



# Site Management Arrangements

## Lady Musgrave Reef (23-082) (Revision 1)

**Target audience:** All users (or potential users) of Lady Musgrave Reef, and authorised delegates who make decisions regarding permitted use of Lady Musgrave Reef.

### Objective

1. To provide guiding information to Lady Musgrave Reef users and Marine Park permit delegates about the site management arrangements at Lady Musgrave Reef (23-082).

### Purpose

2. The purpose of these site management arrangements are to:
  - 2.1. protect species of conservation significance, such as green and loggerhead turtles and coastal birds, the lagoon and the coral reef ecosystem
  - 2.2. protect Indigenous and European heritage and cultural values
  - 2.3. minimise impacts on amenity to ensure the Reef's visually impressive natural landscape is not compromised by visitor use
  - 2.4. support sustainable tourism opportunities for visitors through guided and group activities including diving, snorkelling and scenic flights, while also catering for self-exploration activities for recreational users, all of which provide visitors with their own appreciation of Lady Musgrave Reef
  - 2.5. support sustainable tourism, including Indigenous involvement in tourism, and partnerships with tourism operators to achieve outcomes that benefit visitors while continuing to protect Lady Musgrave Reef and associated ecosystems.

### Context

3. These site management arrangements apply to the entire area of Lady Musgrave Reef (23-082). The Reef is divided into *Management Area 1* and *Management Area 2* wherein different management guidelines are applied. Refer to the *Lady Musgrave Site Management Arrangements Map*, within [Appendix A](#).
4. A complementary arrangement exists where the Managing Agencies often jointly assess applications for access to areas within both the Commonwealth jurisdiction, specifically the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and areas within Queensland jurisdiction, specifically the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park.
5. These site management arrangements are a consideration of the permit delegate, consistent with the Commonwealth's *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983* and Queensland's *Marine Parks Regulation 2006*.

### Site boundaries

#### *Lady Musgrave Reef - Management area 1*

6. The area bounded by a notional line commencing at 23° 53.753' S, 152° 23.104' E then running progressively:
  - 6.1. east along the parallel to 23° 53.753' S, 152° 24.591' E;
  - 6.2. south along the meridian to 23° 54.899' S, 152° 24.591' E;
  - 6.3. west along the parallel to 23° 54.899' S, 152° 23.104' E; and

6.4. north along the meridian to the point of commencement.

### *Lady Musgrave Reef - Management area 2*

7. The remaining area bounded by the extent of the Lady Musgrave Reef indicative boundary - Reef ID 23-082 a, and b.

### **Site zoning**

8. The waters north of Lady Musgrave Island, as well as the lagoon wall between the island and the lagoon entrance are a Marine National Park Zone (Green Zone), and the remaining waters are a Habitat Protection Zone (Dark Blue Zone) under both State and Commonwealth Zoning Plans.
9. Lady Musgrave Island is part of the State of Queensland's Capricornia Cays National Park - where camping and day visitation is allowed on the island. Bookings to camp on the island can be made through the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing's website.

### **Site values**

10. Site values are described within *Lady Musgrave Reef Site Management Arrangements - Supporting Information*.

### **Site use**

11. Site use is described within *Lady Musgrave Reef Site Management Arrangements - Supporting Information*.

## **Management arrangements**

### **Tourism programs**

#### *Tourism programs in Management Area 1*

12. A person may be granted a daily tourist program permission (i.e., a tourist program permission with greater than two (2) in any seven (7) day period access) to *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1* if that person has a Marine Parks Permission to operate a mooring or a pontoon within the *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1*.
13. For tourist program operators who do not have a Marine Parks Permission for daily access to *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1*, holding multiple permissions for the same operation in an attempt to gain increased access is not acceptable. Generally an operation is determined by the primary vessel used.
14. Tourist program operators who want to access the island National Park need to hold a Commercial Activity Permit issued by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.
15. Applications for permission to conduct a daily tourist program will be assessed on a first come, first served basis.
16. A daily permission to conduct a tourist program must be used a minimum of 50 days at *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1* in each 12 month period from the date of commencing operations.
17. Operators who hold a tourist program permission for two (2) visits in any seven (7) day period may anchor at Lady Musgrave Reef outside of the *Reef Protection Area*.

