



Australian Government
Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park Authority



Queensland
Government

**A guide to tourism operations and
other commercial activities in the**

CAIRNS AREA

(Offshore Cairns and Port Douglas, Ribbon Reefs, Lizard Island and Fitzroy Island)

Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks and Island National Parks



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Published by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

ISBN 978-0-6450438-4-6

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised this publication may contain names and images of deceased persons.

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A catalogue record for this publication is available from the National Library of Australia.

This publication should be cited as:

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Queensland Government (2023), A Guide to tourism operations and other commercial activities in the Cairns Area (offshore Cairns and Port Douglas, Ribbon Reefs, Lizard Island and Fitzroy Island), GBRMPA, Townsville.

Comments and questions regarding this document are welcome and should be addressed to:



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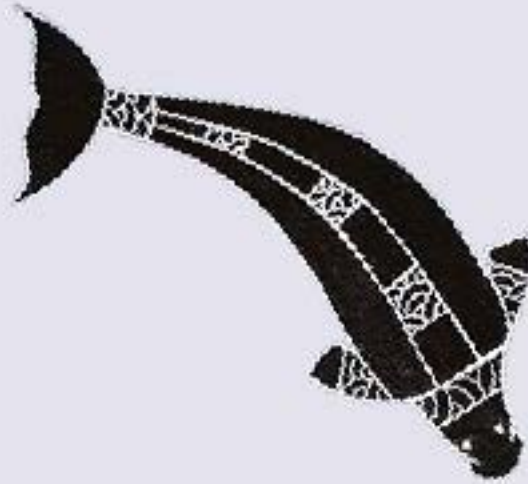


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The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and the Department of Environment and Science acknowledge the continuing Land and Sea Country management and custodianship of the Great Barrier Reef by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Owners. Their rich cultures, heritage values, enduring connections and shared efforts protect the Great Barrier Reef for future generations.

The Traditional Custodians maintain a strong and ongoing spiritual connection to their homeland and ask you to tread with care and respect when visiting this amazing place.

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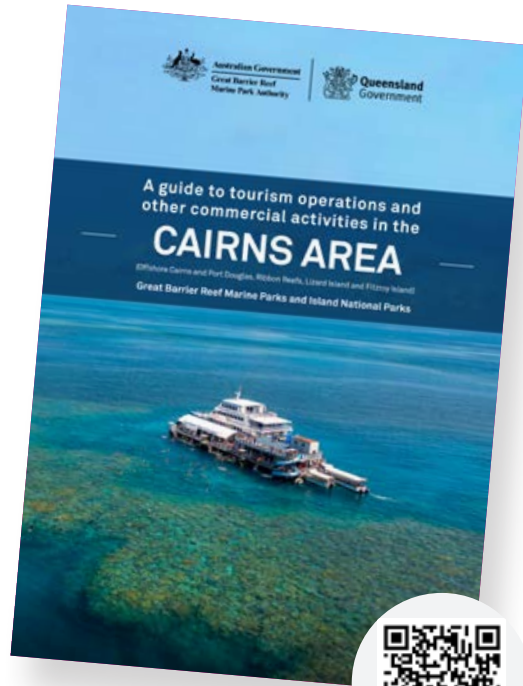
How to use this Guide

Do you conduct, or are you planning on conducting a tourism operation or other commercial activity (for example, events or filming activity) in the Cairns Planning Area (area offshore Cairns and Port Douglas, Ribbon Reefs and Lizard Island) or at Fitzroy Island?

Yes!

This Guide is for you.

This Guide explains the types of tourism operations and commercial activities that can be conducted in the Cairns area across both the marine and island national parks and outlines the management rules and best practices that apply to different types of tourism operations. You can go to the relevant part of this Guide, as per the Table of Contents, to find the information relevant to you.



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The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Reef Authority) and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) have also produced other documents, listed here, to support your understanding of the rules while operating in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks (the Marine Parks):



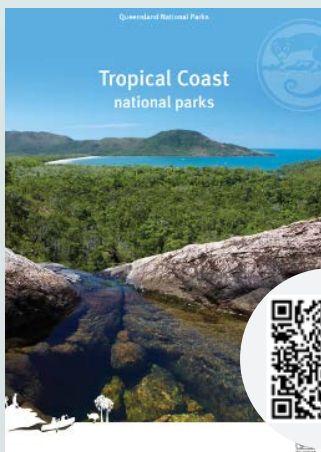
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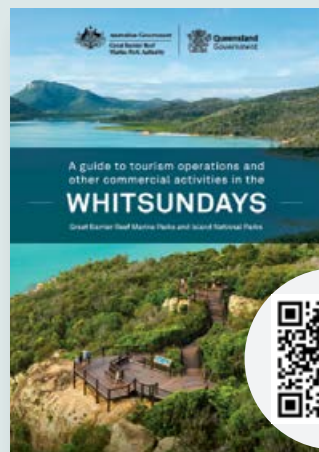
Great Barrier Reef – Superyacht Cruising Guide



ensland



Tropical Coast National Parks



Whitsundays guide to tourism operations and other commercial activities

Welcome to the Cairns area

The Cairns area is one of the most highly visited regions in the Great Barrier Reef and is part of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

Management rules help protect the Great Barrier Reef and islands in the Cairns area. Penalties or enforcement actions can apply, under legislation, if rules are contravened and/or the health of the marine and island national parks are threatened. For easy reference, some of these important rules are highlighted by this icon.



Everyone operating in the Marine Parks is also encouraged to apply Responsible Reef and Island Practices. This Guide highlights Responsible Reef and Island Practices by displaying this logo and guiding you to relevant information on the relevant websites.



1. How the Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks are managed

The Cairns region (refer to Maps, p. 74) is jointly managed by the Reef Authority and QPWS (**the managing agencies**). Figure 1 provides a simplified version of the boundaries and permits needed for the national parks and the Marine Parks.

Both Marine Parks include the subsoil below and airspace above their boundaries, and the plants and animals within them.

Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park boundaries can include tidal lands and waters up to the highest astronomical tide (**HAT**). For further information refer to the [DES webpage](#).

For more detailed information on boundaries and joint management arrangements refer to approved text - joint management arrangements refer to page 3 of the [Great Barrier Reef Outlook Report 2019](#) and the [field management program webpage](#).

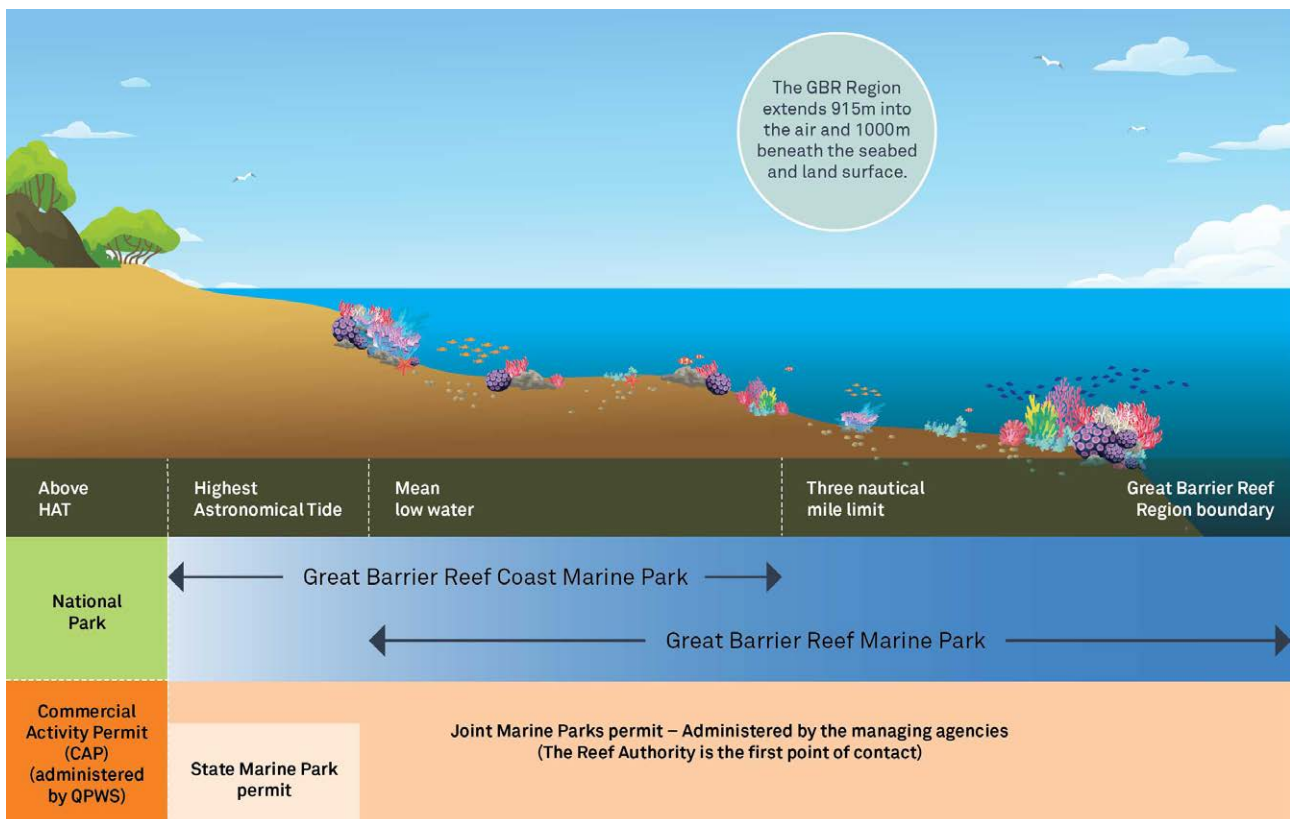


Figure 1 – Simplified illustration of boundaries

1.1 Marine Parks zoning

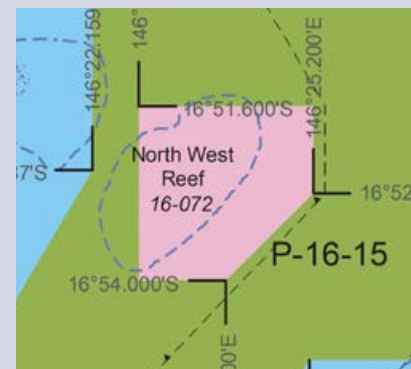
The Marine Parks allow for multiple uses, including tourism, recreational, research and traditional (cultural) use activities. **Zoning** helps to manage and protect the values of the Marine Parks (refer to Maps, p. 74). The Activities Guide (Fig. 2) summarises which activities are allowed, prohibited or require a **permission** in each zone. Zones may also place restrictions on how some activities are conducted. Most commercial activities require a permission under the zoning plans. Check whether you are allowed access to different zones on your **Marine Parks permit**.

Detailed zoning information is in the Commonwealth [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003](#) and Queensland [Marine Parks \(Great Barrier Reef Coast\) Zoning Plan 2004](#). Zoning maps can be accessed via the [Eye on the Reef app](#), the [Reef Authority website](#) or local fishing stores (hard copies). Zoning spatial layers can also be downloaded from the Reef Authority's [Geoportal website](#). Zoning [map 4 \(Cooktown\)](#), [map 5 \(Cairns\)](#) and [map 6 \(Innisfail\)](#) apply to the Cairns area.



Within this Guide, reefs are identified with a Reef ID, which corresponds with the zoning plan and zoning maps.

Example: North West Reef (16-072).



The Preservation Zone offers the highest level of protection in the Marine Parks. There are five Preservation Zone (pink zones) areas in the Cairns Planning Area that you cannot enter, except in extremely limited circumstances (i.e. in a life threatening emergency).

- P-14-10 Carter Reef (14-137)
- P-15-11 Camel Head Reef (15-029)
- P-15-12 Ribbon No. 6 Reef (15-032)
- P-16-14 Euston Reef (16-063)
- P-16-15 North West Reef (16-072)

ACTIVITIES GUIDE

(see relevant *Zoning Plans and Regulations* for details)

	General Use Zone	Habitat Protection Zone	Conservation Park Zone	Buffer Zone	Scientific Research Zone ³	Marine National Park Zone	Preservation Zone	State Zoning Only	Estuarine Conservation Zone
Aquaculture	Permit	Permit	Permit ¹	X	X	X	X	Permit	
Bait netting	✓	✓	✓ ²	X	X	X	X	✓	
Boating, diving, photography	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ³	✓	X	✓	
Crabbing (trapping)	✓	✓	✓ ⁴	X	X	X	X	✓	
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm	Permit	Permit	Permit ¹	X	X	X	X	X	
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster	Permit	Permit	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Limited collecting	✓ ⁵	✓ ⁵	✓ ⁵	X	X	X	X	✓	
Limited spearfishing (snorkel only)	✓	✓	✓ ¹	X	X	X	X	✓	
Line fishing	✓ ⁶	✓ ⁶	✓ ⁷	X	X	X	X	✓	
Netting (other than bait netting)	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	
Research (other than limited impact research)	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	
Shipping (other than in a designated shipping area)	✓	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	X	Permit	
Tourism programme	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit	X	Permit	
Traditional use of marine resources	✓ ⁸	✓ ⁸	✓ ⁸	✓ ⁸	✓ ⁸	✓ ⁸	X	✓ ⁸	
Trawling	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Trolling	✓ ⁶	✓ ⁶	✓ ⁶	✓ ^{6,9}	X	X	X	✓	

PLEASE NOTE: This guide provides an introduction to Zoning in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks.

- Restrictions apply to aquaculture, spearfishing and harvest fishing for aquarium fish, beachworm and coral in the Conservation Park Zone.
- No take of bream, flathead or whiting by commercial bait netters.
- Except for One Tree Island Reef (SR-23-2010) and Australian Institute of Marine Science (SR-19-2008) which are closed to public access and shown as orange, all other Scientific Research Zones are shown as green with an orange outline.
- Limited to 4 catch apparatus per person (eg. crab pots, collapsible traps or dillies).
- By hand or hand-held implement and generally no more than 5 of a species.
- Maximum of 6 hooks attached to no more than 3 hand-held rods or handlines per person.
- Limited to 1 hook attached to 1 hand-held rod or handline per person. Only 1 dory detached from a commercial fishing vessel.
- Apart from traditional use of marine resources in accordance with s.211 of the *Native Title Act 1993*, an accredited Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreement or permit is required.
- Pelagic species only. Seasonal Closures apply to some Buffer Zones.

Detailed information is contained in the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003* and *Regulations* and the *Marine Parks (Great Barrier Reef Coast) Zoning Plan 2004*.

- Permits are required for most other activities not listed above.
- Commonwealth owned islands in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are zoned "Commonwealth Islands Zone" - shown as cream.
- All Commonwealth Islands may not be shown.
- Special Management Areas may provide additional restrictions at some locations.
- The Zoning Plan does not affect the operation of s.211 of the *Native Title Act 1993*.

ACCESS TO ALL ZONES IS PERMITTED IN AN EMERGENCY.

Figure 2 – Activities Guide

1.2 Special Management Areas

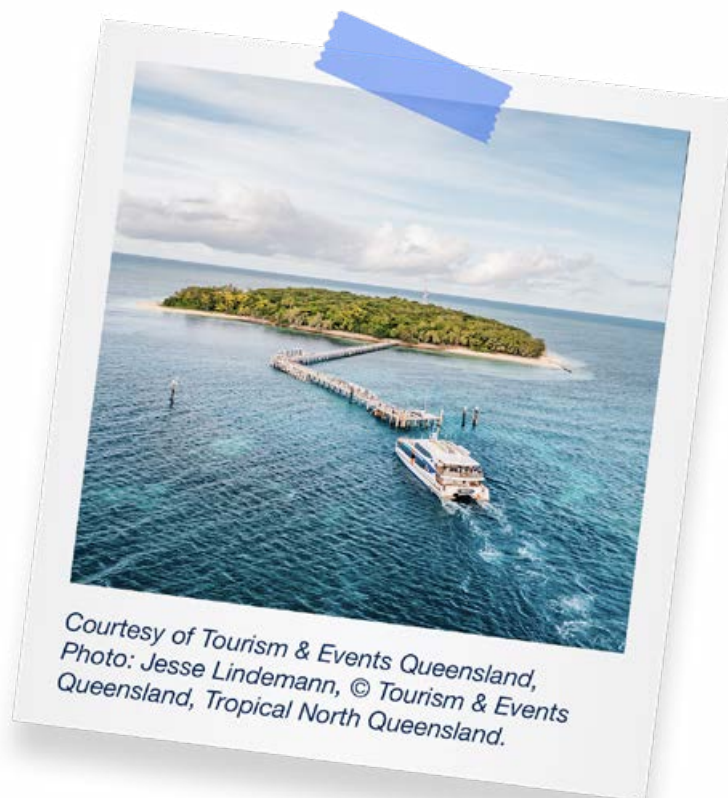
Special Management Areas (SMAs) are an additional layer of protection. They are created to provide tailored management outcomes for conservation or use and are marked on the zoning maps. The specific areas and rules are described in the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019* (Cth) and explained on the [Reef Authority website](#). The following SMAs are located in the Cairns area:

- Natural Resources Conservation (Mermaid Cove, Lizard Island) SMA (CP-14-4017)
 - » No fishing or collecting, unless trolling or bait netting for pelagic species or conducting limited impact research (extractive) or research in accordance with a permission
- Seasonal Closure (Offshore Ribbon Reefs) SMA
 - » Must not be used or entered for the purposes of fishing involving the taking of a pelagic species by trolling during January to August (inclusive) in a year
- Public Appreciation SMA
 - » No limited spearfishing, harvest fishery and aquaculture operations
 - » Fitzroy Island Reef (CP-16-4039) (aquaculture operation allowed)
 - » Yonge Reef (14-116b)
 - » Lizard Island Reef (14-116b)—Mermaid Bay to Pigeon Point CP-14-4018
 - » North Opal Reef (16-025) CP-16-4029
 - » Flynn Reef (16-065) CP-16-4035
 - » Thetford Reef (16-068) CP-16-4036
- Maritime Cultural Heritage Protection SMA
 - » Catalina A24-25 Maritime Cultural Heritage Protection SMA (near Frankland Islands)

Refer to the [Regulations](#) or the [Reef Authority website](#) for information about SMAs including those that relate to fishing (for example regarding No Dory or One Dory Detached).

1.3 Island management

Not all the islands in the Cairns area are national park — some are privately owned, include leases or are Commonwealth islands. Islands are surrounded by State marine park, which can extend up to the HAT.



*Courtesy of Tourism & Events Queensland,
Photo: Jesse Lindemann, © Tourism & Events
Queensland, Tropical North Queensland.*

1.3.1 Queensland national park islands

The Cairns area includes several island national parks that have a high level of protection and only non-extractive activities are allowed.



- Frankland Group National Park
- Fitzroy Island National Park (outside of the Cairns Planning Area but included in this Guide)
- Green Island National Park
- Michaelmas and Upolu Cays National Park
- Hope Islands National Park
- Lizard Island National Park

For more information on these sites refer to Attachment 2 – Site-Specific Management and Maps, p. 74.

1.3.2 Commonwealth islands

Low Isles (offshore Port Douglas), Little Fitzroy Island (offshore Cairns) and Russell Island (Frankland Islands Group) are [Commonwealth Islands Zones](#).

1.3.3 Privately owned islands

Double Island (30 km north of Cairns) is a private island with a perpetual lease above HAT. Several islands, including Green Island, Lizard Island and Fitzroy Island, have private leases over part/s of the land providing for resorts, research or other facilities. Please contact the relevant lease holder if you wish to access these areas.

1.4 Locations outside the Cairns Planning Area

Outside the Cairns Planning Area and, in fact, all areas not covered by a Plan of Management in the Marine Parks, standard access for tourist operations is limited to two visits to a location in any seven-day period, subject to exclusions and conditions.

The coastal strip extending from Bramston Beach (east of Babinda) to the Daintree River and areas north of Cape Tribulation, and Fitzroy Island are examples of areas outside the Planning Area (refer Maps, p. 74). Fitzroy Island and the Fitzroy Marine Management Area are managed in accordance with the [Fitzroy Island National Park and Marine Management Area Management Plan \(Qld\)](#) (refer p. 70).



For additional information on access and use, including the [Whitsunday](#) and [Hinchinbrook](#) Planning Areas, visit the [Reef Authority's Access webpages](#) or email assessments@gbrmpa.gov.au.



Courtesy of Tourism Tropical North Queensland

2. Cairns Area Plan of Management and permits

2.1 Cairns Area Plan of Management (including Sectors, Locations and Sensitive Locations)

The ***Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998*** (the Plan) complements zoning by addressing issues specific to the area in greater detail.

The Plan provides additional protection for key values (such as wildlife, fish and corals), allows for a range of experiences (from low to high use) and regulates conflicting uses through various management strategies.

The Planning Area (Map 1, p. 74) covers only six per cent of the spatial area of the Marine Park, yet hosts around 45 per cent of the total annual tourism visitation to the Great Barrier Reef (pre-COVID-19 figures).



While the Plan applies to all Marine Park users including group size limitations and rules around motorised water sport, it manages tourism operations in more detail, including booking requirements and mooring limits.

Given the large geographic area, the Planning Area is separated into Sectors (refer Map 1, p. 74), with Locations, Localities and Sensitive Locations defined which provide more detailed site-specific management.

2.1.1 Sectors

The Planning Area has been divided into six Sectors for administrative reasons (refer Map 1, p. 74):

- [Lizard Island Sector](#)
- [Ribbon Reefs Sector](#)
- [Offshore Port Douglas Sector](#)
- [Offshore Cairns Sector](#)
- [Southern Offshore Cairns Sector](#)
- [Frankland Islands Sector](#)



2.1.2 Location, Locality and Sensitive Location

Within each Sector of the Planning Area, reefs, cays and water surrounding islands have been defined as individual Locations, Locality(s) and Sensitive Locations to protect important values and support existing use.

A Location is the area within the 500 metre line of a reef (as listed in Schedule 4 of the Plan) (refer Fig. 3, p. 15).

A Locality is a unique type of Location with specific boundaries defined by geographic coordinates (as described in Schedule 3 of the Plan) – (refer Fig. 4, p. 15).

Locations and Locality(s) are listed in Schedule 3 and 4 of the Plan.

