

## THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, ITS FUTURE AND YOU

The diversity of life throughout the Great Barrier Reef is internationally-recognised as being of outstanding universal value, and has helped earn the area World Heritage status.

This natural wonder houses the largest coral reef ecosystem on Earth with a stunning array of habitats including coral cays, continental islands, mangrove forests, estuaries, seagrass meadows, sponge gardens and deep oceanic waters.

Almost the entire Great Barrier Reef ecosystem is included within two marine parks. The Australian Government's Great Barrier Reef Marine Park extends over 2,300 kilometres and covers 344,400km<sup>2</sup>. This Marine Park is complemented by the Queensland Government's Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park in adjacent Queensland waters.

Both provide the balance between protecting the Reef's ecosystems while supporting a wide range of ecologically-sustainable uses.

The Australian and Queensland governments are committed to the long-term health of the Reef and know its future depends on the actions we take now. Pressures such as the

## MARINE PARK ZONING EXPLAINED

Marine Park zoning is an important component in managing marine areas. It is a key strategy for improving the Great Barrier Reef's health and resilience and has been developed in a way widely considered to be best practice. A healthy and productive Reef provides substantial benefits to local communities and the wider economy.

Zoning Plans are key pieces of legislation Reef users need to adhere to. The Australian Government's Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003 and the Queensland Government's Marine Parks (Great Barrier Reef Coast) Zoning Plan 2004 define what activities can occur in which locations. The zoning plans provide for a range of ecologically sustainable recreational, commercial and research opportunities and for the continuation of traditional activities.

Each zone has different rules for what activities are allowed, what's prohibited and what requires a permit. Zones may also place restrictions on how some activities are allowed. Make sure you also check special management areas on each map (see below), as they can change what's allowed in each zone. To safeguard the future health of the Reef, non-compliance with zoning rules is taken seriously and penalties apply.

Rules for commercial fishing can differ to recreational fishing. Commercial fishers should consult the zoning plans for more information.

Here is an overview of the zones:

| GENERAL USE (LIGHT BLUE) ZONE   | MARINE NATIONAL PARK (GREEN) ZONE   |
|---|---|
| The Light Blue Zone provides opportunities for reasonable use, while still allowing for the conservation of these areas.  | Green Zones are 'no-take' areas where extractive activities such as fishing or collecting are prohibited. Anyone can enter a Green Zone for low impact activities such as boating, swimming, snorkelling and sailing. Travelling through a Green Zone with fish on board is allowed, provided the fish were caught outside the Green Zone and your fishing gear is appropriately stowed or secured (see fishing definitions). |
| HABITAT PROTECTION (DARK BLUE) ZONE   |   |
| Dark Blue Zones protect sensitive habitats by ensuring they are generally free from potentially damaging activities. Trawling is not permitted in Dark Blue Zones.  |   |
| CONSERVATION PARK (YELLOW) ZONE   |   |
| Yellow Zones allow for increased protection and conservation of areas while allowing for limited extractive use. Fishing is limited to one line and one hook per person, and trolling with a maximum of three lines per person and a total of six hooks is permitted (see fishing definitions).   |   |
| BUFFER (OLIVE GREEN) ZONE   |   |
| In Olive Green Zones, trolling for pelagic fish species is the only form of extractive activity allowed. Examples of pelagic species are marlin, trevally, mackerel, tuna, wahoo and cobia.   |   |
| SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (ORANGE) ZONE   |   |
| Orange Zones allow for scientific research in areas undisturbed by extractive activities. The Orange Zone, shown as solid orange on the maps, is a Restricted Access Area and public access is not allowed. There are presently two of these Orange Zones, one adjacent to the Australian Institute of Marine Science near Townsville (Map 7) and the other at One Tree Island Research Station in the Capricorn Bunker Group (Map 18). |   |
| SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ZONE (GREEN WITH ORANGE OUTLINE ON MAP)   |   |
| Scientific Research Zones allow for scientific research in areas undisturbed by extractive activities. This Zone is shown on the maps as green with an orange outline. While public access is allowed, a permit or accreditation is required to conduct research in this type of Orange Zone.   |   |
| ESTUARINE CONSERVATION ZONE (BROWN ON MAP)  |   |
| The Estuarine Conservation Zone provides for the protection of estuarine areas of Queensland's Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park in a natural state while allowing the public to appreciate and enjoy the relatively undisturbed nature of those areas, maintain fisheries production and use, and provide for traditional fishing, hunting and gathering. Line fishing and crabbing are allowed in this zone.                       |   |

## EXTRA PROTECTION: SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Special Management Areas manage access or use of a specific area and are an **additional layer of protection on top of zoning**. There are different types of Special Management Areas across the marine parks and these are shown on the relevant zoning maps. Detailed boundary descriptions for the Special Management Areas are found in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019. You are strongly encouraged to get to know any Special Management Area requirements that apply to the area you are visiting. These Special Management Areas apply to this map:

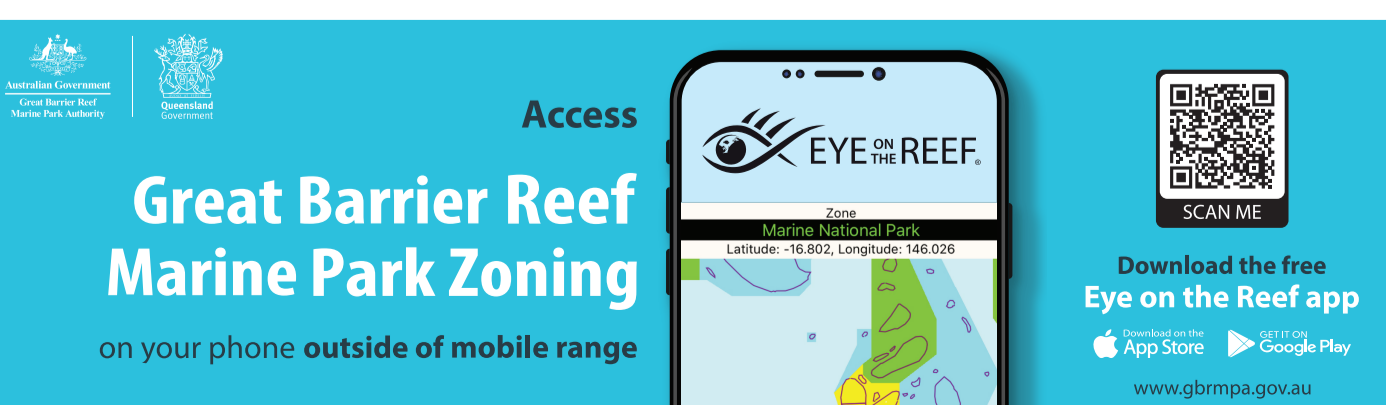
- Public **Appreciation Area**: These areas are designated over some Conservation Park (Yellow) Zones. Spearfishing is prohibited in Public Appreciation Areas. Harvest fisheries, such as commercial aquaculture fish collecting, coral harvesting, beachworm harvesting and aquaculture operations, are also prohibited.
- Species Conservation (Dugong Protection) Area**: Designated over significant dugong habitat, these areas complement Queensland Fisheries legislation. Commercial netting is restricted or prohibited in these areas. Contact Fisheries Queensland on 13 25 23 for more information about netting restrictions in Dugong Protection Areas.
- Restricted Access/Seasonal Closure Boundary**: Entry is prohibited to the Restricted Access Area adjacent to the Australian Institute of Marine Science (in Bowling Green Bay) unless you have written permission from the Authority and QPWS.

## HINCHINBROOK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

The Hinchinbrook Plan of Management covers some areas of this map. The Hinchinbrook Planning Area is marked by a thick unbroken purple line on the zoning map. Rules relating to motorised water sports, and anchoring, mooring and vesselcraft restrictions are in place to protect vulnerable locations and species. **Motorised water sports are prohibited around most islands and reefs**. Between Cardwell and the north of Hinchinbrook Island, vessel traffic should be restricted to the transit lanes. Further rules apply. Visit [www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au) for more information.

## GOING FISHING NEAR CAPE BOWLING GREEN?

Weather and tidal conditions affect sand movement at the Cape Bowling Green sand spit, which is constantly changing and may – at times – be in a Marine National Park (Green) Zone or Conservation Park (Yellow) Zone (the end of the spit currently extends into a Marine National Park (Green) Zone). Check the GPS latitude and longitude for the Marine National Park (Green) Zone boundary before fishing. **Do not use the sand spit as a reference point.**



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[www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au)

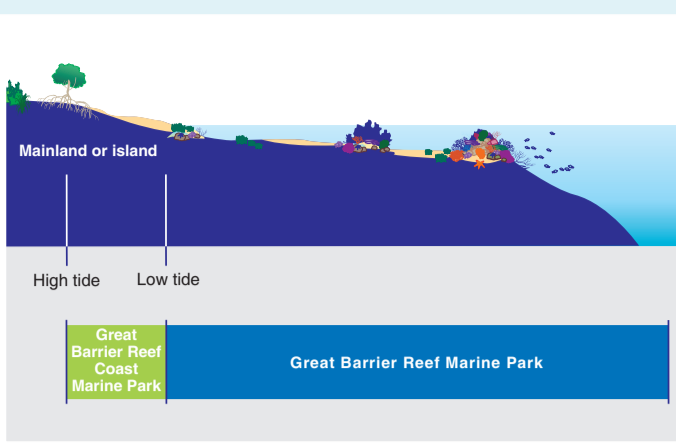
impacts of climate change, declining water quality and coastal development are dominant threats to the Reef's future.

We all have a responsibility to protect the Reef for future generations. As a user of the marine parks, your role is even more important. While numerous steps are underway to mitigate the threats and build resilience, you can do your bit by using this map to understand the zoning rules and what's allowed, by adopting Responsible Reef and Island Practices when in the marine parks, and by reducing your carbon footprint to support global action on climate change.

## WILL YOU NEED A PERMIT?

Most recreational visitors to the marine parks will not need a permit. The types of activities that require permits include installing structures and works such as moorings, using specific craft such as a hovercraft, most commercial activities such as tourist operations and some types of research. Permits are issued jointly by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (the Authority) and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), part of the Department of Environment and Science (DES). For more information, contact the Authority via [assessments@gbmpa.gov.au](mailto:assessments@gbmpa.gov.au) or visit [www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au).

## MARINE PARK BOUNDARIES



The Australian Government's Great Barrier Reef Marine Park boundary is located, particularly in areas such as river and creek crossings, see Schedule 2 of the Marine Parks (Declaration) Regulation 2006 available from [www.legislation.qld.gov.au](http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au).

The two marine parks generally have complementary zoning. This means activities that can occur in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Commonwealth) are also allowed in the adjacent Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park (Queensland). Some Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park zones extend into estuaries or mangrove forests — these are shown on the zoning maps.

Find detailed zoning rules for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park at [www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au), or the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park at [www.des.qld.gov.au](http://www.des.qld.gov.au).

