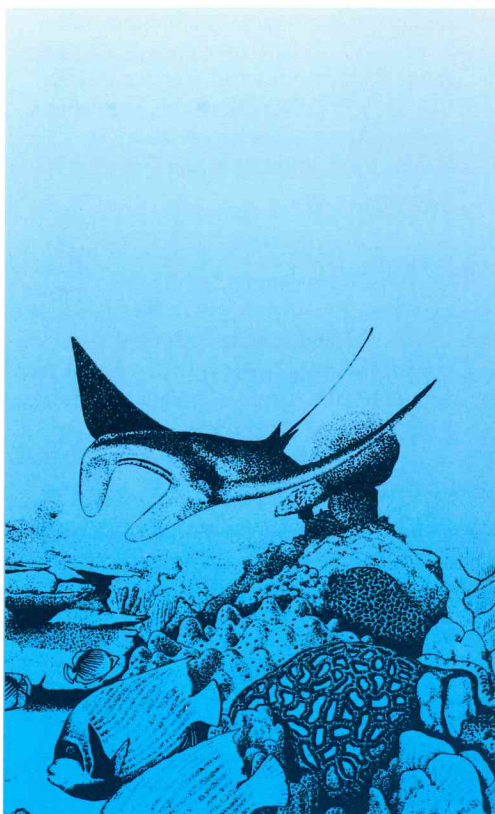


MARINE LIFE

Ningaloo Marine Park is adjacent to Coral Bay, and is home to a diverse array of marine life, including fish, corals, shells, turtles, sharks, dugong and manta rays, with seasonal appearances of whales and whale sharks. While snorkelling or diving, avoid touching sting rays, lion fish, or fire coral, which are capable of inflicting a painful injury. Boat tours that explore the waters of the park are available. You are not permitted to swim with endangered animals such as dugong and humpback whales, but whale-watching tours are available.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained from:

District Manager
CALM
PO Box 201
Exmouth 6707
Telephone (08) 9949 1676

Regional Manager
CALM
PO Box 835
Karratha 6714
Telephone (08) 9143 1488

Executive Director
CALM
Locked Bag 104
Bentley Delivery Centre
WA 6983
Telephone (08) 9334 0333

Fisheries WA
Payne Street
Exmouth
Telephone (08) 9949 2755

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Nurse	(08) 9942 5828
Police (Exmouth)	(08) 9949 2444
Hospital (Exmouth)	(08) 9949 1011
CALM (A/Hrs)	(08) 9949 2604

