GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK CAPRICORNIA SECTION

ZONING PLAN



GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

AUGUST 1980

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GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK - CAPRICORNIA SECTION

ZONING PLAN

PART ONE - PRELIMINARY

1 EFFECT OF ZONING PLAN

This Zoning Plan:

- (a) provides for the division of the Capricornia Section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park into zones and assigns a name to each such zone; and
- (b) makes provision with respect to the purposes for which each such zone is to be, or may be, used or entered.

2 INTERPRETATIONS

2.1 In the Zoning Plan unless the contrary intention appears:

"Act" means the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975;

"amateur means a net not exceeding 16 metres in length, bait net" with size of mesh not greater than 28 millimetres;

"Capricornia means the area described in the Schedule
Section" to the proclamation made, on 17 October 1979,
under sub-section 31(1) of the Act and assigned
by that proclamation the name "Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park - Capricornia Section";

"cast net" means a net not exceeding 6 metres in diameter, with size of mesh not more than 83 millimetres;

"collecting" means the taking of any declared animal, plant or marine product;

"commercial means the purpose of sale, trade, processing, purpose" or manufacture or other purpose of any kind directed to gain or reward;

"dip net" means a net not exceeding 2 metres in any dimension with a handle or shaft not more than 2.5 metres in length, with size of mesh not less than 25 millimetres and includes a scoop net;

"fishing" means the taking of fish, crustaceans, scallops or squid, but does not include the taking of declared animals;

"gill net" means a net which when in use forms a wall of loose netting in which fish become enmeshed, and includes a drift or mesh net;

"hook" means a single hook or a group of hooks linked together;

"line fishing" means fishing with a device which incorporates a line with no more than six hooks:

"manipulative means any research which by the nature of its research" activities will result in significant damage, degradation or disruption to the physical environment or living resources of the Marine Park;

"marine plant"

means a plant that grows below high water and includes eel-grass and dugong-grass;

"netting"

means the taking of fish by means of a net;

"purse seine net"

means a net which when in use is spread to encircle a school of fish which are then entrapped by 'pursing' or drawing together the lower edge of the net by means of a purse-line or draw-string running through a series of rings attached to that lower edge;

"reef edge"

means the seaward edge of any reef exposed at Mean Low Water Spring Tide;

"regulations"

means regulations made under the Act;

"ship"

means a vessel with a gross tonnage in excess of 500 tonnes:

"take"

in relation to animals, plants and marine products includes remove, gather, catch, capture, kill, destroy, dredge for, raise, carry away, bring ashore or obtain by any means or endeavour to carry out any of those acts;

"trolling"

means fishing with a rod and reel, or line attached to, or supported by a moving vessel, and which incorporates a bait or lure which is drawn through the water behind that vessel;

"vessel"

means a ship, boat, raft or pontoon or any other thing capable of carrying persons or goods through or on water, but does not include a hovercraft.

- 2.2 A reference in a provision of this Zoning Plan to the responsible agency is a reference to the person or body having, under regulations made under the Act, a function or functions for the purposes of that provision.
- 2.3 A reference in this Zoning Plan to the Zoning Map is a reference to the map which forms part of this Zoning Plan.
- 2.4 This Zoning Plan does not apply to islands that form part of Queensland and which are not owned by the Commonwealth.

PART TWO - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Column 1

3.1 Zones

- (1) In accordance with the provisions of the Act, the Capricornia Section is divided into zones in accordance with this clause.
- (2) The area or areas described in Column 2 in the following table constitutes, or together constitute, as the case may be, a zone having the name set out in Column 1 opposite that description.

General Use 'A' Zone The part of the Capricornia Section that is not included in any other zone.