#### *Tourism programs in Management Area 2*

18. A person may be granted a daily tourist program permission to *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 2* if that person has a Marine Parks Permission to operate a mooring or a pontoon within the *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 2*.

### Pontoons

#### *Pontoons in Management Area 1*

19. The proposed maximum number of permissions for pontoons that will be granted within *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1* is two (2), and will only be granted if the pontoon permission is linked with a daily tourist program permission to *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1*.
20. Moorings and other facilities, such as snorkelling marker buoys, floats, float lines and guide ropes, associated with the pontoons will also require permission and generally will be contained within 200 metres of the pontoon and not scattered widely throughout the lagoon.
21. Applications for pontoon permissions will be assessed on a first come, first served basis.
22. A permitted pontoon must be installed and operated to within one (1) year of the permission being granted, unless otherwise advised in writing by the Managing Agency.
23. A pontoon permission must be used a minimum of 50 days at *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1* in each 12 month period from the date of commencing operations.

#### *Pontoons in Management Area 2*

24. There are no additional management arrangements in *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 2* for the installation and operation of pontoons and applications will be assessed under standard permit application assessment procedures.

### Private moorings

25. The policy *Moorings in the Great Barrier Reef* states that a private mooring should be installed within six (6) months of the permission being granted and that the Managing Agencies may revoke a permission for a private mooring that is not installed in the Great Barrier Reef within six (6) months of the permission being granted or another agreed timeframe.

#### *Private moorings in Management Area 1*

26. A proposed maximum number of 18 private moorings will be permitted within *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1*. This 18 should be divided into eight (8) moorings for primary vessels and 10 for ancillary moorings associated with the pontoon permissions, i.e. five (5) ancillary moorings will be reserved for each of the two (2) pontoon permissions to be used in conjunction with the pontoon. Ancillary moorings generally will be contained within 200 metres of the pontoon. Permissions for the ancillary moorings must not be separated from pontoon permissions.
27. Permissions to install private moorings within the *No Private Moorings Area* should not be granted.
28. As an exception to the policy on *Moorings in the Great Barrier Reef*, the permitted ancillary moorings associated with pontoon permissions must be installed and operated to within one (1) year of the permission being granted, unless otherwise advised in writing by the Managing Agency.
29. Applications for the installation and operation of private moorings will be assessed on a first come, first served basis.
30. A primary mooring permission must be used by the primary vessel a minimum of 50 days at *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1* in each 12 month period from the date of commencing operations.

#### *Private moorings in Management Area 2*

31. There are no additional management arrangements in *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 2* for the installation and operation of private moorings, except as outlined in the policy

on *Moorings in the Great Barrier Reef*, and applications will be assessed under standard permit application assessment procedures.

### **Aircraft operations**

32. The proposed maximum number of permitted take off and landings of aircraft at *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1* per day is twelve (12). The spatial separation of aircraft landing and water based activities will occur during assessment of applications.

### **No Private Mooring area**

33. Vessels may anchor in the *No Private Mooring Area* but permissions to install private moorings within this area should not be granted. This area has been designated adjacent to the *Reef Protection Area* (no anchoring) and was designated where small recreational vessels regularly anchor. This area ensures smaller vessels are not displaced due to the installation of permitted private moorings and also addresses amenity issues relating to larger daily commercial vessels on moorings which may obstruct the view of the island from the lagoon area.

### **Mooring and Anchoring area**

34. Vessels may anchor in the *Mooring and Anchoring Area* within *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1* and permitted private moorings may be installed and operated within this area in accordance with *Private moorings in Management Area 1* above.