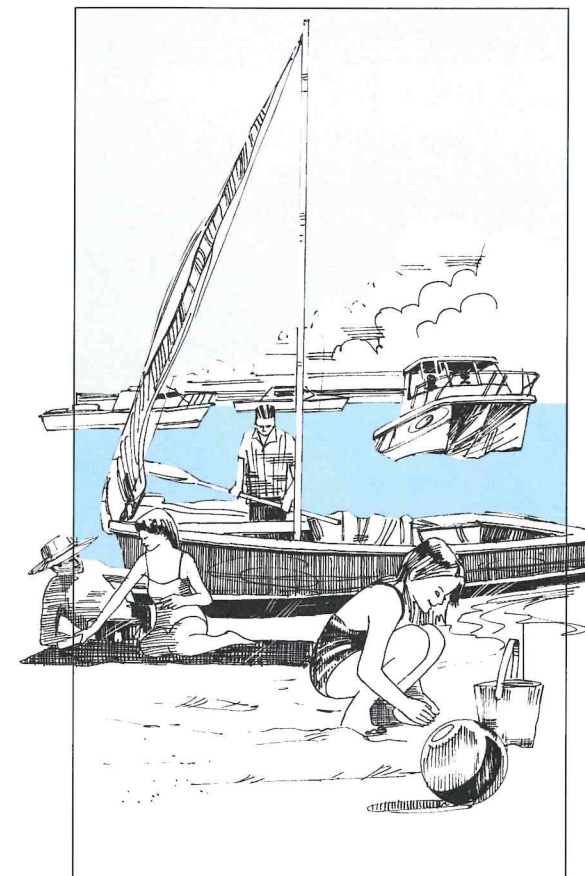


Department of Conservation
and Land Management

4383-1198-4M

CORAL BAY

Ningaloo Marine Park



VISITOR AND BOATING GUIDE



Department of Conservation
and Land Management

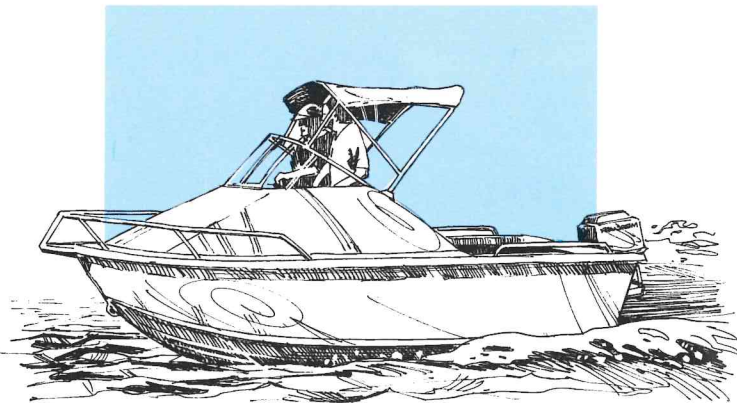
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VISITOR SERVICES and FACILITIES

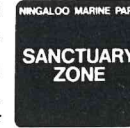
Coral Bay settlement offers accommodation, shops, public phone and fuel—all within walking distance of the beach and Ningaloo Marine Park. Further information can be obtained from the Coral Bay Tourist Office (08) 9942 5988. Volunteer services include Sea Rescue, State Emergency Services and Bush Fire Brigade. A nurse is on duty at the Coral Bay Arcade between 8.30 a.m. and 5.00 p.m, Monday to Friday from March to mid-January each year.

A CALM ranger is present throughout the peak tourism season (usually April to October), and further information about the marine park can be obtained from CALM's Exmouth office.

Boat access is via the beach at the end of Robinson Street. Because of the popularity of Ningaloo Marine Park, a large number of tourists go boating every season, leading to congestion at the beach. Your cooperation is vital to ensure that boats are launched safely, and no accidents occur. To ensure your safety, obey all speed signs, and follow the boating channel, which heads south towards Monck Head. (See map.)



Maud Sanctuary Zone encompasses all of Bill's Bay and is clearly marked on the water with sanctuary zone marker buoys. Shore signs show the boundary of the sanctuary zone joining the beach.



Boating is a great way to see and enjoy Ningaloo Marine Park, and to explore the Maud Sanctuary Zone. The marine life of Bill's Bay and surrounding marine park includes turtles, humpback whales, whale sharks, dugong manta rays, colourful fish and corals, and they all need your cooperation to ensure their protection. You should:

