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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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marine/parks/north-west/argo-rowley-terrace this Australian Marine Park, visit parksaustralia.gov.au/ Argo-Rowley Terrace Marine Park. For more information about The Rowley Shoals are further protected by the surrounding scientific research projects and education activities. Shoals, including participating in joint surveillance operations,

These three agencies work together to manage the Rowley Commonwealth waters and is managed by Parks Australia. and Regional Development. Mermaid Reef Marine Park is in and Attractions and the Department of Primary Industries are managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation atolls and islands are in Western Australian coastal waters and water mark called Bedwell and Cunningham islands. These Reefs, both of which have permanent islands above the high-Rowley Shoals Marine Park includes Clerke and Imperieuse and are managed by three government departments. The Two separate marine parks help protect the Rowley Shoals

Managing the Rowley Shoals

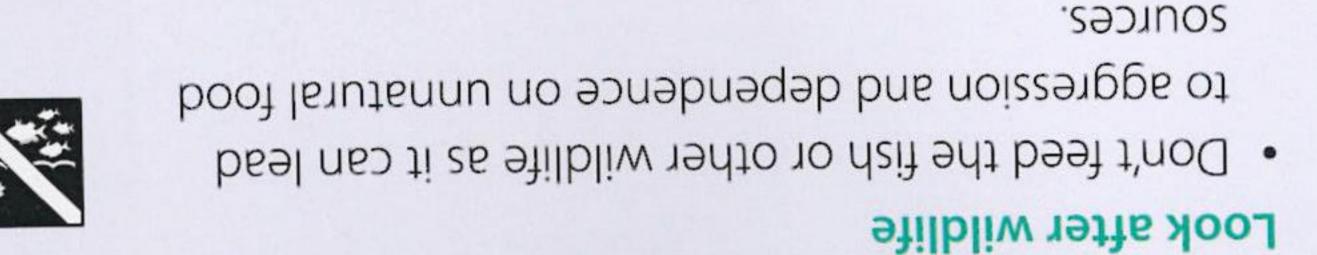


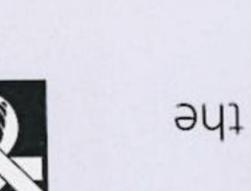
Thank you for protecting the Rowley Shoals. these rules when you are visiting the marine parks. Help others do the right thing - share your knowledge of

and aerial devices such as drones (60m). distances also apply for aircraft (300m), helicopters (500m) motor or moving away slowly (<6 knots). Separation distance as soon as possible, by disengaging the vessel's the side. If a whale approaches, you must re-establish this rear of a whale within a 60° arc, and 100m from

must not disturb wildlife. commercial purposes in Mermaid Reef Marine Park. Drones from Parks Australia if flying a drone for recreational or for commercial purposes. A licence is required to fly a drone in the Rowley Shoals Marine Park A licence is required from Parks and Wildlife Service

Keep your vessel at least 300m from the front or





islands or reefs. Don't collect shells or specimens from any of the

> Look but don't take health data, visit coralwatch.org

 Take part in Coral Watch and help collect valuable coral Protect the coral by not walking on exposed reef.

death of their young.

animals during these important times can lead to the • Stay at least 10m from nesting or resting birds - disturbing chicks, eggs and adults.

as they are prone to collapse, potentially harming or killing Don't build nesting shelters for the red-tailed tropic birds Protect nesting birds

fires are not permitted. your vessel onto the beach. Camping and the lighting of conditions. When accessing the islands please do not drag Islands during daylight hours and high tide

 Only access Bedwell and Cunningham No camping or lighting of fires

with State regulations.

or within 5.56km (3 MM) of the reef edge. These rules align rubbish of any kind (including food scraps) in the lagoons within 1.85km (1 MM) of the reef edge. Do not discard grey or black water (even if treated) in the lagoons or appropriate discharge zones. You may not discharge any Pay attention to waste management regulations and



 Take all your litter home with you – plastics and Dispose of waste properly

fishing line can harm and kill marine wildlife.

Rowley Shoals by following a few simple rules: a role to play to keep them healthy. Please help look after the Marine parks are there for everyone to enjoy but we all have

Rowley Shoals

Caring for the marine parks

and Mermaid Reef

marine parks

Fish for the future

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development legally enforces gear, bag, size and possession limits in zones where fishing is permitted in the Rowley Shoals (Recreation and General

Use Zones). This management ensures recfishwest there will always be fish for the future. It is your responsibility to know the zones and rules of each marine park. Download the free Recfishwest or Marine Parks WA apps to access marine park maps and other info. These apps

can be used offline once downloaded. All cod, groper, and wrasse species are fully protected in all zones at the Rowley Shoals. Molluscs (excluding cuttlefish, squid and octopus) and coral species are also fully protected.

Please return undersize or unwanted fish to the water quickly and carefully. Use a wet cloth when handling them and avoid placing them on hot, dry surfaces.

- Is permitted in General Use and Recreation Zones.
- Fishing is not permitted in the Sanctuary amd National Park Zones at the Rowley Shoals.

Recreational netting

- Throw nets may be used only in the General Use Zone.
- Recreational set and haul netting are not pærmitted.

Spearfishing

 Is permitted in General Use and Recreation Zones (excluding Clerke Lagoon Recreation Zome).

Spearfishing (compressed air)

Is only permitted in the General Use Zome.

Planning your visit

Most visitors to arrive by commercial charter boat between September and December and enjoy an average of 4-7 days at the Rowley Shoals. Commercial operators typically depart from Broome at sunset and arrive at the Shoals in the morning, after spending a night steaming. A call to Broome Visitors Centre on (08) 9195 2200 is a great way to find out more about what trips are available.

Moorings and anchoring

To protect the reef habitats in the marine parks, it is important that visitors use the public moorings. Moorings are located on the outer edge of Imperieuse and Clerke Reefs and inside Clerke and Mermaid reef lagoons (map inside). The lagoons are accessible via navigable channels. There is no channel at Imperieuse Reef and the central lagoon can only be accessed using small tender vessels under the right tidal conditions. Mermaid Reef includes a designated anchoring area outlined on the map inside. Vessels may only anchor in the designated anchoring area if no moorings are available.

