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# Proposed Geographe Bay/ Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet Marine Park have your say



An indicative management plan has been released for public comment for the proposed Geographe Bay/ Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet (Capes) Marine Park. Under the proposal, the waters of Geographe Bay, southwards to Flinders Bay and including the Hardy Inlet, are proposed to become a multiple-use marine park.

You are invited to have your say on how this special area should be managed.

Please submit your views on the indicative management plan before **Friday 15 December 2006.**



Department of  
Environment and Conservation





## A commitment to protecting our marine environment

Western Australia is progressively developing a marine reserve system to protect its unique and special marine habitats, wildlife and ecosystems.

The marine reserve system aims to protect representative examples of the full range of marine biodiversity in the State and to preserve areas of scientific and special interest. WA's marine conservation reserves are a key environmental commitment of the WA Government and form part of the National Representative System of Marine Reserves. In 1994, the Marine Parks and Reserves Selection Working Group recommended that a marine conservation reserve be established in the south-west Capes area and identified it as a priority in the establishment of a network of representative marine conservation reserves for the State.

The *Indicative Management Plan for the Proposed Geographe Bay/Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet ('Capes') Marine Park* has been developed in consultation with local communities and other interested parties to provide a framework to conserve the Capes natural, social and cultural values for current and future generations.

The proposed Capes Marine Park covers an area of approximately 124,600 hectares from the Busselton/Capel Shire boundary in Geographe Bay in the north, around the Capes and into Flinders Bay just east of Bessies' Reef. It also includes the estuarine part of Hardy Inlet, extending upstream to Molloy Island. It extends seaward to the three nautical mile State territorial waters limit. The proposed marine park would make a significant contribution to the protection of the State's marine biodiversity and would strongly complement management arrangements in place for the adjoining Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park.

This brochure summarises the key information in the indicative management plan, including the proposed zoning scheme and the activities permitted in the various zones. There is a three-month public comment period and your views on the indicative management plan are now sought. The enclosed questionnaire is provided to assist you with your feedback on key aspects of the indicative management plan.

## Celebrating the waters of the Capes: from sheltered bays to stormy shores

At the place where the Indian and Southern oceans meet lies the proposed Geographe Bay/Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet (Capes) Marine Park. Subject to the influence of the warm southward flowing Leeuwin Current and colder Capes Current which converge in the region, the flora and fauna of the proposed Capes Marine Park is not only highly diverse, but also is an unusual mixture of warm and cool water species. In addition, the region is home to species of seagrasses, macroalgae, invertebrates and fish that are only found in this region, and so represents an important part of the State's biodiversity.

Found side-by-side with the high diversity of the area are a host of better known animals. Migration paths of humpback, southern right and blue whales occur within the proposed Capes Marine Park with Flinders Bay being used as a calving and nursery ground by southern right whales. Australian sea lions and New Zealand fur seals are common throughout the region. The area is also well known for salmon, herring, and tailor fishing as well as the commercially important western rock lobster and abalone fisheries.

In addition to the diverse and unusual mixture of plants and animals found in the region the habitats of the proposed Capes Marine Park are diverse, encompassing sheltered and open bays, rocky exposed coasts with limestone and granite reefs and estuaries. Rarely are so many different marine habitats found in such a small area. These ecological values make the proposed Capes Marine Park a key component of the network of marine conservation reserves in Western Australia.

The Capes marine environment is of great cultural significance to Western Australians. Aboriginal presence in the area dates back 40,000 years and the continuing importance of the ocean to Aboriginal people is evident in their Dreaming which features the whale, *mammang borungar*, and in their continuing use of the area. The place names in the region, *Geographe*, *Leeuwin*, *Naturaliste*, *Freycinet* and *Hamelin*, are testimony to the rich maritime heritage of the area and a tribute to the early European explorers.

These natural and cultural features combine to provide stunning marine experiences within a three-hour drive of Perth and the area is also readily accessible by residents of the towns of WA's south-west.





## Capes – lifestyle and the environment

The proposed Capes Marine Park supports a diverse range of recreational and commercial activities. The area attracts people for many reasons, including its 'lifestyle' values, underpinned by incredible coastal seascapes and the adjoining forests, vineyards and other landscapes. The secret of the Capes area is already out. It is one of WA's premier tourist destinations and the area is one of the fastest growing in Australia with a population growing at three times the national average.

Many of these lifestyle values for which the Capes area is renowned are marine-focused and include pursuits such as surfing, swimming, diving, boating, and fishing. Marine wilderness and wildlife experiences are also highly valued from appreciating the spectacular and remote seascapes to watching whales and dolphins frolic near the shore.

The tourism industry is a major commercial sector in the area. Marine nature-based tourism focuses on both wildlife interactions such as whale watching, water sports including diving tours on iconic sites and charter fishing. Surfing competitions and fishing tournaments are increasingly popular. Charter-based recreational

fishing is a growing sector in the region as are activities such as sea kayaking and whale watching. The Busselton Jetty attracts an estimated 200,000 visitors annually and the region's popularity is attested to by the two million annual visits to the neighbouring Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park, the most visited national park in WA.

Commercial fisheries in the area are significant and target abalone, baitfish, demersal reef fish, estuarine finfish, salmon, sharks, and western rock lobster. In addition to contributing to the region's economic development, commercial fishing is a key part of the social fabric of the region with strong linkages to the sea and fishing that is passed down within families.

While the region's marine environment is currently in good condition, careful management of the proposed Capes Marine Park is required to protect the ecological values of the proposed marine park while maintaining the social values and uses of the Capes, such as surfing, recreational and commercial fishing, beach-based activities, snorkelling and SCUBA diving and whale watching.