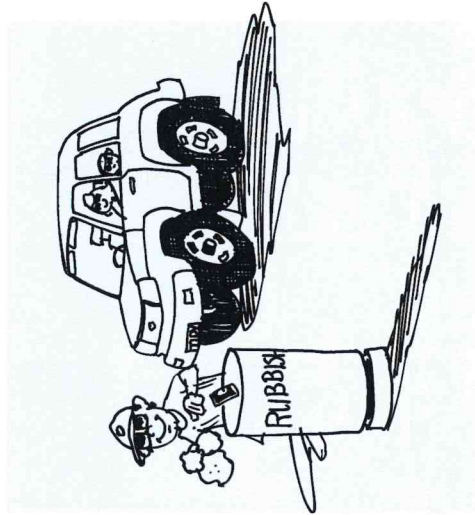
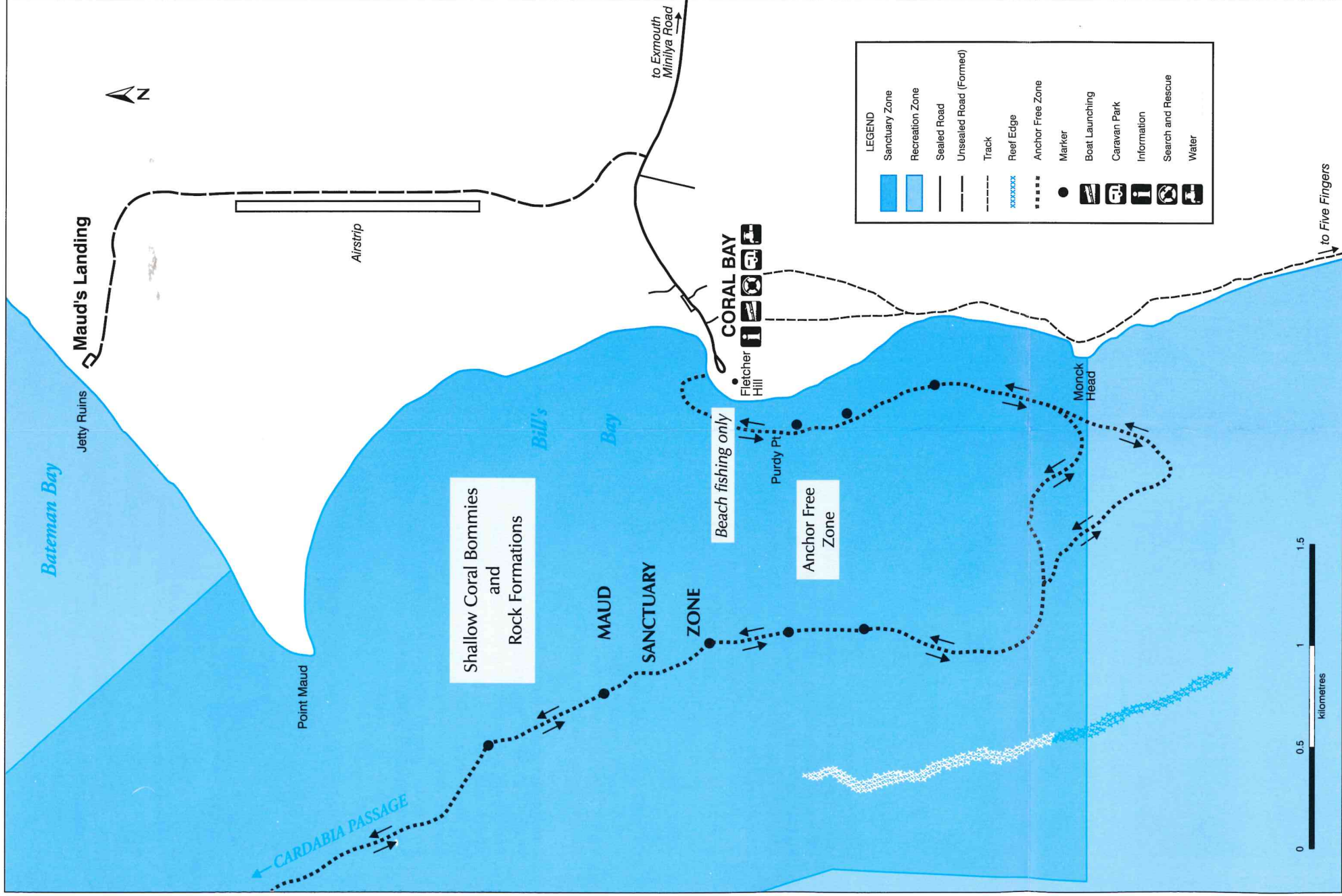


- ❖ slow down when approaching coral areas
- ❖ tilt your motor in shallow areas
- ❖ anchor on sand, not coral
- ❖ approach marine animals such as turtles and dolphins carefully
- ❖ do not attempt to approach dugong, as these endangered animals need special protection to ensure their survival
- ❖ look out for snorkellers and swimmers

Tide charts are available from some local shops. Anchor your vessel with care to avoid damaging coral formations and fish habitat areas. Choose sandy areas with sparse coral cover, avoid anchoring on coral, and once anchored, check to see that the anchor is not dragging. Sanctuary zone marker buoys are not to be used as moorings. Please observe the anchor-free zone in Bill's Bay.