Anchoring is discouraged throughout the Rowley Shoals Marine Park and only allowed on sandy bottom. Great care must be taken not to damage any coral. Anchoring at Mermaid Reef is only permitted within the designated anchoring area except in the case of an emergency.

All moorings must be booked with written permission obtained before arrival. This should be done well in advance of your trip to avoid the disappointment of missing out or risk of getting fined.

Commercial tour operators must obtain a commercial operations licence from the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions to visit the Rowley Shoals Marine Park, mooring fees apply. For further information,

please call the Parks and Wildlife Service's Broome office on (08) 9195 5500 or email rsmp@dbca.wa.gov.au. If visiting Mermaid Reef Marine Park, commercial tour operators require a commercial tourism licence from Parks Australia – for more information, please visit parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/activities/do-i-need-anapproval/tourism

Activities at the Rowley Shoals

Diving and snorkelling

Red-tailed tropicbird.

The Rowley Shoals offer a range of diving and snorkelling experiences including shallow lagoons, high-speed drift, and deeper reef wall dives. The outside walls of each atoll are alive with hard and soft corals in every imaginable colour, size and shape. Curious giant potato cod and Maori wrasse will likely join you on your dive, while scores of colourful reef fish, trevally, mackerel, tuna and hump headed parrotfish hover in schools.

Wildlife viewing

Humpback whales pass by the Rowley Shoals around July to September on their annual migration to and from calving grounds off the Kimberley coast. Localised upwellings of cool water provide feeding opportunities for small and large species. You are likely to see bottlenose and spinner dolphins cruise around the deep water surrounding the shoals. Populations of large fish and shark species such as hammerheads, marlin and sailfish also live in these deeper waters.

Seabirds feed in the offshore waters, while others breed on the islands. Bedwell Island, on Clerke Reef, is home to the State's only breeding colony of red-tailed tropicbirds who nest among the limestone rubble and driftwood. Occasionally, they are joined by wedge-tailed shearwaters, white bellied sea eagles, ruddy turnstones, sand plovers, eastern reef egrets, various terns and rarely, white-tailed tropicbirds. Bedwell and Cunningham islands at Imperieuse Reef are important resting areas for migratory birds making their mammoth annual flights from as far north as Siberia.

The Rowley Shoals are located approximately 300km (160 nautical miles) west of Broome and include the State-managed Rowley Shoals Marine Park and the Commonwealth-managed Mermaid Reef Marine Park. Together the parks protect a chain of three coral atolls, Clerke Reef, Mermaid Reef and Imperieuse Reef, at the edge of Australia's continental shelf.

Mermaid Reef, the most northerly atoll, rises from depths of around 440m, Clerke Reef from 390m and Imperieuse Reef from 230m. The three atolls are strikingly similar in dimension, shape, orientation and distance apart. Each atoll is pearshaped with a north-south orientation and approximately 14-18km long and 7.5-9.5km wide. These atolls produce spectacular intertidal and subtidal coral reefs which provide a home for fish, eels, sharks, manta rays and turtles as well as invertebrates including giant clams, sea stars, urchins, sea cucumbers and nudibranchs. They are tropical 'aquariums' in the middle of the ocean.

In 1818, Captain Phillip Parker King named the area Rowley Shoals after Captain Rowley who first sighted the atolls in 1800. The three atolls were named after the ships Imperieuse and Mermaid, and the third one after Captain Clerke.

More information

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Parks and Wildlife Service - West Kimberley District

111 Herbert Street, Broome WA 6725

Ph: (08) 9195 5500 dbca.wa.gov.au

To book or enquire about public moorings email the department at rsmp@dbca.wa.gov.au

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development Fisheries

Broome Office

Ph: (08) 9193 8600 fish.wa.gov.au

Parks Australia

Email: marineparks@dcceew.gov.au

parksaustralia.gov.au/marine/parks/north-west/mermaid-reef

@ausmarineparks on your favourite social media platform. Tag us in photos of your trip.

Bureau of Meteorology - Weather call

Ph: 1300 754 389 bom.gov.au

Department of Home Affairs - Border Watch

Ph: 1800 009 623 abf.gov.au

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction









emergencyplus.com.au

Download the free Emergency+ app before your visit. Use the app in an emergency to call for assiistance. If there is no mobile phone coverage you WILL NOT be abile to call 000 but the app will provide you with your GPS location.

Photos - Mick Eidam, George Shedrawi/DBCA, Suzanne Long, EFric Matson/AIMS, John Huisman/DBCA, Michael Hourn/DBCA

Information current at November 2023. This document is available in alternative formats on request.