# What are marine conservation reserves?

*The Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act) specifies that State waters can be declared as one of three types of marine reserve to protect WA's marine environment. These three types are:

- **Marine Nature Reserve:** these reserves are created for conservation and scientific research. Although low impact tourism may be permitted, they are 'look, but don't take' areas which provide the highest level of protection. No recreational or commercial fishing, aquaculture, pearling, petroleum drilling or production is allowed in these areas.
- **Marine Park:** these reserves are created to provide for the conservation of the marine environment and any features of particular archaeological, historic or scientific interest. A 'multiple use' approach is used in which opportunities for recreational and commercial activities that do not compromise the primary conservation goal are permitted.
- **Marine Management Area:** these reserves are created for managing and protecting the marine environment so that it may be used for conservation, recreational, scientific and commercial purposes. Marine management areas are appropriate for areas that have significant conservation value and intensive human use such as mineral and petroleum exploration and production or commercial fishing.

The indicative management plan recommends that the Capes marine conservation reserve be declared a marine park. This category is considered to be the most appropriate to protect the area's unique ecological, educational and scientific values, while also providing for a range of sustainable recreational and commercial activities.

The proposed Capes Marine Park will be legally entrusted to the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority (MPRA), a seven member non-government committee with community-based membership, appointed by the Governor of WA to oversee the establishment and management of WA's marine reserve system. The final management plan will be developed taking into consideration public comment received on this indicative management plan. The final management plan is prepared on behalf of the MPRA by the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC), which has the lead responsibility for implementing the management plan. The DEC was formed on 1 July 2006, through the amalgamation of the former Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) and the Department of Environment.





# What is the indicative management plan?

The purpose of the indicative management plan is to provide a framework for the protection of the marine and estuarine environments and the inherent educational and scientific values, while maintaining the opportunity for commercial and recreational uses to continue in a sustainable manner.

A vision statement which represents the local and broader community's future aspirations for the conservation, use and management of the proposed marine park has also been developed. This vision statement will provide a broad direction for future management.

The indicative management plan specifies:

- an overall vision and boundaries for the proposed marine park, which reflects community aspirations for the area and provides broad direction for future management;
- a proposed zoning scheme and the activities permitted in each zone;
- the identified ecological and social values of the area which include specific strategies, management targets and overall objectives for each value; and
- proposed generic strategies including education and interpretation, public participation, patrol and enforcement, management intervention and visitor infrastructure, research and monitoring.

The indicative management plan is an outcome-based plan which means that DEC and the MPRA will assess the effectiveness of the management plan against the specific targets for ecological and social values listed in the plan. The ecological and social values identified in the indicative management plan are:

## Ecological values

- Geomorphology
- Water quality
- Invertebrates (excluding corals)
- Finfish
- Marine mammals
- Seabirds and shorebirds
- Shallow reef/macroalgal communities
- Deep reef communities
- Estuarine communities
- Coral communities
- Seagrass communities
- Rocky shore/intertidal reef platform communities

## *Draft vision for the Capes Marine Park*

**To preserve for present and future generations the unique nature of our marine environment, supporting sustainable human endeavour and recognising cultural and spiritual values.**



DEC welcomes comments on all aspects of the indicative management plan, including boundary and type of marine reserve, the vision, the generic strategies, management of the ecological and social values and the zoning scheme.

Comments on the indicative management plan will be considered in the preparation of the final management plan for the area.

## Social values

- Aboriginal heritage
- Maritime history
- Marine nature-based tourism
- Commercial fishing
- Recreational fishing
- Mining
- Water sport
- Coastal use
- Seascapes
- Scientific research
- Education



## How was the indicative management plan developed?

In 1994, the Marine Parks and Reserves Selection Working Group identified the areas around Geographe Bay, Cape Naturaliste, Cape Leeuwin and the Hardy Inlet as a priority for inclusion in WA's system of marine conservation reserves. Following the Government's commitment to the park's establishment, the former Department of CALM embarked on a number of initiatives to support planning for the proposed marine park including information gathering, preliminary consultation and an analysis of relevant issues for the area. CALM then prepared a Resource Assessment which compiled all known information about the proposed Capes Marine Park.

The proposal for a marine conservation reserve at the Capes was initiated with the appointment by the then Minister for the Environment of a community-based advisory committee in August 2003. Committee members were selected for their local knowledge of the area and their understanding of recreational and commercial fishing, tourism, Aboriginal heritage, conservation and science.

Seven advisory committee meetings were held in the Capes area between September 2003 and August 2004, with sector reference groups (groups of local community members with a common interest such as fishing or SCUBA diving) being

encouraged to provide input and feedback on the draft proposals. The committee received more than 250 direct submissions in this way which they considered in developing their recommendations. There were also a number of community meetings the feedback from which was provided to the advisory committee for its consideration.

Guided by a framework paper released by the MPRA the Capes Advisory Committee provided advice to the MPRA on the type of reserve, the boundaries and appropriate management objectives, targets and strategies, including the type and location of zones. This advice was summarised into a draft indicative management plan that was considered by the MPRA which subsequently provided advice to the Minister for the Environment. Following government consideration and approvals the indicative management plan has now been released for a three-month public comment period.





# The zoning scheme

Zoning is an important part of the management framework in multiple-use parks and is used to protect marine biodiversity and to manage human uses in an equitable and sustainable way. There are four different kinds of zones proposed for the Capes Marine Park.

**1. Sanctuary zones** – ‘look but don’t take’ areas which provide a high level of protection to plants, animals and habitats while allowing passive recreation and tourism activities, nature appreciation, scientific study and education.

Seventeen sanctuary zones are proposed in the marine park. The total area of sanctuary zones is approximately 11 per cent of the proposed marine park. The sanctuary zones protect the sheltered seagrasses of Geographe Bay and storm-ravaged seagrasses of Flinders Bay, the granite and limestone reefs between Cape Naturaliste and Cape Leeuwin and the unique communities of organisms found at each Cape, offshore islands, and estuarine habitats.

**2. Recreation zones** – these zones provide for conservation and recreation, including recreational fishing where this is compatible with conservation values. Commercial fishing, pearling and aquaculture are not permitted in these zones.

Two recreation zones are proposed at Cowaramup and Hamelin Bay, with a total area of 161 ha or 0.1 per cent of the proposed marine park. Recreation zones in these areas will assist in managing potential user conflicts in areas of high use.