Snorkelling the shallow waters of Bill's Bay will reveal a variety of fish and corals, but care needs to be taken with boat traffic that also uses the bay. Good snorkelling is also available south of Coral Bay along Paradise Beach, and equipment can be hired from local operators. While snorkelling, check from time to time to see where you are in relation to the beach, and wear a T-shirt or lycra suit for protection from the sun, and to make you more visible in the water. Avoid standing on, or touching, the coral and remember that Bill's Bay is a sanctuary zone.





A four-wheel-drive vehicle is required to access tracks leading to the north and south of Coral Bay. A four-wheel-drive fishing track sign is located nine kilometres along the Coral Bay Road, and will take you to local spots like the Lagoon and Point Cloates. This road continues north past Ningaloo Station to Cape Range National Park and Yardie Creek. Yardie Creek crossing is not suitable for caravans or trailers. You are advised to check road conditions before starting your journey. If you want to drive north of Coral Bay along this track, take the following precautions:

- ❖ take adequate fresh water
- ❖ carry a spare tyre and tools
- ❖ carry adequate fuel

Reducing tyre pressure before travelling along four-wheel-drive tracks can help.

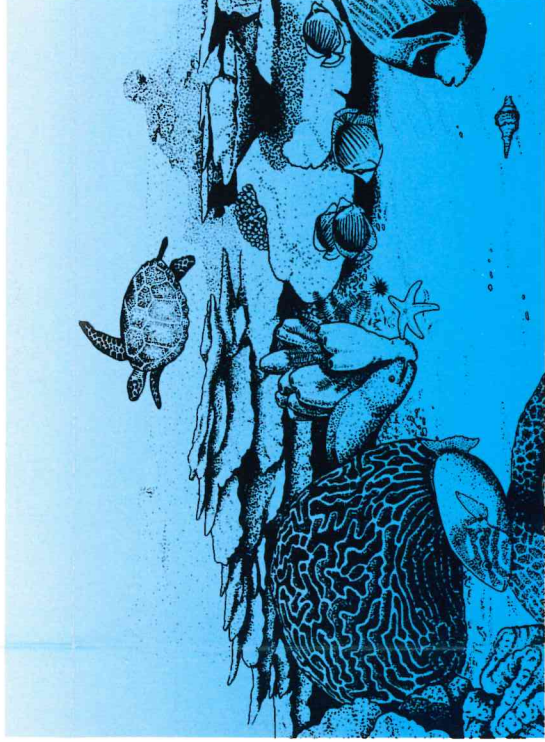
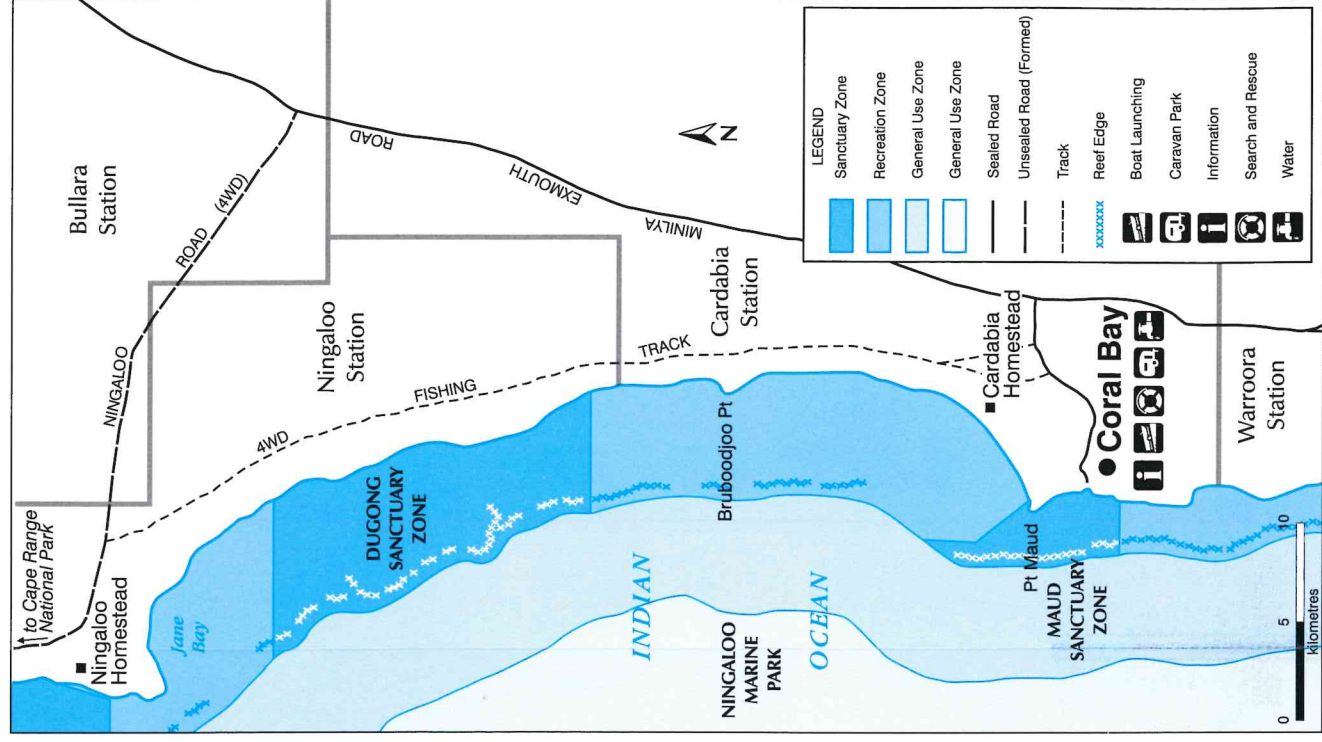
Driving on the beach adjacent to the sanctuary zone is not permitted (except to the boat launching area), as it disturbs turtle nesting and seabirds.

