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Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions

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Above Sea life of Ningaloo Marine Park.
Below Jurabi Turtle Centre.
Below right Green turtle. *Photos – Tony Howard*
Right Whaleshark. *Photo – Axle Passeeck*

Sanctuary zones are look but don't take zones. No extractive activities are permitted in these zones which means no recreational or commercial fishing is allowed. Mining activities are also prohibited.

Special purpose (benthic protection) zones are also 'look but don't take' zones. However, recreational 'troll' fishing is allowed.

Special purpose (shore-based activities) zones are established alongside sanctuary zones to allow shore-based recreational fishing for finfish only (no other extractive activities are allowed).

Recreation zones are managed for nature conservation and recreation, including recreational fishing.

General use zones are managed for nature conservation while allowing for sustainable commercial and recreational activities.

Fishing is permitted in general use and recreational zones in accordance with fishing regulations. **Exmouth Gulf Landing zone** applies to the landing of rock lobster. Special fishing rules apply in order to conserve fish stocks. Daily bag limits apply as does possession by limits. Make sure you have a copy of the fishing guide for Ningaloo Marine Park before wetting a line. Copies are available from DEC and Fisheries offices.

Remember – No fishing is permitted in sanctuary zones.



Above Yardie Creek. *Photo – Tony Howard/DEC*

Campsites can be found at selected locations along the length of Cape Range National Park (see map). All sites have limited facilities, with no power or water and most with no shade. The maximum time that campers may stay in the national park is 28 days. Camping fees apply and visitors must vacate sites by 10am on the day of departure.

To camp outside the park on pastoral lands, you should contact the station manager. Camping or entry fees apply in many of these areas.

Below (left) Fig tree on Cape Range and (right) a rugged limestone outcrop. *Photo – Tony Howard/DEC*



Water is available from Ned's bore in the national park in limited amounts. However, this water supply is not suitable for human consumption and visitors must bring their own drinking water.

Visitor fees are payable and can be paid at the park entry station, Milyering Visitor Centre or DEC office in Exmouth. If you are planning to visit the park more than once, or intend to visit other national parks in the State then please ask about the various extended park pass options available.

Walktrails are established in several locations in Cape Range National Park. For more information contact the Milyering Visitor Centre, DEC's office in Exmouth or ask a park ranger (see map for details).

Right (top) Turquoise Bay. *Photo – DEC*
Right (centre) Yardie Creek Gorge. *Photo – Jiri Lochman*
Right Pied oyster catchers at Mangrove Bay. *Photo – Tony Howard/DEC*



Ningaloo Marine Park

Ningaloo Marine Park protects Australia's largest and most accessible fringing reef system. The shallow lagoons formed by the reef, and the deeper offshore waters, create a diverse array of habitats for a multitude of colourful corals and more than 500 species of fish.

Many other creatures are found in the park, including whale sharks (the world's largest fish), turtles, dugongs, dolphins, manta rays and humpback whales.

Ningaloo Marine Park provides an excellent opportunity to fish (outside sanctuary zones), swim, snorkel, dive, observe marine life and relax on the beach.

Ningaloo has been divided into management zones (see map) to reflect the distribution of natural resources and separate conflicting recreational uses.

Above Fishing on the beach at Ningaloo Marine Park.

Below Snorkelling at Ningaloo Marine Park. *Photos – WA Tourism Commission*



Cape Range National Park

Cape Range National Park is dominated by a rugged limestone range, the remains of an ancient sea floor thrust upwards by movements of the earth's crust. The range descends to sea level along the coast with arid coastal plains and sand dunes predominating.

This diverse landscape is rich in wildlife. Kangaroos, echidnas, emus and large lizards are common, along with smaller mammals and other reptiles. More than 160 species of bird have been recorded in the area.

The park provides a variety of recreational opportunities to walk, camp, canoe, observe nature, picnic, take photographs and much more.

Where is it? The northern entry point provides the main access to Cape Range National Park and is about 36 km from Exmouth. Entry from the south is via Ningaloo Station and requires a four-wheel-drive in order to cross Yardie Creek. Yardie Creek is subject to intermittent saltwater flooding – contact Milyering or Exmouth Visitor Centre for conditions.

Roads The major access road into and through the park (south to Yardie Creek) is sealed. Access roads to individual sites comprise both sealed and unsealed roads. Most of these access roads are suitable for two-wheel-drive vehicles. However road conditions deteriorate rapidly with rain and access may become restricted.

To protect wildlife the maximum driving speed is 80 kmh and night driving should be avoided.

If unavoidable, please dip high beam headlights when you see any animals ahead on the road. This allows the animals to move away.