**3. Special purpose zones** – these zones are managed for a particular priority use or commercial activity (e.g. wildlife conservation or pearling). Activities incompatible with the specified priority purpose are not permitted in these zones. There are 12 special purpose zones proposed for the marine park focusing on surfing and shore-based activities as detailed below.

## Surfing

Ten special purpose ‘surfing’ zones are proposed at Windmills, Three Bears, Yallingup, Moses Rocks, Goannas, Moses Beach, Gallows/Guillotine, Ellensbrook, Margaret River and Redgate, which encompass an area of approximately 1107 ha or one per cent of the proposed marine park. These zones have been proposed in light of safety concerns raised by the local and wider surfing community in terms of potential hazards with commercial and recreational cray pots set on surf breaks. The boundaries of these zones coincide with existing Department of Fisheries commercial and recreational rock lobster fishing closures that have been enacted under the Fish Resources Management Act 1994.

## Shore-based activities

Two special purpose ‘shore-based activities’ zones are proposed at Cosy Corner and Eagle Bay, with a total area of 31 ha or less than 0.1 per cent of the marine park. The proposed zone at Cosy Corner recognises the high social value and long tradition of line fishing from the headland, while the proposed zone at Eagle Bay separates commercial and recreational fishing in this area and provides a buffer to the adjacent sanctuary zone.

**4. General use zone** – this zone comprises those areas not included in sanctuary zones, special purpose zones or recreation zones. Conservation of natural values is the priority of general use zones but a range of other sustainable activities are permitted provided they do not compromise ecological values of a reserve. General use zones comprise approximately 88 per cent of the proposed marine park.



**The proposed types and locations of zones and activities permitted in them are described in the maps and tables in the indicative management plan and in this brochure.**

The implementation of the proposed zoning scheme is one of many management tools proposed in the indicative management plan to provide a framework for the long-term protection and sustainable use of the area. Other strategies in the indicative management plan include provision of administration and management frameworks, education and interpretation, public participation, provision of visitor infrastructure, patrol and enforcement, research and monitoring.



# How can I use and enjoy the area?

Most existing activities will continue within the proposed marine park but there will be some restrictions to some activities in particular areas.

## *Recreational uses*

Recreational uses within the proposed marine park will be managed to maintain the marine diversity and ecological integrity of the area and to ensure visitor experiences are not diminished by human activities.

There are some excellent recreational boating and water sport opportunities in the park. Recreational boating, swimming, snorkelling and diving, windsurfing and kite surfing are all popular activities that are allowed in all areas of the proposed marine park. Restrictions on anchoring, vessel type and speed, may be introduced in parts of the marine park if these activities affect the ecological or social values of the area (e.g. impacts on marine wildlife or conflict with other users). In the absence of legal restrictions anchoring will be discouraged in sensitive benthic habitats and sanctuary zones through proactive education strategies.

## *Surfing*

The Capes area is world renowned for its surf breaks and management of the proposed marine park recognises the long history of ongoing use of the area for surfing.

Surfing can continue in all areas of the proposed marine park. In addition 10 special purpose 'surfing' zones in which surfing is the priority use are proposed. These zones exclude recreational and commercial rock lobster fishing. If during the life of the management plan, other uses conflict with surfing in these proposed zones, it is possible that the conflicting activity would be prohibited from the zone to reflect the special purpose of these zones.

## *Recreational fishing*

Recreational fishing around the Capes region is a popular activity for locals and visitors, from the shore, from boats and underwater. However, careful management is required to make sure the quality of recreational fishing is maintained. In recognition of the popularity of fishing in the proposed marine park, more than 89 per cent of the marine park's area and 81 per cent of the mainland shoreline remains available to recreational fishing. Additionally, sanctuary zone boundaries have, in many cases, been placed offshore so that near-shore line fishing can continue and the sanctuary zones have been located away from popular boat ramps where possible.

The management of recreational fishing will remain the responsibility of the Department of Fisheries and be subject to the bag and size limits, gear restrictions and licensing administered by that Department. Future management will include collaboration with the Department of Fisheries with the aim of ensuring that target species are not depleted.

## *Commercial fishing*

Commercial fishing in the Capes area is a significant contributor to the local and State economies. It is also of cultural significance with the tradition being handed down within families over a number of generations.

Commercial fishing can occur in about 88 per cent of the proposed marine park. In recognition of its importance, particularly with respect to inshore fisheries such as those for salmon, abalone, herring and baitfish, sanctuary zones have, in many cases, been placed offshore so that nearshore fishing can continue. Offshore sanctuary zones have also been located to minimise impacts on commercial fishing activities.

Commercial fishing remains subject to the existing licensing and management arrangements administered by the Department of Fisheries. A number of the commercial fisheries active in the proposed marine park are currently under management review by the Department of Fisheries and that Department may apply additional management measures in the future.

## *Tourism*

The Capes coast attracts visitors to participate in a wide range of activities from whale watching to diving, kayaking and charter-based fishing. Attractions such as the Busselton Jetty and the wreck of the HMAS Swan, also draw tourists to the area. The growing marine nature-based tourism industry contributes to the local economy as well as building understanding of and interest in the area's marine environment. Sanctuary zones provide a particularly important community asset that underpin nature-based tourism opportunities as they are areas that are relatively undisturbed by extractive activities. Non-extractive tourism activities can occur throughout the proposed marine park provided they do not compromise the ecological values. Charter-based fishing can occur in about 88 per cent of the proposed marine park.

## *Moorings*

The popularity of recreational boating in the proposed marine park and the use of boats by the commercial fishing sector means that there is a high demand for safe moorings. The indicative management plan proposes that the marine park becomes a mooring control area. As such, the area is subject to the State's moorings policy to ensure fair access and improved safety, as well as preventing environmental damage caused by uncontrolled anchoring and mooring.

The status as a mooring control area allows for the development of detailed mooring site plans for areas of high use. These plans, developed with stakeholder and community input, will provide guidance for boating, mooring and anchoring activities so as to ensure safety concerns and potential environmental impacts are managed. This will be particularly important at high use areas such as Hamelin Bay and Gnarabup as well as in sensitive habitat areas such as Geographe Bay.