## RECREATIONAL FISHING GUIDE

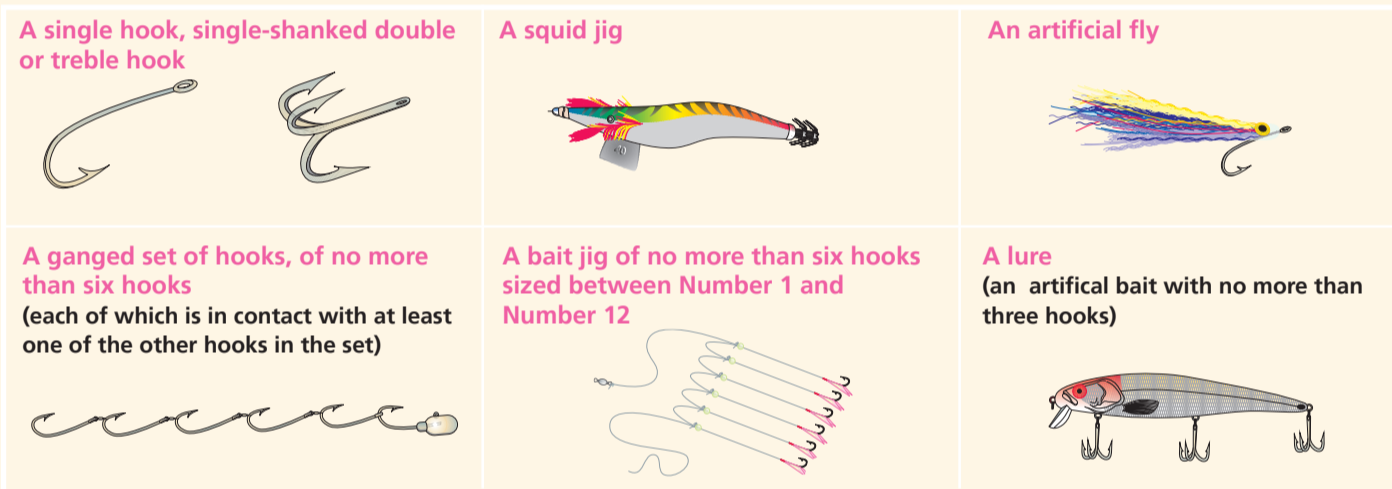
**Note:** Special Management Area (SMA) rules also apply to fishing. This guide must be read in conjunction with Special Management Area information provided on these maps, as SMA requirements can change what's allowed in each zone.

## FISHING DEFINITIONS

**Trolling** Trolling is line fishing that occurs behind a vessel that is underway. A vessel is considered underway only if it is being propelled through the water in a forward direction (whether by engine, sail or human power) and the vessel is not drift.

**Line fishing** A maximum of three hand-held rods or handlines and six hooks per person is allowed when line fishing in the General Use (Light Blue), Habitat Protection (Dark Blue) and Estuarine Conservation Zones. In Conservation Park (Yellow) Zones, all fishing — other than trolling — is restricted to limited line fishing, which means using a **maximum of one hand-held line or rod per person with a maximum of one hook**.

**One hook** One hook can be:



## Stowed or secured

Gear that is used for fishing must be stowed or secured while in a zone where the use of the equipment is not permitted. For example, you can travel through the Marine National Park (Green) Zone with fishing gear on board provided that all fishing lines are stowed or secured — that is — any line or hand-held rod is rendered inoperative and stowed or secured inboard the boat and completely out of the water.

If a vessel is navigating through a zone where the use of trawl equipment is prohibited, equipment must be stowed or secured in accordance with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019. **Commercial fishers should consult the zoning plans or contact the Authority or QPWS for more information.**

## RECREATIONAL FISHING, SPEARFISHING, CRABBING, BAIT NETTING AND COLLECTING

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Line fishing and trolling</b><br>(Maximum three lines with a combined total of six hooks per person. Trolling must occur behind a vessel that is underway.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ In General Use (Light Blue), Habitat Protection (Dark Blue) and Estuarine Conservation Zones</li><li>✓ In Conservation Park (Yellow) Zones — <b>Limited line fishing</b> (one line, one hook — see diagrams above)</li><li>✓ In Conservation Park (Yellow) Zones — trolling with maximum three lines and combined total of six hooks</li><li>✓ In Buffer (Olive Green) Zone trolling for pelagic fish species is the <b>only form of fishing allowed</b>. Seasonal closures apply in the Ribbon Reefs Buffer Zone</li></ul> | <b>Limited collecting</b><br>(The taking of an animal or plant by hand or hand-held implement that is not motorised or pneumatically or hydraulically operated.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Generally no more than five of any one species (except coral) can be taken in General Use (Light Blue), Habitat Protection (Dark Blue), Conservation Park (Yellow) and Estuarine Conservation Zones, except when collecting bait or oysters for immediate use or consumption</li></ul> |
| <b>Bait netting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ In General Use (Light Blue), Habitat Protection (Dark Blue), Conservation Park (Yellow) and Estuarine Conservation Zones</li></ul>   | <b>Limited spearfishing</b><br>(Limited spearfishing means fishing with a spear or speargun not using a powerhead, a firearm, a light or underwater breathing apparatus other than a snorkel.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ In General Use (Light Blue), Habitat Protection (Dark Blue) and Estuarine Conservation Zones</li><li>✓ In Conservation Park (Yellow) Zones that are <b>not</b> declared Public Appreciation Special Management Areas</li></ul>                           |
| <b>Crabbing (trapping)</b><br>(Maximum of four pots, dillies, collapsible traps per person) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ In General Use (Light Blue), Habitat Protection (Dark Blue), Conservation Park (Yellow) and Estuarine Conservation Zones</li></ul>   | <b>Prohibited in all other zones</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✗ <b>All collecting prohibited in all other zones</b></li><li>✗ <b>The collection of coral (alive or dead) is strictly prohibited throughout the marine parks</b></li></ul>  |
| <b>Prohibited in all other zones</b>   | <b>Prohibited in all other zones</b>  |

In all zones where fishing is allowed, Queensland Fisheries legislation (e.g. size and bag limits, gear restrictions, protected species, closed seasons) also applies. Contact Fisheries Queensland for more detail. See the contact section on this map or visit your local Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol office.

## PROTECTING REEF HERITAGE

The heritage of the Great Barrier Reef is extensive and internationally significant. The Reef as a whole is an important part of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, with Traditional Owners having a custodial responsibility to preserve their land and sea country.

It's also the home to many individual artefacts, significant sites and important natural assets – historic ship and plane wrecks, stone fish traps, jetties, mangrove forests, shell middens, lightstations, 3000 coral reefs, shipwreck survivor camps, and island grave sites are a few examples of what lies within the marine parks.

We all have an important role to play in protecting Reef heritage for future generations. Make sure you adopt Responsible Reef and Island Practices (see far right panel) and report what you see via our Eye on the Reef app. See [www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au) for more information about Reef heritage.