RECYCLE Please return unwanted brochures to distribution points

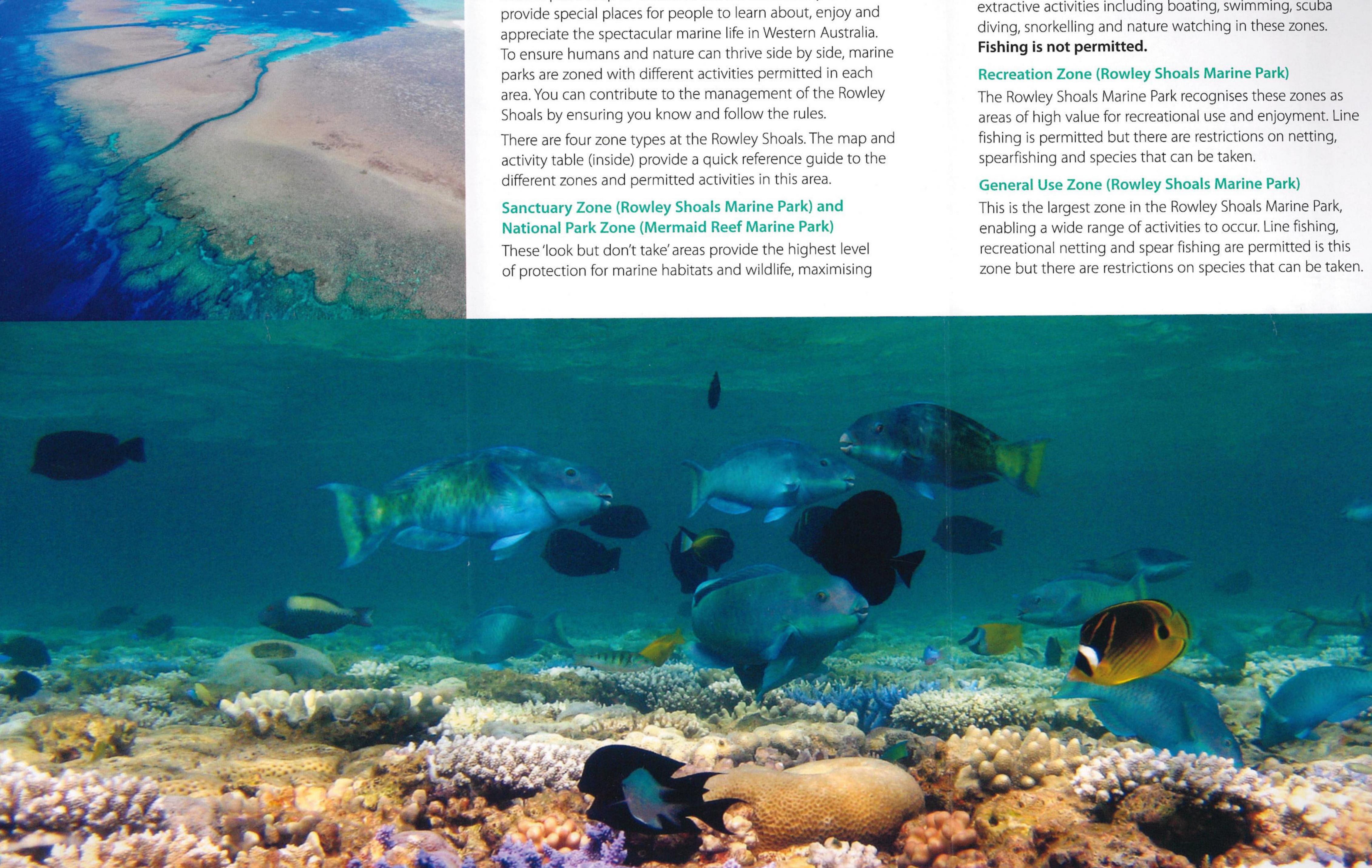
Visitor guide

Marine parks – Know your zones

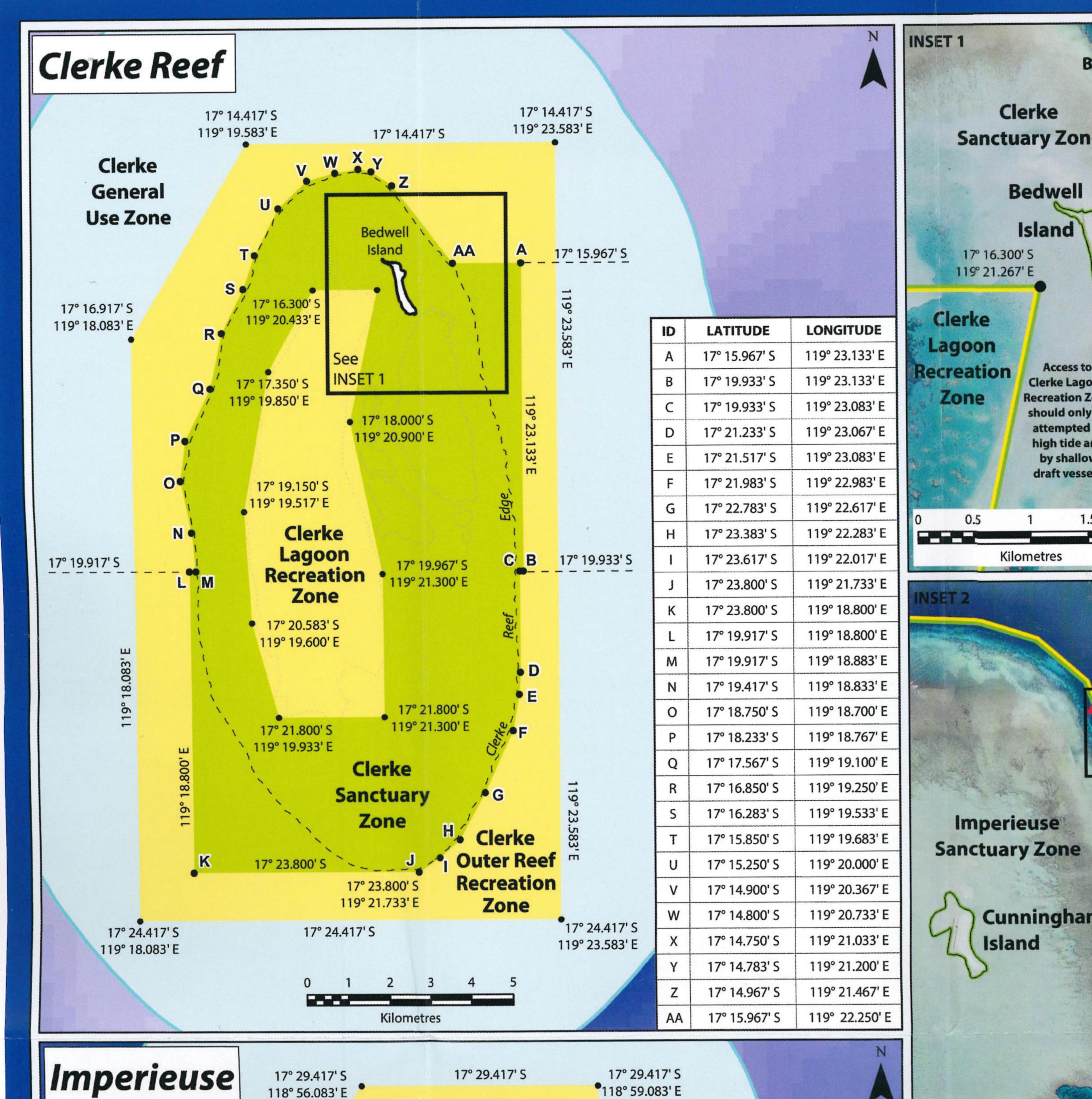
Marine parks help to conserve marine biodiversity and provide special places for people to learn about, enjoy and Shoals by ensuring you know and follow the rules.