### **Reef Protection Area**

35. A *Reef Protection Area* (no anchoring) has been designated along the lagoons north-eastern wall (south-western section of the lagoon) within *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1*. The *Reef Protection Area* contains popular snorkelling sites and ensures that vessels can navigate to the *Cay Access Channel*. Anchoring is available in the adjacent *No Private Mooring Area* and the *Mooring and Anchoring Area*.
36. The *Reef Protection Area* is approximately 500–700 metres from the cay. The *Reef Protection Area* boundary terminates close to the island to allow for the anchoring of small and/or tender vessels in all tidal conditions close to the island. The *Reef Protection Area* includes some of the most popular snorkelling sites, including “Coral Bay” and other small bays and bommies along the western wall of the lagoon that have high coral cover.
37. The *Reef Protection Area* also ensures that users of the site can adequately and safely access the island by preventing anchored and moored vessels from obstructing the island’s access points.

### **Cay Access Channel**

38. A *Cay Access Channel* has been designated to allow for unhindered and safe access to the cay. Buoys and appropriate signs mark the *Cay Access Channel*. The *Cay Access Channel* is located within the *Reef Protection Area* so no vessels may anchor in the *Cay Access Channel*.

### **Vessel Loading Area**

39. The *Vessel Loading Area* is a ‘no standing’ area where vessels cannot be anchored; however, tenders may be anchored adjacent to this area. The *Vessel Loading Area* is adjacent to the National Park sign and shelter located on the north-eastern side of the cay. The *Vessel Loading Area* is designed for the purpose of loading and unloading passengers and cargo. The *Vessel Loading Area* is a no anchoring or standing area to ensure vessels do not prevent access to the cay. The beach and shallows adjacent to the *Vessel Loading Area* and other parts of the cay can be used for tenders that will be anchored or beached for some time.

## Go Slow Area

40. A *Go Slow Area* has been designated from the mean high water boundary out to 500 metres around the island or to the edge of the outer drying reef, whichever is least, within *Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1*. The intention of the *Go Slow Area* is that a person should not operate a vessel in a planing or non-displacement mode, or operate a vessel for motorised water sports or operate a vessel in a way or at a speed that could reasonably be expected to result in striking a marine turtle.
41. Boat strike on marine turtles and noise impacts on migratory coastal birds is of concern and high-speed water activities have the potential to significantly affect these values and the safety of visitors engaged in swimming, snorkelling and diving.

## Related legislation/ standards/ policy

42. *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983* (Cth)
43. *Marine Parks Regulation 2006* (Qld)
44. Lady Musgrave Reef Site Management Arrangements - Supporting Information
45. Moorings in the Great Barrier Reef Policy

## Definitions

- (a) Nil.