General Use 'B' Zone Subject to clause 2.4 the area bounded by an imaginary line which:

(a) commences at a point of Latitude 23^o10' South, Longitude 151^o56' East;

Column 2

- (b) runs thence south-easterly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23°53' South, Longitude 152°28' East;
- (c) runs thence south along the last mentioned Meridian of Longitude to a point of Latitude 23^o55' South;

- (d) runs thence south-westerly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23°57' South, Longitude 152°26' East;
- (e) runs thence west along the Parallel of Latitude 23°57' South to its intersection with Meridian of Longitude 152°24' East;
- (f) runs thence north-westerly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23°32' South, Longitude 151°55' East;
- (g) runs thence westerly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23⁰36' South, Longitude 151⁰39' East;
- (h) runs thence north-westerly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23^o33' South, Longitude 151^o35' East;
- (i) runs thence north along the last mentioned Meridian of Longitude to a point of Latitude 23^o30' South;

Column 2

- (j) runs thence north-easterly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23^o25' South, Longitude 151^o53' East;
- (k) runs thence north-westerly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23^o20' South, Longitude 151^o50' East;
- (1) runs thence west along the Parallel of Latitude 23^o20' South to its intersection with Meridian of Longitude 151^o40' East;
- (m) runs thence north along the last mentioned Meridian of Longitude to a point of Latitude 23^o15' South;
- (n) runs thence north-easterly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23^o10' South, Longitude 151^o52' East;
- (o) runs thence east along the Parallel of Latitude 23^o10' South to the point of commencement;

Column 1

Column 2

but does not include the areas in the Marine National Park 'A' Zone. the Marine National Park 'B' Zone, the Scientific Research Zone, or the Preservation Zone.

Marine National Park 'A' Zone

Subject to clause 2.4 the area within an imaginary line drawn one kilometre seaward from the reef edge of each of the following reefs:

- Heron Island Reef; and
- Wistari Reef.

Marine National Park 'B' Zone

The area within an imaginary line drawn one kilometre seaward from the reef edge of Llewellyn Reef.

Scientific Research Zone

Subject to clause 2.4 the area within an imaginary line drawn one kilometre seaward from the reef edge of One Tree Island Reef.

Preservation Zone

Subject to clause 2.4 the area within an imaginary line drawn one kilometre seaward from the reef edge of Wreck Island Reef.

3.2 Notation of Zones on Map

To assist readers of this Zoning Plan, the approximate locations of the zones described in clause 3.1 are indicated on the Zoning Map in accordance with the following table:

Column 1		Column 2
Name of Zone	Notation on Map	
	Colour	Line Symbol
General Use 'A' Zone	Orange	Diagonal black hatching (045 ⁰ to 225 ⁰)
General Use 'B' Zone	Yellow	Diagonal black hatching (135 ⁰ to 315 ⁰)
Marine National Park 'A' Zone	Red	Horizontal black hatching comprising alternate continuous and broken lines
Marine National Park 'B' Zone	Pink	Horizontal black hatching
Scientific Research Zone	Blue	Vertical black hatching
Preservation Zone	Green	Black cross hatching

3.3 Areas of Periodic Restricted Use

(1) Within the General Use 'A' and General Use 'B' Zones there may be Replenishment Areas. The objective of the Replenishment Area is to provide, for a specified period of time, an area which is closed to any activity which will remove living resources of the Marine Park to enable the recovery of fish and other resource stocks.

The Replenishment Areas will consist of not more than two of the areas described around and including the following reefs:

- Irving Reef;
- Rock Cod Shoal;
- Innamincka Shoal;
- Boult Reef:
- Lamont Reef;
- North Reef;
- Polmaise Reef.

These areas are:

- (a) the area that includes Irving Reef and the boundary of which:
 - (i) commences at a point of Latitude 23°31' South, Longitude 151°36' East;
 - (ii) runs thence south-easterly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23^o32' South, Longitude 151^o39' East;
 - (iii) runs thence south along the last mentioned Meridian of Longitude to a point of Latitude 23035' South:
 - (iv) runs thence north-easterly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23°34' South, Longitude 151°36' East;
 - (v) runs thence north along the last mentioned Meridian of Longitude to the point of commencement;