## Coastal land-use

The proposed marine park will be created over State waters and the intertidal zone to high and low water mark (dependent on adjacent land tenure). However there are a range of activities on the land that will have an impact on the marine environment. These include land clearing for residential development or agricultural

activities, damming and water use that changes hydrological patterns and runoff and infrastructure development among others. While these activities occur outside the boundaries of the marine park management strategies will focus on developing joint efforts to ensure integrated management of the terrestrial and marine environments.

## Specific management issues on which we would like your feedback

Your comments on all aspects of the indicative management plan are welcomed. However, a number of issues were raised during the planning process that have the potential to affect the way you use areas of the proposed marine park. These issues are listed below.

### *Proposed Busselton Jetty Sanctuary Zone*

Because of the variety of uses on and around the Busselton jetty, your comments are being sought on two options for a sanctuary zone at the jetty.

**Option one:** a sanctuary zone which includes the existing Department of Fisheries fishing closure around the underwater observatory. Such a zone would allow boat-based fishing at the end of the jetty.

**Option two:** a sanctuary zone extending from the existing gate (50 metres shoreward of the underwater observatory) to 25 metres beyond the end of the jetty and 50 metres either side of the jetty. Such a zone would protect a large section of the jetty, including well developed invertebrate communities which are popular with divers but would prohibit recreational fishing from the jetty in this zone.

### *Proposed Cape Naturaliste Sanctuary Zone*

Two boundary options are put forward for a proposed sanctuary zone at Cape Naturaliste:

**Option one:** the sanctuary zone would consist of one area extending from east of Cape Naturaliste around the Cape and then southwards. The landward boundary of this zone would be the low water mark. This proposed zone boundary is simple and would be easy for users to determine. However, extending the boundary to the shore would restrict recreational and commercial fishing activities.

**Option two:** the proposed sanctuary zone would consist of two areas. The largest area extends from the east of Cape Naturaliste around the Cape and then southwards. The landward boundary would be placed 300 metres offshore. The smaller adjacent area extends into Geographe Bay. It is 300 metres wide and extends from the shore. This proposed zone boundary is more difficult for park users to identify and so know if they are inside or outside the sanctuary zone. It allows inshore recreational and commercial fishing activities to continue.

### *Kilcarnup/Gnarabup area*

The Kilcarnup/Gnarabup area was identified by the advisory committee as a special area with high conservation and aesthetic values but also with valued recreational and commercial uses. As such, a greater level of spatial management of recreational and commercial uses, as well as a higher level of protection for the marine environment in the area, may be warranted to provide an appropriate balance and management arrangements. This can be achieved in a variety of ways including zoning and specific site planning. Your comments are sought regarding appropriate zoning and management arrangements for this area that reflect the special characteristics and uses of the area.

### *Name of the proposed marine park*

Throughout the preceding stages of the planning process the proposed marine park was often referred to as the Capes Marine Park. In late 2004 the Advisory Committee advised the then Minister for the Environment of its desire for the inclusion of a Nyoongar word in the name of the park and suggested the word Wardan (meaning ocean spirit). The Marine Parks and Reserves Authority supported the inclusion of a Nyoongar word in the park name when it provided its statutory advice to the Minister for the Environment but reiterated that any Nyoongar word needed to have agreement from the appropriate Aboriginal people. Subsequently the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council advised DEC that its preferred name for the park would include the word Ngaari. Accordingly, specific comment is sought on the name by which the park is known when formally created. Comment need not be limited to the Aboriginal names mentioned above. The process of seeking approval for the name for the park will be pursued with appropriate organisations, individuals and government agencies in light of submissions that are received.



# Uses permitted in each zone of the proposed marine park

Activity	Sanctuary Zone	Special Purpose (Surfing) Zones	Recreation Zones	Special Purpose (Shore-based Activities) Zones	General Use
<b>Commercial</b>					
Nature-based tourism <sup>d</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Surfing Competitions <sup>d</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Charter vessels - fishing <sup>b,d</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	No	Yes
Charter vessels - other <sup>c,d</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Commercial abalone <sup>b,d</sup>					
- non shore-based	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	No	Yes
- shore based	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Commercial salmon fishing <sup>b,d</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	No	Yes
Commercial demersal gillnet/longline <sup>b,d</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	No	Yes
Commercial wetline <sup>b,d</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	No	Yes
Commercial net (Hardy Inlet) <sup>b,d</sup>	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
Commercial aquarium and specimen shell collecting <sup>b,d</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	No	Yes
Commercial coral collecting <sup>b,d</sup>	No	No	No	No	No
Commercial rock lobster <sup>b,d</sup>					
- non shore-based	No	No	No	No	Yes
- shore based	No	No	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Commercial beach seine <sup>b,d</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Commercial coral, 'live rock' and 'live sand' collecting <sup>b,d</sup>	No	No	No	No	No
Commercial trawling <sup>b,d</sup>	No	No	No	No	No
Aquaculture <sup>b,d</sup>	No	Assess	No	No	Assess
Mineral sands and petroleum exploration and development <sup>d,e</sup>	No	Assess	No	No	Assess
<b>Recreational</b>					
Boating (motorised and non-motorised) <sup>a,g</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Surfing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Surface water sports <sup>a,g</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Snorkeling and diving	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Swimming	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Wildlife interaction <sup>c</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Recreational abalone <sup>b,d</sup>					
- non shore-based	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	No	Yes
- shore based	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Recreational line fishing <sup>b</sup>					
- non shore-based	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	No	Yes
- shore based	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Recreational netting <sup>b,d</sup>					
- non shore-based	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	No	Yes
- shore based	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Recreational netting (Hardy Inlet) <sup>b,d</sup>	No	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes
Recreational crabbing <sup>b</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	No	Yes
Recreational shell collecting – alive <sup>b</sup>	No	No	No	No	No
Recreational shell collecting – dead <sup>b</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Recreational coral collecting <sup>b</sup>	No	No	No	No	No
Recreational rock lobster fishing <sup>b,d</sup>					
- non shore-based	No	No <sup>k</sup>	No	No	Yes
- shore based	No	No <sup>k</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Recreational bait collection <sup>b</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Spearfishing <sup>b</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	No	Yes
Taking of invertebrates on compressed air <sup>b</sup>	No	Yes <sup>f</sup>	No	No	Yes
<b>Other activities</b>					
Proposals for marine infrastructure (e.g. moorings) <sup>a,d</sup>	Assess	Assess	Assess	Assess	Assess
Dredging and dredge spoil dumping for shipping activities <sup>d,e</sup>	No	No	No	No	Assess
Research <sup>d</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes
Education	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes	Yes <sup>f</sup>	Yes