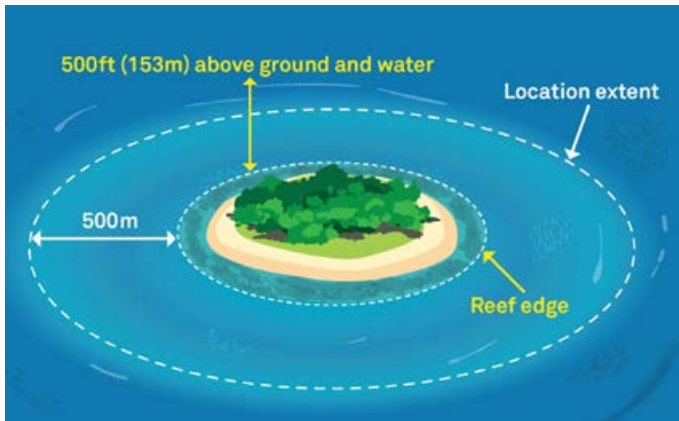


Figure 3: Simplified illustration of a Location

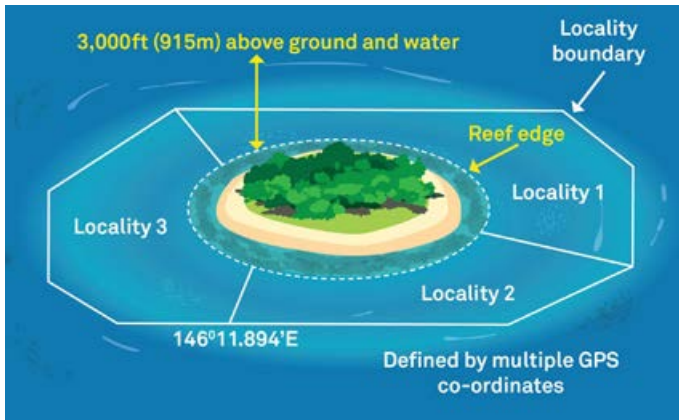


Figure 4: Simplified illustration of a Locality

2.1.3 Location group sizes

Each Location has been defined for low, moderate or intensive use (refer Table 1), and maximum group sizes apply to all users. Commercial operators may hold an endorsement for a larger group size (refer p. 67). All Locations have a maximum vessel length of 35m unless operating to a Reef anchorage or designated anchorage.

Table 1 – Use levels and group sizes

Category of use	Group size per vessel or aircraft (including crew *)
Low	Maximum number of people is 15
Moderate	Maximum number of people is 60
Intensive	No limit

* The number of people that a vessel is carrying must include each person on board the vessel who is aged 4 years or older.

Note - Exceptions to these group size limits are further described in Attachment 1, p. 67.



2.1.4 Sensitive Locations

To protect their important values, some Locations, including Locality(s), have been identified as Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p.16 and Attachment 2 - Site-Specific Management and Maps, p. 69). Certain activities at Sensitive Locations are more closely managed including:

- No access for aircraft as part of a tourist program below height limit.
- Booking requirements as part of a vessel tourist program (unless otherwise endorsed on Marine Parks permit).
- Vessel speed limits (all users).
- No motorised water sport (all users).

Table 2 - Sensitive Locations in the Planning Area including airspace height restrictions and vessel booking limits.

Sector	Location	Bookings limit	Airspace height limit (feet)
Group A - Sensitive Locations			
Offshore Port Douglas Sector	Low Island Locality 1	2 vessels/day	1500
	East Hope Island Reef (15-065) Location	2 vessels/day	1500
	West Hope Island Reef Locality (15-064)	1 vessel/day	1500
	Cape Tribulation Bay Locality 1	1 vessel/day	1500
	Snapper Island Reef (16-006) Location	1 vessel/day	1500
Offshore Cairns Sector	Michaelmas Cay Locality	1 vessel/day	3000
	Green Island Reef (16-049) Location	4 vessels/day	1500
South Offshore Cairns Sector	Sudbury Cay Locality	1 vessel/day	1500
Franklands Island Sector	Entire Sector (High Island Reef (17-009), Normanby Island Reef (17-012a), Jones Patch (17-012b), Russell and Round Islands Reefs (17-013))	1 vessel/day	1500
Group B - Sensitive Locations			
Lizard Island Sector	Lizard Island Locality 1	No set limit	500
Ribbon Reefs Sector	Cod Hole Locality	No set limit	500

2.2 Marine Parks permits

Under the zoning plans, a permission is required to conduct a **tourist program** or other commercial activities in the Marine Parks. The jointly managed Marine Parks use a joint permission system that generally involves one permit with permissions for both Marine Parks.

Fees and charges are applicable, including **application fees** for a Marine Parks permit and an **Environmental Management Charge**.



A **Marine Parks permit** can contain multiple permissions and permission types.



A QPWS **Commercial Activity Permit (CAP)** is also required to operate on island national parks — refer p. 59.

Who can use your Marine Parks permit under an ‘authority’?

The ability to use joint Marine Parks permits extends to all employees of the Permit Holder or other persons who are acting on behalf of, or at the direction of, the permit holder for the purposes specified in the permission.

In addition, the permit may contain conditions allowing the Permit Holder to grant an authority that allows other people to conduct operations under the Marine Parks permit, not necessarily on behalf of the Permit Holder. The Permit Holder remains legally responsible for all conduct under the Marine Parks permit, whether it is themselves or another party undertaking the operations under an authority. Refer to ‘**A Guide for Current Permit Holders**’ for more information.

Please note that an authority to operate under someone else’s Marine Parks permit **does not** extend to the Commercial Activity Permit (CAP) to access island national parks, and you are required to apply for your own CAP if operating under an authority (refer p. 59).



3. Operation types



3.1 Standard Tour Operations (STO)

A STO has a maximum of 50 days access to the Planning Area per vessel/aircraft per calendar year with a booking.

STOs allow roving-style vessel/aircraft operations that work across the Marine Parks to access the Planning Area for a limited number of days and are not intended to be used to establish or conduct a regular operation within the Planning Area.

- Holding multiple STOs, using the same vessel or aircraft, in an attempt to gain increased access to the Planning Area is not acceptable.
- Once the 50 days (with a booking) are used, that particular vessel/aircraft can no longer access the Planning Area and the vessel/aircraft cannot be used under a different STO.
- Within this Planning Area, the 50 days per year bookings are calculated on a rolling year basis – meaning that a used booking day will be added to the available days again after 12 months. [Bookings Online](#) will let you know how many days are available to you when you are making a booking.

3.2 Special Tourism Permissions (Specials)

Under the *Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998* (the Plan) a few operation types have daily or increased access and within this Guide are referred to as Special Tourism Permissions (Specials):

- Regional Tour Operation (vessel or aircraft);
- Long Range Roving Operation.

Specials are capped and allow tourism operators to continue to do something that was permitted or occurred before the Plan came into effect and is now limited by the Plan. Most Specials have daily access to the Planning Area.

Specials may also include additional **endorsements**. These endorsements could be for accessing a Location (including a Sensitive Location or Locality) with a larger group size or without a booking requirement. If applicable, this access is reflected on your permit as an endorsement.

In recognition of the valuable opportunities provided by these Specials, and to improve certainty, it is expected operators make **reasonable use** of the permission. For information on demonstrating reasonable use, refer to [A Guide for Current Permit Holders](#).

How to obtain Specials?

You cannot apply for Specials through the Marine Parks permit application process. However, you may be able to acquire a Special from an existing permit holder (a marine broker may be able to assist) and transfer the Special into your name/business entity. Please refer to the transfer process within [A Guide for Current Permit Holders](#).



Alternatively, following community and industry input, the Reef Authority may release one or multiple Specials for the Planning Area under a publicly advertised expression of interest process in accordance with the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019*.

The types of permits released through this process could include:

- Specials that have not met [reasonable use](#) and have been retained by the Reef Authority.
- Additional Specials provided for under the Plan (clause 1.48).

You are welcome to register your interest for a Special by emailing policyandplanning@gbmpa.gov.au.

3.3 Operation types under the Cairns Area Plan of Management

The Plan provides for several different tourism operations. A description of each tourism operation type and their access rules are below:

- **Vessel Operation (STO or Special)**
- **Cruise Ship Operation**
- **Long Range Roving Operation (Special)**
- **Aircraft Operation (STO or Special)**
- **Craftless Operation**
- **Hire Operation**
- **Non-motorised Craft Operation**
- **Support Service Operation**



3.3.1 Vessel Operation (up to 70 metres)

A Vessel Operation provides crew (i.e. skipper and guides) as part of a **tourist program**.

Standard Tour Operation – Crewed Vessel Operation (less than 70 metres)	
Access to the Planning Area (including Locations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access per vessel per year - with a booking. • Daily access (no booking) to a Location when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon, excludes Group A Sensitive Locations (see below). • Location group size limits apply.
Access to each Sensitive Location	Group A Sensitive Location (refer Table 2, p. 16) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access per vessel per year – with a booking.
	Group B Sensitive Location (Lizard Island Locality 1 and Code Hole Locality) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access per vessel per year (no booking). • Cod Hole Locality - anchoring not permitted. • Lizard Island Locality 1 - anchoring not permitted for vessels with an overall length of more than 7 metres. • Daily access (no booking) when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon. • Refer to Site-Specific Management and Maps (p. 76) for additional restrictions for anchoring at these Locations.
Gamefishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily access to the Planning Area (no booking) for the purpose of gamefishing from 1 September to 31 December with a maximum of 50 days access per vessel per Location (no booking). • Maximum of 50 days access per vessel per year to Sensitive Locations (with a booking). • Zoning rules apply (refer Fig. 2 Activities Guide).
Camper transfers	Daily access (no booking), including to a Sensitive Location, only if transporting passengers for the sole purpose of allowing a passenger to disembark at an island in accordance with a camping permit issued to the passenger by the managing agency .
Ribbon Reefs Sector	Vessel access to a Location in the Ribbon Reefs Sector is limited to 30 days in any period of 60 days, unless a vessel is in transit , or operates to a permitted mooring (refer Map 3 and Schedule 8 of the Plan).



Special Tourism Permission – Vessel Operation (up to 70 metres)	
Access to the Planning Area (including Locations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily access (no booking) to the Planning Area. • 50 days access per vessel per year to each Location (no booking) – unless permission includes an endorsement for increased access for that Location. • Daily access (no booking) when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon; excludes Group A Sensitive Locations (see below). • Location group size limits apply, unless permission includes an endorsement for increased group size.
Access to each Sensitive Location	Group A Sensitive Location (refer Table 2, p. 16) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access per vessel per year (with a booking) - unless permission includes an endorsement for increased access for that Location.
	Group B Sensitive Location (Lizard Island Locality 1 and Code Hole Locality) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access per vessel per year (no booking) - unless permission includes an endorsement for increased access for that Location. • Daily access (no booking) when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon.
Gamefishing	Access in accordance with access to Planning Area and Sensitive Locations.
Single Day Fishing Charters	Daily access (no booking) to a Location in a General Use Zone, Habitat Protection Zone or Conservation Park Zone (outside of a Public Appreciation Area only), if conducting single day fishing charters.
Camper transfers	Daily access (no booking), including to a Sensitive Location, only if transporting passengers for the sole purpose of allowing a passenger to disembark at an island in accordance with a camping permit issued to the passenger by the managing agency .

Things to know about vessel operations:

- A maximum of 40 bookings (for vessels up to 70m) to the Planning Area in total per day.
- The following exclusions may apply (refer to permit):
 - » Motorised water sport – p. 35.
 - » Intertidal areas.
- Information on rivers and streams access - p. 30.
- When operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon only one primary vessel can be used at any one time and that primary vessel must remain attached to the mooring/pontoon during the operation. A tender/ancillary vessel is considered part of the primary vessel.
- For information on vessel-based activities refer p. 33.
- Refer to Cairns Vessel Length Summary Table (Attachment 1) and **Site-Specific Management and Maps**, p. 74.
- For information on where **large vessels** (more than 35 metres but not more than 70 meters) can anchor refer to Table 5, p. 42).
- **Superyachts** refer **Superyacht Cruising Guide**

3.2.2 Cruise Ship Operation

A Cruise Ship Operation uses a vessel that is a ship which is more than 70 metres in overall length.

Cruise Ship Operation (more than 70 metres)	
Access to the Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access per ship per year - with a booking. • Access to designated anchorages with a booking (refer Bookings, p. 16).
Access to a Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location group size limits apply. • A ship must not access a Location and must anchor outside a Location, and only access a Location with a tender (ancillary) vessel.
Access to Group A and B Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<p>A ship must anchor outside all Sensitive Locations and can only access the following Locations via tender/ancillary vessel (subject to Location limits):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Low Island Locality » Green Island Locality 1, 2 and 3.
Ribbon Reef Sector	<p>Tender access to a Location in the Ribbon Reefs Sector is limited to 30 days in any period of 60 days, unless a vessel is in transit or operates to a permitted mooring (refer Map 3, p. 76 and Schedule 8 of the Plan).</p>

Things to know about Cruise Ship Operations:

- Location group size limits apply.
- The following exclusions may apply (refer to permit):
 - » Motorised water sport – p. 35.
 - » Intertidal areas.
- Information on rivers and streams access - p. 30.

Tenders/ancillary vessels

- A ship's tender vessel is subject to the ship's permit conditions and may access a Location in accordance with those permit conditions including booking requirements and must operate within three nautical miles of the primary vessel (ship).
- A ship's tender vessel is considered part of the primary vessel and bookings must be made using the permission that applies to the primary vessel (ship) (even when a tender vessel is used to access a Location).
- A ship's tender can only stop en route to pick up or disembark passengers at their destination or in the case of an emergency.
- Refer to Cairns Vessel Length Summary Table (Attachment 1) and **Site-Specific Management and Maps**, p. 74.
- **Superyachts** refer **Superyacht Cruising Guide**.

3.2.3 Long Range Roving Operation

Long Range Roving Operations are crewed roving-style vessel operations that visit multiple locations along the Great Barrier Reef with no more than 30 passengers.

Special Tourism Permissions – Long Range Roving Operation (no more than 35 metres)		
Access to the Planning Area (including Locations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum of 100 days access per vessel per year - no booking. • 50 days access per vessel, in the 100-day period, to each Location. • May visit a Location twice in any seven consecutive days, with a visit or visits together being no more than 48 hours. • Up to 30 passengers (excluding crew) using a vessel no more than 35 metres in overall vessel length. • Up to 10 days per year with more than 30 passengers (excluding crew) subject to Location group size limits and notifying the Reef Authority in writing prior to conducting the operation. • Daily access (no booking) when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon, excludes Group A Sensitive Locations (see below). 	
Access to each Sensitive Location	Group A Sensitive Location (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access (with a booking) to the Sensitive Location. • 50 days access (no booking) when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon.
	Group B Sensitive Location (Lizard Island Locality 1 and Code Hole Locality)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access (no booking). • Daily access (no booking) when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon.

Things to know about Long Range Roving Operations:

- The vessel must be surveyed for overnight use with provision for eight or more sleeping berths.
- The vessel is limited to providing a whole of vessel charter to a single client, without taking bookings from individual passengers or agents, and is not advertised or promoted as having regular destinations, routes or timetables.
- Location group size limits apply.
- The following exclusions may apply (refer to permit):
 - » Motorised water sport – p. 35.
 - » Intertidal areas.
- Information on rivers and streams access - p. 30.
- For information on vessel-based activities – p. 33.
- Refer to Cairns Vessel Length Summary Table (Attachment 1) and **Site-Specific Management and Maps**, p. 74.

3.2.4 Aircraft Operation (including seaplanes and helicopters)

An Aircraft Operation can include a fixed-wing aircraft, helicopter or seaplane. They can conduct scenic flights with or without landing.

Standard Tour Operation – Aircraft Operation	
Access to the Planning Area (including Locations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 days access per aircraft per year - with a booking. • Daily access (no booking) when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon; excludes Sensitive Locations (see below). • Daily access (no booking) for scenic flights above 500 feet (no landing) – minimum flight height over Sensitive Locations applies (Table 2, p. 16).
Access to Group A and B Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No access to a Sensitive Location when conducting a tourist program. • Minimum flight height restrictions apply (Table 2, p. 16) • Refer Site-Specific Management and Maps, p. 74.
Ribbon Reef Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aircraft access to a Location in the Ribbon Reefs Sector is limited to 30 days in any period of 60 days, unless the aircraft is in transit through a Location via the most direct route (refer Map 3, p. 76 and Schedule 8 of the Plan).
Special Tourism Permission – Aircraft Operation	
Access to the Planning Area (including Locations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily access (no booking) to the Planning Area. • 50 days access per aircraft per year to each Location (no booking). • Daily access (no booking) when operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon, excludes Sensitive Locations. • Daily access (no booking) for scenic flights above 500 feet (no landing) – minimum flight height over Sensitive Locations applies (refer Table 2, p. 16). • Location group size limits apply, unless permission includes endorsement for increased group size.
Access to Group A or B Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must not access a Sensitive Location to conduct a tourist program, unless otherwise endorsed on the Marine Parks permit. • Minimum flight height restrictions apply.



Things to know about Aircraft Operations:

- When operating to a permitted mooring or pontoon only one primary aircraft can be used at any one time and that primary aircraft must remain attached to mooring/pontoon during the operation. A tender/ancillary vessel is considered part of the primary aircraft.
- The following exclusions may apply (refer to permit):
 - » Motorised water sport – p. 35.
 - » Intertidal areas.
- Refer Vessel Length Summary Table (Attachment 1) and **Site-Specific Management and Maps**, p. 74.
- Landing an aircraft or helicopter on a national park (protected area) is not permitted under the Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2017 (Qld). A **QPWS permit** may be required to conduct commercial scenic flights over a national park.

3.2.5 Craftless Operation

A Craftless Operation does not use its own vessel or aircraft but may use a vessel or aircraft of other permitted operations or operate from the shore. Examples include a dive school or snorkel tour that may operate from the beach or use another permitted vessel in ‘piggy back’ fashion to go the reef.

Craftless Operation	
Access to the Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily access - no booking. • When using another permitted vessel in a ‘piggy back’ fashion, the Craftless Operation is subject to the same access and activity conditions as the permitted vessel or aircraft used.
Access to Group A or Group B Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 50 days access to a Sensitive Location each year - no booking • When using another permitted vessel in a ‘piggy back’ fashion, the Craftless Operation is subject to the same access and activity conditions as the permitted vessel or aircraft used.

Things to know about Craftless Operations:

- The operation does not allow the independent operation of a vessel or aircraft.
- This use of the Marine Parks is restricted to use without a vessel or aircraft (shore-based) or as a ‘piggy back’ operation on a vessel or aircraft already permitted under another Marine Parks permission.
- A craftless operation does not include use of non-motorised and /or motorised equipment/craft (for example, kayaks, jet skis or aquatic devices).
- Exclusions in accordance with permit of vessel /aircraft used.
- A separate **QPWS permit** is required when accessing island national parks.

3.2.6 Hire Operation

A Hire Operation enables the hire of non-motorised and motorised equipment/craft.

Hire Operation	
Access to the Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily access - no booking. Hire from a Location in the Planning Area or from outside the Marine Parks (for example council esplanade, marina or resort).
Access to Group A or Group B Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 days access per year - no booking.

Things to know about Hire Operations:

- The hire does not include a guide or crew, and once hired out, the user is considered a recreational user of the Marine Parks.
- Hire craft – a motorised vessel that has an overall length of no more than six metres.
- Hire equipment – a non-motorised craft, for example a kayak, paddleboard or windsurfer.
- Council permit may be required for hire from outside the Marine Parks.

3.2.7 Non-motorised Craft Operation

A Non-motorised Craft Operations is a guided standalone tour that uses non-motorised craft (for example guided kayak tours).

Non-motorised Craft Operation	
Access to the Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily access - no booking.
Access to Group A or Group B Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 days access per year - no booking.

Things to know about Non-motorised Craft Operations:

- A motorised tender of less than six metres in overall length may be used as part of the operation to provide rescue services or emergency assistance.
- Intertidal area exclusions (refer to permit).

3.2.8 Support Service Operation

A Support Service Operation uses a vessel or aircraft to service another vessel or aircraft, including the delivery of parts for the safe operation of a vessel.

Support Service Operation	
Access to the Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily access - no booking. Location group size limits apply. Refer to Cairns Vessel Length Summary Table (Attachment 1, p. 67)
Access to Group A or Group B Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily access - no booking.

Things to know about Support Service Operations:

- Uses only one primary vessel or aircraft at any one time.
- Only offer services that are essential to the continued safe and effective operation of the vessel; or aircraft being serviced (this excludes, for example, the sale of food and drinks).
- Cannot be operated in continuous association with a vessel or aircraft OR remain associated with a vessel or aircraft being serviced for longer than is necessary.
- Cannot be used to transport a person for the purpose of tourism.
- Intertidal area exclusions (refer to permit).



4. Other commercial operations and activities

The following operations and activities are not mentioned in the *Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998*. A permission is required to conduct these types of operations and activities.

- **Barge Operation**
- **Charter Vessel/Aircraft Operation – non-tourist commercial**
- **Guided Motorised Tour Operation – for example guided jet ski tours**
- **Educational Program**
- **Research**
- **Control Programs – Crown-of-thorns starfish and Drupella**
- **Commercial Events**
- **Beach Clean-up**
- **Fireworks**

4.1 Barge Operation

Barge Operations service the island resorts by transporting food, equipment, goods and staff or workers (non-tourists), and also assist in transporting machinery and building materials required for permitted works. Barge Operations are considered an essential service.

Barge Operation	
Access to the Cairns Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily access – no booking. • Location group size limits apply. • Access to existing barge facilities only (i.e. barge ramps, jetties). • Access to an intertidal area is considered on application and reflected as an Intertidal Areas Notification Approval in your permit.

Things to know for Barge Operations:

- Transport of goods, materials and equipment.
- Transport of staff and workers (non-tourists only).
- Provision of services as part of permitted works within the Marine Parks.
- Refer Vessel Length Summary Table (Attachment 1) and **Site-Specific Management and Maps**, p. 74.

4.2 Charter Vessel/Aircraft Operation (non-tourist commercial charter)

A Charter Vessel/Aircraft Operation provides transport services to non-tourists, for example researchers or film crews.

Charter Vessel/Aircraft Operation – non-tourist commercial charter	
Access to the Cairns Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No booking. Location group size limits apply. Access to some Locations requires notification to the managing agencies – refer to permit conditions. Refer to Vessel Length Summary Table (Attachment 1) and Site-Specific Management and Maps – p. 67. Intertidal area exclusions (refer to permit).
Access to Group A or Group B Sensitive Locations (refer Table 2, p. 16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No booking. Aircraft height restrictions apply.

4.3 Guided Motorised Tour Operation

Guided Motorised Tour Operations are standalone commercial tours (for example guided jet ski tours) and are not associated with a vessel operation.

Charter Vessel/Aircraft Operation – non-tourist commercial charter	
Access to the Cairns Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 days access per year - with a booking. A Motorised water sport can only be conducted outside Locations in the Planning Area. Motorised water sport exclusions – p. 35. Intertidal area exclusions (refer to permit). Jet skis are considered a ‘Prohibited Vessel’ and must not approach closer than 300 metres to a whale or dolphin. Transiting using a jet ski is allowed by the most direct route (i.e. not conducting motorised water sport) to Locations other than Sensitive Locations (refer to exclusions on Marine Parks permit).



4.4 Rivers and Streams

Rivers and streams between Cairns and Cooktown are part of the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park (Qld) and may be accessed by a tourist vessel/ancillary vessel for fishing and sightseeing activities subject to a Marine Parks permit and zoning requirements.