- (b) the area that includes Rock Cod Shoal and the boundary of which:
 - (i) commences at a point of Latitude 23°40' South, Longitude 151°35' East;
 - (ii) runs thence east along the Parallel of Latitude 23^o40' South, to its intersection with Meridian of Longitude 151^o44' East;
 - (iii) runs thence south-westerly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23^o42' South, Longitude 151^o42' East;
 - (iv) runs thence west along the Parallel of Latitude 23^o42' South to its intersection with Meridian of Longitude 151^o36' East;
 - (v) runs thence north-westerly along the geodesic to the point of commencement;
- (c) the area that includes Innamincka Shoal and the boundary of which:
 - (i) commences at a point of Latitude 22⁰57' South, Longitude 151⁰45' East;
 - (ii) runs thence south-easterly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23^o00' South, Longitude 151^o54' East;
 - (iii) runs thence south along the last mentioned Meridian of Longitude to a point of Latitude 23^o03' South:
 - (iv) runs thence north-westerly along the geodesic to a point of Latitude 23⁰00' South, Longitude 151⁰45' East;
 - (v) runs thence north along the last mentioned Meridian of Longitude to the point of commencement;

- (d) the area enclosed within an imaginary line drawn one kilometre seawards from the reef edge of any of the following reefs:
 - Boult Reef;
 - Lamont Reef:
 - North Reef;
 - Polmaise Reef.
- (2) Within the General Use 'B' Zone there may be Seasonal Closure Areas. The objective of the Seasonal Closure Area is to protect some important bird and turtle nesting areas from human intrusion.

The Seasonal Closure Area will apply, subject to clause 2.4, to one or more of the following areas, during such part of the period commencing on the first day of October in a year and finishing on the first day of March in the following year as is specified by the responsible agency:

- (a) the area enclosed within an imaginary line drawn 100 metres seawards from the reef edge of Masthead Island Reef:
- (b) the area enclosed within an imaginary line drawn 100 metres seawards from the reef edge of Tryon Island Reef;
- (c) the area enclosed within an imaginary line drawn 100 metres seawards from the reef edge of Hoskyn Islands Reef; and
- (d) the area enclosed within an imaginary line drawn 100 metres seawards from the reef edge of Fairfax Islands Reef.

(3) Within the General Use 'A', General Use 'B', and Marine National Park 'A' Zones, there may be Reef Appreciation Areas. The objective of the Reef Appreciation Area is to provide small areas on heavily used reefs, in which the public may observe and appreciate relatively undisturbed marine life. Within such areas, fishing and collecting will not be allowed.

Reef Appreciation Areas shall not incorporate more than 20 per cent of the area of any one reef.

3.4 Notation of Areas of Periodic Restricted Use on Map

(1) To assist readers of this Zoning Plan, the approximate locations of the Areas of Periodic Restricted Use are indicated on the Zoning Map in accordance with the following table:

Column 1	Column 2
Name of Area of Periodic Restricted Use	Notation on Map
Replenishment Area	Black dashed line symbol
Seasonal Closure Area	Black dotted line symbol

⁽²⁾ Locations of Reef Appreciation Areas are not shown on the Zoning Map.

4 APPLICATIONS FOR PERMISSION

Where, in this Zoning Plan, provision is made for entry into, or use of, a zone with the permission of the responsible agency, the responsible agency:

- (a) shall, in considering an application for such permission, have regard to:
 - (i) the objectives of the zone;
 - (ii) the orderly and proper management of the zone;
 - (iii) the conservation of the natural resources of the Capricornia Section;
 - (iv) the existing use and amenity, and the future or desirable use and amenity, of the area and of adjacent areas;
 - (v) the size, extent and location of any proposed use in relation to any nearby use;
 - (vi) the likely effects of any proposed use on adjoining and adjacent areas, and any possible effects of the proposed use on the environment; and
 - (vii) the proposed means of access to and egress from any use and the adequacy of provisions for aircraft or vessel mooring, landing, parking, loading and unloading; and
- (b) may grant such permission subject to such conditions as it thinks appropriate or may refuse to grant such permission.

PART THREE - ZONE PROVISIONS

5 GENERAL USE 'A' ZONE

5.1 Objectives of the Zone

The objectives of the General Use 'A' Zone are:

- (a) to provide opportunities for reasonable use consistent with the conservation of the Great Barrier Reef;
- (b) to provide areas for trawling; and
- (c) to provide for Replenishment Areas where fishing and collecting are prohibited for limited periods to enable resource stocks to regenerate.