### Uses permitted in each zone of the proposed marine park – key for table on page 10

- a. Subject to the *Western Australian Marine Act 1982*
  - b. Subject to the *Fish Resource Management Act and/or Pearling Act 1990*.
  - c. Subject to the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* and *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*.
  - d. License required from Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) Environmental Protection Authority and/or Department of Fisheries (DoF) and/or Department of Industry and Resources.
  - e. Subject to the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.
  - f. Activities permitted unless the activity is shown to be incompatible with the specified primary purpose of the zone.
  - g. Boating and associated activities (e.g. anchoring) may be restricted in specific areas where there is a clear need for such restrictions.
  - k. To ensure consistency with Fisheries rock lobster closures in the proposed marine park, recreational rock lobster fishing is only permitted in the Margaret River Special Purpose (Surfing) Zone.
- Assess. Proposal will be assessed by relevant agencies in accordance with standard procedures.

## How to make a submission

The *Indicative Management Plan for the Proposed Geographe Bay/Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet Marine Park* has been released for a three-month public submission period, closing on 15 December 2006.

Copies of the indicative management plan can be inspected at the offices and libraries of the Shires of Capel, Busselton and Augusta Margaret River. Copies of the plan can be obtained from the following Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) offices.

- State Operations Headquarters, 17 Dick Perry Avenue, Technology Park, Western Precinct, Kensington WA 6151.
- Marine Policy and Planning Branch, 47 Henry Street, Fremantle WA 6160.
- South West Regional Office, South Western Highway, Bunbury WA 6230.
- Blackwood District Office, 14 Queen Street, Busselton WA 6280.
- Kirup Work Centre, South Western Highway, Kirup WA 6251.
- Nannup Shop Front, Unit 2, 36 Warren Rd, Nannup WA 6275

All submissions are welcome and every submission is important. To make a submission you can:

- complete the submission form in this brochure, fold it so that the return address panel is visible and mail it. No postage stamp is required. Please include additional sheets if there is insufficient space
- send your submission electronically, either by completing the submission form online ([www.naturebase.net/haveyoursay](http://www.naturebase.net/haveyoursay)), or by emailing [capemarine@dec.wa.gov.au](mailto:capemarine@dec.wa.gov.au)
- or write a letter setting out your comments and mail it to:  
Plan Coordinator  
Capes Marine Park Indicative Management Plan  
Department of Environment and Conservation  
First floor, 47 Henry St  
Fremantle WA 6160

## The closing date for submissions is Friday 15 December 2006

If you would like additional information or assistance to complete your submission, please contact the Plan Coordinator at DEC's Marine Policy and Planning Branch on (08) 9336 0100 or DEC's Busselton office on (08) 9752 5555.

## What happens next?

Your submission is important.

At the end of the public submission period, all submissions received will be reviewed and where appropriate the MPRA may make recommendations to the Minister for the Environment to amend the indicative management plan based on feedback from the community.

The Minister for the Environment will consider the MPRA's advice and then seek concurrence from the Minister for Fisheries and the Minister for Resources and Assisting the Minister for State Development to create the marine park and release the final management plan. A summary of public submissions will be available when the final plan is released.

All photos except for the photo of the fish on the front cover by Sue Morrison are courtesy of Tourism WA.





# Indicative Management Plan for the Proposed Geographe Bay/ Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet ('Capes') Marine Park



Department of  
Environment and Conservation

MPRA

## Have your say

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) and the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority (MPRA) has prepared, in consultation with an Advisory Committee and interested stakeholders, an indicative management plan for the Capes Marine Park. This management plan specifies how the park will be managed in the future. Your suggestions and comments are important to us and we encourage you to make a submission to DEC regarding your thoughts.

Fold here

## How to make a submission

To submit your comments on the draft management plan, please complete the form, fold it as shown and post to DEC. You will not need a stamp. Alternatively you can submit your comments electronically at [www.dec.wa.gov.au](http://www.dec.wa.gov.au) or you can email your comments to [capes.marine@dec.wa.gov.au](mailto:capes.marine@dec.wa.gov.au)

To complete the submission form you will need a copy of the 'Have Your Say' brochure, which includes the zoning maps. If you would like to make more detailed comments on the individual strategies to protect the ecological and social values of the park, you will need a copy of the Indicative Management Plan for the Proposed Geographe Bay/Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet Marine Park. Copies of the management plan and the Have Your Say brochure are available at local DEC offices or on the DEC website, [www.naturebase.net/haveyoursay](http://www.naturebase.net/haveyoursay)

Thank you for giving us your time and information. Please follow the folding instructions on this page, staple and post free of charge.

Office use only

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**Submissions must be received by 15 December 2006**

Fold here

No stamp required  
if posted in Australia



**Capes Marine Park – Have Your Say**

**Marine Policy and Planning Branch**

**Department of Environment and Conservation**

**Reply Paid 62341**

**Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983**

Fasten here

## 1. Contact details:

Please PRINT. Required fields are marked with an asterisk\*. Anonymous submissions will not be considered.

Name:    Other:   \*

Postal Address:  \*

Post code:  \*

Telephone:  Email:

Is this submission the official submission of an organisation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Organisation name:

Position (if applicable):  Number of people represented by submission:

Personal information collected by the DEC is protected by the provisions of the *Privacy Act 1988* and will only be used to assist the DEC in the management of the marine park.

## 2. Your primary interests

What are your main interests/activities in the proposed marine park?