Rivers and streams Cairns/Cooktown – vessel operation	
Standard access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard access - two visits in any seven-day period per primary vessel or ancillary vessel. Standard vessel length is eight metres with a maximum of 12 passengers. Activities may be conducted between 6:00 and 21:00. Required to maintain data records for access to rivers and streams.
Other Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-standard access is assessed on application. Daintree River – access is capped. No new permissions will be granted.

4.5 Aquaculture and Harvest Fisheries

A Queensland fisheries license as well as a Marine Parks permit are required to conduct aquaculture operations or harvest fisheries in the Planning Area.

4.6 Educational Program

An educational program provides for systematic education of the participants in a particular skill or topic, where none of the participants are tourists.

Educational programs typically include clear learning goals, a formal curriculum or lesson plan and a formal assessment or recognition of whether the participants have achieved the learning goals (refer to [Educational Program checklist](#)). Examples include educating a school or university group about the marine environment or providing sailing training.

Educational Program - Systematical education of a group of persons.	
Access to the Cairns Planning Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily access – no booking. Location group size limits apply. Motorised water sport exclusions – p. 35. Intertidal area exclusions (refer to permit).

4.7 Research

Research plays an important role in contributing to our understanding of the Great Barrier Reef and provides a scientific basis for management decisions, which helps in protecting the values of the Marine Parks.

The Australian Museum owns and operates [Lizard Island Research Station](#) (LIRS) to facilitate coral reef research and education on the Great Barrier Reef.

The Zoning Plan and regulations set out the way in which research activities and deployment of research equipment are managed in the Marine Parks. Most research activities require a permission. Refer to [Reef Authority's website](#) for additional information.

4.8 Control Programs - Crown-of-thorns starfish and Drupella

Commercial operators may assist managing agencies by removing animals that pose a threat to the marine ecosystem. Crown-of-thorns starfish may be removed in certain zones without a permit - refer to the [Crown-of-thorns starfish control program webpage](#) for more detailed information. Removal of all other animals, including Drupella, requires a permit.

4.9 Commercial events within the State Marine Park

Commercial events, such as corporate events, weddings and sporting events, may take place from time to time – water based and on the beach. A permit may be required depending on the proposed location and size of a proposed event. It is recommended that you arrange a pre-lodgement meeting by emailing permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au (national park and beach) and/or assessments@gbmpa.gov.au (water-based activities) to discuss your proposed event.

Island biosecurity is an important consideration for every event – refer to Island biosecurity on p. 49 for additional information. Note that the use of plants and plant material, glass, amplified music and fire are not permitted as part of events.

Any transport vessels or aircraft involved in the event, including barges, require a Marine Parks permit and may also require QPWS approval to access the intertidal area.

Small scale weddings on the beach – not including large groups or structures – may be considered low impact under the Zoning Plan and may not require a permit. Often these ceremonies are organised by the wedding couple themselves and commercial operators provide transport only. Please contact QPWS on permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au to seek advice on permit requirements.



4.10 Beach clean-up

Tourist operations are encouraged to collect marine debris and rubbish as part of their tours. These initiatives contribute to conservation objectives and are considered low impact, and do not require a Marine Parks permit.



Operators wishing to conduct voluntary, organised beach clean-up activities (not involving tourists) within the State marine park also do not require a permit; however, they must notify QPWS (permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au) to ensure there are no conflicting uses or safety matters at the locations. **Biosecurity (p.49)** always needs to be considered and collaboration between local beach clean-up organisations is encouraged.

Note that the clean-up of marine debris or rubbish from a national park (generally above HAT) is likely to require a QPWS permit. Contact QPWS via permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au to discuss any proposed clean-up activities on national park.

4.11 Fireworks

On occasions fireworks displays are conducted from a beach or a permitted vessel within the Marine Parks for New Year's Eve, weddings and other celebrations.

Refer to the [Information Sheet – Permits for Fireworks](#) (2021) and the Queensland Governments [Planning a fireworks display](#) webpage for detailed information; however, in summary:

- A fireworks display cannot be conducted adjacent to an island or mainland national park.
- The proponent must notify QPWS at least five business days prior to a fireworks display proposed within the Marine Parks by email at permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au.
- A maximum of four fireworks displays may be conducted by any one person, group or organisation in any one location per calendar year ('location' means on or adjacent to a particular island or mainland beach or foreshore).
- A fireworks display does not exceed:
 - » 10 minutes if adjacent to any island
 - » 20 minutes if adjacent to developed areas on the mainland (for example adjacent to Port Douglas).
- All debris must be removed following the display.
- All reasonable attempts are made to minimise the potential impacts on native wildlife.



5. Activities associated with tourism operations

Activities associated with tourism operations are specified on your Marine Parks permit and generally include swimming, snorkelling, SCUBA diving, fishing, passenger transport, non-motorised water sport and motorised water sport. Additional activities may be added to your Marine Parks permit on application.

Any vessel or aircraft-based activities, including the use of ancillary vessels (such as tenders), must be conducted within three nautical miles of the primary vessel or aircraft.



Location group size limits apply to all (commercial and recreational) vessels, aircraft, ancillary vessels (including tenders) and equipment used to access a Location.



Responsible Reef Practices have been developed to reduce impacts of your activities on the Marine Parks and other users.

If you visit a cultural site, do not touch, disturb, harm or damage the cultural site, and help care for these outstanding cultural values. Ensure your permits (Marine Parks and island national park) include the appropriate access.



5.1 Visiting Aboriginal cultural heritage sites

There are many places of cultural significance throughout the region, including fish traps and shell middens.

Cultural heritage is recognised and protected by international, national and state legislation, for example *Queensland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*. Regardless of whether listed, all cultural sites are covered by a legislative duty of care, which means a person must take all reasonable and practical measures to ensure that, when carrying out any activity, it does not harm Aboriginal cultural heritage.



5.2 Beach activities

Access to the intertidal areas and beaches is outlined in the conditions and exclusions of your Marine Parks permit.

Vessels under 12 metres may drop passengers directly onto the beach and must remain in the intertidal area only to drop off / pick up passengers. During their visit, vessels must use a mooring or anchor offshore. Larger vessels must seek approval for beach landings under their Marine Parks permit.



Group sizes within the intertidal area are consistent with the adjacent Marine Park Location. For example, a beach adjacent to a Low Use Location with a maximum group size of 15 people including crew has the same group size limit as the Low Use Location.

- Use of a limited amount of equipment on the beach (one 3m² gazebo, esky) may be considered low impact and appropriate as part of a vessel or aircraft tourism operation.
- A seated lunch (for example bringing your own tables and chairs) is not supported as part of a vessel / aircraft operation.
- Where day use areas are available, you are welcome to use these; however, consider others and move on in a reasonable timeframe (i.e. once morning tea / lunch is completed).

Organised luncheons and events (for example corporate functions or weddings) on beaches require a separate **QPWS permit**. Refer to p. 45 for more information.

5.3 Limited collecting

Your guests may want to keep a memento of their visit, however, they could be pocketing a creature's home or, in worst cases, taking a live animal from its neighbourhood.

Please encourage your guests to collect memories and take photos only.

Limited collecting is only allowed in the General Use Zone (light blue zone), Habitat Protection Zone (dark blue zone) and Conservation Park Zone (yellow zone) areas. Limited collecting means collecting by hand or hand-held implements and no more of five of any one species at a time. **No coral (alive or dead) can be taken without a permit.** Protected species must not be taken – these include seahorses, pipefish, giant clams, helmet shells and giant triton shells (refer to [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019](#) for complete list and more details).

No collecting is allowed on island national parks.

5.4 Fish feeding



Fish feeding is not encouraged as an activity. If listed as an activity on your permit, please conduct fish feeding in

accordance with the conditions of your permit (i.e. type and quantity of feed) and consider the [Reef Smart and Responsible Reef Practices](#).

BE REEF SMART

When enjoying the many different activities and experiences on the Great Barrier Reef, it is important to enjoy them in a responsible and 'reef smart' way.



DO NOT
THROW FOOD
SCRAPS OVERBOARD



DO NOT
FEED THE FISH



Australian Government
Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park Authority

BE REEF SMART
For more information go to:
www.gbrmpa.gov.au/be-reef-smart

5.5 Diving and snorkelling

Scuba diving and snorkelling are popular tourism activities. Moorings are in place at reefs and snorkel sites to assist operators and recreational users.

Scuba diving and snorkelling as part of a tourist program may include the use of aquatic devices in accordance with permit conditions. Aquatic devices are motorised equipment used for participating in activities being assisted snorkelling and assisted scuba diving, including, but not limited to, motorised swimming aids (for example seabobs, diver propulsion vehicles) and underwater ride-on scooters (for example scubabobs, hydrobobs).

Refer to p. 29 for standalone motorised guided tours using jets skis.

Non-motorised water sport, such as stand-up paddle boarding and kayaking, can be conducted as part of a vessel-based tourist program.

All equipment must remain within three nautical miles of the primary vessel. Consider other Marine Parks users when storing equipment within the intertidal area during your visit.



5.6 Motorised and non-motorised water sport

Motorised water sport such as jet skiing, parasailing or tube riding are activities sometimes conducted as part of a vessel-based tourism operation.

Motorised water sport is considered circling, weaving, diverting, surfing down or jumping over or across waves, swell or wash and also includes the activities of parasailing, water skiing and the use of hovercraft.

- Motorised water sport activities can only be conducted outside Locations in the Planning Area (i.e. generally 500 metres away from a reef).
- Hovercraft may only be operated at Lizard Island Locality 2 and outside a Location subject to a Marine Parks permit.
- Personal watercraft (i.e. jet skis) are allowed to transit by the most direct reasonable route between two places – but are not allowed to conduct motorised water sport while transiting. Intertidal access exclusions may apply, refer to Marine Parks permit.



Courtesy of Tourism Tropical North Queensland

5.7 Whale watching and swimming with whales



The Great Barrier Reef is an important calving ground for several species of migratory whale, including dwarf minke whales. Sightings of dwarf minke whales occur primarily in June and July offshore Port Douglas and in the Ribbon Reefs Sector.

Approach distances apply to all cetaceans (whales and dolphins) across the Marine Parks under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019 (refer Fig. 5, p. 36).

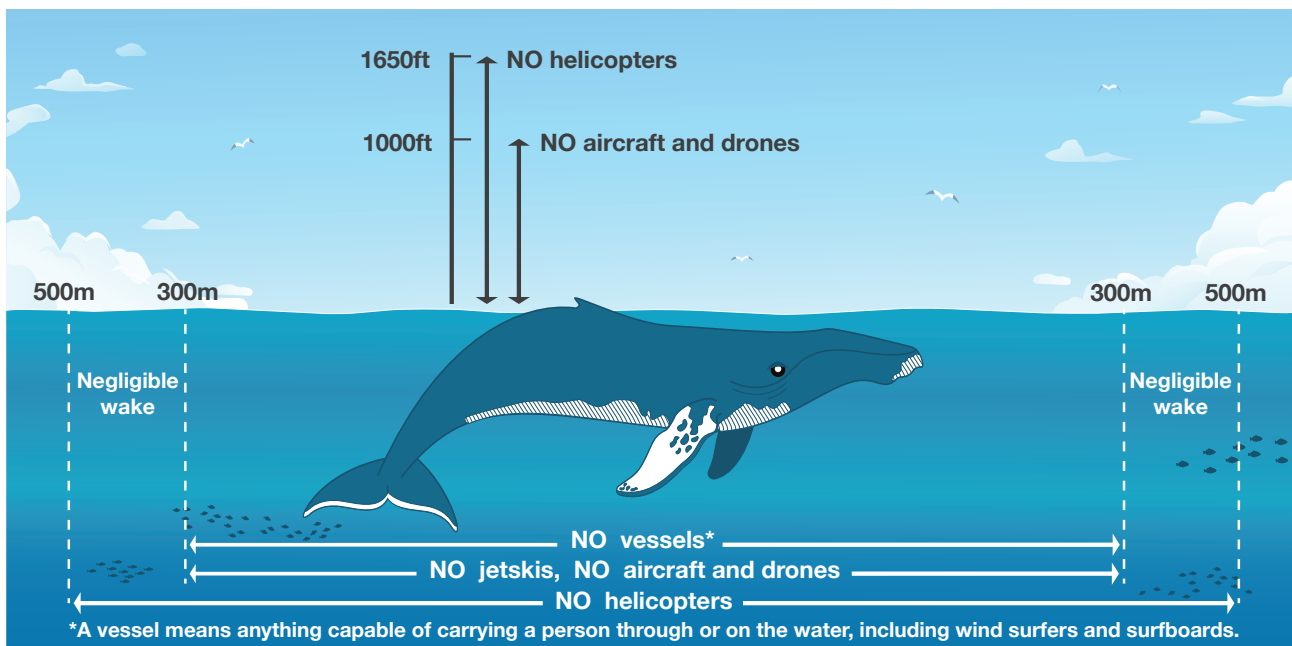


Tourist programs may only conduct dedicated whale watching and swimming-with-whales activities in the Marine Parks if permitted under a Marine Parks permit. Please note that permissions for swimming-with-dwarf-minke-whales are capped under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019 (Cth) and no further

additional permits can be granted. Existing permits may be transferred (refer to [A Guide for Current Permit Holders](#)). Refer to this [Code of Practice for dwarf minke whale interaction for information](#) on how this activity is conducted, if permitted.



Figure 5 – Whale approach distances



5.8 Fishing, gamefishing and spearfishing

5.8.1 Fishing

Understanding Marine Parks zoning is important before conducting fishing activities as part of a tourist program.

Areas where fishing can occur include:

- **General Use Zone (light blue zone):** line fishing, trolling, limited spearfishing, bait netting and crabbing (trapping).
- **Habitat Protection Zone (dark blue zone):** line fishing, trolling, limited spearfishing, bait netting and crabbing (trapping).
- **Conservation Park Zone (yellow zone):** line fishing (one line/rod), trolling, limited spearfishing, bait netting and crabbing (trapping) (max four catch devices).



For information on bag and size limits, seasonal closures, additional permit requirements and more, refer to the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries website: www.daf.qld.gov.au.



**DO NOT
THROW FOOD
SCRAPS OVERBOARD**

For information regarding protected and no-take marine species, visit the recreational fishing responsible reef practices guide at www.gbrmpa.gov.au.

5.8.2 Gamefishing

Gamefishing is the taking of fish of the genus Makaira (commonly known as marlin).

Standard Tourism Operations (STOs) have additional access to the Planning Area if operating during the period of 1 September to 31 December primarily for the purposes of gamefishing.

Refer to Section 3 – Operation Types, Vessel Operation for more information on access under your Marine Parks permit for gamefishing p. 21.

5.8.3 Spearfishing

If fishing is a permitted activity on your Marine Parks permit, then limited spearfishing can be conducted Refer to the spearfishing factsheets:

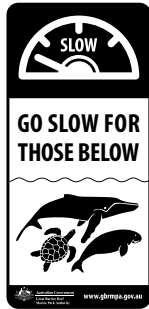
- **Going Spearfishing Offshore Cooktown** (includes the Cairns Planning Area North of the Daintree).
- **Going Spearfishing in the Cairns region** (includes the Cairns Planning Area South of the Daintree).



5.9 Look out for those below — dugong and turtles

Dugong and marine turtles, including their habitat and lifecycles, are of significant cultural, spiritual and social importance.

Both dugong and turtles are threatened species that inhabit areas throughout and outside of the Planning Area, particularly inshore waters that contain shallow and deep-water seagrass meadows between Port Douglas and Cape Tribulation.



Avoid shallow seagrass meadows or — if you cannot avoid them — reduce your speed to below 10 knots to prevent boat strike.

Turtles may nest on beaches between October and March and generally hatchling season is from January to April.



Refer to the [Responsible Reef Practices](#) for information on best practices around turtles and visit national park alerts <http://www.qld.gov.au/park-alerts> for current closures.

5.10 Visiting seabird and shorebird areas

The sites listed in Table 3 are known seabird nesting and roosting grounds. Additional restrictions apply at some of these sites. Refer to Site-Specific Management and Maps (Attachment 2, p. 69) and exclusions in your Marine Parks permit.

Table 3 – Significant bird sites

Sector	Site
Lizard Island Sector	Seabird Islet
Offshore Port Douglas Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Hope Island • Woody Island (within Low Island Locality) • Mackay Cay • Undine Cay
Offshore Cairns Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michaelmas Cay • Vlasoff Cay • Upolu Cay
South Offshore Cairns Sector	Sudbury Cay

Note - **motorised water sport** cannot be conducted within any Location in the Planning Area.

QPWS may sometimes temporarily close beaches and other areas to protect wildlife and publishes this in [Park Alerts](#).



6. Bookings requirements

Within the Planning Area, there are four different booking requirements that you need to be aware of:

1. Booking to access the Cairns Planning Area.
2. Booking to access a Sensitive Location.
3. Booking to access a designated anchorage.
4. Booking to access the Fitzroy Marine Management Area.



[Bookings Online](#) provides an online platform to make and manage your bookings.

Note:

- Depending on your trip, you may require multiple bookings for the day.
- If you have made a booking to the Planning Area, and you also wish to visit a Sensitive Location, then you will need to make another separate booking to the Sensitive Location (as part of the booking day).
- If you only make a booking to a Sensitive Location, it will automatically include a booking to the Planning Area.
- If you make a booking to a designated anchorage, it automatically includes a booking to the Planning Area.
- If you make a booking to Fitzroy Island Marine Management Area, it will NOT automatically include a booking to the Planning Area (as Fitzroy Island is outside the Planning Area).

For additional information, please see Table 4 or refer to the Guide for Current Permit Holders 'Bookings to planning areas'.



Table 4 — When do I need to make a booking?

	All Standard Tour Operations (vessel, aircraft and motorised guided tours)	Special Tourism Permissions (vessel and aircraft)	Ships (Cruise Ship and Superyachts)
All bookings must be made before commencing your trip.			
Reef Authority Bookings Online Booking enquiries can be made by emailing bookings@gbrmpa.gov.au . For further information on bookings requirements, refer to the Reef Authority's Booking manual.			
Cairns Planning Area	Max 40 vessel bookings per day. (Note – no limit on number of aircraft bookings)	N/A	No booking limit for cruise ships.
Sensitive Locations	Booking limits apply (refer p. 16)	Booking limits apply (refer p. 16) – unless endorsement on permit states otherwise.	Tenders (ancillary vessels) must make a booking under the primary vessel prior to accessing a Sensitive Location and booking limits apply (refer p. 16)
Designated anchorage or superyacht anchorage	Designated anchorages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vessels 35 metres and above may use a designated anchorage. • Anchor and chain must remain inside the designated anchorage at all times. • Anchorages are allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis. • A booking may be made on the day of visitation, but it is strongly recommended they are made earlier to ensure availability. Superyachts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Booking requirements apply, refer Superyacht Cruising Guide. 		
Fitzroy Marine Management Area	One vessel booking per day Booking via the Reef Authority Bookings Online . Alternatively, email Permit Holder name, proposed dates and group size to: permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 4222 5240. Further information - Site-Specific Management and Maps, p. 69.	N/A	N/A

7. Anchoring, moorings and pontoons in the Marine Parks

7.1 Anchoring

Specific rules apply for anchoring inside and outside the Planning Area:

- You must not damage or remove coral including by anchoring.
- You cannot anchor in no-anchoring areas, generally marked with white pyramid-shaped buoys.
- Use moorings where available (use of private mooring requires permission from the owner).
- No anchoring allowed within a mooring or pontoon site (refer 7.1.1).



Refer to the Vessel Length Summary Table (Attachment 1, p. 67) to find out where your vessel can go based on vessel length and anchoring limitations.

Please follow the [Responsible Reef Practices](#) when [anchoring and mooring](#) in the Cairns area.

7.1.1 Anchoring distance from moorings and pontoons


Anchoring is not permitted within 50 metres of a public or private mooring, or within 200 metres of a pontoon, except at Lizard Island Locality 2 and 3, Cape Tribulation Bay Locality 1, East Hope Island Reef (15-065), Low Island Locality and Green Island Reef Locality 1.



7.2 Anchoring for large vessels

Anchoring of large vessels (more than 35 metres but no more than 70 metres) is restricted in the Planning Area (refer Table 5).

Table 5 – Large vessel anchoring

Anchoring within the Planning Area	Large Vessel (more than 35 metres but no more than 70 metres)	Notes
Inside a Location	No, except in a Reef Anchorage	Tender/ancillary vessel may access a Location subject to booking and Location group size limits.
Outside a Location	Yes (General Use Zone and Designated Shipping Areas only)	N/A
Reef Anchorages	Yes (no booking) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One vessel per anchorage. 	Total of 87 Reef Anchorages - refer Schedule 8 of the Plan for boundaries of each Reef Anchorage
Lizard Island Locality 2 Lizard Island Locality 3 Ribbon Reef No. 2 (15-075) Location Ribbon Reef No. 5 (15-038) Location	Yes (with booking) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When operating a tourist program only 100 people on vessel permitted. 	N/A
Lizard Island Locality 4 Moore Reef Locality 2 Rachel Carson Reef (15-092) Ribbon Reef No. 3 (15-050) Ribbon Reef No. 9 (14-154) Thetford Reef (16-068) Unnamed reef (14-153)	Anchoring only with approved Anchoring Strategy and only during bad weather (i.e. wind generally blowing from the north).	N/A
Designated anchorages 	Yes (with booking) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally, one cruise ship or large vessel is allowed at an anchorage at a time. Access to and from anchorages on the most direct route. 	There are seven designated anchorages in the Planning Area that are primarily used by vessels more than 70 metres, but are available for vessels more than 35 metres. Schedule 2 of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019 (Cth) provides the most up-to-date descriptions of the designated anchorages

7.3 No-anchoring areas

To protect fringing coral reefs from anchor damage, both marked and unmarked no-anchoring areas are in place in the Cairns area.



Where reef protection markers are installed to mark no-anchoring areas, these are white pyramid-shaped buoys with a blue Marine Parks label.

Two unmarked no-anchoring areas are in place at [Cod Hole Locality \(Ribbon Reef No. 10\)](#) and [Lizard Island Locality 1](#) (refer Site Specific Maps p. 76).



For Lizard Island Locality 1, vessels seven metres and above cannot anchor (vessels less than this can anchor).

Please familiarise yourself with the [no-anchoring areas](#) in the Cairns area.

- Anchoring is not permitted in the no-anchoring area.
- You may anchor directly on the beach adjacent to a no-anchoring area provided there are no tidal restrictions.
- Do not attach your vessel or aircraft to a reef protection marker — they will not hold your vessel as they are not **moorings**.

7.4 Public moorings

A vast network of public moorings is available for private and commercial vessels. Vessel size restrictions apply (refer [Lizard Island to Innisfail mooring map](#)).