5.2 Use and Entry

The following are the only purposes for which the General Use 'A' Zone may be used or entered:

- (a) recreational activities other than fishing or collecting;
- (b) the construction, conduct and servicing of navigational aids and their ancillary buildings and works;
- (c) except in a Replenishment Area or Reef Appreciation Area, fishing by means of:
 - (i) line fishing (including trolling);
 - (ii) spearfishing, where any fish taken are not taken for a commercial purpose;
 - (iii) in a lagoon, netting, using an amateur bait net, when used as a beach seine net, or using a cast net, or a dip net;

- (iv) except in a lagoon, netting, using a net other than a gill net or a purse seine net; or
- (v) trawl fishing;
- (d) in a Replenishment Area, trolling for mackerel species from 1 May to 31 August in each year and the navigation of vessels for this purpose;
- (e) non-manipulative research;
- (f) the navigation and operation of vessels, provided that any equipment which is normally used for fishing or collecting is stowed or secured at all times at which the vessel is in a part of the Zone in which the use of that equipment is not permitted under this Zoning Plan;
- (g) the operation of aircraft:
 - (i) at an altitude of not less than 500 feet above ground or water; or
 - (ii) within an area designated as an aircraft landing area, at an altitude of less than 500 feet above ground or water:
 - on the surface of the ground or water, provided that any equipment which is normally used for fishing or collecting is stowed or secured at all times at which the aircraft is in a part of the Zone in which the use of that equipment is not permitted under this Zoning Plan; or
 - when landing on or flying out from such an area;

- (h) with the permission of the responsible agency:
 - (i) except in a Replenishment Area or Reef Appreciation Area, collecting;
 - (ii) manipulative research;
 - (iii) the provision of tourist or educational
 facilities;
 - (iv) the establishment of tourist or educational
 programs;
 - (v) the operation of aircraft, except as provided in paragraph (g):
 - on the surface of the ground or water; or
 - at an altitude of less than 500 feet above ground or water;
 - (vi) the use of hovercraft;
 - (vii) the removal of a vessel that is wrecked, stranded, sunk or abandoned within this Zone; or
 - (viii) any other purpose consistent with the objectives
 of the Zone.

6 GENERAL USE 'B' ZONE

6.1 Objectives of the Zone

The objectives of the General Use 'B' Zone are:

- (a) to provide opportunities for reasonable use consistent with the conservation of the Great Barrier Reef;
- (b) to protect reefs from the potential effects of trawling and commercial shipping;
- (c) to provide for Replenishment Areas where fishing and collecting are prohibited for limited periods to enable resource stocks to regenerate; and
- (d) to provide for Seasonal Closure Areas to protect from human intrusion some important bird and turtle nesting sites.

6.2 Use and Entry

The following are the only purposes for which the General Use 'B' Zone may be used or entered:

- (a) except in a Seasonal Closure Area, recreational activities other than fishing or collecting;
- (b) the construction, conduct and servicing of navigational aids and their ancillary buildings and works:
- (c) except in a Replenishment Area, Seasonal Closure Area or Reef Appreciation Area, fishing by means of:
 - (i) line fishing (including trolling);
 - (ii) spearfishing, where any fish so taken are not taken for a commercial purpose;

- (iii) in a lagoon, netting, using an amateur bait net when used as a beach seine net, or using a cast net, or a dip net; or
- (iv) except in a lagoon, netting, using a net other than a gill net or a purse seine net;
- (d) in a Replenishment Area, trolling for mackerel species from 1 May to 31 August in each year and the navigation of vessels for this purpose;
- (e) the navigation and operation of vessels, other than ships and trawl fishing vessels, provided that any equipment which is normally used for fishing or collecting is stowed or secured at all times at which the vessel is in a part of the Zone in which the use of that equipment is not permitted under this Zoning Plan;
- (f) the navigation of a trawl fishing vessel, provided that any equipment which is normally used for fishing or collecting is stowed or secured at all times at which the vessel is in a part of the Zone in which the use of that equipment is not permitted under this Zoning Plan;
- (g) except in a Seasonal Closure Area, the operation of aircraft:
 - (i) at an altitude of not less than 500 feet above ground or water; or

