



For Commercial Net Fishermen about minor netting changes in DPA Bs (Dugong Protection Areas)

Overview

The amendments to the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983* are designed to give greater protection to dugong in and around headland areas, by restricting the use of set mesh nets in certain parts of particular DPA B areas, [Species Conservation (Dugong Protection) Special Management Areas (SMAs), which are known as Dugong Protection SMAs].

The changes are a technical amendment to clarify long-standing existing netting rules, by providing clear definitions of areas around headlands where the use of offshore set nets is prohibited to reduce the risk of incidental catch to dugong.

They have been included with a larger package of amendments that are required to implement recent (2008) amendments to the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*.

Has the Zoning Plan changed?

No, there are no changes to the Zoning Plan for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and no changes are planned.

What are the new netting arrangements?

Specifically, the amendments clarify existing rules by prescribing precise boundaries around coastal headlands where it is prohibited to use set mesh nets in *offshore waters* (i.e. waters greater than two metres deep at any stage of the tide), unless the net is no longer than 50 metres and is used in accordance with section 121 (Using Set Mesh Nets on a Headland) of the *Fisheries Regulation 2008* of Queensland.

You may not set an offshore set mesh net within 500m of a coastal headland in various Dugong Protection SMAs which mirror Queensland's Zone B Dugong Protection Areas.

Fishers need to be aware of specific Offshore Set Mesh Netting Exclusion Areas within the following Dugong Protection SMAs (which mirror Zone B

Dugong Protection Areas):

- Edgcumbe Bay – Bowen
- Repulse Bay
- Ball Bay – Sand Bay
- Llewellyn Bay
- Port of Gladstone – Rodds Bay

The precise boundary descriptions are described in the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983* and maps have been provided to all relevant licence holders. Existing Great Barrier Reef Marine Park zoning also applies.

Why have there been changes?

These changes are an agreed consultation outcome of the 2008 Queensland Government changes to management arrangements for the East Coast Inshore Fin Fish Fishery.

The changes were necessary to address an outstanding Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council recommendation about set mesh netting around headlands that poses a high conservation risk to dugongs.

Queensland's Management Advisory Committee for the East Coast Inshore Finfish Fishery endorsed action being taken to progress this matter.

What does this mean for net fishermen?

Commercial net fishermen need to make sure they are familiar with the rules, and ensure they aren't illegally fishing within the Offshore Set Mesh Netting Exclusion Areas. It is important you know where you are and what the rules are for that area, otherwise you could risk getting a fine for illegal fishing.

This change does not affect the use of mesh nets in nearshore waters or rivers and creeks.

The rules for the use of offshore set mesh nets outside 500m remain unchanged.

When does it take effect?

The amendments will become law on **25 November 2009**.

For more information

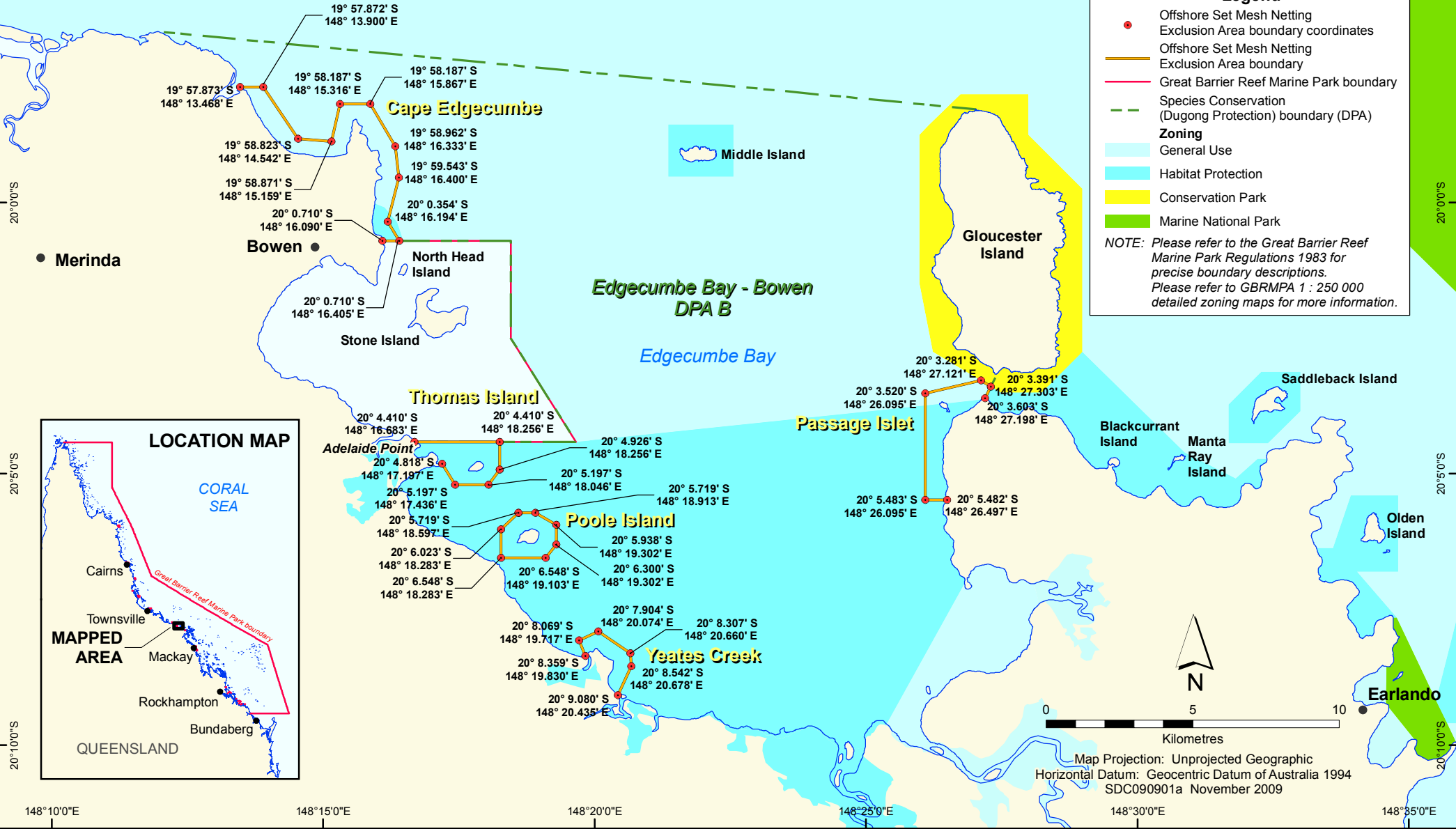
http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/key_issues/fisheries/inshore_finfish_fishery

