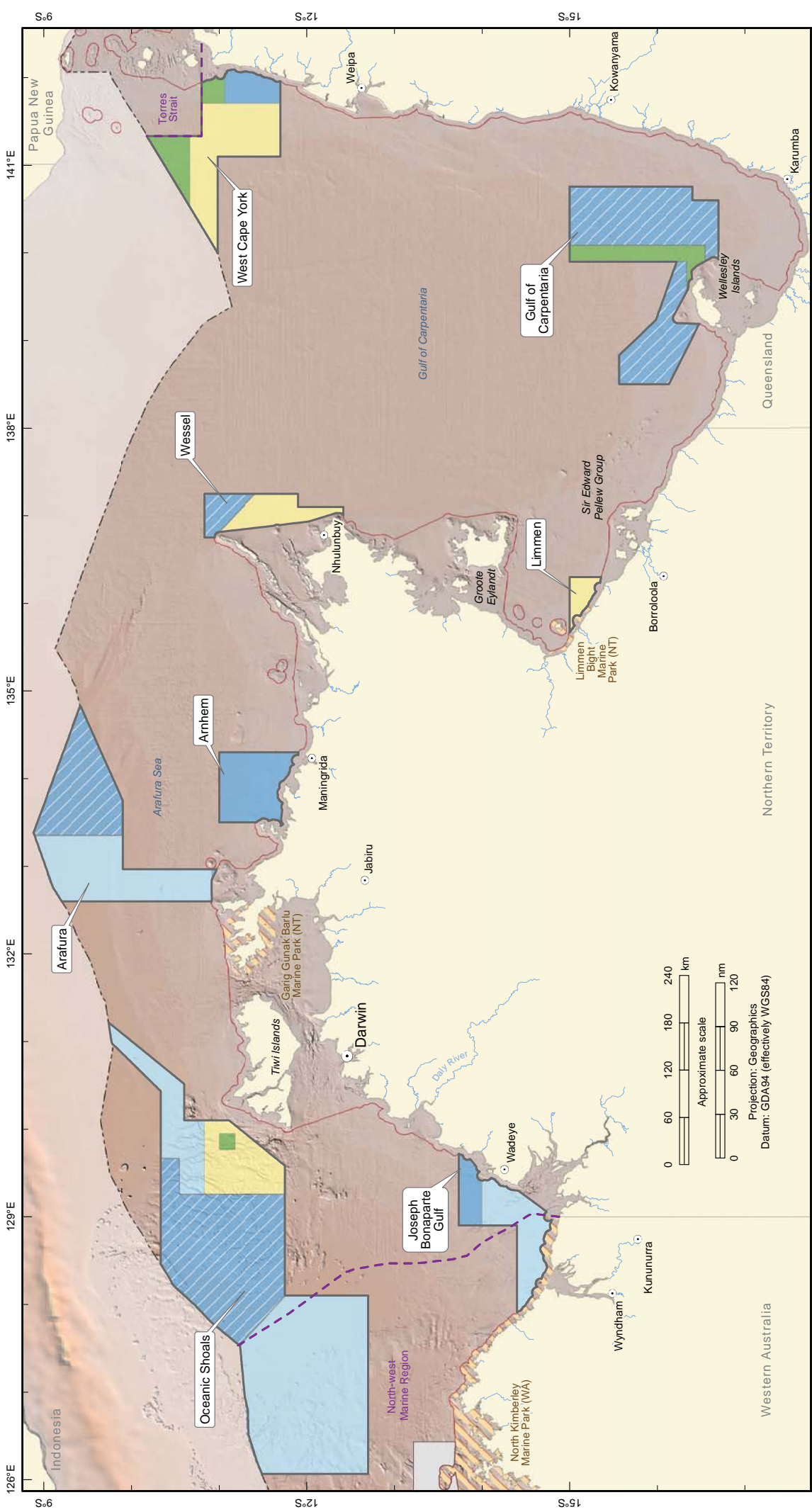
- Anchoring by commercial fishing, pearling and aquaculture vessels is not allowed in the National Park Zone (II), except in anchoring areas determined under the EPBC Regulations.
- Fishing gear must be kept stowed and secured at all times during transit through, or while stopping and anchoring in, a zone in which fishing activities are not authorised.
- Disposal of waste from normal operations of vessels must comply with MARPOL requirements.

Further information

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Australian Government
Parks Australia



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Zoning	National Park Zone (IUCN II)	Habitat Protection Zone (IUCN IV)	Multiple Use Zone (IUCN VI)	Special Purpose Zone (Trawl) (IUCN VI)	Special Purpose Zone (IUCN VI)
	North-west Network marine park	State marine park (NT/WA)			
Management depth	Shallow (less than 15m)	Deep (500m)			
Maritime boundaries	Limit of coastal waters	Marine region boundary	Limit of the Australian exclusive economic zone		

Spatial data sources:

- ARCWORLD (2000): Map of the World 20M
- Commonwealth Marine Regions
- DoEE (2012): Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database (CAPAD)
- DoEE (2016): Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database (CAPAD)
- DoEE (2018): Australia's Network of Marine Parks
- Geoscience Australia (2003): GEODATA/TOPO 2.5M
- Geoscience Australia (2005): Australian Bathymetry and Topography
- Geoscience Australia (2014): Australian Maritime Boundaries (AMB) v3.0
- Produced by the Environmental Resources Information Network (ERIN), Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy, 2018