Zeehan Marine Park state of knowledge







Interactive Map and Report.

Zeehan Marine Park displays low-profile platform reef across much of the shelf area. The eastern edge of the park is smooth and undulating before changing in the mid shelf to a more corrugated pavement characterised by 3-5m high ledges with flat faces. The park covers representative areas of four bioregions.

Depth - 91m - 5174m

75.5% of seafloor mapped, most at medium resolution to support biodiversity surveys.



KNV= Key Natural Values Habitat or species that are particularly important to management

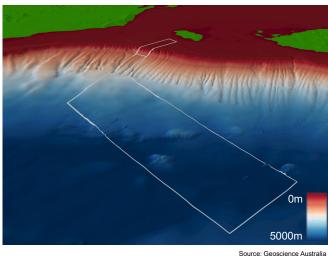
- 2. Williams, et al. (2007) Using data from the proposed Zeehan MPA to provide an inventory of
- 3. Mason, et al. 2018. Telemetry reveals existing marine protected areas are worse than random for protecting the foraging habitat of threatened shy albatross (Thalassarche cauta) | State of Knowledge published Feb 2023 |

Overall knowledge status

Zeehan Marine Park has a medium level of knowledge. The shelf reefs areas have been the focus of research efforts owing to their unique structure and potential as valuable high biodiversity habitats¹.



Source: A. Williams et la. 2007



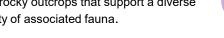
Deep reef habitats

Rocky limestone reefs of varying size which support large sponges, sea whips and large soft and hard bryozoans². Rock Lobsters are an apex predator on reefs.

Key knowledge gaps

- Fine scale mapping of inner shelf areas
- benthic communities and demersal fish communities on deep (mesophotic and rariphotic) shelf reefs
- soft sediment communities and potential contamination levels

Five relatively small canyons occur within the park featuring rocky outcrops that support a diverse community of associated fauna.



Key activities

Commercial fishing

Key pressures

Resource extraction Climate change Underwater noise



Shy Albatross, Credit: Wild Ocean Tasmania

Feature of interest

Shy Albatross (Thalassarche cauta) is Australia's only endemic albatross, with Zeehan a core foraging area for early incubating albatross from Albatross Island³.



Source: A. Williams et la. 2007

Benthic fauna

Coarse sediments provide valuable foraging grounds for crustaceans².