

Interaction protocol

Recreational vessels and whale sharks

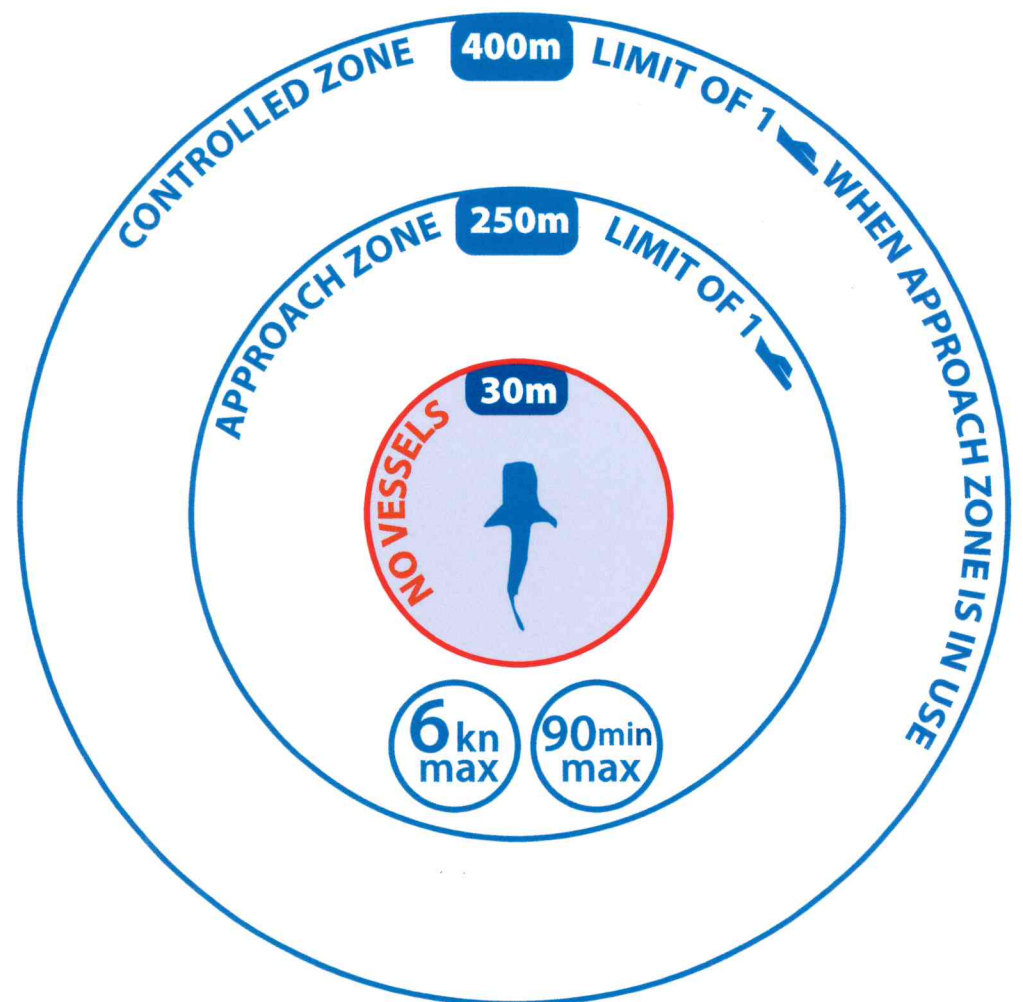
To ensure that you have a safe and enjoyable experience when interacting with whale sharks and to prevent the animals from being harmed or disturbed, the following interaction protocol applies.

Whale shark vessel zones

All vessels must:

- maintain a minimum distance of 30m from the whale shark at all times
- restrict vessel speed to 6 knots when within 250m of a whale shark
- only one vessel at a time may operate within 250m of a whale shark and for a maximum of 90 minutes
- the first vessel within that zone is deemed to be 'in contact'
- the second vessel to arrive must keep a distance of 250m from the shark, and any other vessels must be 400m from the shark

TAKE CARE AND KEEP CLEAR if you see these flags displayed as tour guests may be swimming with a whale shark.



The *Biodiversity Conservation Regulations (2018)* set out the rules that have been developed for the protection of whale sharks.

For further information contact Department Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions office on 9947 8000 or email whale.shark@dbca.wa.gov.au



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