Public moorings are blue cone-shaped buoys with a colour-coded band (see image) that signifies the 'class' (vessel length and wind speed) of the mooring. It is important that you follow the instructions on the mooring and use a class of mooring suitable for your vessel and the wind conditions.



- Public moorings are available to all users on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Only one vessel at a time can be attached to a public mooring.
- Time limits are displayed on the buoys — usually two hours, four hours or up to 24 hours.
- All moorings are available for overnight stays from 3pm to 9am the next morning.
- Vacate a public mooring as soon as the time limit is up.

For additional information on public moorings, refer to the Reef Authority's [Moorings and No-anchoring areas webpage](#), and the complementary [QPWS webpage](#).

Please report misused or damaged moorings through the Reef Authority's [incident reporting form](#).



7.5 Private moorings

The Plan allows for private moorings to provide regular access to the reef for tourism operators to ensure the impacts from anchoring are minimised. The number of private moorings permitted at each Location is limited (refer Schedule 6 of the Plan). All moorings are currently allocated, and no new private moorings will be permitted.



Private mooring buoys are a different colour to the blue public moorings; they are white, fluorescent-bright pink, orange or yellow. They are not available for public use; however, operators are encouraged to develop arrangements to allow other operators to use their moorings.

Private moorings must display their unique **Mooring Reference Number**.

If you wish to use a private mooring, you will require the owner's permission prior to use and you will need to ensure that the mooring and tackle is suitable for your vessel. Details of existing private moorings are available from the **Moorings Register**.



In Queensland waters (3 nautical miles from coast/island and internal waters), to install and maintain a private mooring, a buoy mooring authority from **Maritime Safety Queensland** is required in addition to a Marine Parks permit. Contact the relevant **Regional Office** for further information.

7.5.1 Northerly moorings

Commercial operators holding a mooring permission for a particular site may apply for the installation of a **northerly mooring** to increase access to the site during northerly wind conditions. The assessment will consider the following:

- A relevant permission to operate a mooring and conduct a tourist program at that Location is current.
- The proposed northerly mooring (the additional mooring) is in the same Location, on the same reef as the existing mooring or is on an immediately adjacent reef.
- The permit holder has demonstrated the need to use an additional mooring to operate the tourist program, when the wind is from a generally northerly direction.

A northerly mooring is an 'extension' of the existing mooring and cannot be split from a permit or transferred separately.

7.6 pontoons and permanently moored facilities

Tourist facilities, such as pontoons and **permanently moored facilities** (for example glass bottom boats), are limited in the Planning Area (refer to **Schedule 7 of the Plan**).

A permit is required to construct, operate, maintain and remove these facilities and may include a bond. Refer to **A Guide for current Permit Holders, Assessment and Decision Guidelines** and the **Tourism Permission Checklist** for more information.

In some areas, the Reef Authority will not permit permanently moored facilities, including pontoons and other structures (except for approved vessel moorings and other installations, such as navigation markers), in order to keep some Locations in their natural state. Refer to **No Structure Sub-zones guideline** for a list of sites included.

8. Visiting island national parks

The Cairns Planning Area abuts with island national parks that offer a diversity of activities including walking tracks, lookouts, day use and camping facilities (refer p 69).

Conducting commercial activities such as guided tours, commercial camping or commercial filming on the national parks requires a separate permit from QPWS. Refer to the [Queensland Business website](#) for further information on the application process and associated fees.

The QPWS [Parks and Forest Permits Hub](#) is an online service hub to manage applications and authorities and submit renewals and returns. Applicants are encouraged to request a pre-lodgement meeting by contacting permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au to discuss proposed activities before lodging an application.



8.1 Commercial guided tours

Guided tours on island national parks are included as part of most vessel-based tourist operations, and access is generally managed complementary to the adjacent Marine Parks Locations.

A Commercial Activity Permit (CAP) provides either daily access to particular locations or standard roving access to a wide range of island national park locations within the Marine Parks – to complement your relevant Marine Parks permit.



A **Standard Roving CAP** provides ‘two days access in any seven day period’ to a wide range of island national park locations and includes most standard locations within the Cairns region.

This type of permit is generally sufficient for **Standard Tour Operations** with 50 days access to the Planning Area. An application can be made [online](#) and printed out immediately after the payment of fees.

CAPS providing more frequent access to island national park locations require a more detailed assessment. As part of the assessment, the complementary management of Marine Parks and island national parks is considered.

Important information relating to CAPs:

- Note that unlike Marine Parks permits, CAPs cannot be transferred between holders. In the instance of a Marine Parks permit being transferred to a new Permit Holder, the associated CAP would be ‘surrendered’ by the current CAP holder and ‘re-issued’ to the new CAP holder.
- An operator conducting guided tours on national parks cannot operate under a different operators’ CAP. Each entity must have their own CAP.
- Similar to the Marine Park Environmental Management Charge, [Daily Site Fees](#) (returns) are payable to QPWS on a quarterly basis.

8.2 Commercial camping on national park Islands in the Cairns Planning Area

Remote camping areas are available to recreational visitors on a first-come, first-serve basis via the [Queensland National Parks Booking Service](#).



Commercial use of the camping areas requires a QPWS permit, and a pre-lodgement meeting is recommended if you are considering offering commercial camping tours.

If a permit is granted, commercial camping is managed via the Queensland National Parks Booking Service. Fees apply and bookings are made on a 'first-come, first-serve' basis by authorised and registered commercial tour operators.

For further information or commercial camping applications, contact QPWS via permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au to arrange a pre-lodgement meeting.



9. Commercial filming and photography

The Cairns Planning Area is a popular location for commercial filming activities ranging from advertising campaigns, travel and adventure shows to major productions.

Permission is required depending on the nature, scale, and location of the proposed activities.



It is strongly recommended that you contact assessments@gbrmpa.gov.au (Marine Parks) and/or permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au (island national parks) to arrange a pre-lodgement meeting to discuss your proposed filming activities as early as possible. Permit application assessment timeframes vary and may take more than eight weeks.

9.1 Filming within the Marine Parks

Under the zoning plans, photography, filming and/or sound recording on or under the water is allowed without a permit in most areas of the Marine Parks if it is done in a way that has, or is likely to have, negligible impact on the Marine Parks.

Refer to the [Filming and Photography Guidelines](#) to explain what types of recording equipment and methods are considered to cause negligible impacts on the values of the Marine Parks. These are referred to as 'low impact recording'.

Activities within the **intertidal areas** (on beaches) may require additional considerations and may require a permit due to user conflicts, impact on amenity and adjacent national park values.

Some filming activities may include the use of drones or other remotely operated vehicle or remotely piloted aircraft. If the use of the equipment is not considered to have negligible impact under the [Filming and Photography Guidelines](#), a permit will be required.



9.2 Filming on island national parks

For [commercial filming or photography activities on island national parks](#), it is recommended that you request a [free pre-lodgement meeting](#) or contact permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au as early as possible, to discuss your proposed activities and permit requirements.



Commercial filming and photography with a maximum group size of 10 people, not involving prescribed structures and use of hand-held equipment only, does not require a permit. However, you must still submit an online [filming and photography notification](#) at least 14 days before entering a QPWS managed area.

A drone weighing up to two kilograms (including attachments) may be used for commercial filming on national parks without a permit; however, use must be in accordance with [Civil Aviation Safety Authority](#) (CASA) regulations and exclusions may apply, for example significant bird sites. Note that adherence to CASA rules may be difficult at high use sites, such as Green Island, Lizard Island or Fitzroy Island, due to the number of people present.



Further, access to Michaelmas Cay, a significant bird site, to conduct filming is prohibited. Filming and photography activities that involve more than 10 people and structures (for examples tables, props, lighting and shade structures) and/or a drone more than two kilograms (including attachments) require a permit — you can apply via QPWS [Online Services](#).

Note:

- Transport vessels or aircraft must have a relevant Marine Parks permit.
- Location group size limits apply.
- Strict [biosecurity](#) measures must be adhered to.
- [CASA](#) rules apply for the use of drones.
- Significant bird site restrictions and aircraft exclusions areas may apply (refer to [Location-Specific Assessment Information Sheet](#) on the Reef Authority website).



10. Sewage, pests, safety and reporting incidents

10.1 Vessel sewage requirements

Vessel-based sewage discharge delivers increased nutrients and pathogens into the water. All vessel owners must ensure vessel sewage is managed appropriately. Refer to [Maritime Safety Queensland's Sewage webpages](#) and ensure you are Waware of the specific discharge restrictions. Further information is also available on the [Reef Authority's webpage on vessel sewage regulations](#).

10.2 Be pest-free!

10.2.1 Marine pests

To help prevent the spread of marine **pests**, please plan ahead and undertake appropriate ballast water management and biofouling treatment of your vessel, if required, before entering the Marine Parks and the Cairns area. All ballast water management must be documented, and reported where required, as per the requirements of the [Biosecurity Act 2015](#) (Cth) (Biosecurity Act).

To find out more about ballast water management for international vessels and for vessels travelling within Australian waters, refer to the [Australian Ballast Water Management Requirements](#) and visit the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry website <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/>.

Ballast water must not be discharged or exchanged in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.



To help prevent the spread of marine pests, it is very important that vessels are well maintained, and that biofouling is minimised. For more information on [managing biofouling](#) see the [National Biofouling Management Guidelines](#) at the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry website www.agriculture.gov.au.

In-water hull cleaning is not permitted within the Marine Parks. Refer to the [Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry](#) (Cth) for further information.

10.2.2 Island biosecurity

The [Biosecurity Act 2014](#) includes a principle referred to as a 'general biosecurity obligation'. This means that commercial operators are responsible for managing biosecurity risks that are under their control, they know about or should be reasonably expected to know about. The biosecurity of island national parks is covered by this law.



Protection of island national parks includes preventing the movement of invasive animals and plant pests and diseases (invasive species) to these sensitive locations, particularly considering unique island population dynamics of flora and fauna. These invasive species can significantly impact the environmental and cultural values of island national parks within the Marine Parks.

As a commercial tourism operator, you bring your clients to a number of different island locations each day and you may also use equipment, such as food boxes, eskies, a BBQ or a gazebo. Some operators may also transport camping equipment.

Be sure to minimise the risk of introducing or transferring pest, weeds and pathogens between different island locations by ensuring you:

- Remove soil from footwear and equipment as viruses, bacteria and fungi are carried in soil. A bleach solution may be used as disinfectant.
- Avoid or minimise the use of corrugated cardboard boxes or packaging because it may transport insect pests.
- Carefully inspect equipment, as pests (e.g. ants and cane toads) and seeds can be moved undetected, especially inside poles and folded canvas.
- Check pockets, cuffs and hook-and-loop fasteners (for example Velcro) for weed seeds.

Before you start your trip: please check that your vessel or aircraft, cargo, clothing, footwear and personal effects (including those of passengers) are free of soil, seeds, plant material, eggs, insects, spiders, lizards, toads, rats and mice.

While you are on the island: re-inspect items before moving to a new site or island. Contain seeds and plant material and dispose of these appropriately outside the Marine Parks and island national parks.

Please report any suspected pest and weeds (including photograph and location) that you encounter to QPWSgbrmciGBRMPR.Corro@des.qld.gov.au.

For more information, visit the [Queensland National Parks](http://www.qld.gov.au/environment/coasts-waterways/reef/islands-biosecurity) website and the Great Barrier Reef islands biosecurity website <http://www.qld.gov.au/environment/coasts-waterways/reef/islands-biosecurity>.

10.3 Safety warnings – crocodiles, stingers, sharks

Please adhere to these safety warnings, when in the Cairns region.



Be Croc Wise - Beware of estuarine crocodiles. They inhabit mainland estuaries but may be present in island waters and on beaches.

For further information, visit the [Queensland's Be Crocwise webpage](#).



Dangerous jellyfish (stingers) such as box jellyfish and irukandji jellyfish may be present all year round, particularly between

November and May. These jellyfish can deliver a fatal sting. It is advised that you wear suitable protective clothing, such as a stinger suit. Other marine creatures, such as cone shells, blue-ringed octopus and stonefish, are also potentially deadly. For stinger safety advice and beach and water safety, visit <https://lifesaving.com.au/safety-info/marine-stingers>.



Do not swim at dawn or dusk – sharks actively hunt at these times.

- Swim, snorkel or dive with a buddy.
- Always swim in clear water – not in murky water, estuary mouths or canals as this can increase the potential of mistaken interactions with sharks.
- Do not throw food scraps or fish waste overboard (including in anchorages or where people are swimming).
- Use on-board holding tanks to contain sewage while in anchorages – even black waste can attract fish that in turn attracts predators.
- Do not swim near or interfere with shark control equipment (located outside of the Cairns Planning Area).
- Do not swim near fishers, as fishing activities can also attract sharks.

Further information can be found on the [Queensland Government Department of Agriculture and Fisheries SharkSmart](#) page.

10.4 Keeping an eye on the reef

With easy access to zoning maps and the ability to contribute your sightings out on the water, the Eye on the Reef app is a must for all Marine Parks users – and it is free to download. The Eye of the Reef app is available at all times, even when out of mobile range.



The app allows you to quickly pinpoint which zone you are in and know the rules for that area. Sightings and observations, such as turtles or whales, or incidents such as coral spawning or the presence of crown-of-thorns starfish and coral bleaching can also be reported through the app.

The app provides interesting facts on over 250 species so you can use it as an identification and education tool. The more people who report their sightings, the more knowledge will be contributed to science, management and the protection of this natural wonder.

10.5 Reporting an incident

By **reporting incidents** and suspected offences you have witnessed, you are helping protect the Marine Parks and island national parks. Useful information to report, where possible, includes date, time, location, GPS coordinates, photos, vessel registration and contact details. However, if you witness a suspected breach of the law, you are advised NOT to approach any suspected persons or request information from them.



To report an incident requiring an urgent response, please provide details as soon as possible to the Field Management Compliance Coordination Unit: Phone: 1800 380 048 (24hr) or refer to the numbers at the bottom of [the Reef Authority's Incident Report page](#) during business hours.

A promotional banner with a yellow and black checkered border at the top. On the left, it features the Australian Government Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority logo and the Queensland Government logo. The main text reads: "Help protect the Reef", "Anonymously report suspected illegal fishing activity", "24-hour hotline: 1800 380 048", and "www.gbrmpa.gov.au/report-an-incident". At the bottom, it says "It's everyone's responsibility to help protect our Great Barrier Reef".

Australian Government
Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park Authority

Queensland Government

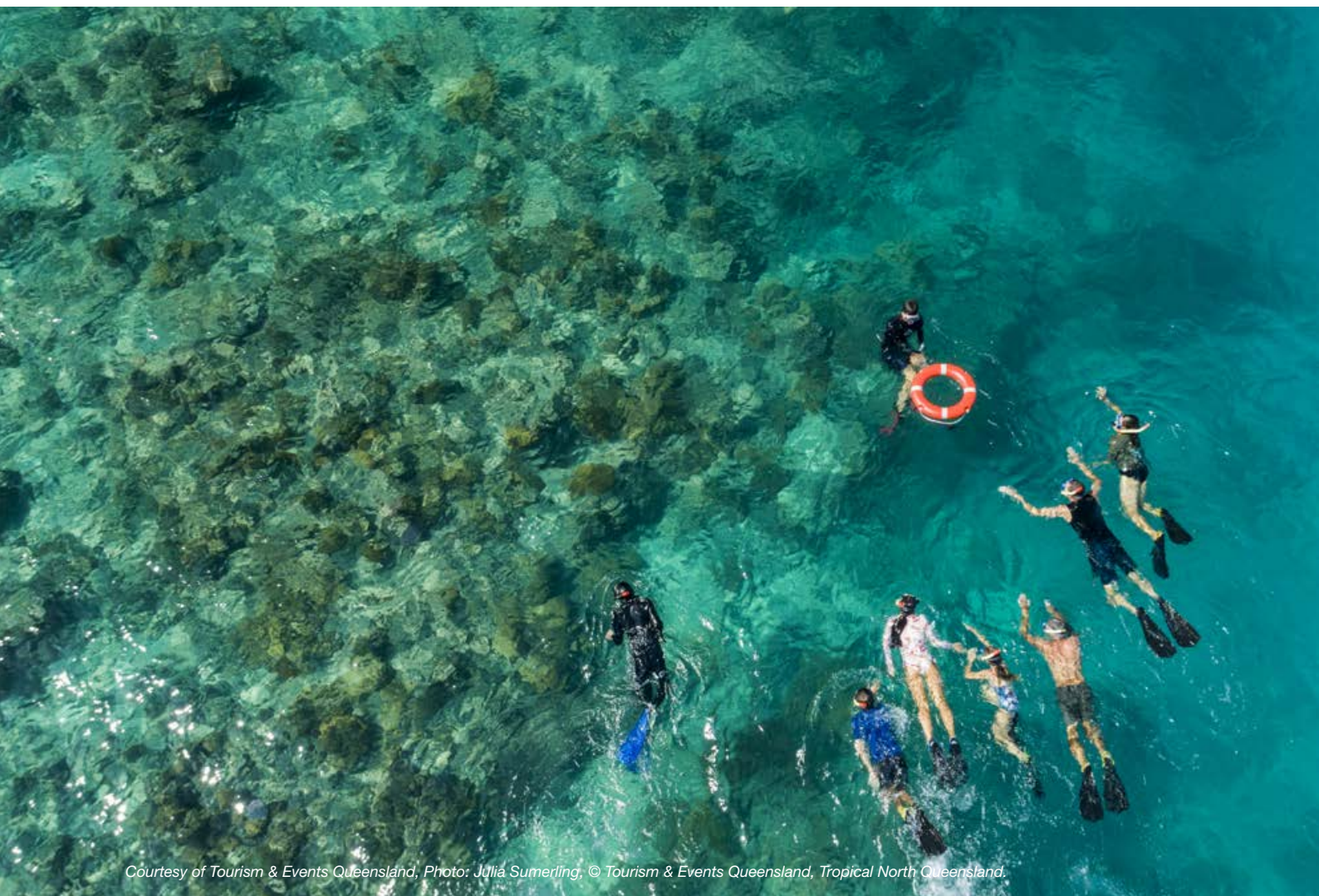
Help protect the Reef

Anonymously report suspected illegal fishing activity

24-hour hotline: 1800 380 048

www.gbrmpa.gov.au/report-an-incident

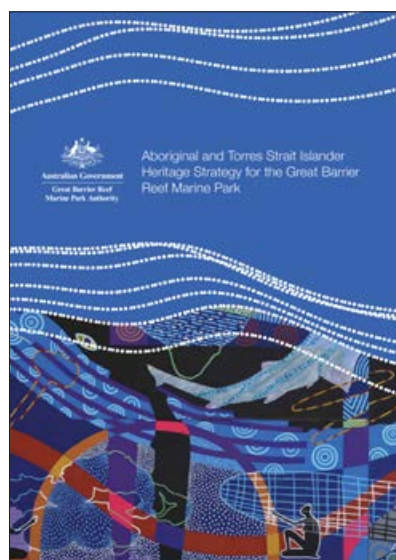
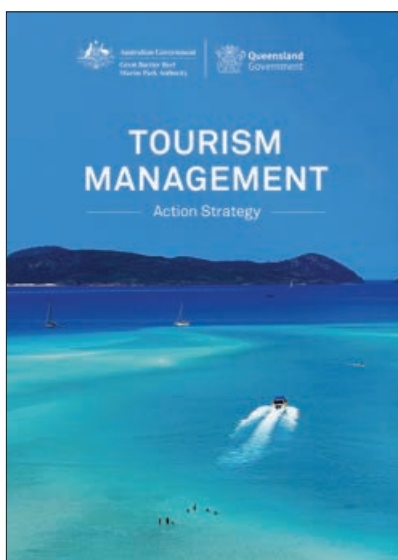
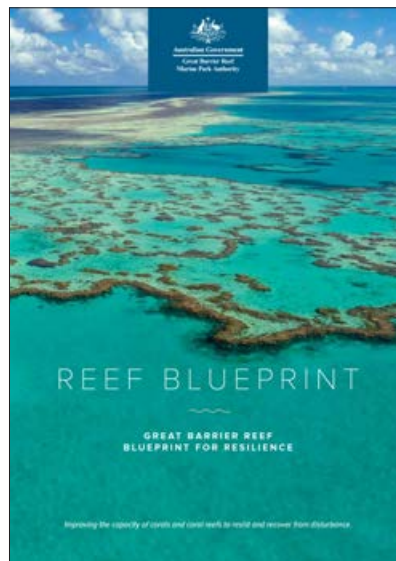
It's everyone's responsibility to help protect our Great Barrier Reef



11. Strategies and stewardship

11.1 Strategies for managing the Reef

The Reef Authority is working with other Australian and Queensland government agencies to achieve the environmental protection and sustainable use of the Marine Parks. Several plans and strategies provide an overarching framework:



11.2 Marine tourism contingency planning

The Great Barrier Reef is vulnerable to a range of environmental incidents such as oil spills, ship groundings, cyclones, flooding and coral bleaching. A **Marine Contingency Plan** focuses on assisting tourism operators to appropriately respond to environments incidents.

11.3 Reef health

Reef health updates can be accessed [here](#).



Please refer to the [Reef Authority's website](#) for more information.

11.4 Reef resilience/Reef intervention



Climate change is the greatest threat to the Great Barrier Reef and coral reefs worldwide. Building the resilience of the Reef is central to ensuring it can

withstand threats. The managing agencies are committed to strengthening partnerships to build the capacity of Marine Parks managers, industries and communities to adapt their activities to a changing climate.

The managing agencies support restoration and/or adaptation interventions (also called reef interventions) to support ecosystem recovery, build resilience and achieve conservation benefits for the Great Barrier Reef. The primary purpose is non-commercial coral reef conservation/restoration.

Refer to the [Policy on Great Barrier Reef interventions](#) for further information.

11.5 Stewardship

Stewardship requires positive actions taken by individuals and reef-dependent organisations that have a direct benefit on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area. The following programs are flagship programs in the Reef Authority's approach to the delivery of education and engagement.

11.5.1 Master Reef Guides



Master Reef Guides strive to be world leading coral reef guides and interpreters sharing the wonders of the Great

Barrier Reef World Heritage Area through engaging stories and memorable experiences. The first of its kind, the Master Reef Guide program is delivered by the Reef Authority,

Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators and Tourism and Events Queensland.

To become a Master Reef Guide, a comprehensive selection and training process is required. Find out more at [Master Reef Guide](#) or follow them on [social media](#).

11.5.2 High Standard Tourism Operator Program

High Standard Tourism Operators voluntarily operate to a higher standard than required by legislation as part of their commitment to ecologically sustainable use.

The Reef Authority relies on independent certification to identify high standard operations.

Certified operators recognised as [High Standard Tourism Operators](#) may be eligible to apply for a 20-year permit for a certified tourism product, be listed on the Reef Authority's website and showcased at various trade events.