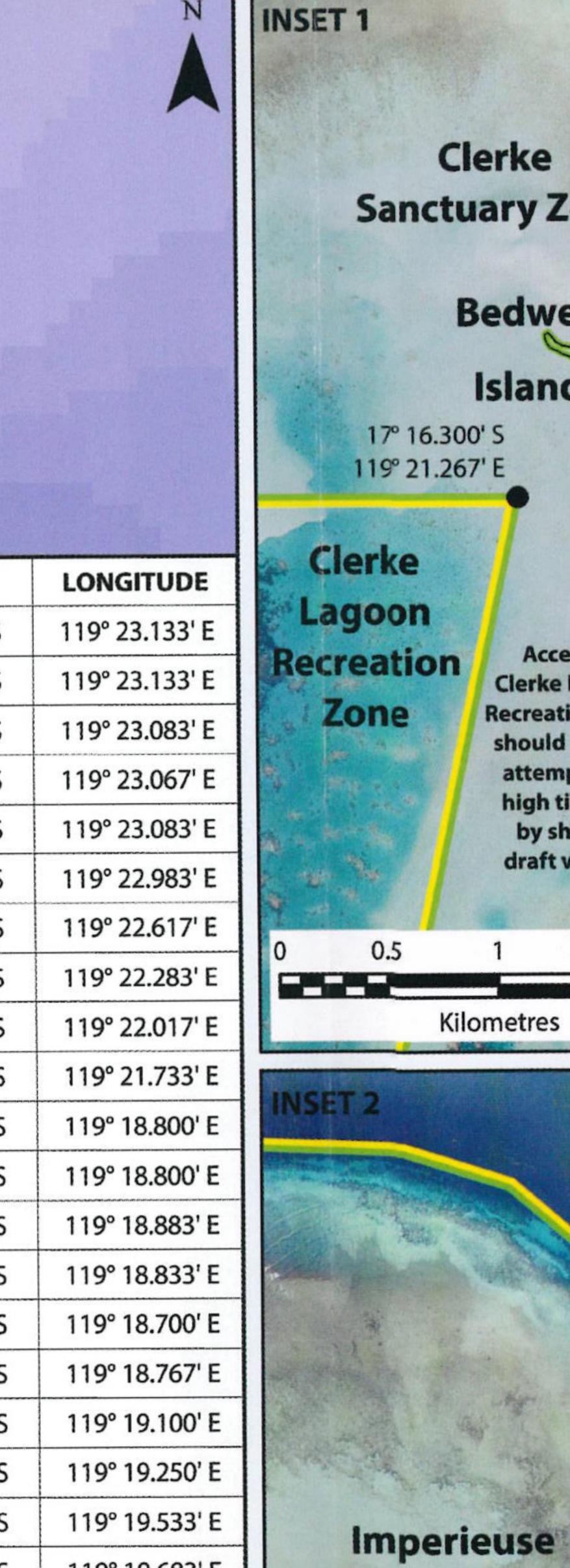
conservation outcomes. You can still enjoy a range of nonextractive activities including boating, swimming, scuba diving, snorkelling and nature watching in these zones.