- (ii) within an area designated as an aircraft landing area, at an altitude of less than 500 feet above ground or water:
 - on the surface of the ground or water, provided that any equipment which is normally used for fishing or collecting is stowed or secured at all times at which the aircraft is in a part of the Zone in which the use of that equipment is not permitted under this Zoning Plan; or
 - when landing on or flying out from such an area;
- (h) in a Seasonal Closure Area, the operation of aircraft at an altitude of not less than 1000 feet above ground or water;
- (i) with the permission of the responsible agency:
 - (i) except in a Replenishment Area, Seasonal Closure Area or Reef Appreciation Area, collecting;
 - (ii) research;
 - (iii) the provision of tourist or educational facilities;
 - (iv) the establishment of tourist or educational programs;
 - (v) the navigation and operation of tourist cruise ships;
 - (vi) except in a Seasonal Closure Area, the operation of aircraft other than as specified in paragraph (q):
 - on the surface of the ground or water; or
 - at an altitude of less than 500 feet above ground or water;

- - on the surface of the ground or water; or
 - at an altitude of less than 1000 feet above ground or water;
- (viii) the use of hovercraft;
 - (ix) the removal of a vessel that is wrecked, stranded, sunk or abandoned within this Zone;
 - (x) in a Seasonal Closure Area, any purpose for which the Preservation Zone may be used or entered; or
 - (xi) any other purpose consistent with the objectives of the Zone.

7 MARINE NATIONAL PARK 'A' ZONE

7.1 Objective of the Zone

The objective of the Marine National Park 'A' Zone is to provide for the protection of the natural resources of the area while allowing the following uses:

- (i) recreational activities;
- (ii) limited recreational fishing; and
- (iii) approved research.

7.2 Use and Entry

The following are the only purposes for which the Marine National Park 'A' Zone may be used or entered:

- (a) recreational activities, other than :
 - (i) fishing, except as provided in paragraph (c) below; and
 - (ii) collecting;
- (b) construction, conduct and servicing of navigational aids and their ancillary buildings and works;
- (c) except in a Reef Appreciation Area, fishing for recreational purposes using equipment comprised of either a hand-held rod and reel, or a handline, and used with:
 - (i) an artificial fly;
 - (ii) a lure; or
 - (iii) no more than 2 hooks;

(d) the navigation and operation of vessels other than ships, provided that any equipment which is normally used for fishing or collecting is stowed or secured at all times at which the vessel is in a part of the Zone in which the use of that equipment is not permitted under this Zoning Plan;

(e) the operation of aircraft:

- (i) at an altitude of not less than 500 feet above ground or water; or
- (ii) within an area designated as an aircraft landing area, at an altitude of less than 500 feet above ground or water:
 - on the surface of the ground or water, provided that any equipment which is normally used for fishing or collecting is stowed or secured at all times at which the aircraft is in a part of the Zone in which the use of that equipment is not permitted under this Zoning Plan; or
 - when landing on, or flying out from such an area;

(f) with the permission of the responsible agency :

- (i) research;
- (ii) fishing by means of an amateur bait net when used as a beach seine net, or by means of a cast net or a dip net;
- (iii) the construction and conduct of an underwater observatory;
 - (iv) the provision of tourist or educational
 facilities:
 - (v) the establishment of tourist or educational programs;
 - (vi) the construction and conduct of mooring facilities for vessels;

- (vii) the construction and conduct of landing areas for aircraft;
- - (ix) the operation of aircraft other than as specified in paragraph (e):
 - on the surface of the ground or water; or
 - at an altitude of less than 500 feet above ground or water;
 - (x) the use of hovercraft;
 - (xi) the removal of a vessel that is wrecked, stranded, sunk or abandoned within this Zone; or
 - (xii) any other purpose consistent with the objective
 of the Zone.