EARTHCHECK



11.5.3 Be a Marine Biologist for a Day

Be a Marine Biologist for a Day is a package of [educational resources](#) to assist teachers, marine tourism operators and reef guides to facilitate high quality experiential learning excursions for students visiting the Marine Parks. Eye on the Reef rapid monitoring is considered low impact and can be conducted as part of your vessel or aircraft tourist program. For more information on the *Be a Marine Biologist for a Day* resources, please email education@gbmpa.gov.au.

BE OUR EYES ON THE REEF

Contribute to citizen science on the Great Barrier Reef

SIGHTINGS NETWORK

Encourage staff and guests to report wildlife and unusual events in real time via a free smartphone app and view the sightings on the interactive website: www.gbrmpa.gov.au/sightings-network

TOURISM WEEKLY MONITORING

Get to know your dive sites better! Commit staff to this high frequency method to build a time-line of reef health at your permitted tourism site.

RAPID MONITORING

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Australian Government
Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park Authority



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to become a trained surveyor



Key terms and definitions

In the interests of this guide containing all the information in one place, definitions for other legislative and non-legislative documents have been included.

500 metre line	<p>(a) in relation to a reef — means the notional line every point on which is 500 metres seaward from the nearest point of the reef edge of the reef to which it applies; and</p> <p>(b) in relation to a geological formation (other than a reef) mentioned in Schedule 4, <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i>— means the notional line every point on which is 500 metres seaward from the nearest point of the formation.</p>
Ancillary mooring	<p>a mooring that: (a) is associated with, and supports, the operation of a resort or tourist facility, the operation of which is authorised by a relevant permission; (b) is not intended to be used by the primary vessel associated with the operation; and (c) is primarily associated with the use of small vessels such as dive tenders, glass bottom boats and hire craft.</p>
<u>Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA)</u>	<p>refers to the Commonwealth government body established by the <i>Civil Aviation Act 1988</i> (Cth) that regulates Australian aviation safety and the operation of Australian aircraft overseas.</p>
Commercial activity for the purpose of protected area means:	<p>As defined in schedule 8 of the Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2017, s73B of the <i>Forestry Act 1959</i>, and the schedule ‘Dictionary’ of the <i>Recreation Areas Management Act 2006</i>:</p> <p>“commercial activity” is an activity conducted for gain.</p> <p>Examples of activities conducted for gain —</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the hire or sale of goods or services • commercial photography Operational policy Commercial tourism and recreation activities in QPWS managed areas • a guided tour, safari, scenic flight, cruise or excursion • advertising or promoting the use of a protected area (national park) / State forest / recreation area as part of a tour, safari, scenic flight, cruise or excursion • advertising or promoting the use of a protected area (national park) / State forest / recreation area as a feature associated with a resort or tourist facility on land adjoining the protected area / State forest / recreation area. <p>A commercial activity does not include—</p> <p>(a) an exempt activity; or</p> <p>(b) an exempt media activity; or (c) filming or photography that—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) involves no more than 10 persons; and (ii) does not involve the erection, construction or use of a prescribed structure.

Commercial activity for the purpose of the Marine Parks	For joint marine parks permits - in determining if an activity is of a commercial nature, the managing agencies consider if the activity constitutes, or has sufficient connection with, the provision of goods or services for reward (either monetary or non-monetary). This includes activities that are carried out with a view to profit or an intention to make a profit, but may also cover goods or services for non-monetary reward such as free publicity or free trips on a boat.
Commercial Activity Permit (CAP)	an authority granted under the <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2017</i> (Qld).
Cruise Ship Anchorage	has the same meaning as designated anchorage.
DES	means the Queensland Department of Environment and Science.
Designated Anchorage	an area described in Schedule 1 of the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019</i> (Cth).
Designated Shipping Areas	as described in part 1 of Schedule 10 of the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003</i> (Cth) and the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019</i> (Cth).
Endorsement	refers to an activity that has been capped or limited by a Plan of Management or legislation and allows operators to continue an activity that was permitted before the Plan came into effect. The activity is displayed on a Marine Parks permit as an endorsement.
Gamefishing	defined in the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 as the taking of fish of the genus <i>Makaira</i> (commonly known as marlin).
Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park (GBRCMP)	is the Queensland Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park established by the <i>Marine Parks Act 2004</i> (Qld), as amended from time to time.
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (GBRMP)	is the Commonwealth Great Barrier Reef Marine Park established by the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i> (Cth), as amended from time to time.
Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks	otherwise referred to the Marine Parks, means both the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Reef Authority)	is the Commonwealth Government agency established by the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i> (Cth).
HAT	means highest astronomical tide.
Heli-pontoon	as per the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> , means a non-motorised permanently moored facility that is used solely as a landing area for helicopters.
Intertidal area	means that area of the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park between mean low water and the landward boundaries of the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park.

Intertidal Areas Notification Approval (IANA)	is a written approval from the managing agencies that lists the intertidal areas that may be accessed under a permit.
Island	includes islands, islets, cays, rocks and sandbanks.
Island national park	means a protected area under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> (Qld).
Large vessel	means a vessel that has an overall length of more than 35 metres, but less than 70 metres.
Large ship	means a vessel that has an overall length of at least 70 metres.
Locality	means a Location listed in Schedule 3 of the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> . Also refer to Location.
Location	Generally, a reef, island or bay that is: a) The area within 500 metres of a reef or island site within the Cairns Planning Area (refer Schedule 4 of the Cairns Area Plan), that includes the airspace above it to a height of 500 feet above ground or water) b) a Locality described in Schedule 3 of the Cairns Area Plan (including the airspace above it to a height of 3000 feet above ground or water).
Managing agencies	refers to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Great Barrier Reef Marine Park); and the Department of Environment and Science through the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park).
Marine Parks	refers to both the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park established by the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i> (Cth) and the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park established pursuant to the <i>Marine Parks Act 2004</i> (Qld).
Marine Parks permit	means a joint Marine Parks permits granting use and entry to both the Commonwealth and State of Queensland (Coastal) Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks. A permit may include one or more permissions.
Mooring	means a permanently located facility that is designed solely for mooring a vessel or aircraft, and includes the mooring buoy, tackle and point of attachment to the seabed.
Mooring Reference Number	means the unique number prescribed for each mooring by the managing agencies.
Mooring site	as per the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> , means the area within the line every point of which is 50 metres from the nearest point of: (a) the mooring buoy of a single-point mooring system; or (b) the primary mooring buoy of a fore-and-aft mooring system.

Motorised water sport	<p>means any of the following activities:</p> <p>(a) the irregular driving of a motorised vessel other than in a straight line (except for necessary turns or diversions), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) driving in a circle or other pattern; or (ii) weaving or diverting; or (iii) surfing down, or jumping over or across, any wave, swell or wash; <p>(b) any activity in which a highspeed vessel or a motorised vessel tows a person on top of the water or in the air (for example, waterskiing or parasailing);</p> <p>(c) any activity in which a personal watercraft is used, except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) for transiting an area or from a place to another place; or (ii) if the personal watercraft can only be operated when fully submerged under the water and is only operated for the primary purpose of viewing the environment.
No-anchoring area	means a no-anchoring area established under the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019</i> (Cth).
Northerly mooring	means an additional permitted mooring for weather in accordance with clause 1.38 of the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> .
Operating under an Authority	means allowing other people, not on behalf of the permit holder, to conduct activities under a Marine Parks permit.
Overall vessel length	<p>has the same meaning as in the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i> (Cth) as 110% of the length shown on the vessel's load-line certification.</p> <p>If the overall length of a vessel cannot be worked out, the length is taken to be the distance between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a vertical line passing through a point that is the foremost part of the stem; and (b) a vertical line passing through a point that is the aftermost part of the stern.
Permanently moored facility	<p>(a) means a facility that is moored in one vicinity for more than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) 14 consecutive days; or (ii) 30 days in any period of 60 days; or <p>(b) if it is defined in the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019</i> (Cth) — has the meaning given in the Regulations.</p>
Permission	Part 2 of the zoning plans identify the purposes that require written permission from the managing agencies before entering or using that part of the Marine Parks.
Permitted mooring	means a mooring, other than a public mooring, for which the managing agency has granted a permission.



Pest	means any animal, plant, parasite or disease-causing organism (such as bacteria, virus or fungus) capable of causing adverse impacts to environmental, economic or social values whether or not it is: (a) contributing to a Listed Key Threatening Process under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (Cth); or (b) prohibited or restricted under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> (Qld).
Plan of Management	means a Plan of Management, as in force from time to time, that is prepared for the Marine Park in accordance with Part VB of the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i> (Cth).
Planning Area	see <i>Cairns Planning Area</i> .
Pontoon	means a non-motorised permanently moored facility that is used primarily for tourist or aquaculture activities (except solely as a landing area for helicopters).
Pontoon site	means the area within the line every point of which is 200 metres from the nearest point of a pontoon.
QPWS	the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service through the Department of Environment and Science (DES).
QPWS permit	refers to an authority, commercial activity agreement or activity permit granted under the <i>Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2017</i> (Qld).
Reasonable use	is the minimum amount a Special Tourism Permission should be used; and this is reviewed when applying for a continuation of that permission.
Reef Authority	an abbreviation referring to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.
Reef Protection Markers	are marked or unmarked points under the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i> forming a No-anchoring area.
Regional Tour Operation	as defined in the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> and has the same meaning as Special Tourism Permission.
RNTBC	means Registered Native Title Bodies Corporate.
Ribbon Reef Sector	as per Schedule 8 of the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> .
Sensitive Location	as per Schedule 5 of the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> , a Location that has special or unique conservation, cultural, heritage, scientific or use values and includes the airspace above the ground or water.
Ship	as per the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> , means a vessel that has an overall length of more than 70 metres.

Special Tourism Permission (Special)	<p>means a permission to conduct a tourist program, or to conduct an activity under a tourist program, where:</p> <p>a) the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019</i> or a Plan of Management has imposed a limit on the number of such permissions that may be granted; or</p> <p>b) a plan of management declares such permissions to be special tourism permissions for the purposes of the Regulations; or</p> <p>c) a special permission as defined in section 82 of the Regulations.</p>
Standard Tour Operation (STO)	as defined in the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> .
Superyacht	means a high-value, luxury sailing or motor vessel in use for sport or pleasure (whether for private or commercial use).
Swimming-with-whales	<p>defined in the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019</i> as an activity for the purpose of enabling tourists to swim, snorkel or scuba dive with cetaceans, or to observe cetaceans while in the water with them, including:</p> <p>a) using an aircraft or vessel to find cetaceans for that purpose</p> <p>b) placing tourists in the water for that purpose.</p>
Tourist	means a person who is in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park principally for the purpose of recreation (for relaxation, enjoyment or exercise).
Tourism	is commercial activities that provide transport, accommodation or services to people who are visiting principally for recreation.
Tourism Operation	refers to the type, access rights and operational requirements as per clause 1.44 of the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> .
Tourist Program	defined in the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975</i> as an activity that is in the course of carrying on a business; and is or includes the provision of transport, accommodation or services to tourists or for persons who include tourists.
Transiting	<p>refers to a vessel or aircraft transiting an area (however described), or from a place (the origin) to another place (the destination), if the vessel or aircraft is travelling:</p> <p>(a) Through the area, or from the origin to the destination, by the most direct and reasonable route; and</p> <p>(b) In the case of a vessel – in such a manner that, at all times when the vessel is on that route, the vessel is being propelled (whether by engine, sail or human power) through the water in a forward direction and is not adrift.</p> <p>For this purpose, it does not matter where the origin or the destination is, whether the origin is a point or an area or whether the destination is a point or an area.</p>

TUMRA	means Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreements.
Visit	means in relation to: (a) a vessel (including the use of an ancillary vessel) means accessing a permitted location, without departure, for a period not exceeding 24 hours; or (b) an aircraft means one landing and one take-off at a permitted location. Note – a visit for Long Range Roving Operations and Aircraft Operations means ‘a visit or visits together being of no more than 48 hours’.
Whale watching activity	means an activity (other than a swimming-with-whales activity) conducted for the purpose of enabling tourists to observe cetaceans, including using a vessel or aircraft to find cetaceans for that purpose.
Year	as per the <i>Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998</i> , means a period of 365 consecutive days. Note: If using the Whitsundays Planning Area – the definition of year is defined differently.
Zoning Plan	for the purposes of this Guide means a) in relation to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003</i> (Cth); and b) in relation to the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park, the <i>Marine Parks (Great Barrier Reef Coast) Zoning Plan 2004</i> (Qld).

Useful weblinks

Australian and Queensland governments

- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority: <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/>
- Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service: <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment>
- Australian Immigration and Border Protection: <http://www.abf.gov.au/>
- Australian Maritime Safety Authority (includes MARPOL information): <https://www.amsa.gov.au/>
- Maritime Safety Queensland: <https://www.msq.qld.gov.au/>

Legislation

- *Biosecurity Act 2015*: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2021C00355>
- *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2020C00182>
- *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019*:
<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2022C00453>
- *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003*:
<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2005B02402>

- *Marine Parks Act 2004*: <https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-2004-031>
- *Marine Parks Regulation 2017*:
<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2017-0154>
- *Marine Park (Great Barrier Reef Coast) Zoning Plan 2004*:
<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2004-0240>
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992*:
<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1992-020>
- *Nature Conservation (Protected Areas Management) Regulation 2017*:
<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2017-0157>
- Recreation Areas Management Act 2006 (Qld):
<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-2006-020>
- Recreation Areas Management Regulation 2017 (Qld):
<https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2017-0158>
- *Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998*:
GBRMPA ELibrary: Cairns Area Plan of Management 2008

All users

- Zoning Map 4: <https://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/handle/11017/605>
- Zoning Map 5: <https://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/handle/11017/604>
- Zoning Map 6: <https://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/handle/11017/603>
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Online Bookings:
<https://secure.gbrmpa.gov.au/bookingsonline/>
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Responsible Reef Practices:
<https://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/access-and-use/responsible-reef-practices>
- Queensland Recreational Fishing Rules and Regulations:
<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/fisheries/recreational/recreational-fishing-rules>
- Going Spearfishing offshore Cooktown:
<https://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/handle/11017/3620>
- Going Spearfishing in the Cairns region:
<https://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/handle/11017/3619>
- Be Crocwise - Queensland Department of Environment and Science:
<https://environment.des.qld.gov.au/wildlife/animals/living-with/crocodiles/croc-wise>
- Queensland National Parks Booking Service:
<https://qpws.usedirect.com/qpws/>
- Marine Stingers, Surf Life Saving Queensland:
<https://lifesaving.com.au/safety-info/marine-stingers>

Commercial operators

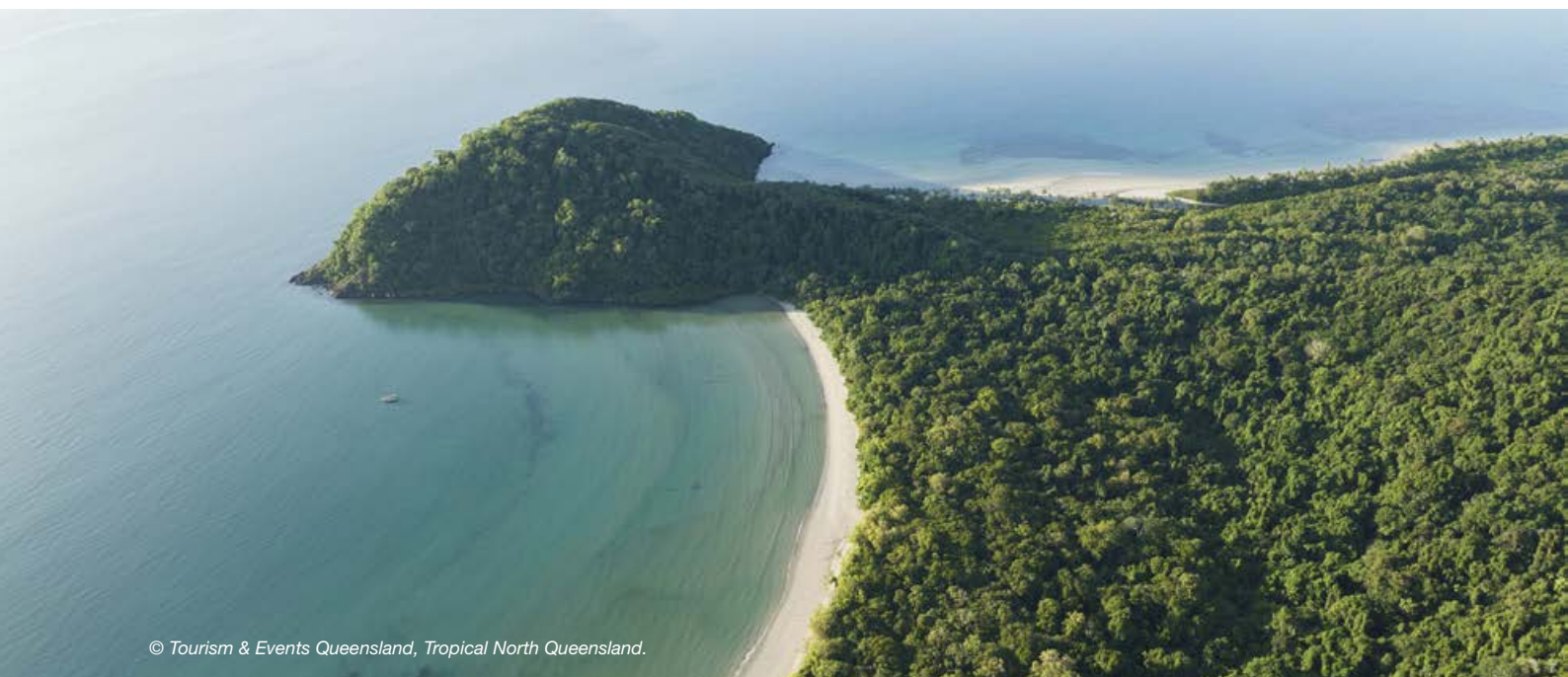
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Permits Online: <https://secure.gbrmpa.gov.au/permitsonline>
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority – How to apply for a Marine Parks permit: <https://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/access-and-use/permits/how-to-apply>
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Environmental Management Charges: <https://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/access-and-use/environmental-management-charge>
- National Park Commercial Activity Permits: <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/hospitality-tourism-sport/tourism/starting-up/regulations/parks-recreation-forests/commercial-activity-permit>

Larger vessels/cruiseships/superyachts

- Compulsory Pilotage Exemptions: <https://www.amsa.gov.au/safety-navigation/navigating-coastal-waters/coastal-pilotage-exemptions>
- Compulsory Pilotage: <https://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/our-work/Managing-multiple-uses/shipping>
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Designated Shipping Areas: <https://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/handle/11017/3406>
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Superyachts: <https://www2.gbrmpa.gov.au/visit/superyachts>

Policies and guidelines

- Department of Environment and Science (QPWS): [Policies and procedures | Parks and forests | Department of Environment and Science, Queensland \(des.qld.gov.au\)](#)
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority - Policies, plans and position statements: [GBRMPA - Policies, plans and position statements](#)



Important contacts



**Reef Authority –
Report an incident**



**[About marine wildlife strandings |
Environment, land and water | Queensland
Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)**



**[Incident reporting
\(amsa.gov.au\)](#)**



**[Fisheries compliance | Department of
Agriculture and Fisheries, Queensland
\(daf.qld.gov.au\)](#)**

Incident	Agency	Phone number
Marine Park and island national park offences	Field Management Compliance Coordination Unit (managing agencies)	1800 380 048 (24hr)
Sick, dead or stranded marine animals and fish kills	Department of Environment and Science	1300 130 372
Vessel collisions and groundings Oil/diesel/ sewage pollution	Australian Maritime Safety Authority	1800 641 792 (24hr) or
	Great Barrier Reef Marine Authority	1800 341 211
Illegal fishing	Great Barrier Reef Marine Authority (zoning offences)	1800 380 048 (24hr)
	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (bag and size limits)	1800 017 116

How to get in contact

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

PO Box 1379
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810
Phone: (07) 47 500 700
Freecall: 1800 990 177
Email: info@gbrmpa.gov.au
Web: www.gbrmpa.gov.au

Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service

Northern Marine Assessments
PO Box 2066
CAIRNS QLD 4870
Phone: 13 74 68
Email: permitsGBR@des.qld.gov.au
Web: www.des.qld.gov.au

Queries relating to	Agency	Contact
Marine Parks permits, conditions and applications	Assessments Team - Reef Authority	assessments@gbmpa.gov.au (07) 4750 0700 (Option 3)
Booking enquiries	Assessments Team - Reef Authority	bookings@gbmpa.gov.au
Environmental Management Charge	Environmental Management Charge Team - Reef Authority	emc@gbmpa.gov.au (07) 4750 0700 (Option 3)
Tourism Contingency Plan	Assessments Team - Reef Authority	assessments@gbmpa.gov.au
Reef Interventions	Assessments Team - Reef Authority	assessments@gbmpa.gov.au
Plans of Management, policies and guidelines	Policy and Planning Team – Reef Authority	policyandplanning@gbmpa.gov.au
Zoning	Field Management – Reef Authority	compliance@gbmpa.gov.au (07) 4726 0588
High Standard Tourism Operations	Reef Engagement and Education – Reef Authority	web-tourism@gbmpa.gov.au
Stewardship i.e. Master Reef Guides	Reef Engagement and Education – Reef Authority	web-tourism@gbmpa.gov.au
Commercial Activity Permit (NP)	QPWS	permitsgbr@des.qld.gov.au
Events on State Marine Park (beaches) or island NP	QPWS	permitsgbr@des.qld.gov.au
Daily fees / returns for NP	QPWS	permitsgbr@des.qld.gov.au



Attachment 1 – Cairns Area Vessel Length Summary Table

Permitted vessels	Vessel (less than 50 metres)		Ship (50 metres or greater)
	Vessel Size	35 metres or less	More than 35 metres and not more than 70 metres
How is this reflected on your permit?	Vessel Operation	Large Vessel Operation (greater than 35 metres and not more than 70 metres). Ship Operation (50 metres and no more than 70 metres).	Ship Operation (including cruise ships)
Permits Required	<i>All vessels operating commercially.</i> <i>A separate QPWS permit is required to commercially access island national parks.</i>		
Passenger Numbers	Refer to the Location group size limits and any endorsement under the Marine Parks permit. <i>Location group size limits also apply despite the passenger numbers on a permit. N.B: Passengers cannot be spread across the primary vessel and ancillary vessels to access a setting area.</i>		
Reef VTS	No	Yes if 50 metres or greater.	Yes
Compulsory Pilotage	No	No but available in all areas.	Yes – Cairns (see Map 1, p. 74)
Zoning and Designated Shipping Area	All zones except Preservation Zone (pink zone). Avoid anchoring in shipping areas.	If less than 50 metres – All zones except Preservation Zone (pink zone). If 50 metres or greater – General Use Zone (light blue zone) and designated shipping areas only. To navigate outside of these areas, a permit must be obtained.	General Use Zone (light blue zone) and designated shipping areas only. To navigate outside of these areas, a permit must be obtained.