areas of high value for recreational use and enjoyment. Line









LONGITUDE

118° 57.600' E

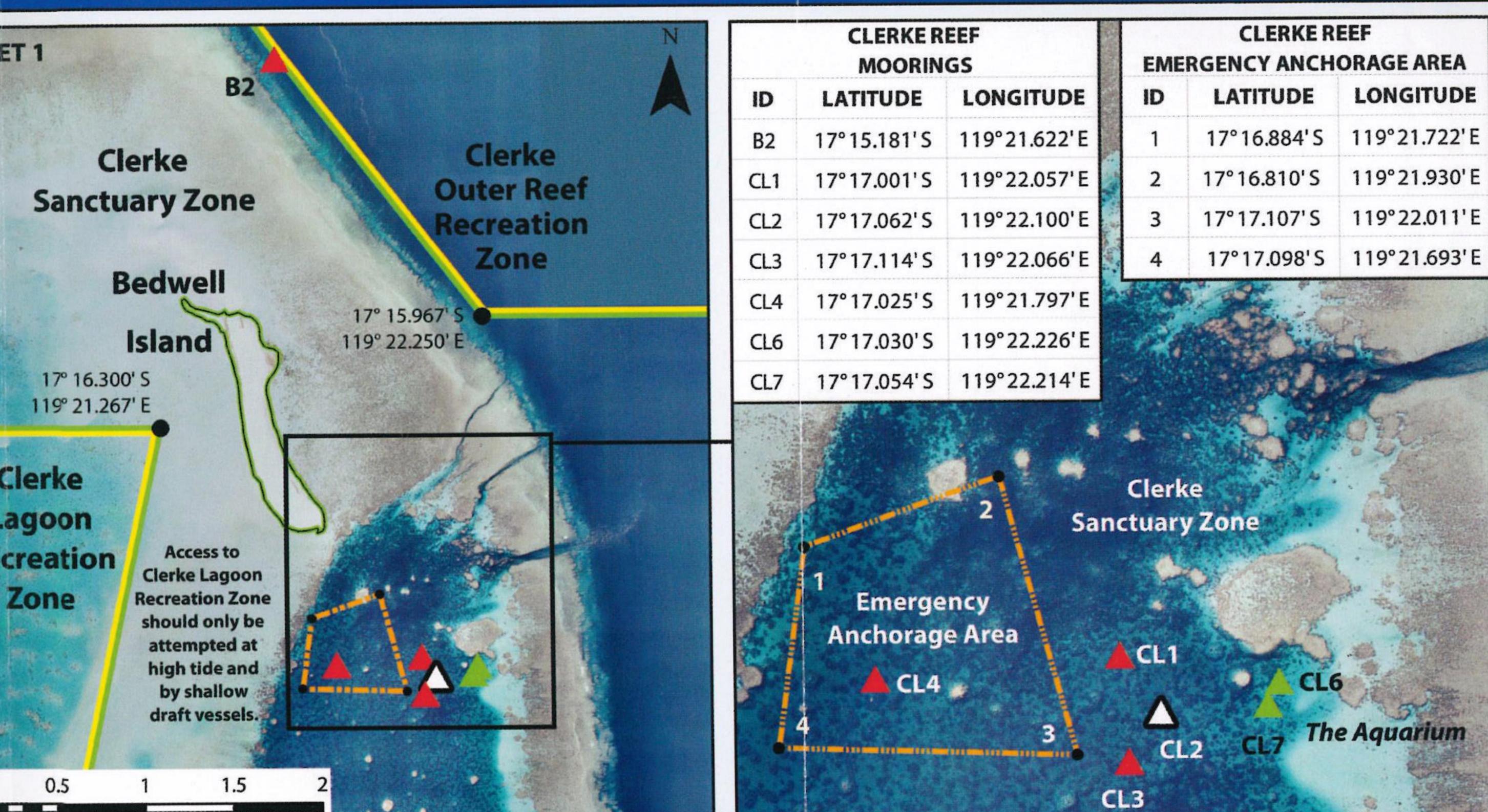
118° 57.833' E

118° 58.033' E

118° 58.317' E

17° 29.917'

17° 31.917' S

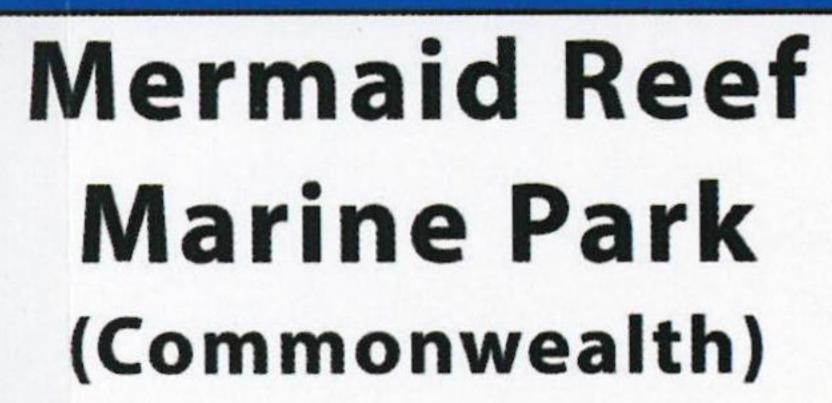


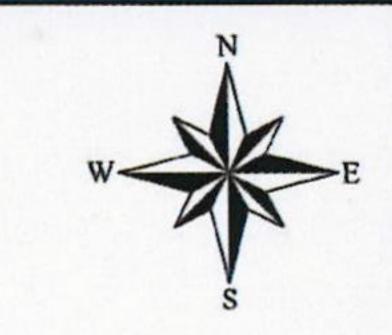
Mooring and Anchoring

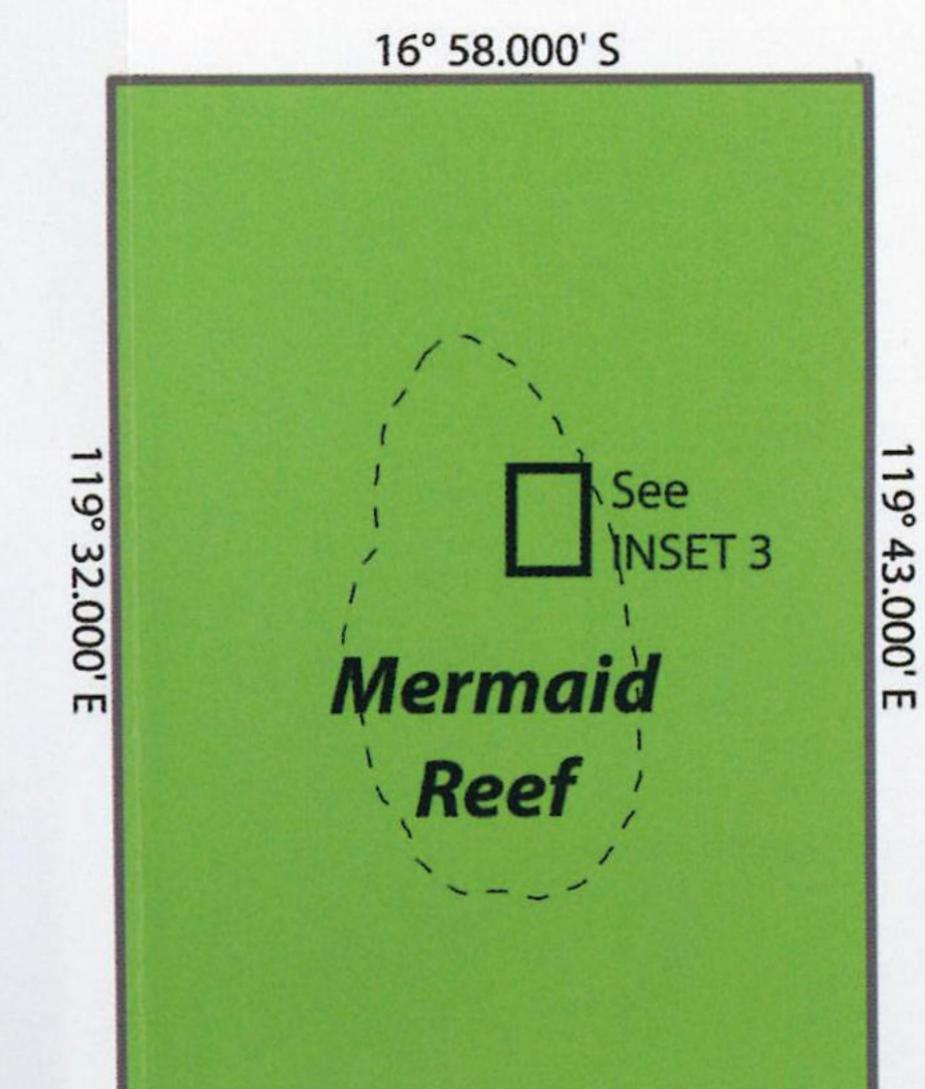
Anchoring is discouraged throughout Rowley Shoals Marine Park and only allowed on sandy bottom. At Mermaid Reef Marine Park, anchoring is only permited within the designated anchoring area, except in the case of an emergency. Moorings are available for day and overnight use in both marine parks. Written permission must be obtained prior to arrival and can be booked through the Broome Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Parks and Wildlife Service office on (08) 9195 5500 or rsmp@dbca.wa.gov.au. Detailed mooring maps are available from the Broome Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Parks and Wildlife Service office.