Please number your three most important activities 1-3: 1 = most important

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming/snorkelling  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mining/exploration/production | <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous use                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scuba diving  | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial fishing            | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation                                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational boating/sailing  | Type: <input type="text"/>                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Research                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational fishing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial shipping/ports     | <input type="checkbox"/> Surfing  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water skiing/parasailing;<br>high- speed freestyle motorised<br>water sport | <input type="checkbox"/> Tourism industry              | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify)<br><input type="text"/> |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sightseeing/tourist           | <input type="text"/>  |

## 3. Vision statement

The vision statement for the proposed Capes Marine Park has been developed to reflect the local and broader community's future aspirations for the conservation and use of the marine park, and will provide a broad direction for future management. The draft vision for the proposed Capes Marine Park is:

**To preserve for present and future generations the unique nature of  
our marine environment, supporting sustainable human endeavour and  
recognising cultural and spiritual values.**

Do you support this vision for the proposed marine park?

☐ Yes ☐ No

How would you improve or change the vision statement?

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#### 4. Reserve type

As outlined in this Have Your Say brochure (page 4), the CALM Act 1984 allows an area to be declared one of three different types of conservation reserve. The indicative management plan recommends that the Geographe Bay/Leeuwin-Naturaliste/Hardy Inlet area be declared a marine park.

Do you think that a marine park is the most appropriate type of marine conservation reserve for this area?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If your answer is no, what change would you suggest?

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#### 5. Reserve boundary

Please have a look at the map in this Have Your Say brochure.

Do you have any other changes or suggestions regarding the landward and seaward boundary of the proposed Capes Marine Park?

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#### 6. Do you have any comments regarding specific management arrangements that you think would be appropriate to conserve the marine environment and manage human activities in the vicinity of Kilcarnup/Gnarabup? (refer to page 9 of this Have Your Say brochure)

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#### 7. Other than comments on specific zones (overleaf) do you have any further comments relating to the zoning scheme for the marine park? (refer to the maps provided)

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**8.**

The purpose of the indicative management plan is to provide a framework for the conservation of the marine park's environment and its inherent educational and scientific values while providing opportunities for uses such as recreation, nature appreciation, tourism and fishing to occur in a sustainable manner.

Overall, what sort of balance between use and conservation do you think the indicative management plan achieves?

- ☐ Significantly more emphasis on conservation required
- ☐ More emphasis on conservation required
- ☐ Good balance
- ☐ More emphasis on use and access required
- ☐ Significantly more emphasis on use and access required

**9.**

Please use this space for any other comments you would like to make on the indicative management plan.

[illegible]

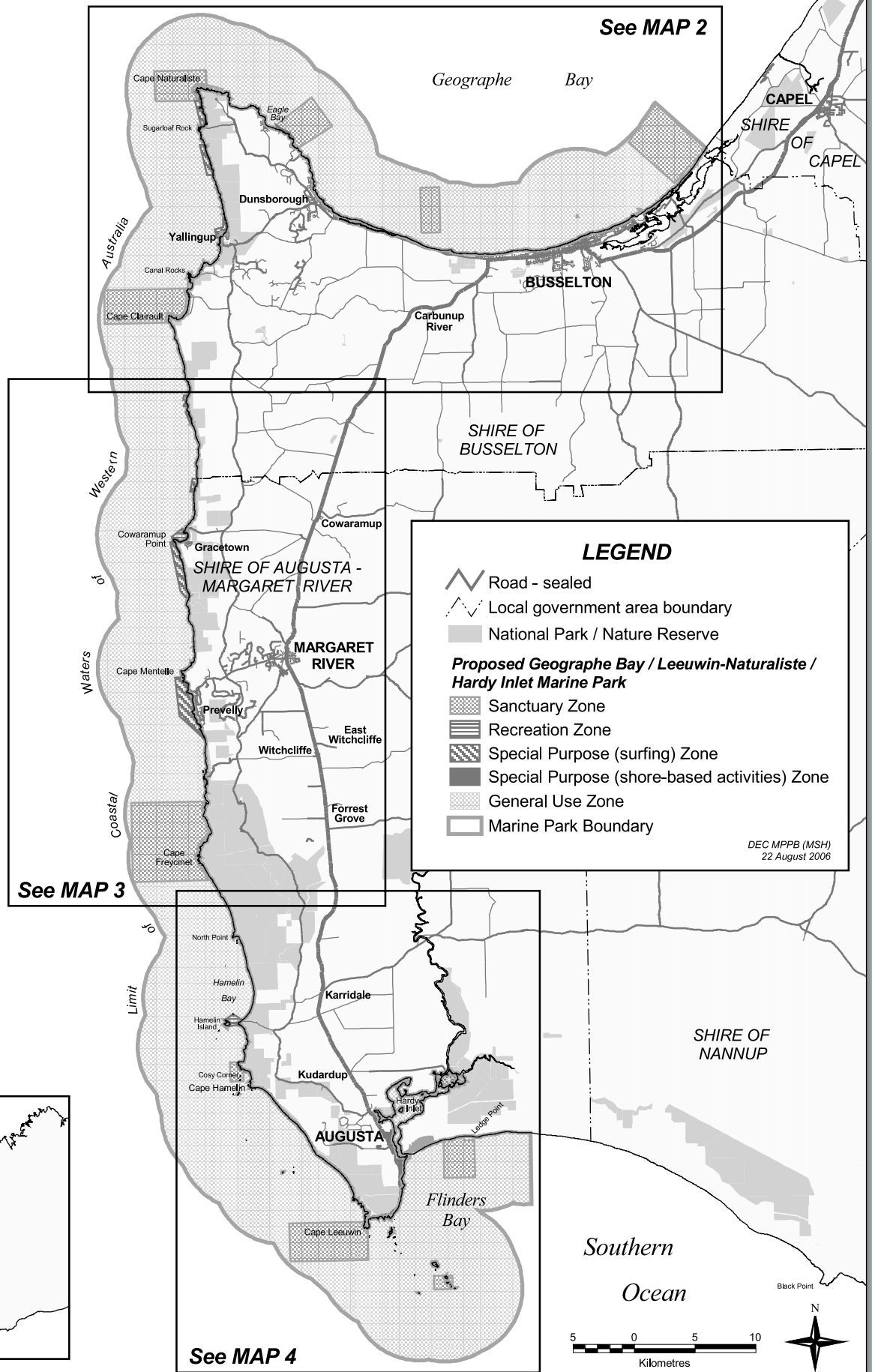


An overview of the zoning scheme and its development is included in this ‘Have Your Say’ brochure. While the zoning scheme was derived through Advisory Committee discussions with input from stakeholders (who included representative bodies, interest groups and community groups) and subsequent consideration by the MPRA and Government, there may still be areas where you could recommend changes to the scheme. Have a look at the map and please tell us what changes you would like to see made to areas and why you believe such changes are necessary, being specific in your answers.