Permitted vessels	Vessel (less than 50 metres)		Ship (50 metres or greater)
Vessel Size	35 metres or less	More than 35 metres and not more than 70 metres	More than 70 metres
Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to Locations • Sensitive Locations - with a booking (refer Attachment 2, p. 69). • Outside a Location. • Vessels greater than seven (7) metres long must not anchor in Lizard Island Locality 1. • Cod Hole Locality – no anchoring. • May anchor in a mooring site or pontoon site at the following locations only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Lizard Island Locality 2; » Lizard Island Locality 3; » Cape Tribulation Bay Locality 1; » East Hope Island Reef (15-065); » Low Island Locality; » Green Island Reef Locality 1. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer Table 5, p. 42 (Large vessel anchoring) • Must anchor at a Reef Anchorage or outside a Location only, unless endorsed otherwise. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outside a Location - General Use Zones (light blue zone) only). • Ships to anchor outside Locations, unless otherwise endorsed. • Designated anchorages - with a booking. • Transiting Locations on most direct route when accessing anchorages. • Ships may only anchor inside the following defined Locations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Lizard Island Locality 2; » Lizard Island Locality 3; » Ribbon Reef No. 5 (15-038); or » Ribbon Reef No. 2 (15-075)
Tender Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules for Locations (including Sensitive Locations) apply. • Tender must operate within three (3) nautical miles of the primary vessel only. • Only passengers of the primary vessel have access to the tender. • Note – Use of tenders when transiting between the cruise ship and a place outside the Planning Area (for example Cairns), or a tourist facility within, or partly within, the Planning Area (for example pontoon, jetty). 		

Attachment 2 – Site-Specific Management and Maps





The following summary table and maps for Sensitive Locations and the Fitzroy Island Marine Management Area should be read in conjunction with other information in this Guide, specifically Special Tourism Permissions, Operation Types (p. 18) and Vessel Length Summary Table (p. 67).





Most of these sites are important seabird roosting and nesting sites and/or adjacent to national parks. Consider biosecurity obligations prior to accessing these cays and islands (p. 38)

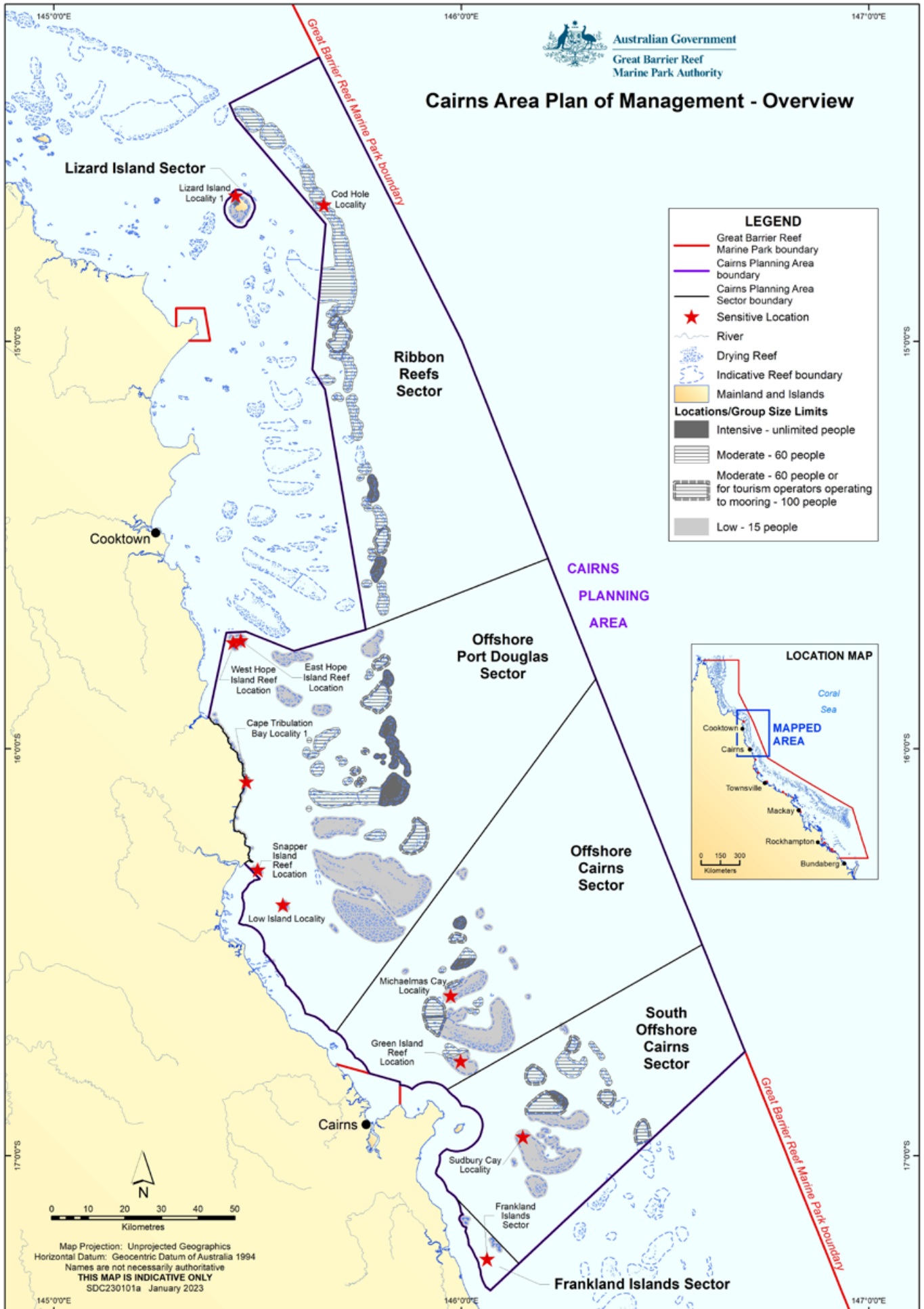
Additional information on some Locations not listed below can be found on the [Reef Authority's Access and Use webpages](#).



Location	Refer Map	Access for tourism operations <i>Note – refer to Map and Marine Park permit for additional access conditions and endorsement.</i>	National Park <i>Note - A QPWS permit is required for commercial activities on NP.</i>	Traditional Owners	Additional information
Cape Tribulation Bay Locality 1 (Offshore Port Douglas Sector) 	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location – booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. 	Map of the Cape Tribulation section of Daintree National Park (Wet Tropics World Heritage Area).	The Eastern Kuku Yalanji Aboriginal people are the Traditional Owners of the Daintree National Park (CYPAL) and is co-managed with the Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.	Cape Tribulation Bay Locality 1 is a 3.7 kilometres long strip along the coast (also known as Emmagen Beach).
Cod Hole Locality (Ribbon Reef No. 10) (Ribbons Reefs Sector) 	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location - booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. No anchoring. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. 	N/A	The Traditional Owners for the Cod Hole and surrounding reefs are represented by the Hopevale Congress Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC	N/A

Location	Refer Map	Access for tourism operations <i>Note – refer to Map and Marine Park permit for additional access conditions and endorsement.</i>	National Park <i>Note - A QPWS permit is required for commercial activities on NP.</i>	Traditional Owners	Additional information
Fitzroy Island National Park and Marine Management Area 	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 days per vessel per year with a booking. One vessel booking per day. Daily accessed is capped and only in accordance with endorsement on Marine Parks permit. Four Localities - group size and vessel limits apply. Aircraft - no access. A Public Appreciation SMA adjacent to Fitzroy Island prohibits spearfishing, commercial aquarium fish collecting, coral harvesting, beachworm harvesting, and aquaculture, refer Marine Park Zoning Map 5 – Cairns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fitzroy Island National Park map (des.qld.gov.au) Fitzroy Island National Park maps and resources 	The Traditional Owners are the Gunggandji people and are represented by the Gunggandji TUMRA Region under the Gunggandji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.	Fitzroy Island and adjacent waters are outside the Cairns Planning Area but are managed complementary. Fitzroy Island National Park and Marine Management Area Management Plan
Frankland Islands Sector (South Offshore Cairns Sector) 	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location – booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. Daily access restricted to two permits complementary with the Frankland Group National Park Management Plan. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russell Island, a Commonwealth Island, is managed primarily for recreational use, school groups and recreational camping. No commercial use of this area is permitted. Frankland Island Group National Park map (des.qld.gov.au) Russell Island campground map (des.qld.gov.au) 	The Traditional Owners for the Frankland Islands and surrounding reefs are the Land and Sea Country shared by Gunggandji Mandingalbay-Yidinji people and Wanjuru-Yidinji peoples under the Gunggandji Mandingalbay-Yidinji Peoples Prescribed Body Corporate RNTBC and Ganyaar Aboriginal Association Incorporated.	The Frankland Islands Sector includes High, Normanby, Mabel, Round and Russell Islands.
Green Island Reef Location (Offshore Cairns Sector) 	6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location - booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Green Island Recreation Area and Green Island National Park Management Plan (des.qld.gov.au). 	The Traditional Owners for the Green Island Reef Location and surrounding reef are the Land and Sea Country of the Gunggandji Traditional Owners under the Gunggandji TUMRA Region (Gunggandji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC).	A recreation area was declared in 1990 and includes the national park, the public esplanade (managed by the Cairns Regional Council), and the surrounding marine park to a distance of 1.6 km beyond the reef edge.
Hope Islands (East Hope Island Reef Location and West Hope Island Reef Location) (Offshore Port Douglas Sector) 	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location - booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. Separate booking requirements for East Hope Island Reef and West Hope Island Reef. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. No structure sub-zone – no permanently moored facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hope Island National Park (CYPAL) includes East and West Hope Island, Struck Island and Snapper Island). No access to West Hope Island National Park including the intertidal area. About Hope Islands National Park (CYPAL) Parks and forests Department of Environment and Science, Queensland (des.qld.gov.au) Nature, culture and history Snapper Island, Hope Islands National Park (CYPAL) Parks and forests Department of Environment and Science, Queensland (des.qld.gov.au) 	Hope Islands and surrounding reefs are the Land and Sea Country of the Dabu Jajikal Traditional Owners (Eastern Kuku Yalanji people) under the Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.	N/A

Location	Refer Map	Access for tourism operations <i>Note – refer to Map and Marine Park permit for additional access conditions and endorsement.</i>	National Park <i>Note - A QPWS permit is required for commercial activities on NP.</i>	Traditional Owners	Additional information
Lizard Island Localities (Lizard Island Sector) 	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. Waters surrounding Lizard Island are an important site for marine research. Avoid disturbing items of research equipment such as stakes or marker buoys as they are integral to scientific research carried out in the area. No structure sub-zone – no permanently moored facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private aircraft may only land on the resort lease with permission. Access to the Lizard Island Resort and its facilities are for resort guests only. Lizard Island National Park Management Statement 2013 (des.qld.gov.au) Lizard Island National Park map (des.qld.gov.au) 	The Traditional Owners for the Lizard Island and the surrounding reefs are the Land and Sea Country represented by the Hopevale Congress Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.	Lizard Island is a national park island and includes a resort and research station. There are important bird nesting and roosting grounds at Seabird Islet as well as significant conservation, scientific research and indigenous cultural values.
Low Island Locality (including Woody Island) (Offshore Port Douglas Sector) 	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location - booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. 	Woody Island is a significant bird nesting and roosting site for pied imperial pigeons – including a temporary closure Sep – Mar each year.	The Traditional Owners for Low Island and surrounding reef are the Land and Sea Country of the Eastern Kuku Yalanji peoples under the Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.	Low Isles is a Commonwealth island while Woody Island is a Queensland national park island. The Low Isles light station is listed on the Commonwealth Heritage Register: Low-Islet-Lightstation-and-Low-Island-Heritage-Register-2018. A Caretaker looks after day-to-day maintenance and stakeholder engagement at Low Isles.
Michaelmas Cay Locality (Offshore Cairns Sector) 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location - booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. Restricted Access Area marine park and national park – access limited to roped area. No structure sub-zone – no permanently moored facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The small sand cay is part of the Michaelmas and Upolu Cays National Park and is one of the most important bird nesting sites in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and the most significant around Cairns. Michaelmas and Upolu Cays National Park Management Plan. Michaelmas and Upolu Cays National Park Restricted Access Area (des.qld.gov.au) https://parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/michaelmas-upolu-cays/visiting-safely 	The Traditional Owners for Michaelmas Cay Locality and surrounding reefs is a shared area by Traditional Owner groups (Yirrganydji people and Gunggandji people) under the Yirrganydji TUMRA Region and Gunggandji TUMRA Region.	Significant breeding site for four ground nesting species— common noddies, crested terns and lesser crested terns, and is one of the largest breeding colonies of sooty terns in Queensland.
Snapper Island Reef Location (Offshore Port Douglas Sector) 	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location - booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. No structure sub-zone – no permanently moored facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snapper Island is part of Hope Island National Park (CYPAL). Significant bird nesting and roosting site for pied imperial-pigeons. 	Traditional Owners for Snapper Island Location and surrounding reefs are Land and Sea Country of the Eastern Kuku Yalanji peoples under the Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.	N/A
Sudbury Cay Locality (South Offshore Cairns Sector) 	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensitive Location - booking required for tourism operations unless endorsed. Aircraft - no access. Flight height restrictions apply. No structure sub-zone – no permanently moored facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No access to national park. Important seabird nesting and roosting ground. 	Traditional Owners for Sudbury Cay and surrounding reefs is a shared area by Traditional Owner groups (Gunggandji people and Gunggandji Mandingalbay-Yidinji people) under the Gunggandji TUMRA Region (Gunggandji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC) and Gunggandji Mandingalbay-Yidinji Peoples Prescribed Body Corporate RNTBC.	N/A



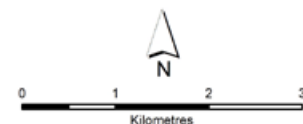


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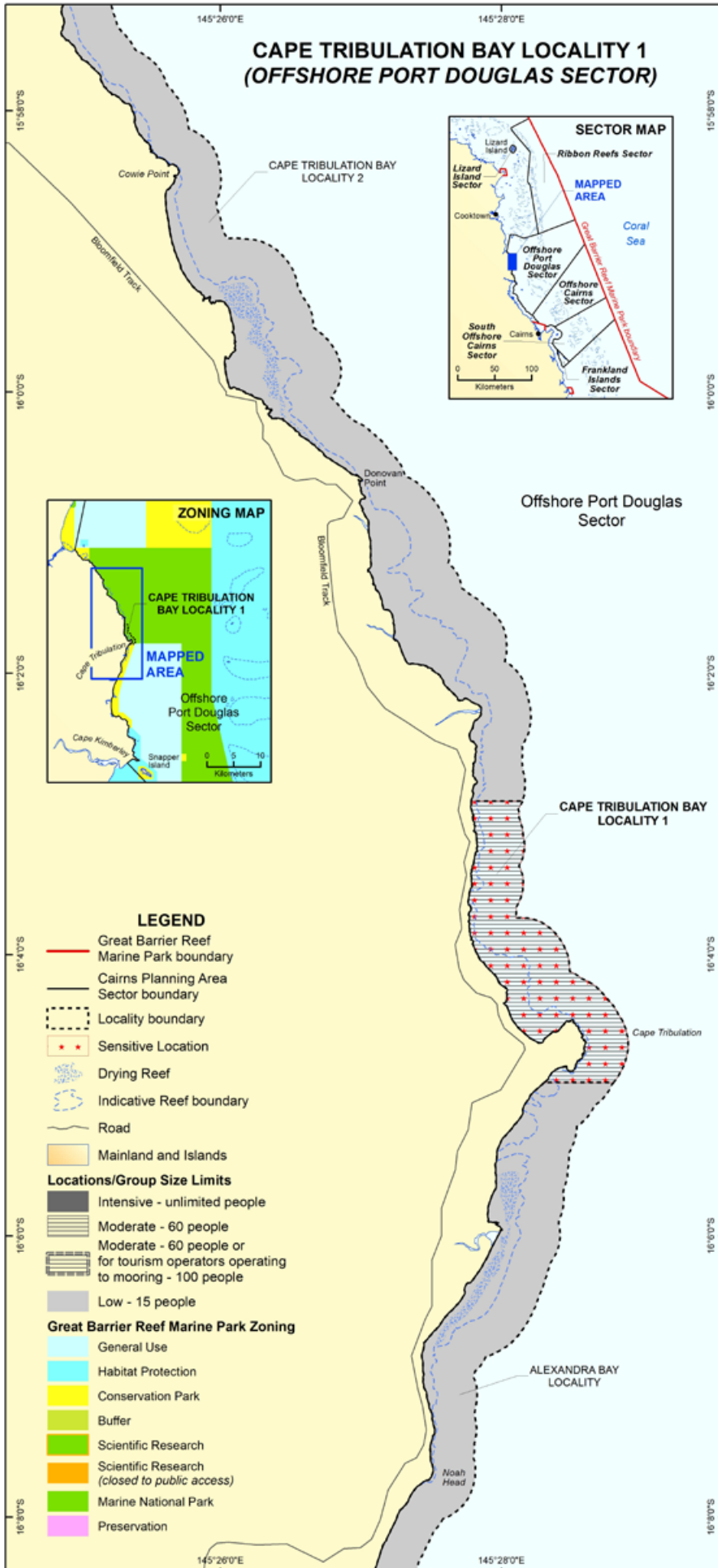
Cape Tribulation Locality 1 Site Arrangements

Cape Tribulation is a Sensitive Location with important dugong habitat and is adjacent to the Daintree National Park. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

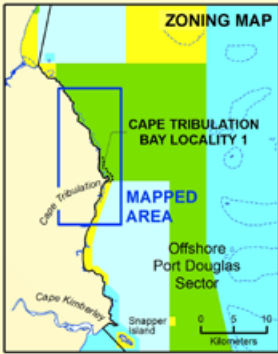
- Sensitive Location
- Booking required for tourism operations (unless endorsed) - one vessel booking per day
- Moderate use Location
- No motorised water sport
- Aircraft must remain above 1500 feet
- Vessels less than 35 metres can access and anchor
- Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside the Location
- Anchoring of vessels less than 35 metres is allowed within 50 metres of a mooring
- ✳ *Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4*
- ✳ *The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef*
- ✳ *A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring*
- ✳ *Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information*



Map Projection: Unprojected Geographics
Horizontal Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994
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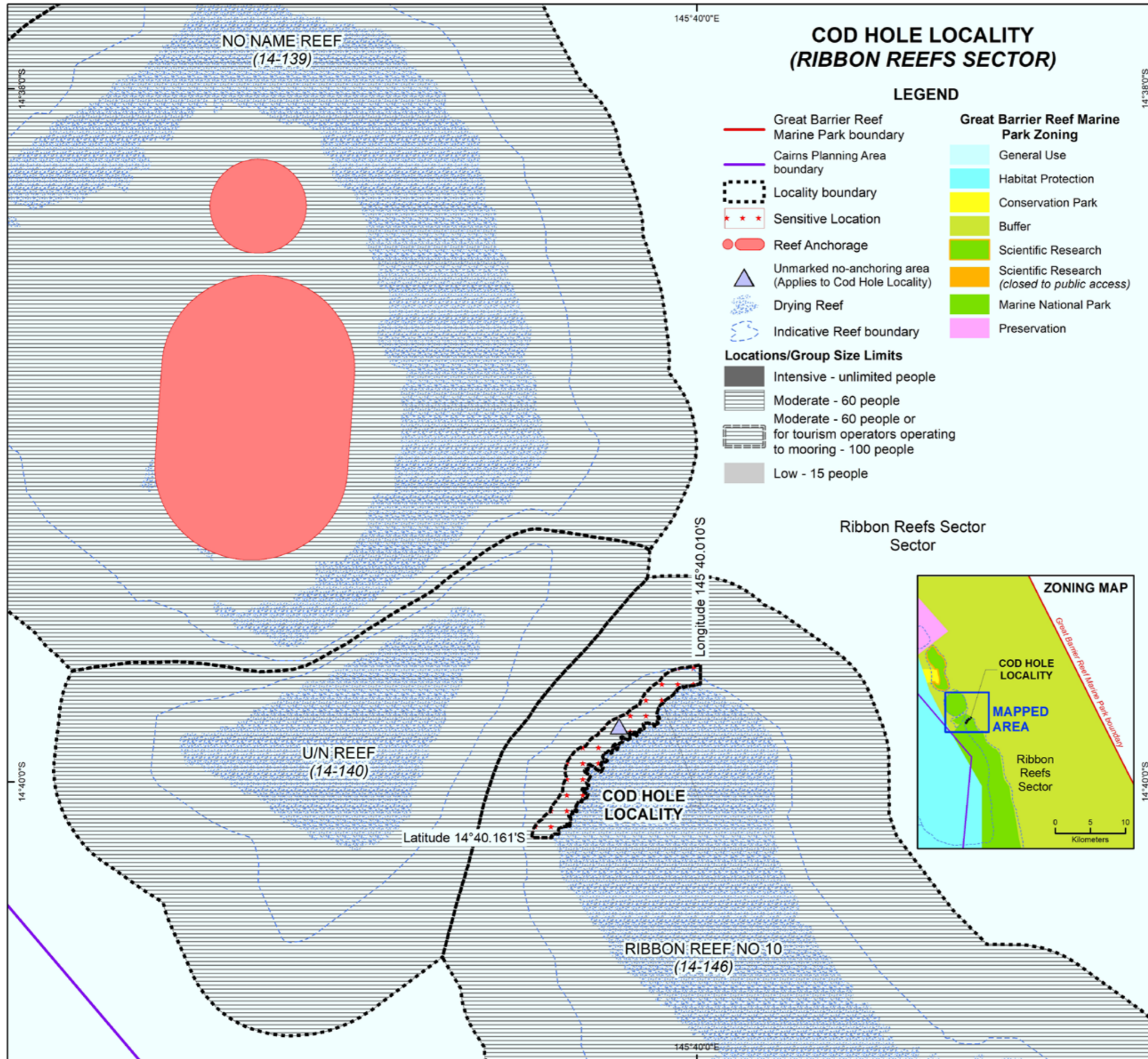


CAPE TRIBULATION BAY LOCALITY 1 (OFFSHORE PORT DOUGLAS SECTOR)



LEGEND

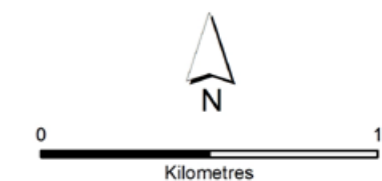
- Great Barrier Reef
- Marine Park boundary
- Cairns Planning Area
- Sector boundary
- - - Locality boundary
- • Sensitive Location
- ☼ Drying Reef
- ☼ Indicative Reef boundary
- Road
- Mainland and Islands
- Locations/Group Size Limits**
- Intensive - unlimited people
- Moderate - 60 people
- Moderate - 60 people or for tourism operators operating to mooring - 100 people
- Low - 15 people
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning**
- General Use
- Habitat Protection
- Conservation Park
- Buffer
- Scientific Research
- Scientific Research (closed to public access)
- Marine National Park
- Preservation



