



Australian
Marine Parks



North Marine Parks Network Management Plan 2018 Zoning and rules

The zoning and rules for activities in marine parks 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.

If you plan to visit an Australian Marine Park it is important that you are familiar with its management zones and rules. You can find detailed information about these zones and the rules in the management plans, available on our website. This factsheet should be read in conjunction with the North Marine Parks Network Management Plan 2018.

Managing activities in the North Network

The management plan describes the management of the marine parks in the North Network until 2028. It sets out which activities are allowed (without authorisation), allowable (with authorisation), or not allowed. For activities that require an authorisation, the plan also provides information on the assessment and decision-making processes, the types of authorisations available and how certain activities need to be undertaken.

The management plan does not impact on non-commercial traditional use or enjoyment of sea country by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including non-commercial hunting, food gathering and ceremonial and cultural practices.

About Australian Marine Parks in the North Network

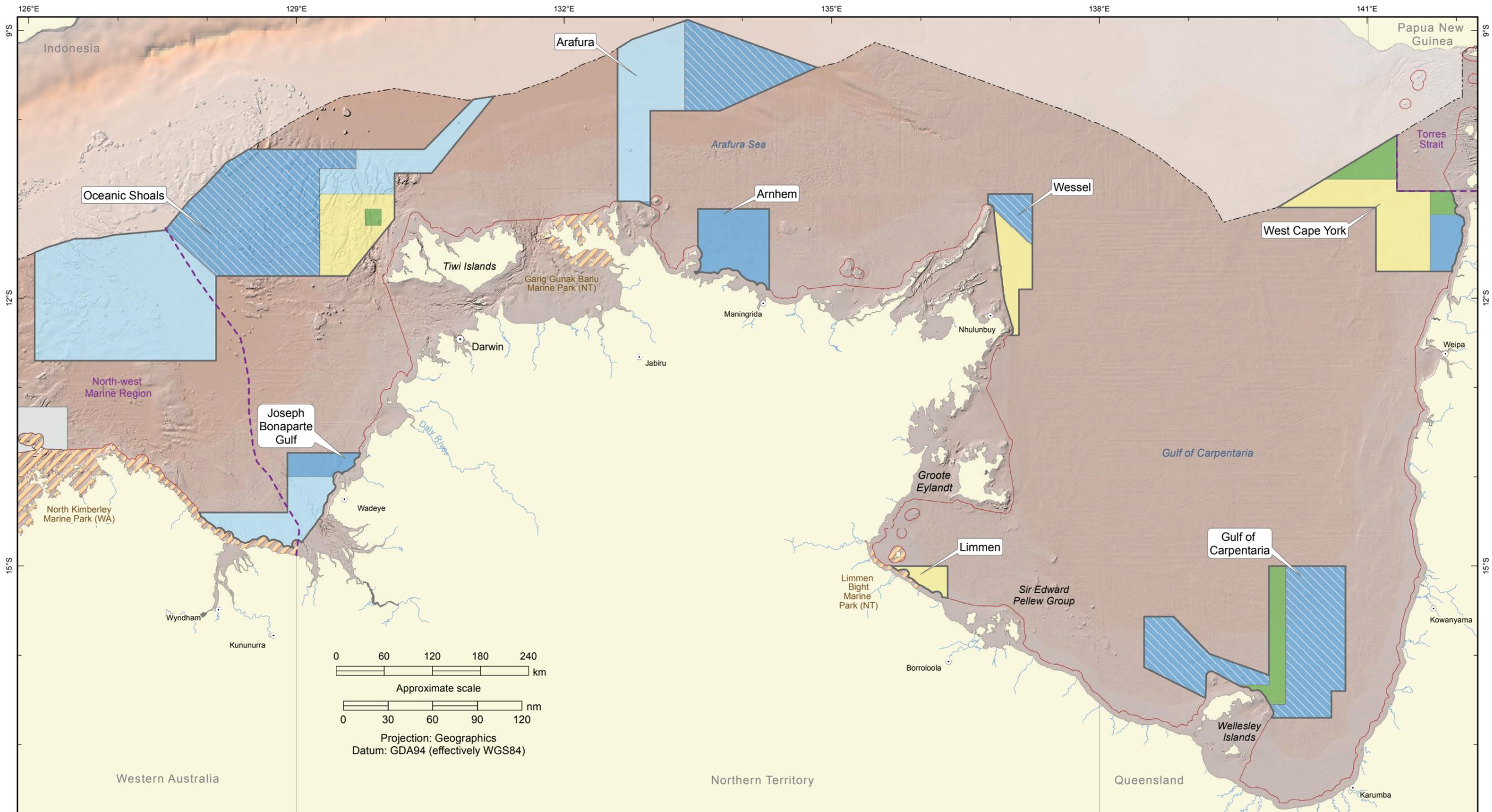
Marine parks in the North Network were established in 2012 to protect examples of the region's marine ecosystems and biodiversity. The Network is located in Commonwealth waters, between three nautical miles (about 5.5 km) and 200 nautical miles (about 370 km) offshore.

There are 8 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 some are popular destinations for fishing, snorkelling, diving and boating. These marine parks also support tourism, commercial fishing, mining, and shipping activities which contribute to economic growth, employment and social wellbeing in coastal towns and communities.

Over tens of thousands of years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have cared for sea country including areas in marine parks. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have ongoing cultural responsibilities to care for sea country and sea country continues to make a vital contribution to their wellbeing. Parks Australia seeks to recognise and respect the role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to care for and protect sea country in marine parks through partnerships with traditional owners, custodians and ranger groups.

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.

Areas within these marine parks also play an important role in the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, supporting key habitats for culturally significant marine species and sites of cultural importance.



North Marine Parks Network Management Plan 2018

- 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)

- Marine protected areas**
- North-west Network marine park
 - State marine park (NT/WA)

- Ocean 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
 DoEE (2012): Commonwealth Marine Regions
 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.

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
TRADITIONAL USE	Non-commercial hunting/food gathering, ceremonial and cultural use	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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

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 marineparks@environment.gov.au, or call 1800 069 352.