8 MARINE NATIONAL PARK 'B' ZONE

8.1 Objective of the Zone

The objective of the Marine National Park 'B' Zone is to provide for the protection of the natural resources of the area while allowing the public to appreciate and enjoy the relatively undisturbed nature of the area free from the disturbing influences of fishing and collecting.

8.2 Use and Entry

The following are the only purposes for which the Marine National Park 'B' Zone may be used or entered:

- (a) recreational activities other than fishing or collecting;
- (b) construction, conduct and servicing of navigational aids and their ancillary buildings and works;
- (c) the navigation and operation of vessels other than ships, provided that any equipment which is normally used for fishing or collecting is stowed or secured at all times;
- (d) the operation of aircraft at an altitude of not less than 1000 feet above ground or water:
- (e) with the permission of the responsible agency:
 - (i) research;
 - (ii) the construction and conduct of mooring facilities;
 - (iii) the removal of a vessel that is wrecked, stranded, sunk or abandoned within this Zone; or
 - (iv) any other purpose consistent with the objective of the Zone.

9 SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ZONE

9.1 Objective of the Zone

The objective of the Scientific Research Zone is to provide an area where approved research can be carried out protected from the influences of recreational activities, fishing and collecting.

9.2 Use and Entry

The following are the only purposes for which the Scientific Research Zone may be used or entered with the permission of the responsible agency:

- (a) activities associated with the conduct of a research station;
- (b) research;
- (c) the removal of a vessel that is wrecked, stranded, sunk or abandoned within this Zone;
- (d) any other purpose consistent with the objective of the Zone.

9.3 Consideration of Applications for Research

The responsible agency shall, when considering an application for research within this Zone, in addition to the provisions of clause 4, have particular regard to:

- (a) the environmental impact of the research;
- (b) the need for the long-term conservation of the Great Barrier Reef; and
- (c) the needs of other researchers.

10 PRESERVATION ZONE

10.1 Objectives of the Zone

The objectives of the Preservation Zone are:

- (a) to preserve areas of the Great Barrier Reef in their natural state undisturbed by man except for the purposes of scientific research; and
- (b) to provide protection around some islands where important turtle and bird nesting sites occur.

10.2 Use and Entry

The following are the only purposes for which the Preservation Zone may be used or entered:

- (a) scientific research conducted with the permission of the responsible agency, being research that cannot be carried out in any other Zone;
- (b) the operation of aircraft at an altitude of not less than 1000 feet above ground or water;
- (c) with the permission of the responsible agency:
 - (i) the removal of a vessel that is wrecked, stranded, sunk or abandoned within this Zone; or
 - (ii) any other purpose consistent with the objectives of the Zone.

PART FOUR - EXEMPTIONS

11 ACCESS IN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

In addition to the purposes for which a zone is to be, or may be, used or entered as specified in clauses 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of this Zoning Plan, an aircraft, hovercraft, vessel or person may enter any part of a zone for the purpose of:

- (a) saving human life or avoiding the risk of injury to a human being;
- (b) locating, or securing the safety of, an aircraft, hovercraft or vessel which is, or may be, endangered by stress of weather or by navigational or operational hazards;
- (c) government geodetic survey, reconnaissance, surveillance, or law enforcement (including enforcement of the Act and regulations made under it);
- (d) dealing with an emergency involving a serious threat to the environment.

12 STATUTORY NOTICES

Nothing in the Zoning Plan shall be construed as regulating, restricting, restraining or prohibiting the construction or display of signs or notices required by law.

13 PROTECTED SPECIES

Nothing in the Zoning Plan shall be construed as permitting the taking of any animal or plant protected under Commonwealth or Queensland legislation.

14 APPLICATION OF QUEENSLAND, FEDERAL AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

- (1) Nothing in the Zoning Plan shall be construed as permitting any activity otherwise prohibited under the laws of the Commonwealth or Queensland.
- (2) Nothing in the Zoning Plan shall have any effect contrary to the obligations of the Commonwealth Government under international law.