Island Reserves

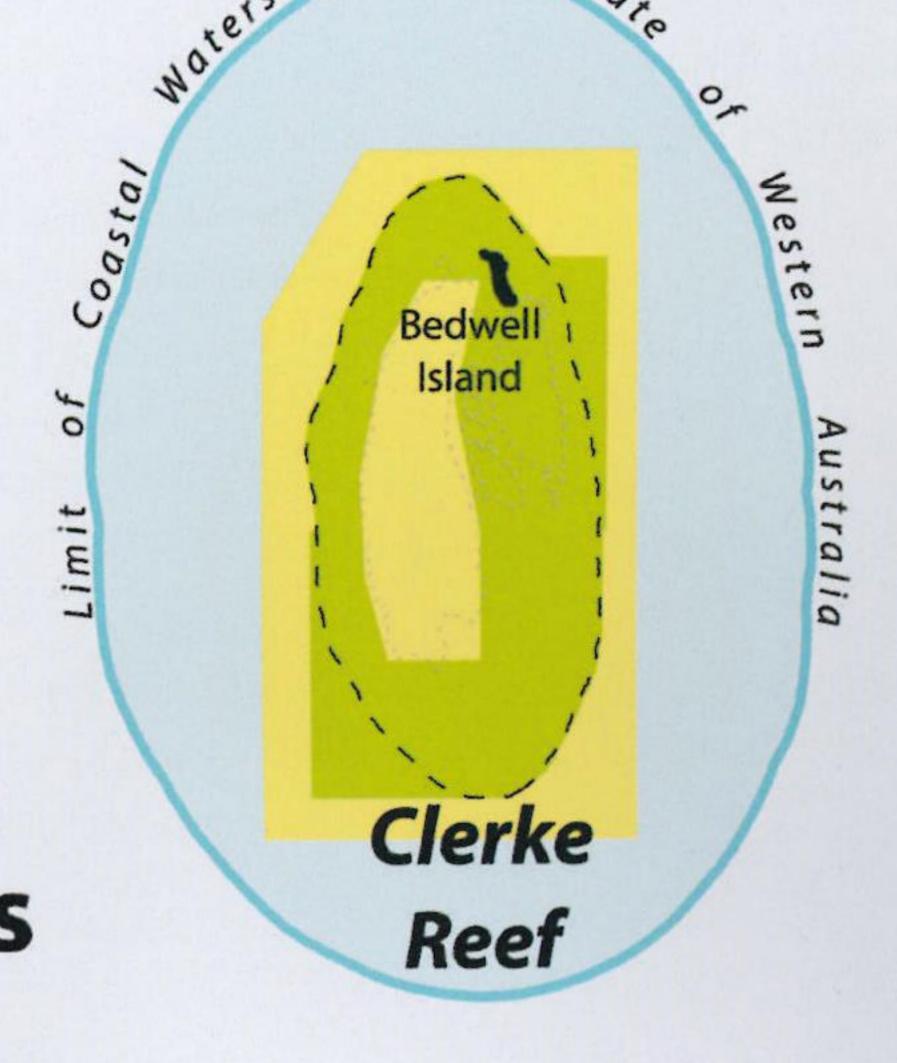
Cunningham Island on Imperieuse Reef and Bedwell Island on Clerke Reef are both Crown Reserves for the purpose of a marine park. Both islands are managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Parks and Wildlife Service. Access is limited to daylight hours and lighting of fires is not permitted. Please take care not to disturb nesting red-tailed tropic birds on Bedwell Island by keeping a minimum distance of 10 metres. The construction of artificial rock shelters is prohibited.



