

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority





The Keppels is a popular area to visit on the Great Barrier Reef. To help protect this iconic area there are special rules in place for spearfishing.

Where is spearfishing allowed in the Keppels?

To know where you are allowed to spearfish, please refer to the checklist below and map on the back of this page. This map shows the rules for marine parks zoning, which includes the Public Appreciation Special Management Areas. Please note: This means that you cannot spearfish in Conservation Park (Yellow) Zones marked as public appreciation areas – which are shown on the map as yellow, with a pink dotted border.

Queensland fisheries legislation also prohibits spearfishing in the regulated waters at North Keppel and Great Keppel Islands.

Where you **can** spearfish 📿

- General Use (Light Blue) Zones*
- Habitat Protection (Dark Blue) Zones*
- Conservation Park (Yellow) Zones that are not part of Public Appreciation Special Management Areas

*Provided you are not within Queensland fisheries regulated waters that prohibit spearfishing

Where you **cannot** spearfish (\times)

- Marine National Park (Green) Zones
- **Public Appreciation Special** Management Areas (Yellow Zones with a pink dotted border):
- Great Keppel Island western side
- North Keppel Island Considine Bay
- Queensland fisheries regulated waters:
- Great Keppel Island western foreshores, 400m out-to-sea from the low water mark North Keppel Island western
- and southern foreshores, 400m out-to-sea from the low water mark

Help to protect your patch

- Spear only what you need
- Do not pursue a fish if you are unsure of its identity or size
- Do not anchor on coral
- Avoid taking plant-eating fish like parrotfish, which remove algae and provide space for new corals to grow.

Rules for spearfishing

When you spearfish on the Great Barrier Reef, you can use a snorkel when using a spear or spear gun. You cannot use: a powerhead or other firearm, a light, scuba or other underwater breathing apparatus. Note: Fishers using spear guns cannot have a loaded spear gun out of the water.

Marine parks information

www.gbrmpa.gov.au (07) 4750 0700 See Capricorn Zoning Map 17 Eye on the Reef zoning app

Queensland fisheries catch limits and closures www.fisheries.gld.gov.au

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