## ANCHORING AND MOORING



When anchoring or mooring, it's important to protect fragile habitats and avoid anchoring on coral — look for sand instead (see the Responsible Reef and Island Practices section on this map). In some high-use areas, public moorings are available. These blue beehive-shaped buoys are used on a first-come first-served basis — no booking is needed, but time limits apply. Designed to suit different-sized vessels, the colour-coded band and information on the buoy and the pick-up line helps you determine if it will be suitable for your vessel. Penalties and rules prevent misuse of public moorings. Visit [www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au).

No-anchoring areas are in-place in some high-use locations to further protect fragile coral. Generally they are marked with reef protection markers, which are white pyramid-shaped buoys with



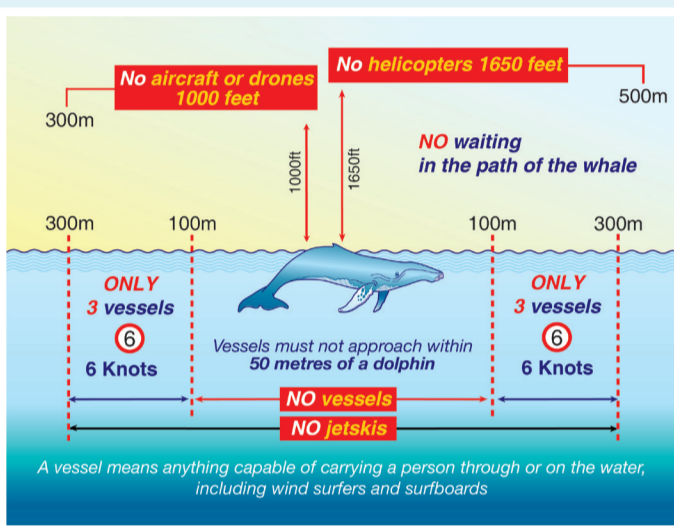
blue marker signs labels. Do not tie up to, or use reef protection markers as a mooring. Penalties apply.

While no-anchoring areas are generally permanent, temporary no-anchoring areas may be located where damage such as coral bleaching has occurred. Please observe no-anchoring areas wherever they are placed. In the Townsville-Hinchinbrook area, no-anchoring areas are located at the Brook Islands; The Haven, Hinchinbrook Island, Pioneer Bay, Orpheus Island; Yanks Jetty, Orpheus Island; Florence Bay, Magnetic Island; Arthur Bay, Magnetic Island; and Picnic Bay, Magnetic Island. Visit [www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au) for mooring and no-anchoring area locations.

## HOW TO BEHAVE AROUND MARINE ANIMALS

The Great Barrier Reef is a refuge for many marine animals of conservation concern. For a number of species, the Reef is vital for their survival and recovery. You can help protect these species by following these Responsible Reef and Island Practices. To report sick, injured or stranded marine animals phone DES Hotline 1300 130 372.

## WHALES AND DOLPHINS



Watching whales and dolphins can be exciting but approach distances must be respected both for the animals' safety and your own.

- Be alert and watch out for whales and dolphins at all times, particularly May to September
- Slow down to minimise the risk of collision and do not intentionally bring a boat between a pod of whales or dolphins, or restrict their path of travel
- Let the whale or dolphin control the encounter — never try to round up or herd, or try to get dolphins to bowride
- Avoid disturbing mothers and their calves and do not approach closer than 300 metres to a whale calf or 150 metres to a dolphin calf.

## VISITING ISLANDS AND COASTS

The Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area includes around 1050 islands, ranging from high continental islands to sandy or coral cays. Some periodically change shape and size and many of these islands are national parks. These islands and their beaches, along with many mainland coastal areas, are places where birds nest and where marine turtles lay their eggs. Many islands are available for you to explore responsibly, whether camping or walking. QPWS manages all national park lands, from highly-visited inshore islands to remote coral cays of the outer Reef. Contact QPWS for more information.

## THE TOWNVILLE — HINCHINBROOK AREA

Camp (permit required) on Orpheus Island and Hinchinbrook Island national parks, or take the challenge of the Thorborne Trail and discover Hinchinbrook's wilderness (camping permit required). Explore Magnetic Island National Park through the 36-kilometre network of walking tracks (camping is not permitted in this national park). Contact QPWS for more information.

Many islands and coastal areas are important seabird or shorebird nesting and roosting sites, or turtle rookeries. The coastal fringes of Bowling Green and Cleveland bays are two such important sites. Access to parts of these areas may be restricted from time-to-time, as indicated by signs.

Leave your domestic animals at home as they are not permitted on Commonwealth islands and island national parks, or on adjacent beaches and tidal flats. Also, where signs are displayed, domestic animals are not permitted on beaches and tidal flats adjacent to mainland national parks, such as the eastern and western sides of Cape Bowling Green spit.

## GOING FISHING OR CAMPING ALONG THE COAST OR ON AN ISLAND? MAKE SURE YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THIS ZONING MAP AND KNOW THE RULES.

- Remember:**
- A Marine Park zone continues to the high water mark. For example, fishing, bait netting and collecting are not permitted from beaches in the Marine National Park (Green) Zone.
  - Fishing, spearfishing, and other extractive activities are not permitted in the Marine National Park (Green) Zone, such as those around Magnetic Island, the Palm Islands and Hinchinbrook Island.
  - Pay particular attention to the marine park zoning in Bowling Green Bay and around Cape Bowling Green — do not use the sand bar as a reference as it's constantly changing.
  - In Conservation Park (Yellow) Zones such as those in Cleveland Bay, Cape Cleveland and Bowling Green Bay, only one fishing line with one hook per person is permitted (see definition of hook).
  - For example, fishing, bait netting and collecting are not permitted from beaches in the Marine National Park (Green) Zone.
  - Pay particular attention to zoning outside river and creek mouths, and if fishing is not allowed, stay inside the creek or river.
  - Spearfishing is not permitted in the Public Appreciation Special Management Area at Orpheus Island (CP-18-4053).
  - Anchor outside the no-anchoring areas located at the Brook Islands, Hinchinbrook Island, Orpheus Island and Magnetic Island.