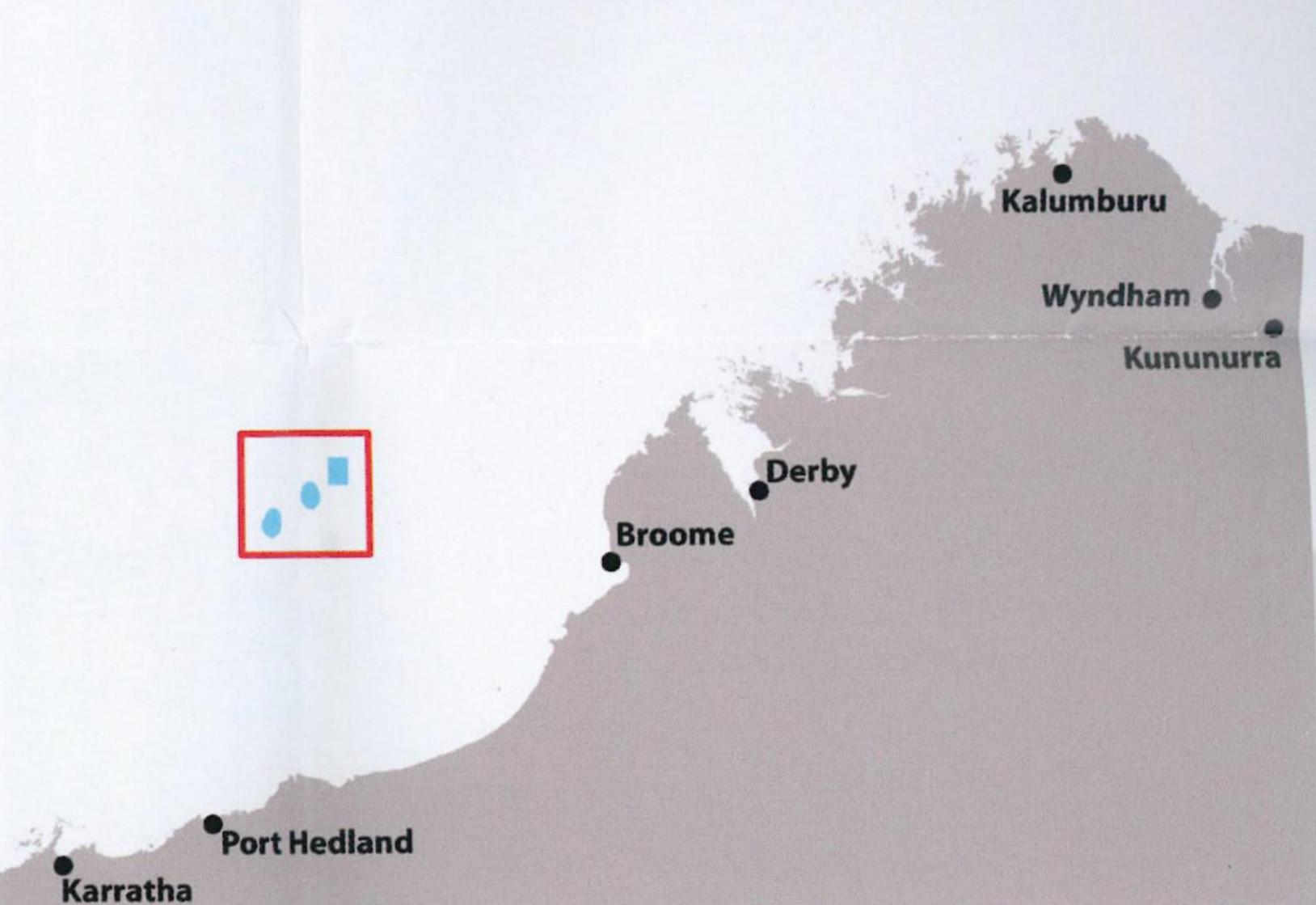


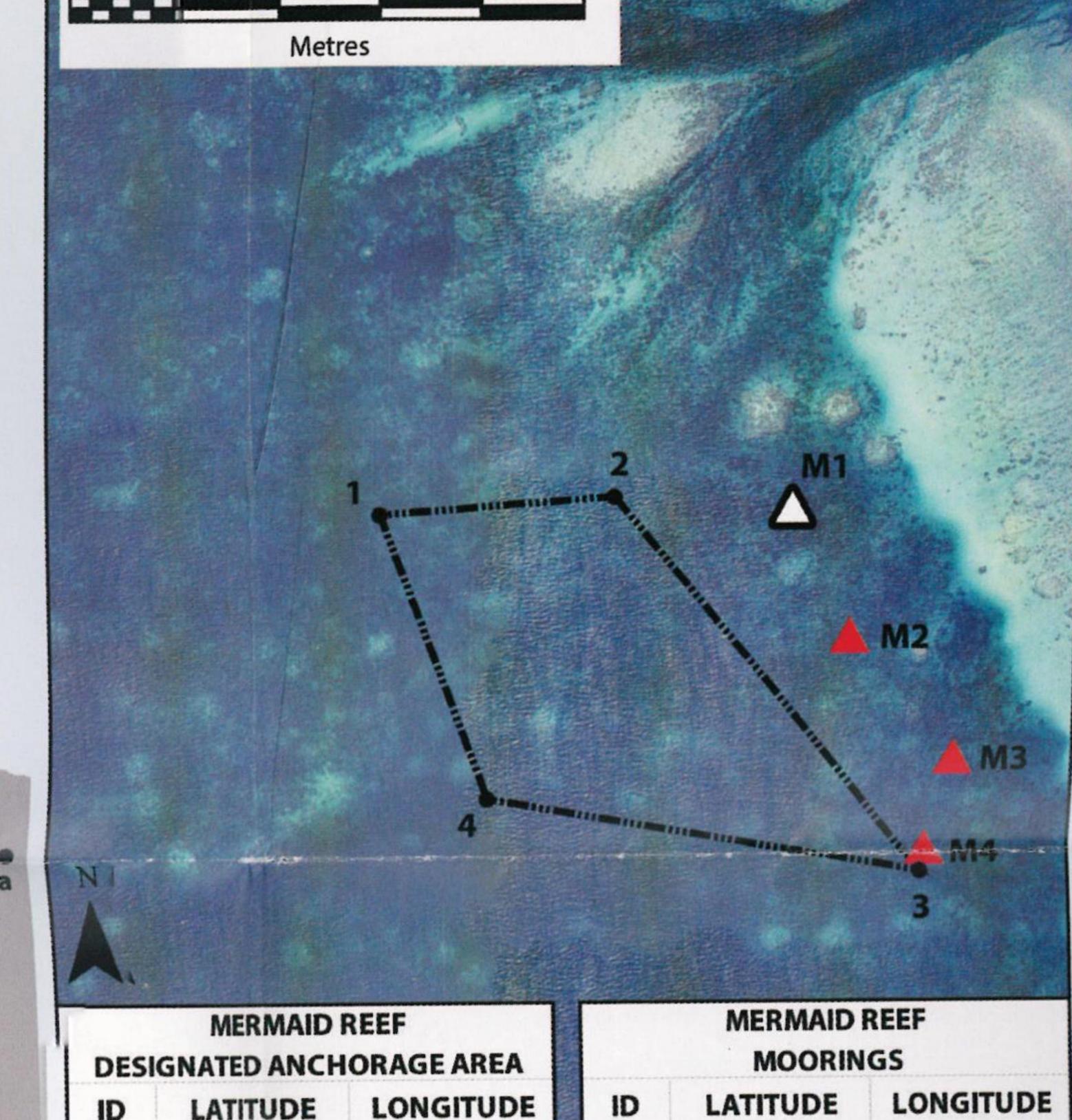


17° 13.000' 5



Rowley Shoals Marine Park





17°04.272'S 119°38.153'E M1 17°04.264'S 119°38.587'E

17°04.253'S 119°38.400'E M2 17°04.400'S 119°38.647'E

17°04.652'S 119°38.727'E M3 17°04.529'S 119°38.759'E

Karratha Port Hedland			4 17°C	04.572'S 119°38.265'E	M4 17°04.627'S 119°38.732'E	
ACTIVITIES ✓ = Permitted X = Not permitted	ROWLEY SHOALS MARINE			MERMAID REEF MARINE PARK (COMMONWEALTH)	R K 1. This table is for recreational activities only. For information on permissible commercial activities	
	SANCTUARY ZONE	RECREATION ZONE	GENERAL USE ZONE	National Park Zone (IUCN II)	www.dbca.wa.gov.au 2. Fishing for all cods (Serranidae), gropers (Serranidae) and wrasses (Labridae), including	
Fishing from guided charter vessels 2,6	×	1	1	×	potato cod (Epinephelus tukula), rock cod (Lotella rhacina) and related species, hump-head Maori wrasse (Cheilinus undulatus), Queensland groper	
Line fishing (including trolling) 2, 3, 6	×	1	1	×	(Epinephelus lanceolatus), coral trout (Plectropomus sp.) and molluscs (except squid, octopus and	
Rock lobster fishing 3, 4, 6	×	1	1	×	cuttlefish) is not permitted within the Rowley Shoals Marine Park. For further details visit www.fish.wa.gov.au	
Throw netting 5, 6	×	×	1	×	 A fishing licence is required for fishing from boats. Recreational fishing rules apply including bag and size limits, species and gear restrictions. For further details visit www.fish.wa.gov.au 	
Haul and Set netting 5, 6	×	×	×	×		
Spearfishing - breath-hold only ⁶ (No SCUBA or hookah)	×	(except in Clerke Lagoon Recreation Zone)	1	×	A fishing licence is required is required and seasonal closures may apply. For further details visit www.fish.wa.gov.au	
Spearfishing - on compressed air 6	×	×	1	×	5. A fishing licence is required for the use of throw nets. Set and haul netting is not permitted in the	
Coral, shell and specimen collecting (alive and dead)	×	×	×	×	Rowley Shoals Marine Park. For further details refer to the Recreational Net Fishing Guide available at www.fish.wa.gov.au	
Aquarium fish collecting	×	×	×	×	6. Size limits apply. For further details visit www.fish.wa.gov.au	
Diving, snorkelling, swimming	1	1	1		7. Minimising environmental impact from vessels is of the utmost importance. Please use the overnight	
Boating, yachting and non-motorised water sports	1	1	1		moorings where possible instead of anchoring. Moorings must be booked in advance to avoid disappointment through the Broome Office (08) 9195 5500, failure to do so may risk an infringement. Detailed mooring maps are available	
Anchoring 7	1	1	1	(except in designated anchoring area — see INSET 3)		
Wildlife viewing 8	1	1	1	1		
Feeding fish and/or wildlife	×	×	×	×	Act 1984 and Wildlife Conservation Act 1950.	
		×	×	×	 No discharge of sewage in lagoons or within one nautical mile (1.85km) off reef edge. 	

Contacts:

(see note 9)

2.	Fishing for all cods (Serranidae), gropers
	(Serranidae) and wrasses (Labridae), including