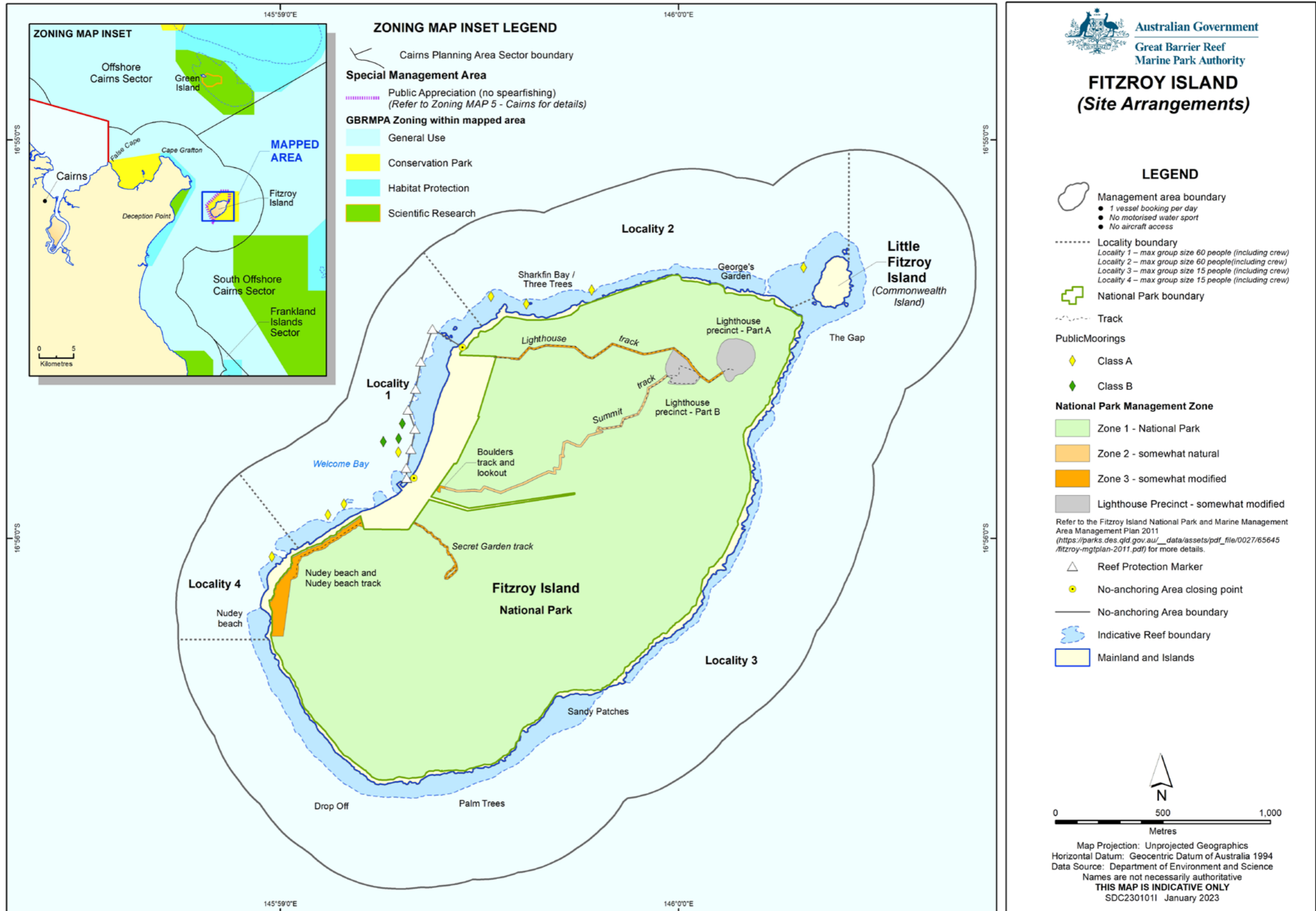
Cod Hole Locality Site Arrangements

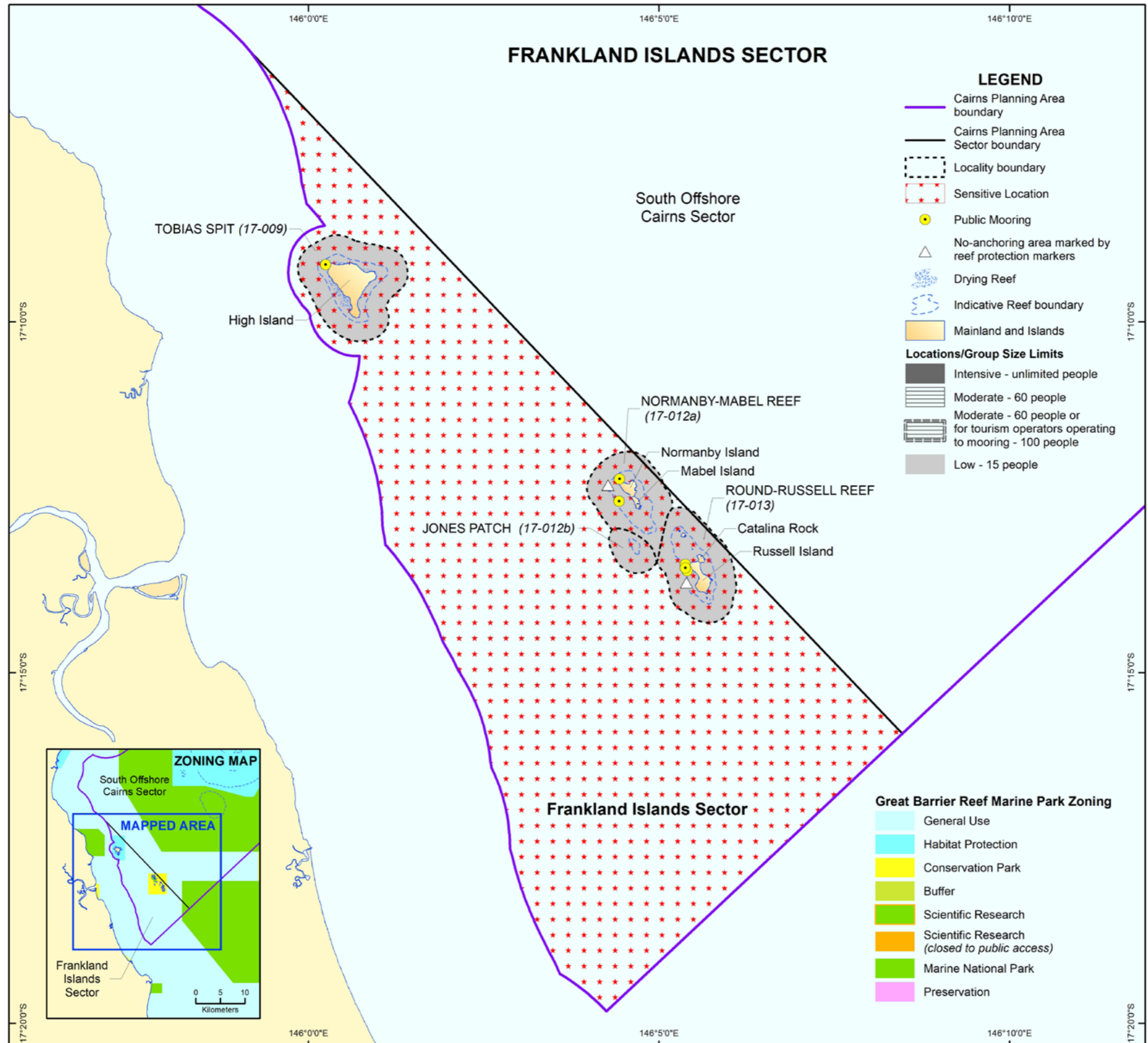
Cod Hole is a Sensitive Location with important dwarf minke whale habitat and is a popular dive site. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

- Sensitive Location
- No booking required for tourism operators
- No anchoring allowed within Cod Hole Locality (unmarked no-anchoring areas)
- Moderate use Location
- No motorised water sport
- Aircraft must remain above 500 feet
- Access for vessels less than 35 metres or aircraft must be via moorings only
- No anchoring allowed within Cod Hole Locality (unmarked no-anchoring area)
- No anchoring within 50 metres of a mooring
- Use public moorings where available
- Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside a Location or at a Reef Anchorage if available
- Two Reef Anchorages available at Ribbon Reef No. 10 and Two at nearby No name Reef (14-139) (2km north-west of Cod Hole Locality)
- No bookings limit applies to the Cod Hole Sensitive Location (for tourism operators)
- Two private moorings allowed
- * *Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4*
- * *The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef*
- * *A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring*
- * *Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information*



Map Projection: Unprojected Geographics
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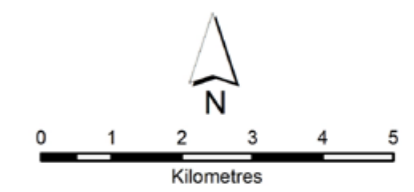




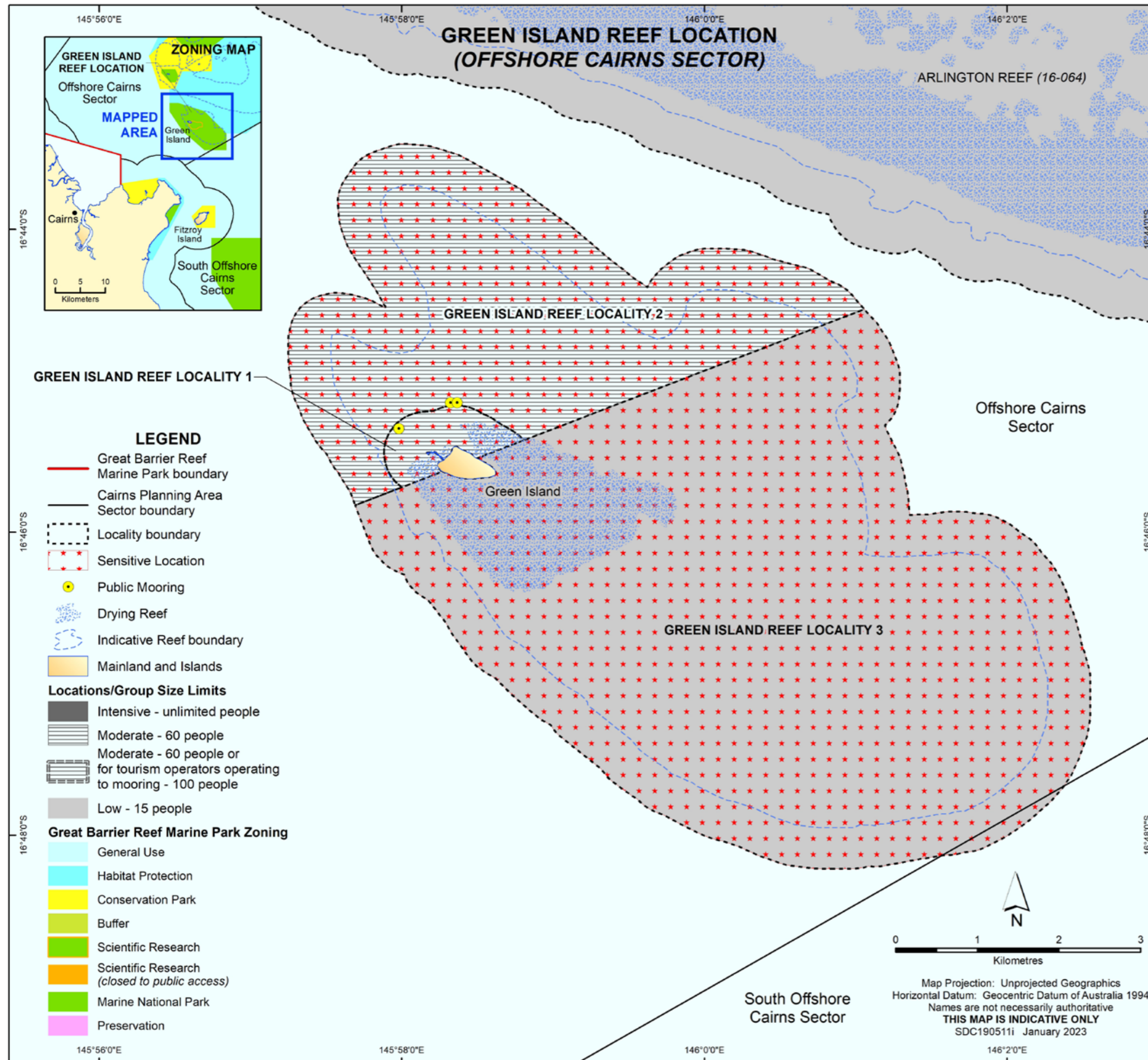
Frankland Islands Sector Site Arrangements

The Frankland Islands are a Sensitive Location and includes seagrass, turtle and dugong forage sites as well as significant conservation, scientific research and indigenous cultural heritage values. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

- Sensitive Location
- Booking required for tourism operations (unless endorsed) - one vessel booking per day
- Low use location
- Commercial operators do not have weekend access with the exception of our existing operation at Normanby Island
- A sand spit next to the day area on Normanby Island is fenced off from September to March to protect nesting little terns
- No motorised water sport
- Aircraft must remain above 1500 feet
Vessels less than 35 metres can access and anchor in most areas
- Use public moorings where available
- Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside a Location
- No anchoring areas marked by reef protection markers (at Normanby and Russell Islands)
- No-anchoring within 50 metres of a mooring
- Two private moorings allowed at Normanby Island Reef – no-anchoring within 50 metres
One private mooring allowed at Russell and Round Islands Reefs
- * *Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4*
- * *The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef*
- * *A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring*
- * *Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information*



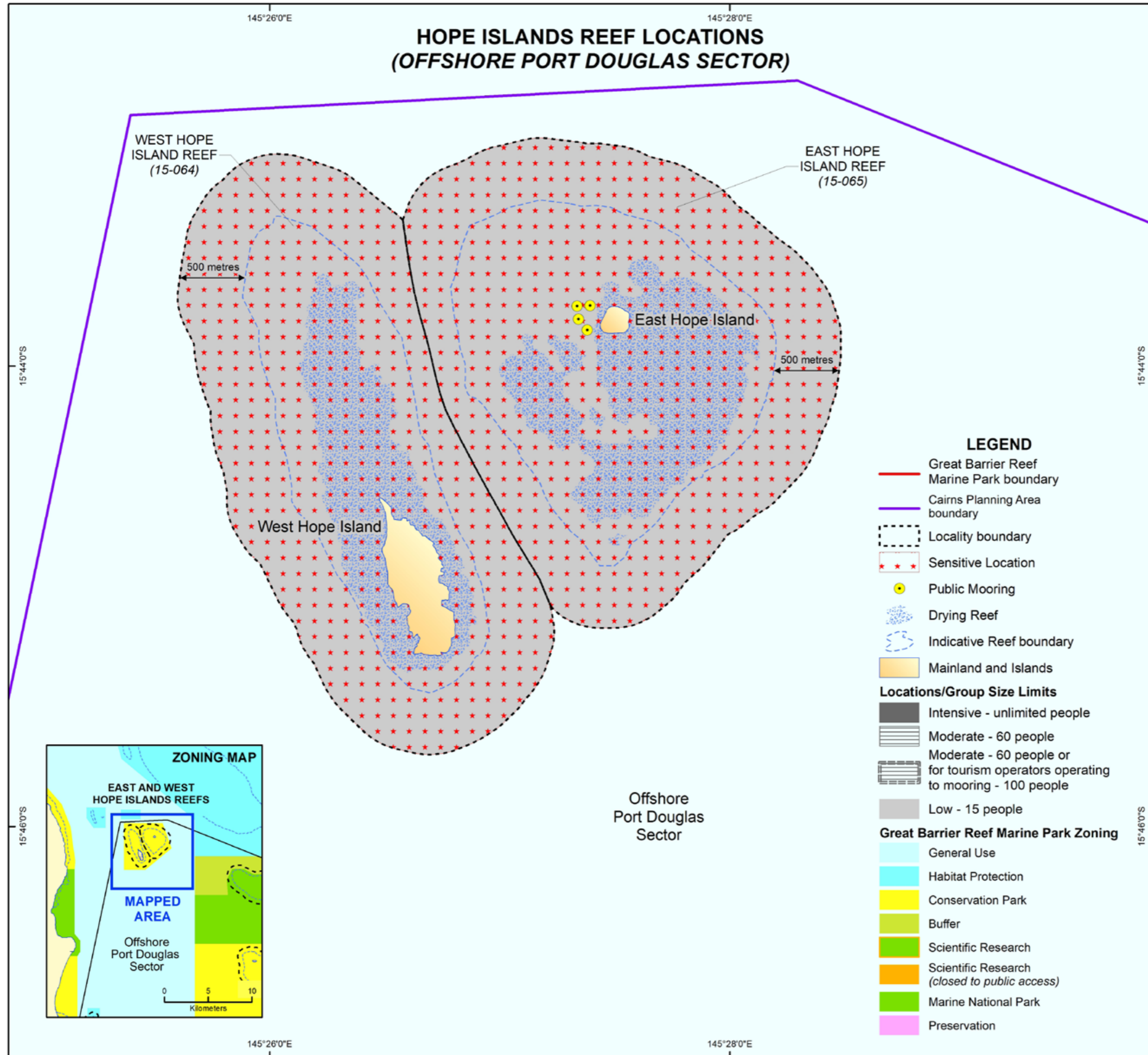
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Green Island Reef Location Site Arrangements

Green Island is a Sensitive Location with significant conservation, scientific research and indigenous cultural heritage values. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

- All Localities**
- Sensitive Location
 - Booking required for tourism operators (unless endorsed) - four vessel bookings per day
 - No motorised water sport
 - Aircraft must remain above 1500 feet
 - Vessels less than 35 metres can access and anchor
 - Use public moorings where available
 - Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside a Location (vessels may gain access if operating to a suitable mooring)
 - A tender must be used to transfer passengers from a large ship to resorts, other vessels or reef pontoons
- Locality 1**
- Moderate Use Location
 - Anchoring is allowed within 50 metres of a mooring
 - No increase above the number of permitted private moorings on 22 June 1998
- Locality 2**
- Moderate Use Location
 - 15 private moorings allowed
- Locality 3**
- Low use location
 - No anchoring allowed within 50m of a pontoon
 - * *Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4*
 - * *The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef*
 - * *A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring*
 - * *Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information*



Hope Islands Reef Locations Site Arrangements

The Hope Islands are a Sensitive Location with important bird nesting and roosting grounds as well as significant indigenous cultural heritage values. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

Both Locations

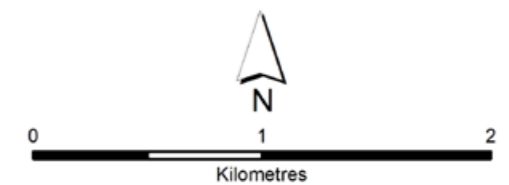
- Sensitive Location
- Booking required for tourism operations (unless endorsed)
- Low use Location
- No motorised water sport
- Aircraft must remain above 1500 feet
- Vessels less than 35 metres can access and anchor
- Use public moorings where available
- Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside a Location

East Hope Island Reef

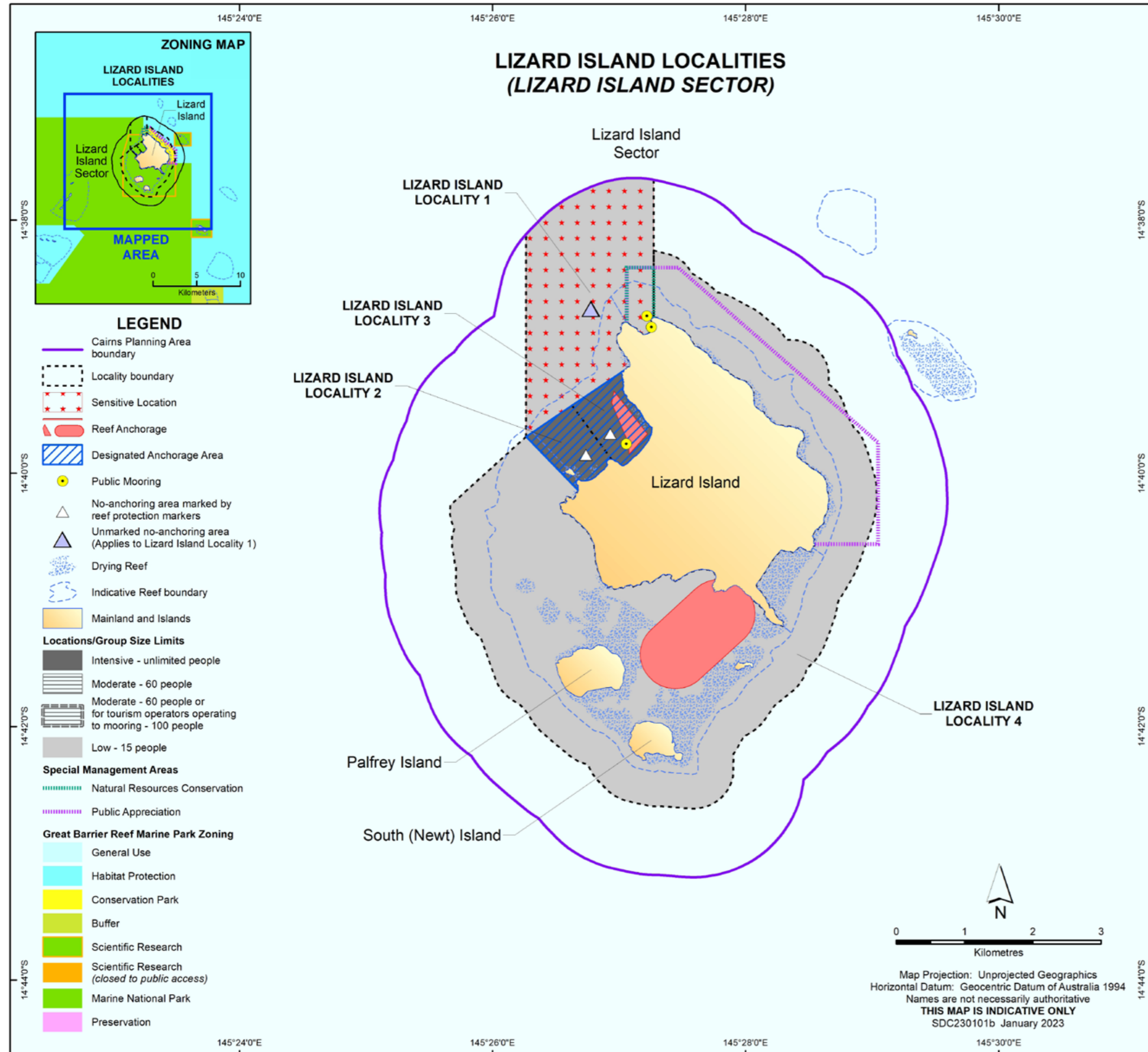
- One vessel booking per day (for tourism operators)
- Anchoring is allowed within 50 metres of a mooring
- One private mooring allowed (A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring)