## BE PEST FREE

Our precious Great Barrier Reef World Heritage islands are among the most pest-free islands in the world. They need your help to stay this way. Before you visit, please check that your boat, clothing, footwear and gear are free of soil, seeds, parts of plants, eggs, insects, spiders, lizards, toads, rats and mice.

- Be sure to:**
- Unpack your camping gear and equipment and check it carefully, as pests can hide here
  - Clean soil from footwear and gear as invisible killers such as viruses, bacteria and fungi are carried in soil
  - Check pockets, cuffs, and hook-and-loop fasteners (e.g. Velcro) for seeds.

While you're on the islands, remove soil, weeds, seeds and pests from your boat, gear and clothes before moving to a new site. Wrap seeds and plant material, and place them in your rubbish.

Everyone in Queensland has a general biosecurity obligation to minimise the risks posed by their activities. This includes the biosecurity risk of introducing and spreading weeds and pests to island national parks.



Important note for users: This map is intended as a guide to zoning only and does not replace the Marine Parks (Great Barrier Reef Coast) Zoning Plan 2004 (QO) for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003 (CP) for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. It is not a substitute for the zone boundaries and conditions provided in Schedule 1 of the Marine Parks (Declaration) Regulation 2006. If you require more information and Middle Service should be contacted for clarification of any matter.



Use me to plan your trip before you head out on the water. Follow the zoning rules and do your bit to help protect the Reef.

YOUR GUIDE TO THE GREAT BARRIER REEF COAST MARINE PARK AND GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK

# MARINE PARKS ZONING MAP

TOWNSVILLE

MAP 7

## HELP PROTECT THE REEF

The Great Barrier Reef ecosystem is at a crossroads and the actions we take now will determine its long-term future. There are significant challenges ahead for the Reef to remain one of the world's healthiest ecosystems. Pressures such as impacts from climate change and declining water quality will largely dominate the Reef's future health. How the Reef responds will depend on its ability to withstand and adapt to these pressures and the actions we each take.

Before heading out to the marine parks, or to an island, run through the following checklists and refer to the Responsible Reef and Island Practices section on this map for information that will help you protect these special places.

| FISHING  | BOATING   | CAMPING OR WALKING   |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plan where you are going and know what's allowed                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plan where you are going and know what's allowed  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leave your domestic animals at home  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have a zoning map or download the Eye on the Reef app                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have a zoning map and cross check it with your GPS                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have a camping permit if visiting a national park or Commonwealth island             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Know any additional Special Management Area or Plan of Management rules      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Know any additional Special Management Area or Plan of Management rules                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observe best island practice guidelines  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Understand the definition of one hook  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Know any anchoring or mooring rules and responsible practices                           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Know where seasonal closures are in place to protect species of conservation concern |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Know which species are protected and no-take                                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have a bin onboard and take your rubbish home   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stay on marked tracks  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Know Fisheries Queensland bag and size limits and any additional regulations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure your motor is well maintained, safety gear packed, and all in good working order | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bring gas or fuel stove for cooking  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bring a sturdy bag or container to take rubbish home                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Slow down over seagrass meadows and near coral reefs                                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carry sufficient water   |

## REPORTING MARINE PARK AND NATIONAL PARK OFFENCES

Breaches of marine parks and island national parks rules can have serious environmental impacts and can compromise Reef health and resilience. We take non-compliance seriously — patrols run day and night and significant penalties apply for breaking the rules.

## REPORT SUSPECTED ILLEGAL ACTIVITY

**Ph: 1800 380 048 (24-hour)**  
**Web: [www.gbmpa.gov.au/report-an-incident](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au/report-an-incident)**  
**All reports are taken seriously and investigated.**

## OTHER IMPORTANT 24-HOUR REPORTING CONTACTS

**Search and rescue:**  
1800 641 792 (Australian Maritime Safety Authority)  
**Oil spills:**  
1800 641 792 (Australian Maritime Safety Authority)  
**Vessel collisions or groundings:**  
1800 641 792 (Australian Maritime Safety Authority)  
**Marine animal strandings:**  
DES Hotline 1300 130 372  
**Fisheries offences (size/bag limits, gear offences):**  
1800 017 116 (Fisheries Queensland)

# MAP 7



Download your free zoning maps now

EYE ON THE REEF

SCAN ME

## RESPONSIBLE REEF AND ISLAND PRACTICES ACROSS THE WORLD HERITAGE AREA

Observing zoning rules is one way you can help to look after the Reef. By following Responsible Reef and Island Practices you will also help to maintain the World Heritage Area in good shape into the future. They are common sense and apply regardless of where you visit. To learn about more ways to help the Reef and islands go to [www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au) or [www.des.qld.gov.au](http://www.des.qld.gov.au).

## ANCHORING AND MOORING

Dropping an anchor on coral takes seconds to damage or destroy and many years for it to rebuild.

- Use public moorings where available and observe no-anchoring areas - they are there to protect coral

- Where possible, anchor in sand or mud away from corals and other fragile marine environments. Suitable areas often show up as flat and smooth on your sounder

- Use your sand anchor and reef pick appropriately to minimise damage
- Hold only as much chain as you need to hold the vessel without compromising safety
- Keep watch to make sure the anchor is not dragging.

## FISHING

- Take only the fish you need
- Return all undersized or unwanted fish to the water carefully and quickly to minimise injury
- Do not use pest or non-native fish for bait. Choose locally caught bait products as imported bait can increase the risk of introducing disease or pest species.

## BOATING

- Always ensure your boat is well maintained. Carry all necessary safety equipment and make sure everyone on board knows where it is stowed
- Slow down around shallow coral reefs, seagrass beds and beaches
- If you need to dispose of sewage at sea, do so well away from reefs and islands. For information on vessel sewage regulations visit [www.gbmpa.gov.au](http://www.gbmpa.gov.au) and [www.mss.qld.gov.au](http://www.mss.qld.gov.au)
- Refuel on shore wherever possible. Use the correct gear and have spill response equipment readily available.