	potato cod (Epinephelus tukula), rock cod (Lotella
	rhacina) and related species, hump-head Maori
	wrasse (Cheilinus undulatus), Queensland grope
	(Epinephelus lanceolatus), coral trout (Plectropor
	sp.) and molluscs (except squid, octopus and
	cuttlefish) is not permitted within the Rowley

Department of Transport (Broome Office) -

Rowley Shoals Marine Parks

IMPERIEUSE REEF

MOORINGS

IMP1 17°30.232'S 118°57.890'E

IMP2 17°30.430'S 118°57.962'E

LATITUDE LONGITUDE

Clerke Reef emergency anchorage area

Mermaid Reef designated anchorage area

Moorings - bookings required

12m mooring (max. 12m vessel LOA, day use only)

35m mooring (max. 35m vessel LOA, overnight use permitted)

50m mooring (max. 50m vessel LOA, overnight use permitted)

Rowley Shoals Marine Park

Cunningham

Recreation Zone

Marine park boundary

Rowley Shoals Marine Park

Download the free Marine Parks WA app available through



NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION Co-ordinates on this map are referenced to the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94). For GPS use, WGS84 approximates GDA94.

Australian Government

Parks Australia

Waterlines positions shown on this map are indicative only and do not necessarily depict an exact cadastral boundary.

Imperieuse

Reef

Government of Western Australia

Departmentof Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

PARKS AND

WILDLIFE

Marine Parks

118° 58.717' E 17° 31.917' S 118° 58.717' E 17° 35.950' S Imperieuse 118° 58.700' E 17° 35.950' S **General Use** 118° 58.700' E 17° 36.117' S Zone 118° 57.900' E 17° 37.733' S 17° 34.417' S 118° 57.717' E 17° 38.267' S 118° 52.583' E 118° 57.467' E 17° 38.550' S 17° 33.933' S 17° 38.967' S 118° 57.033' E 118° 56.117' E 17° 39.533' S 118 °55.850' E 17° 39.667' S 17° 39.667' S 118° 55.617' E Imperieuse 17° 39.500' S 118° 55.317' E Sanctuary Zone N 17° 39.117' S 118° 54.183' E 17° 38.633' S 118° 53.983' E 17° 38.267' S 17° 37.933' S 118° 53.783' E 118° 53.083' E 17° 37.933' S 118° 53.083' E 17° 33.933' S 118 °54.150' E 17° 33.933' S 118 °54.350' E 17° 33.517' 9 118° 54.683' E 17° 32.400' 17° 31.700' S 118° 55.217' E 118° 55.783' E 17° 30.817' S Imperieuse 118° 56.567' E 17° 29.950' S **Recreation Zone** 118° 56.917' E 118° 57.333' E 17° 29.833' 5 17° 40.417' S 17° 40.417' S

17° 40.417' S

Kilometres

118° 59.083' E

Reef

118° 52.583' E

Marine park boundary Sanctuary Zone

General Use Zone

Mermaid Reef Marine Park (Commonwealth)

National Park Zone

Scan this QR code for more Information about the https://exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au/park/rowley-shoals-marine-p

Produced by Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (AEPL Branch)

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) - Parks and Wildlife Service Broome - (08) 9195 5500

Sullage and waste discharge 9

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) **Broome District Office - Fisheries** (08) 9193 8600

(see note 9)

(08) 9216 8240 Marine Safety Hotline - 13 11 56