West Hope Island Reef

- Two vessel bookings per day (for tourism operators)
- No private moorings allowed
- * Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4
- * The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef
- * A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring
- * Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information



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Lizard Island Localities Site Arrangements

Lizard Island is an important location with important bird nesting and roosting grounds as well as significant conservation, scientific research and indigenous cultural heritage values. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

All Localities

- No motorised water sport
- Vessels ≤ 35 m may access and anchor except where specified below
- Vessels > 35 m and ≤70 m can anchor outside a Location or at a Reef Anchorage where available
- Vessels ≤ 70 m can anchor outside a Location or at a Designated Anchorage where available
- Zoning varies around the island, refer to Zoning Map 4

Locality 1

- Sensitive Location
- Booking required for tourism operations (unless endorsed)
- Low use Location — max 15 people per vessel
- Aircraft must remain above 500 feet
- Vessels >7m in length cannot anchor
- Two public moorings are available — see mooring map for size limits.
- One private mooring allowed
- No bookings limit applies
- Natural Resources Conservation Special Management Area declared at Mermaid Cove, refer to Zoning Map 4

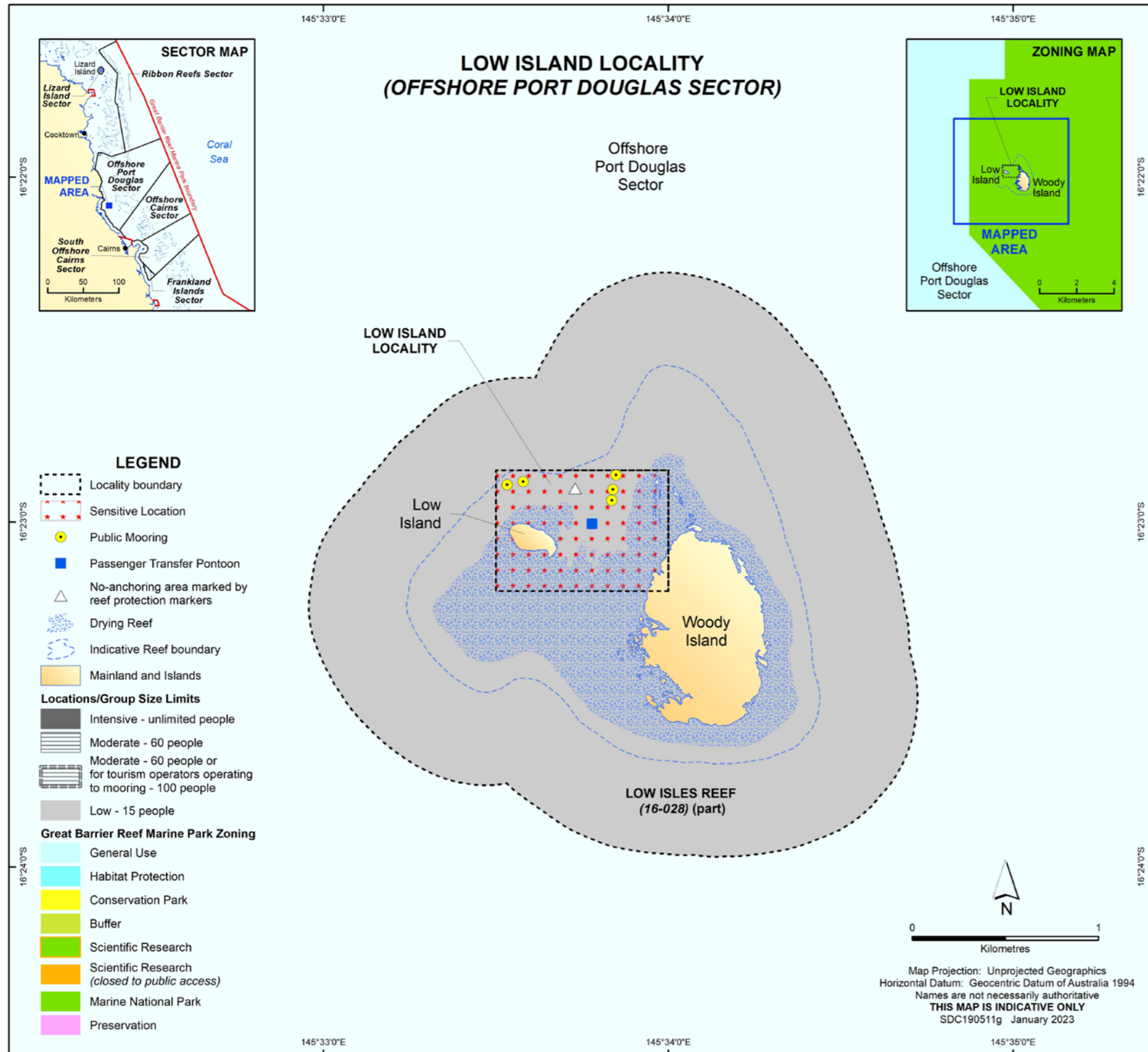
Locality 2 and 3

- Intensive use Location — no group size limits
- One public mooring available for vessels — see mooring map for size limits.
- Private moorings installed
- Anchoring is allowed within 50 metres of a mooring
- Reef Anchorage in Locality 3 (no booking required) for vessels > 35 m and ≤70 m
- Designated Anchorage available with a booking for one vessel >35m
 - Anchor outside the Reef Anchorage and no-anchoring areas
 - Additionally, vessels may also use their existing private moorings
- Hovercrafts may be used in Locality 2 only

Locality 4

- Low use Location — max 15 people per vessel
- No anchoring within 50 metres of a mooring
- Reef Anchorage available
- In northerly winds large vessels may in anchor in accordance with an approved strategy for that vessel
- Public Appreciation Special Management Area declared within Conservation Park Zone (yellow zone), refer to Zoning Map 4

- * Group sizes include crew and children 4 and above
- * The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef
- * A primary mooring that also has a northerly mooring is considered one mooring
- * Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information



Low Isles Reef Site Arrangements

The Low Isles are a Sensitive Location with important bird nesting and roosting grounds as well as significant conservation, scientific research and indigenous cultural heritage values. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

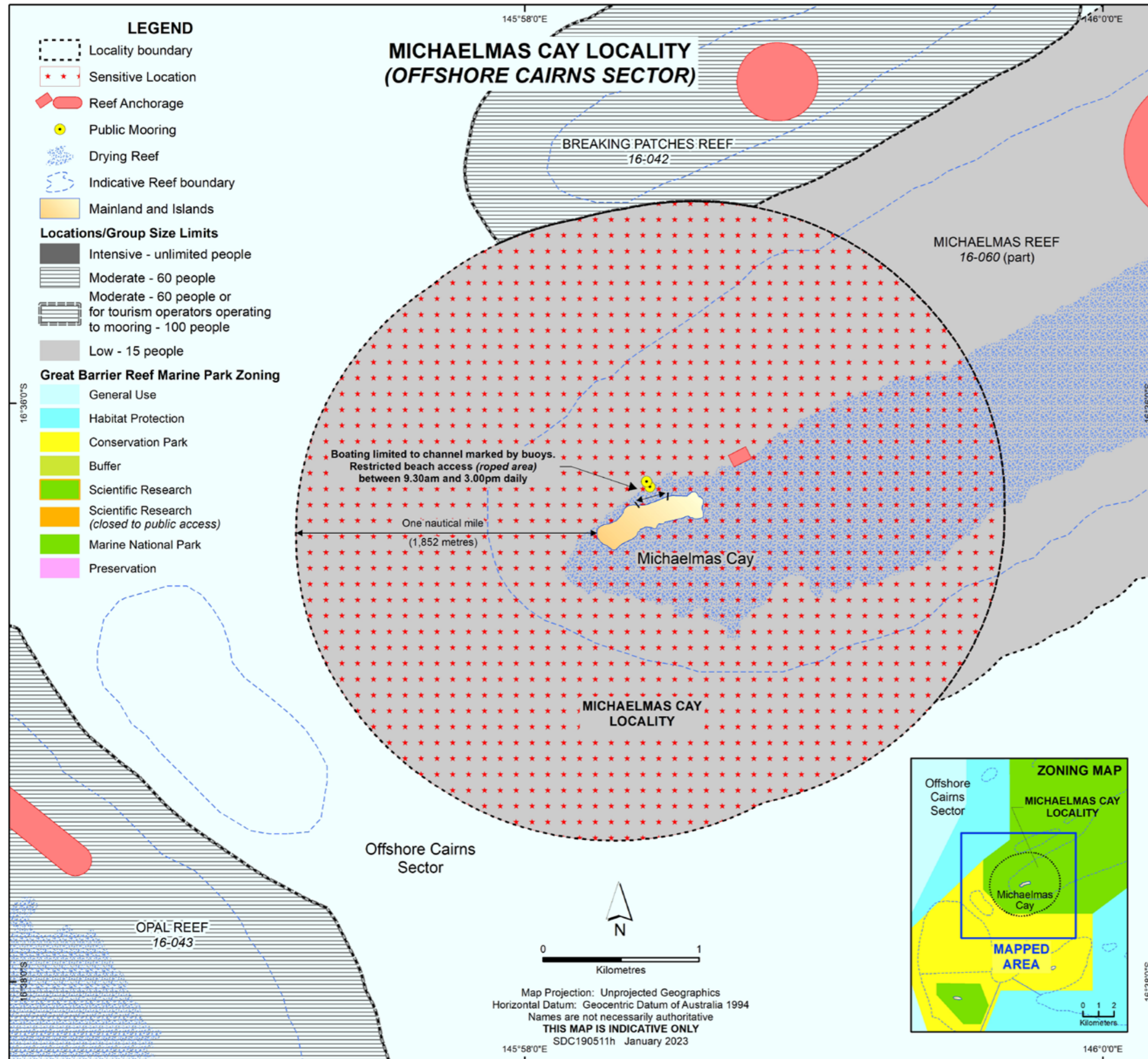
Low Island Locality and Woody Island

- Sensitive Location
- Booking required for tourism operations (unless endorsed)
- Two vessels bookings per day (for tourism operations)
- Low use Location
- No motorised water sport
- Access to island only between sunrise and sunset (except with permission)
- Vessel and aircraft speed limit of six knots
- Aircraft must stay above 1500 feet
- Vessels less than 35 metres can access and anchor
- Use public moorings where available
- No-anchoring area marked by reef protection markers
- Anchoring is allowed within 50 metres of a mooring or 200 metres of a pontoon
- Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside a Location (vessels may gain access if operating to a suitable mooring)
- No hull scraping, cleaning or painting
- No discharge of greywater, sewage, fresh fish or parts of fresh fish
- Low Island Locality- five private moorings allowed
- Low Isles Reef – four private moorings are allowed
- One pontoon allowed

Woody Island

- Closed from September to March to protect nesting pied imperial pigeons
- * *Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4*
- * *The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef*
- * *A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring*
- * *Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information*

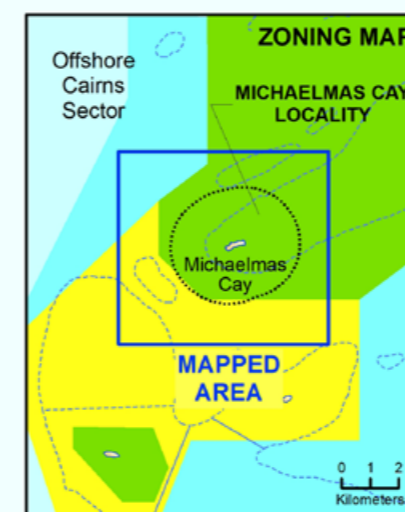
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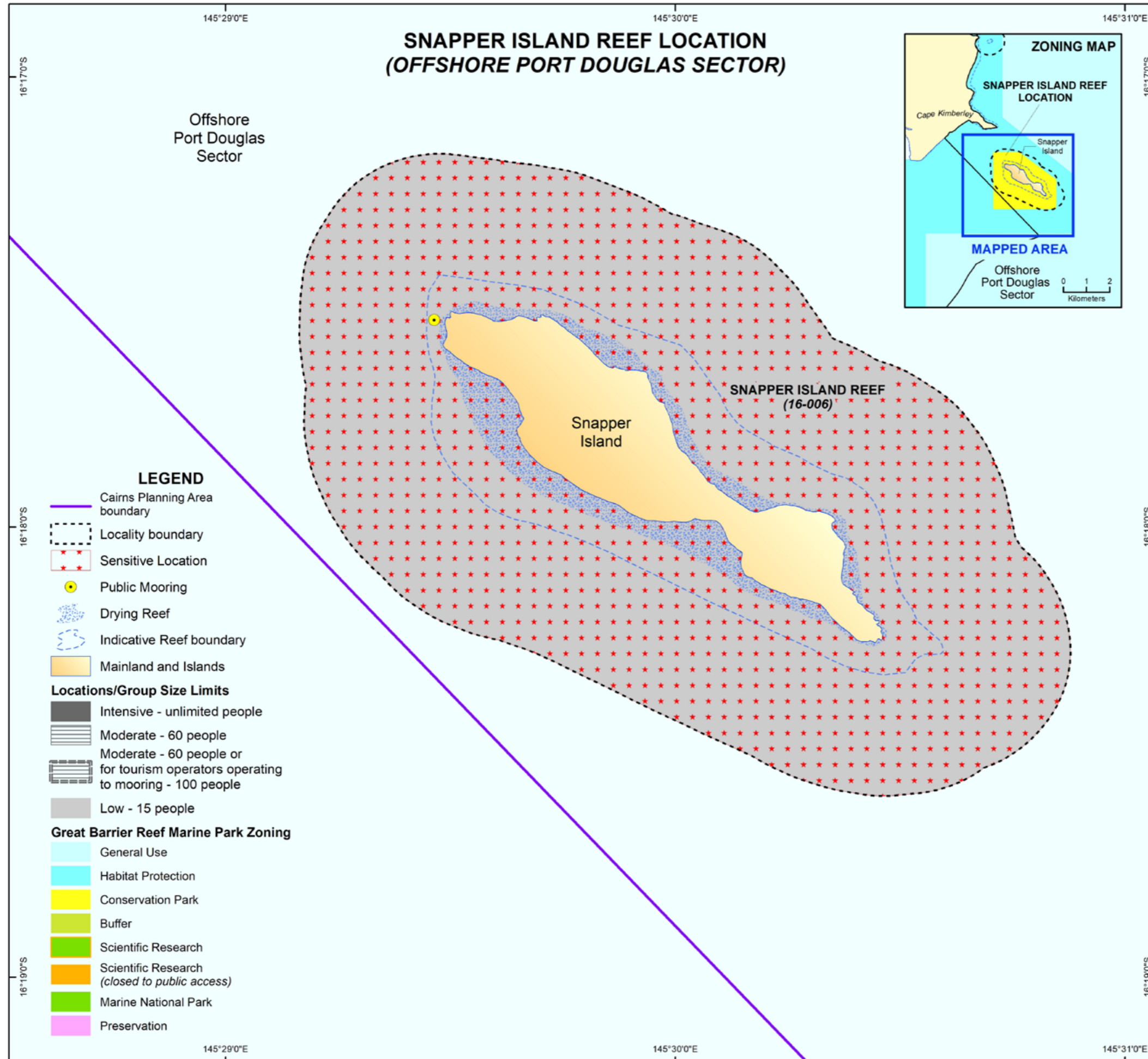


Michaelmas Cay Locality Site Arrangements

Michaelmas Cay is a Sensitive Location with important bird nesting and roosting grounds as well as significant conservation, scientific research and indigenous cultural heritage values. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

- Sensitive Location
- Booking required for tourism operations (unless endorsed) - one vessel booking per day
- Low use Location
- No motorised water sport
- Vessels less than 35 metres can access and anchor
- Beach access from 9:30am to 3pm
- Access to Michaelmas Cay is only permitted inside the roped area, between 9.30 am and 3.00 pm daily. (refer to Queensland environment department)
- Vessel and aircraft speed limit of six knots
- Boating access channel marked out by buoys
 - Four knot speed limit in channel
 - No swimming, diving, anchoring or mooring to allow safe access
- No operation of horns, loud speakers or sirens
- Aircraft must remain above 3000 feet
- Use public moorings where available
- No-anchoring within 50 metres of a mooring
- Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside a Location or a Reef Anchorage if available
- Three Reef Anchorages available
- 19 private moorings allowed at Michaelmas Cay Locality
- Two private moorings allowed at Michaelmas Reef
- * *Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4*
- * *The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef*
- * *A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring*
- * *Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information*

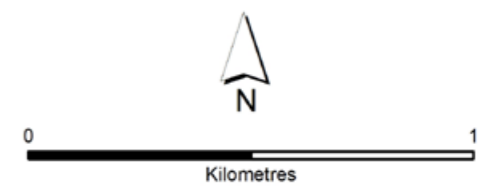




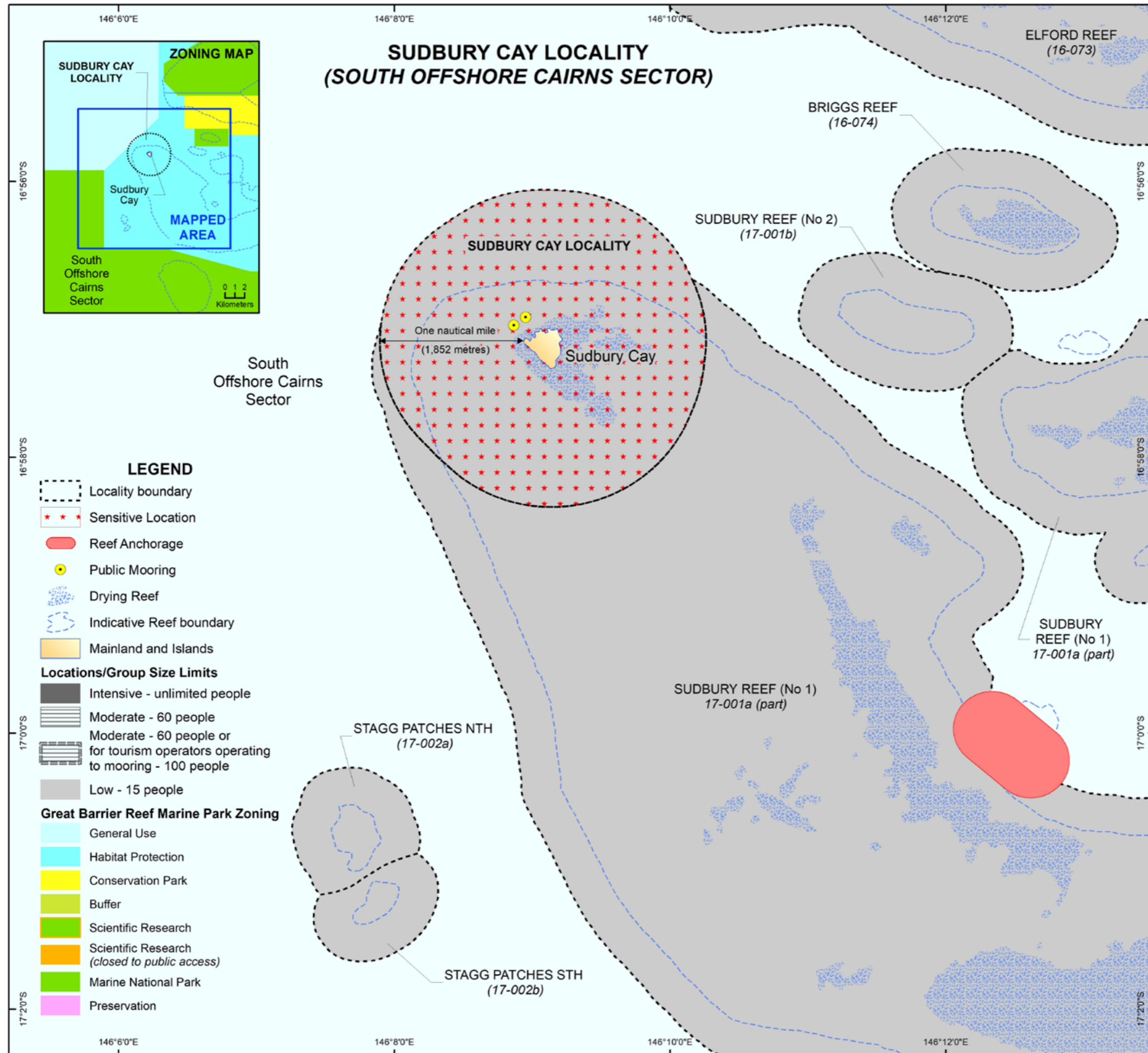
Snapper Island Reef Location Site Arrangements

Snapper Island is a Sensitive Location with important dugong habitat, indigenous cultural heritage values and is adjacent to the Daintree National Park. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

- Sensitive Location
 - Booking required for tourism operations (unless endorsed) - one vessel booking per day
 - Low use Location
 - No motorised water sport
 - Aircraft must remain above 1500 feet
 - Vessels less than 35 metres can access and anchor
 - Use public moorings where available
 - Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside the Location
 - One vessel booking per day (for tourism operators)
 - No private moorings allowed
- * *Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4*
- * *The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef*
- * *A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring*
- * *Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information*



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Sudbury Cay Locality Site Arrangements

Sudbury Cay is a Sensitive Location with important bird nesting and roosting grounds and significant cultural heritage values. Follow the special requirements for this location to help protect its sensitive values.

All Locations

- Low use Locations
- No motorised water sport
- Vessels less than 35 metres can access and anchor
- Use public moorings where available
- No anchoring within 50 metres of a mooring
- Vessels greater than 35 metres and no more than 70 metres can anchor outside the Location or at a Reef Anchorage if available

Sudbury Cay

- Sensitive Location
- Booking required for tourism operations (unless endorsed) - one vessel booking per day
- Aircraft must remain above 1500 feet

Sudbury Reef

- Reef Anchorage available

Briggs Reef

- Three private moorings allowed

- * *Group sizes are including crew and excluding children under 4*
- * *The boundary of a 'Location' is generally 500 metres from the seaward edge of the reef*
- * *A primary mooring that also has northerly mooring are considered one mooring*
- * *Refer to the Cairns Area Plan of Management 1998 for more information*



Map Projection: Unprojected Geographics
 Horizontal Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994
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