Proposed zone name	Level of support	What changes you would like to see made to the zone?	Why you would like these changes made?
Eastern Geographe Bay sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Busselton Jetty sanctuary zone Option One	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Busselton Jetty sanctuary zone Option Two	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Central Geographe Bay sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Eagle Bay sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Cape Naturaliste sanctuary zone Option One	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Cape Naturaliste sanctuary zone Option Two	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Yallingup sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Wyadup sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Injidup sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Cape Freycinet sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Hamelin Island sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Cosy Corner sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Cape Leeuwin sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Flinders Island sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Eastern Flinders Bay sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		

Proposed zone name	Level of support	What changes you would like to see made to the zone?	Why you would like these changes made?
The Deadwater sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Swan Lake sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
North Bay sanctuary zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Windmills special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Three Bears special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Yallingup special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Moses Rock special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Goannas special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Moses Beach special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Gallows/Guillotine special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Lefthanders special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Margaret River special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Redgate special purpose (surfing) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Eagle Bay special purpose (shore-based activities) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Cosy Corner special purpose (shore-based activities) zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Cowaramup recreation zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		
Hamelin Bay recreation zone	<input type="checkbox"/> Support <input type="checkbox"/> Don't support <input type="checkbox"/> No opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Would support if some changes were made		

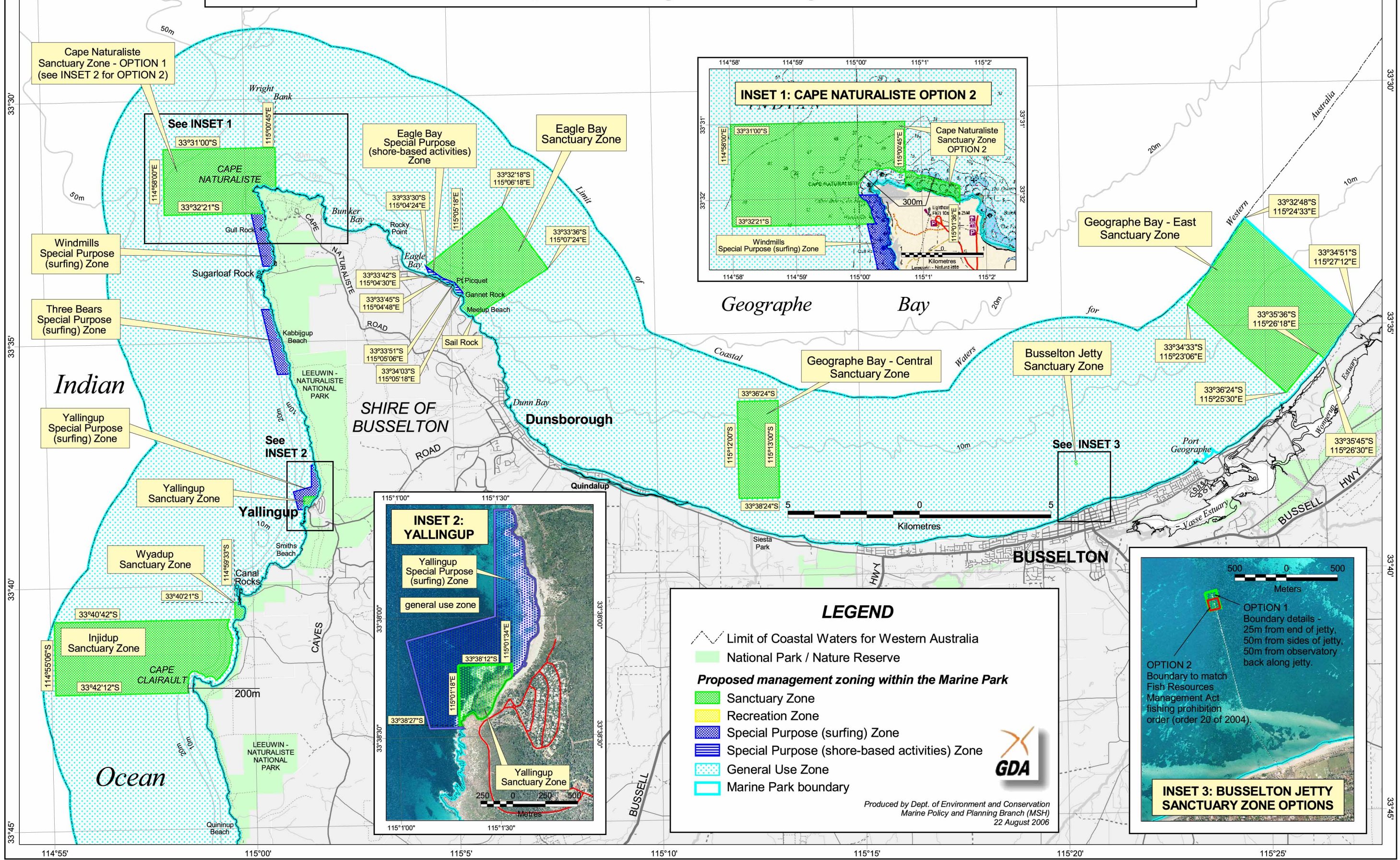
# PROPOSED GEOGRAPHE BAY / LEEUWIN-NATURALISTE / HARDY INLET MARINE PARK - MAP 1