Camping on the beach or in Ningaloo Marine Park is not permitted. The Marine Park boundary extends to 40 metres above the high water mark (HWM) in most areas. You must camp in a designated campground, and seek permission from the station owners, if you wish to camp on pastoral leases. Serviced campsites are available in Cape Range National Park. Entry and camping fees apply and can be paid to a park ranger, campground host, and at the Milyering Visitor Centre.

MARINE PARK ZONING

Ningaloo Marine Park stretches along 260 km of coastline. The marine park was established by the State and Commonwealth Governments in 1987 in order to conserve the natural environment while facilitating public enjoyment of the area. To provide for a range of uses with minimal conflict, Ningaloo Marine Park has been divided into three zones:

- ❖ Sanctuary zones. These provide special



protection areas for marine ecosystems. Visitors to sanctuary zones can observe wildlife, but fishing is not permitted.

- ❖ Recreation zones. These provide for recreational uses that are consistent with conservation of plants and animals and their habitat. Fishing is permitted in accordance with special marine park fishing regulations. Information about these regulations is available from both CALM and Fisheries WA offices.

- ❖ General use zones. These provide for both recreational and commercial fishing.

The location of Maud Sanctuary Zone at Coral Bay is shown on the map below. A management plan for Commonwealth waters is available, and these waters are zoned for general use.

Collection of marine organisms is not permitted within Ningaloo Marine Park.