## Further information

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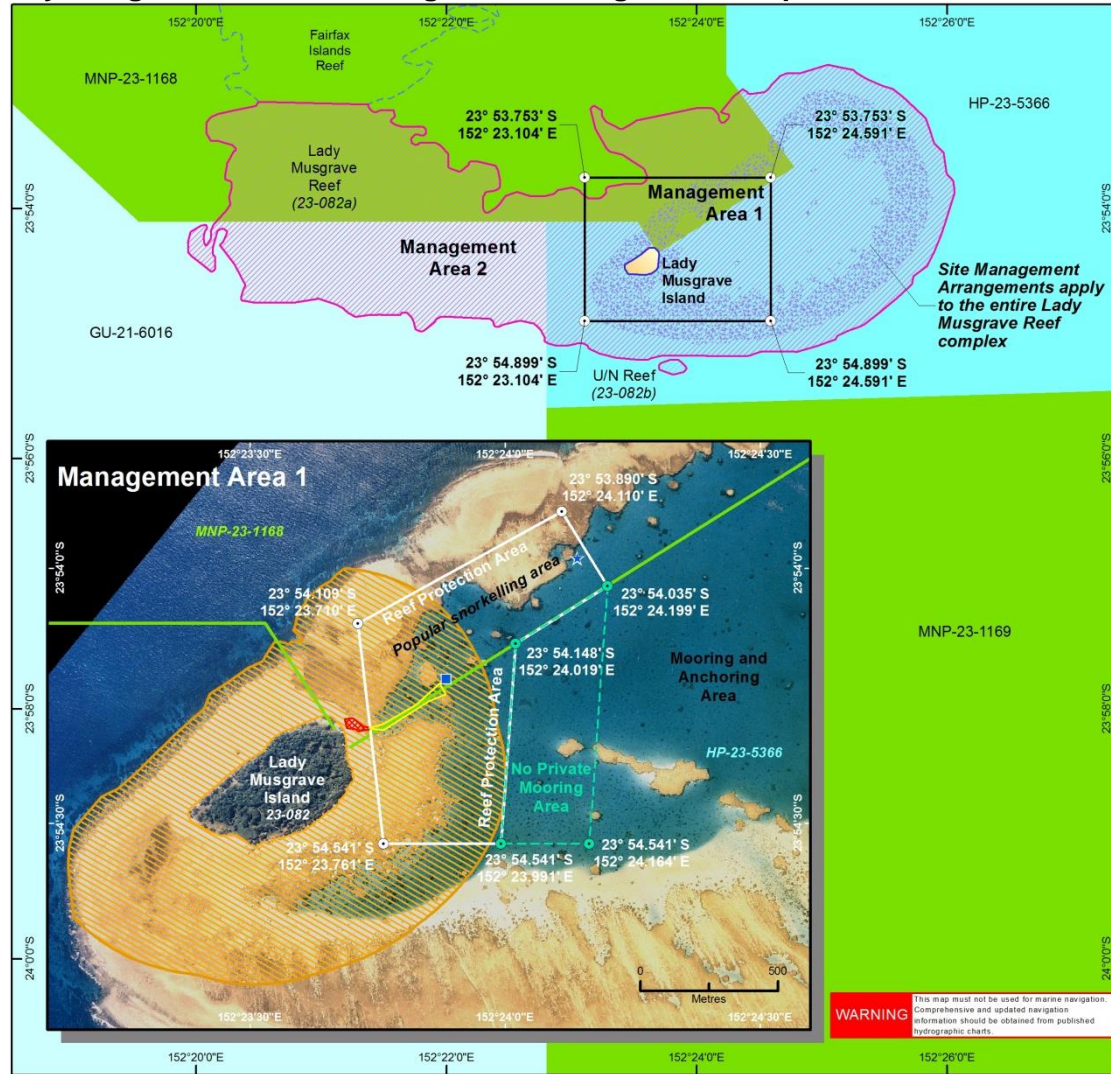
## References/ related material

As documented within *Lady Musgrave Reef Site Management Arrangements - Supporting Information*.

<b>Document control information</b>	
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Replaces: <i>"Lady Musgrave Island Reef Site Management Arrangements 2006" and "Lady Musgrave Island Reef (23-082) Guide to Permit Delegates"(revision 0, Jan-2007).</i>	

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Appendix A - Lady Musgrave Reef Site Management Arrangements Map

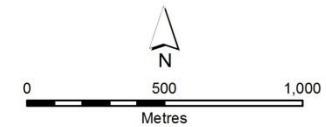


Site Management Arrangements  
Lady Musgrave Reef (23-082)



LEGEND

- Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1 coordinates
  - Lady Musgrave Reef Management Area 1 boundary
  - Lady Musgrave Reef (Site Management Area)
  - Approximate position of proposed pontoon
  - Existing pontoon
  - Cay Access Channel
  - Vessel Loading Area
  - No Private Mooring Area
  - Reef Protection Area (No Anchoring)
  - Go slow area (500m buffer from Lady Musgrave Island or edge of outer drying reef, whichever is least)
  - Indicative Reef boundary
  - Drying Reef
- Zoning**
- General Use
  - Habitat Protection
  - Marine National Park
  - Marine National Park boundary



Map Projection: Unprojected Geographic  
Horizontal Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia, 1994  
Data Source: The State of Queensland Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing 2014  
Image Source: QPWS Rockhampton aerial photo.  
This map is indicative only  
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**WARNING** This map must not be used for marine navigation. Comprehensive and updated navigation information should be obtained from published hydrographic charts.

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