## DIVING OR SNORKELLING

- Avoid standing on, leaning on, holding onto, or touching any part of coral — in particular watch your fins
- Before approaching a reef, practise buoyancy control over sand patches and check your gear is secure
- Be mindful of all marine life. Do not touch, prod or chase them and avoid making loud noises.

## LITTER

- Rubbish such as discarded fishing line or other gear, plastic bags and bottles and polystyrene foam are having an increasingly devastating impact on our marine wildlife.
- Stow your rubbish onboard and collect any you find
  - Take all rubbish back to the mainland with you — there are no bins on national park islands
  - When at home, recycle what you can and ensure all other rubbish ends up in the bin.

## SAFETY WARNINGS

Protect yourself from biting insects and wear insect repellent.

- Try to match your activities to the environment around you and be particularly conscious of the amount of noise you are making
- Learn about and respect Traditional Owner culture and their connections to sea country.

For more tips on how to be croc wise in croc country visit [www.des.qld.gov.au](http://www.des.qld.gov.au).



## BE REEF SMART

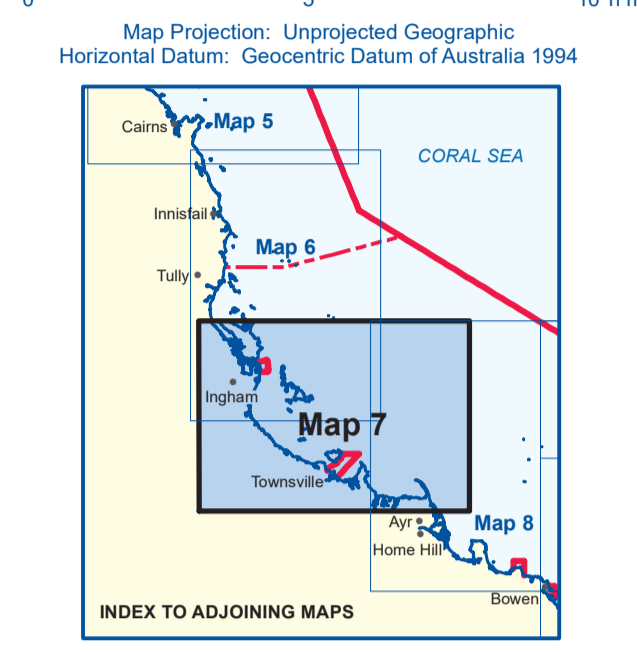
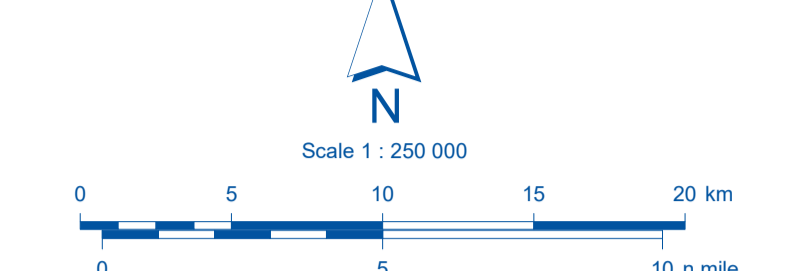
When enjoying the many different activities and experiences in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, it's important to enjoy them in a responsible and 'reef smart' way.



