



# Bulletin

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## REEF APPRECIATION AREAS CAPRICORNIA SECTION GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK WISTARI REEF

A Reef Appreciation Area is a small area on a heavily used reef in which the public may observe and appreciate relatively undisturbed marine life. Fishing and collecting are not allowed in the Reef Appreciation Areas.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority has declared Reef Appreciation Areas in the Capricornia Section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park following a review of comments received during a public participation program.

The declaration of Reef Appreciation Areas is in keeping with the Authority's goal of providing for the protection, wise use, appreciation and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef in perpetuity through the development and care of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Reef Appreciation Areas are small parts of Lady Musgrave Island Reef, Heron Island Reef, Wistari Reef, Lady Elliott Island Reef, Masthead Island Reef, North West Island Reef and Tryon Island Reef and have been declared until 30 June 1988. As the Authority's policy is to review a zoning plan every 5 years, it is expected that a review of the Capricornia Section Zoning Plan and the recently declared Reef Appreciation Areas should be completed by 30 June 1988.

Each Reef Appreciation Area has been selected because it has a wide range of corals, fish and other marine animals, is free from strong tidal currents and is easily accessible from popular anchorages or camping islands.

Activities which may be undertaken in Reef Appreciation Areas include snorkelling, reef walking, diving, photography and observation of marine life.

During the next 18 to 24 months as funds are available, the Reef Appreciation Areas will be buoyed and signposted for ease of identification.

Day to day management of the Capricornia Section is undertaken by officers of the Queensland National Parks and Wildlife Service who during the course of their normal duties will monitor the Reef Appreciation Areas by both aerial surveillance and vessel patrols as well as by on site reefal surveys.

Further information may be obtained from:



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