Right Gorges are found throughout the park. *Photos – Tony Howard/DEC*

Below Wildflowers of Cape Range National Park. *Photo – DEC*

Muiron Islands Marine Management Area has classified areas called conservation areas which are similar to sanctuary zones in marine parks. The unclassified area of the Muiron Islands Marine Management Area is similar to general use zones in marine parks.

Today the major growth industry for the Coral Coast is tourism, with increasing numbers of visitors every year. However, other industries such as fishing, wool production and oil exploration still continue.

The park now provide an opportunity to see once-hunted cyclones, military activity and a variety of maritime industries. Long inhabited by Aboriginal people, the Coral Coast has also been witness to historic expeditions, devastating tropical

whales and turtles protected in an unspoiled environment. The park's major growth industry for the Coral Coast is tourism, with increasing numbers of visitors every year. However, other industries such as fishing, wool production and oil exploration still continue.

The rugged limestone landscape of Cape Range provides a stark backdrop to the turquoise waters of the Ningaloo Reef with the two features divided by coastal plains and drifting sand dunes. A variety of natural communities is represented in the park.

Parks of the Coral Coast are ideal locations for recreational laze on the beach, the Coral Coast has something for everyone. You want to hike through rugged gorges, snorkel in lagoons or activities and learning about the natural environment. Whether

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Parks of the Coral Coast



Above Point Maud, Coral Bay. *Photo – Pamela Parker/DEC*

Parks of the Coral Coast Cape Range National Park Ningaloo Marine Park and Muiron Islands Marine Management Area



Information and recreational guide



RECYCLE Please return unwanted brochures to distribution points

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Further information

DEC staff are pleased to share their knowledge and offer helpful suggestions about places to go and things to do and see.

More information is available from the Department's Exmouth or Perth offices.

DEC Exmouth District Office
 22 Nimitz Street (PO Box 201)
 Exmouth WA 6707
 Phone: (08) 9947 8000
 exmouth@dec.wa.gov.au

Milyering Visitor Centre (Cape Range National Park)
 Phone: (08) 9946 2808
 milyering@dec.wa.gov.au

Coral Bay Information Hut
 Phone: (08) 9948 5131
 coral.bay@dec.wa.gov.au

DEC Headquarters
 Locked Bag 104
 Bentley Delivery Centre WA 6983
 Phone: (08) 9334 0333

DEC website www.naturebase.net

Department of Fisheries
 Payne Street
 Exmouth WA 6707
 Phone: (08) 9949 2755
 headoffice@fish.wa.gov.au

Exmouth Visitor Centre
 PO Box 149
 Exmouth WA 6707
 Phone: (08) 9949 1176
 reservations@exmouthwa.com.au

Emergency contacts

DEC Phone: (08) 9947 8000 or after hours 0428 938 220 or for wildlife emergencies 0420 103 445.

Milyering Visitor Centre Phone: (08) 9949 2808

Exmouth Police Phone: (08) 9949 2444

Exmouth Hospital Phone: (08) 9949 3666

Milyering Visitor Centre and park staff have radio contact with the DEC Exmouth Office.

Reviewed September 2007

Front cover Coastal view of Ningaloo Marine Park and Cape Range National Park. *Photo – Tony Howard/DEC*

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Services and facilities

Exmouth Offers a range of shops, caravan parks and other accommodation, entertainment and services including limited banking, post office, hospital and police station. Contact the Exmouth Visitor Centre for more information and for

Coral Bay has two caravan parks, chalets, hotel/motel and a range of other accommodation. Public telephones, fuel, food carry drinkng water. Although the cloudless skies are a delight, the low rainfall supports very few trees and shade is scarce. The use of heavy duty fabrics as shade and for windbreaks is recommended.

Milyering Visitor Centre in Cape Range National Park is open every day 9am to 3:45pm, except Christmas Day. Displays, brochures and videos explain the natural communities of the Coral Coast, and a small library provides information for those with special interests. Light refreshments and souvenirs are available from the adjoining shop or the centre (seasonal). A public telephone (phone card only) is located next to the centre.

Commercial park tours are conducted in both Cape Range National Park and Ningaloo Marine Park from Coral Bay and Exmouth. Activities include snorkelling, diving, glass bottom boat tours, sea kayaking and four-wheel-drive tours. Contact the Exmouth Visitor Centre for more information (08) 9949 1176 or freecall 1800 287 328.

Boat ramps are located at Exmouth marina, Bundagi and Tanabiddi. Unsealed boat launching areas for smaller vessels can also be found at Coral Bay and several locations in Cape Range National Park (see map for details).

Diving is a great way to experience Ningaloo. Instruction, compressed air and equipment hire are available at both Exmouth and Coral Bay. Contact the Exmouth Visitor Centre for more details.

When boating, swimming and snorkeling remember that ocean conditions can become hazardous quickly, especially near gaps in the reef. If in doubt don't go out.

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