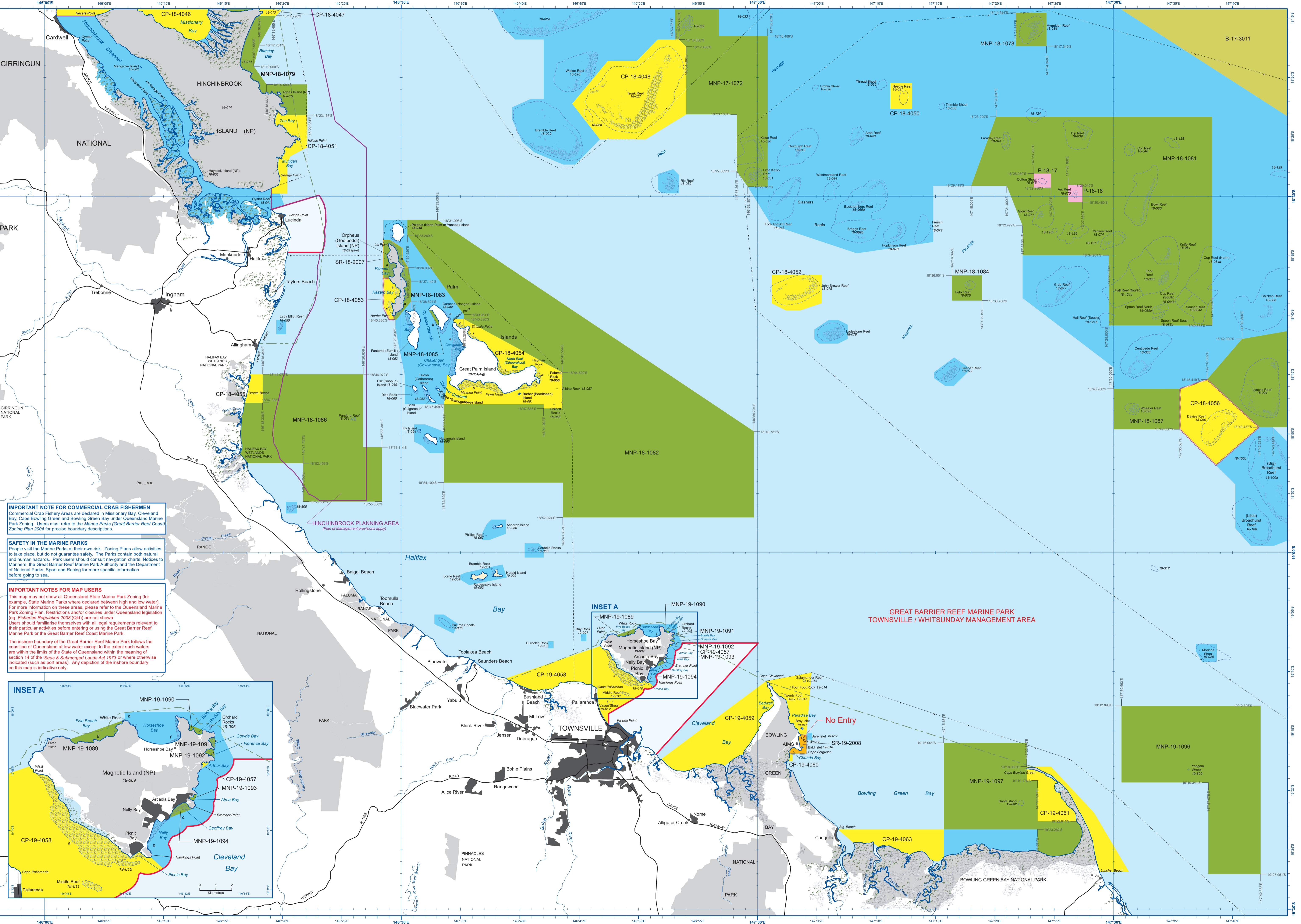


# Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks Zoning

## MAP 7 - Townsville



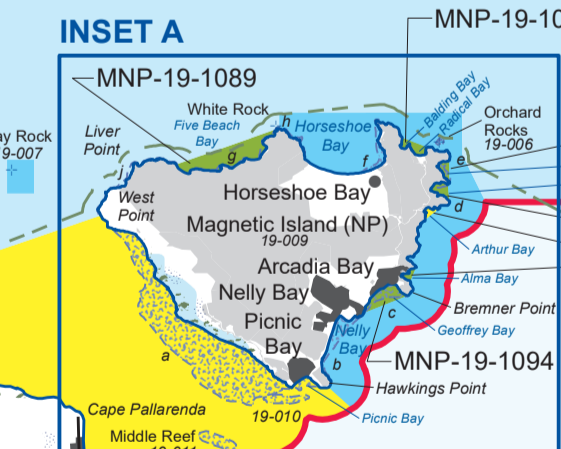
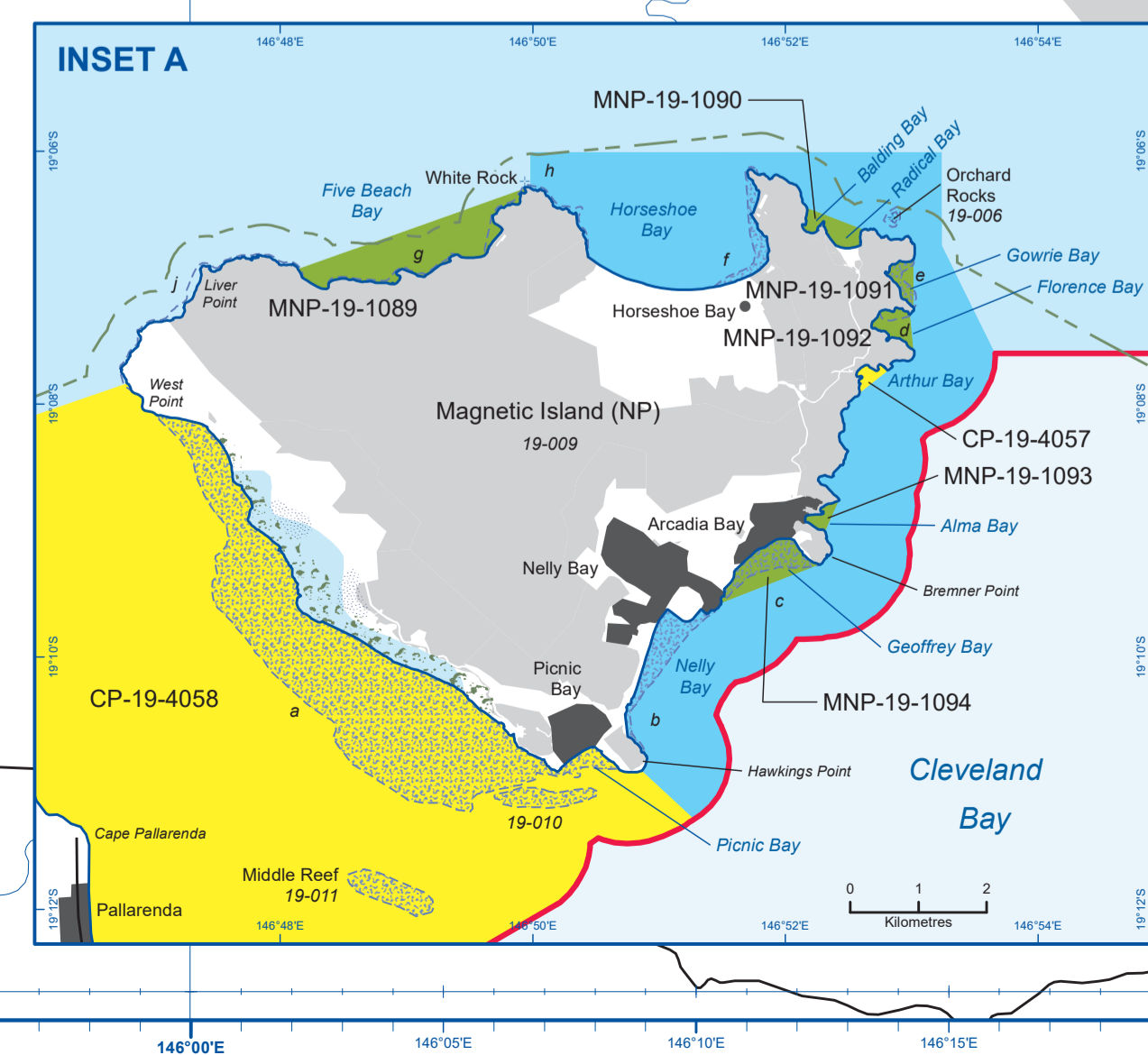
- LEGEND**
- Marine Park boundary
  - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Management Area boundary
  - Bommie / rock
  - Reef Flat
  - Indicative Reef boundary
  - Planning Area boundary
  - Designated Shipping Area boundary
  - Coastline
  - River
  - Mangrove
  - Backshore
  - Population centre (to scale)
  - Population centre (symbolised)
  - Minor road (unsealed)
  - Major road (sealed)
  - National Park / Conservation Tenure
  - Special Management Areas
    - Public Appreciation boundary
    - Restricted Access / Seasonal Closure boundary
    - Species Conservation (Dugong Protection) boundary
    - (Includes State Dugong Protection boundary)
- Note: Marine Park boundary shown is extent of both Great Barrier Reef and Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Parks