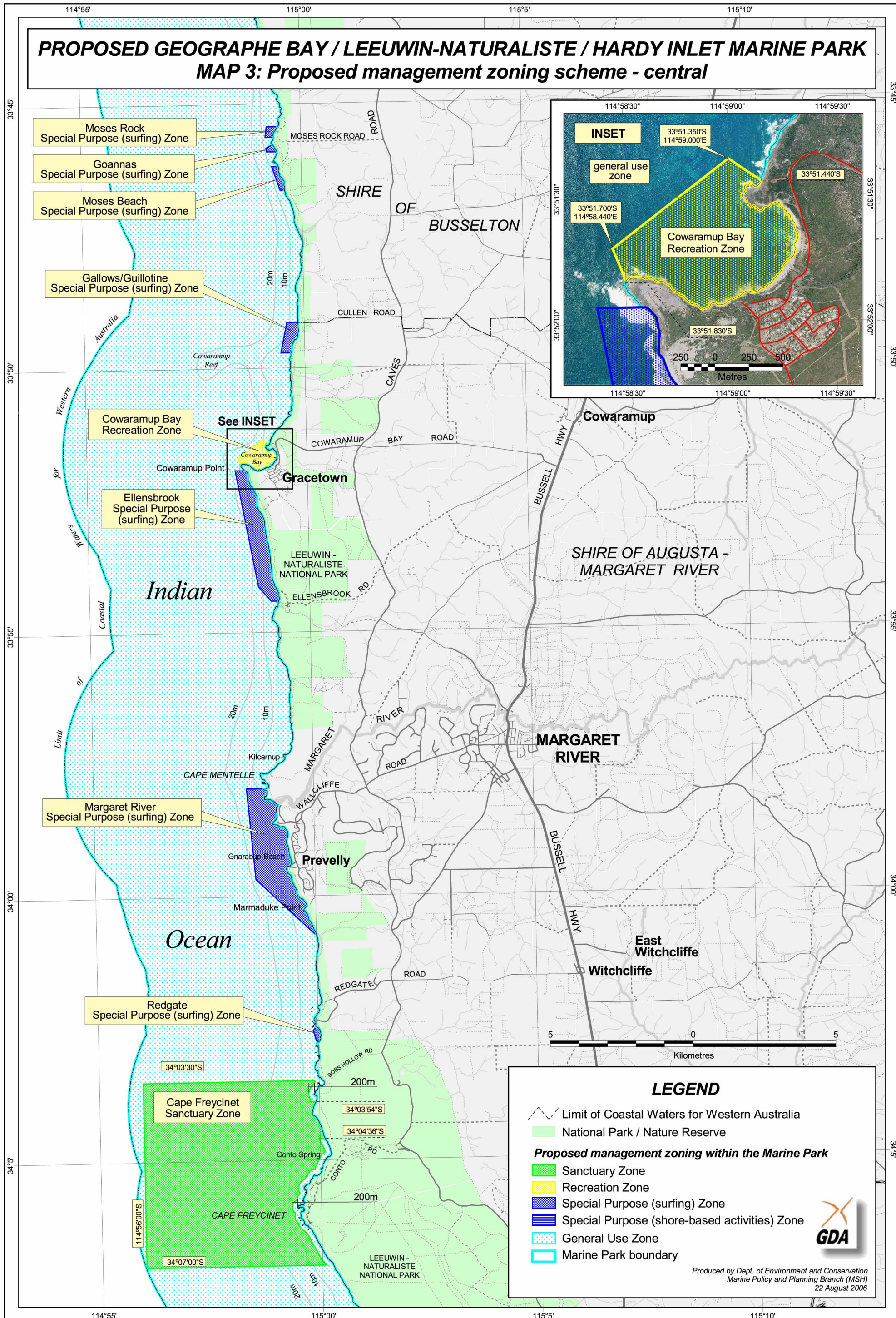
# PROPOSED GEOGRAPHE BAY / LEEUWIN-NATURALISTE / HARDY INLET MARINE PARK

## MAP 2: Proposed management zoning scheme - north





# **PROPOSED GEOGRAPHE BAY / LEEUWIN-NATURALISTE / HARDY INLET MARINE PARK** **MAP 3: Proposed management zoning scheme - central**





**PROPOSED GEOGRAPHE BAY / LEEUWIN-NATURALISTE / HARDY INLET MARINE PARK**  
**MAP 4: Proposed management zoning scheme - south**







The map illustrates the proposed management zoning for the southern part of the Geopraphe Bay / Leeuwin-Naturaliste / Hardy Inlet Marine Park. Key features include the Shire of Augusta-Margaret River, Augusta, and surrounding areas like Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park and Scott River National Park. The map is divided into several management zones: Sanctuary Zones (green), Recreation Zones (yellow), Special Purpose Zones (blue), and General Use Zones (light blue). Three insets provide detailed views of specific areas: Inset 1 shows Hamelin Bay and Hamelin Island; Inset 2 shows the Cosy Corner area; and Inset 3 shows Swan Lake and The Deadwater areas. A legend explains the symbols used for the zones and the marine park boundary. The map was produced by the Department of Environment and Conservation, Marine Policy and Planning Branch (MSH) on 25 August 2006.

**LEGEND**

- Limit of Coastal Waters for Western Australia
- National Park / Nature Reserve
- Proposed management zoning within the Marine Park**
  - Sanctuary Zone
  - Recreation Zone
  - Special Purpose (surfing) Zone
  - Special Purpose (shore-based activities) Zone
  - General Use Zone
  - Marine Park boundary

Produced by Dept. of Environment and Conservation  
 Marine Policy and Planning Branch (MSH)  
 25 August 2006

 Limit of Coastal Waters for Western Australia  
 National Park / Nature Reserve

-  Sanctuary Zone
-  Recreation Zone
-  Special Purpose (surfing) Zone
-  Special Purpose (shore-based activities) Zone
-  General Use Zone
-  Marine Park boundary



Produced by Dept. of Environment and Conservation  
Marine Policy and Planning Branch (MSH)  
25 August 2006