**IMPORTANT NOTE FOR COMMERCIAL CRAB FISHERMEN**  
Commercial Crab Fishery Areas are declared in Missionary Bay, Cleveland Bay, Cape Bowling Green and Bowling Green Bay under Queensland Marine Park Zoning. Users must refer to the Marine Parks (Great Barrier Reef Coast) Zoning Plan 2004 for precise boundary descriptions.

**SAFETY IN THE MARINE PARKS**  
People visit the Marine Parks at their own risk. Zoning Plans allow activities to take place, but do not guarantee safety. The Parks contain both natural and human hazards. Park users should consult navigation charts, Notices to Mariners, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing for more specific information before going to sea.

**IMPORTANT NOTES FOR MAP USERS**  
This map may not show all Queensland State Marine Park Zoning (for example, State Marine Parks where declared between high and low water). For more information on these areas, please refer to the Queensland Marine Park Zoning Plan. Restrictions and/or closures under Queensland legislation (eg. Fisheries Regulation 2008 (Qld)) are not shown. Users should familiarise themselves with all legal requirements relevant to their particular activities before entering or using the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park or the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park.  
The inshore boundary of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park follows the coastline of Queensland at low water except to the extent such waters are within the limits of the State of Queensland within the meaning of section 14 of the Seas & Submerged Lands Act 1973 or where otherwise indicated (such as port areas). Any depiction of the inshore boundary on this map is indicative only.



### GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK TOWNSVILLE / WHITSUNDAY MANAGEMENT AREA

No Entry

THIS MAP IS INDICATIVE ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES.  
1. The purpose of this map is to help interpret the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003 and the Marine Parks (Great Barrier Reef Coast) Zoning Plan 2004. The zone boundaries shown on this map are indicative only.  
2. Zone numbers indicate the zone type, latitude and number of each zoned area. Zones numbered on this map:  
CP - Conservation Park Zone  
MNP - Marine National Park Zone  
SR - Scientific Research Zone  
3. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks include the water column, the seabed beneath the seabed to a depth of 1000 metres below the seabed and the airspace to 915 metres above the surface.  
4. Reefs, shoals and islands within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are numbered west to east with one-degree bands. They are prefixed with the latitude at the top of the band in which they lie. A centre point is used to determine the appropriate one-degree band for features straddling parallels. Following the latitude band is the numeric unique reef identifier. In addition, complex reef areas carry Sub IDs in the form of alphabetic letters.  
5. Islands, or parts of islands that form part of Queensland are not as possible, users must refer to Schedule 1 of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003 and Schedule 1 of the Marine Parks (Great Barrier Reef Coast) Zoning Plan 2004 for precise boundary descriptions.  
6. The information displayed is held in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Geospatial Data Library. This includes data provided by Geoscience Australia National Mapping Division (including the GEOGRAPHIC products) and the Australian Hydrographic Office. Land tenure was derived from data supplied by the Queensland Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing, 19 July 2015.  
7. While every effort has been made to show all features necessary to make this map a useful general reference, map users are invited to advise the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority of any errors, omissions or other suggestions that would enhance this product. Contact details are shown overlaid, or email to: zoningmaps@gbrrmp.gov.au

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

| Activity  | CP     | MNP    | SR     | CP     | MNP    | SR     | CP     | MNP    | SR     |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Aquaculture   | Permit | Permit | Permit | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Boat netting  | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Baiting, diving, photography                                    | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      |
| Crabbing (trapping)   | Permit | Permit | Permit | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and backshore          | Permit | Permit | Permit | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, toadfish, trochophore lobster | Permit | Permit | Permit | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Limited collecting  | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Limited spearfishing (enravel only)                             | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Line fishing  | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Netting (other than bait netting)                               | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Research (other than limited impact research)                   | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit |
| Shipping (other than in a designated shipping area)             | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit |
| Tourism programme   | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit | Permit |
| Traditional use of marine resources                             | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      |
| Treasure hunting  | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |
| Trotting  | ✓      | ✓      | ✓      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      | X      |

**PLEASE NOTE:** This guide provides an introduction to Zoning in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks.  
1. Restrictions apply to aquaculture, spearfishing and harvest fishing for aquarium fish, backshore and coral in the Conservation Park Zone.  
2. No take of Orem, flathead or whiting by commercial bait netters.  
3. Except for one Free Range Reef (SR-2019) 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 no orange shading.  
4. Limited to a catch equivalent per person (eg. crab pots, collapse traps or dories).  
5. No land or land-based equipment and generally no more than 5 x 4 metres.  
6. Maximum of 6 hooks attached to no more than 3 hand-held rods or handlines per person.  
7. Limited to 1 hook attached to 1 hand-held rod or handline per person. Only 1 rod detached from a commercial fishing vessel.  
8. Part from traditional use of marine resources in accordance with s.211 of the Native Title Act 1993, an accredited Aboriginal Use of Marine Resources Agreement or permit is required.  
9. Private vessels 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.  
\* All Commonwealth Islands may not be shown.  
\* Special Management Areas may provide additional restrictions at some locations.  
\* This Zoning Plan does not affect the operation of s.211 of the Native Title Act 1993.

**WARNING** This map must not be used for marine navigation. Comprehensive and updated navigation information should be obtained from published hydrographic charts.