148°10'0"E 148°15'0"E 148°20'0"E 148°25'0"E 148°30'0"E 148°35'0"E



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Marine Park Authority

OFFSHORE SET MESH NETTING EXCLUSION AREAS
*Cape Edgecumbe, Thomas Island, Poole Island,
Yeates Creek and Passage Islet*



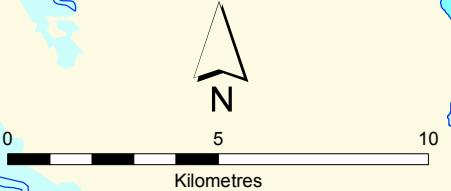
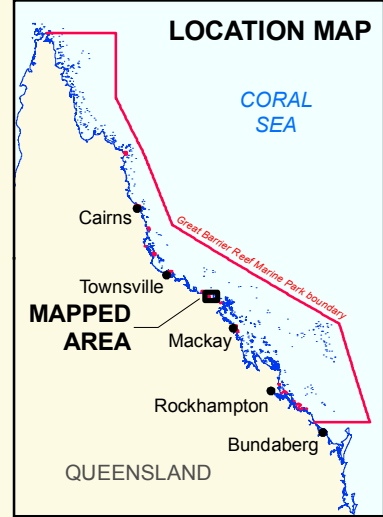
Legend

- Offshore Set Mesh Netting Exclusion Area boundary coordinates
- Offshore Set Mesh Netting Exclusion Area boundary
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park boundary
- - - Species Conservation (Dugong Protection) boundary (DPA)

Zoning

- General Use
- Habitat Protection
- Conservation Park
- Marine National Park

NOTE: Please refer to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983 for precise boundary descriptions. Please refer to GBRMPA 1 : 250 000 detailed zoning maps for more information.



Map Projection: Unprojected Geographic
Horizontal Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994
SDC090901a November 2009

148°10'0"E 148°15'0"E 148°20'0"E 148°25'0"E 148°30'0"E 148°35'0"E



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OFFSHORE SET MESH NETTING EXCLUSION AREA
Defiance (Dalys) Island

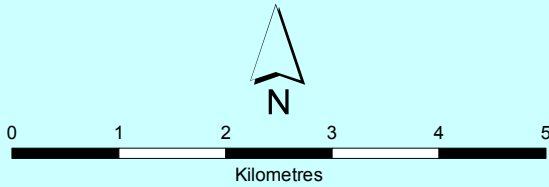
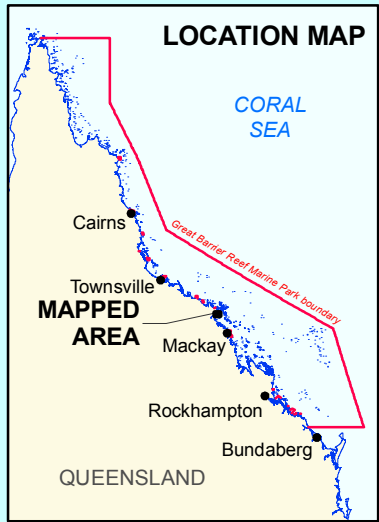
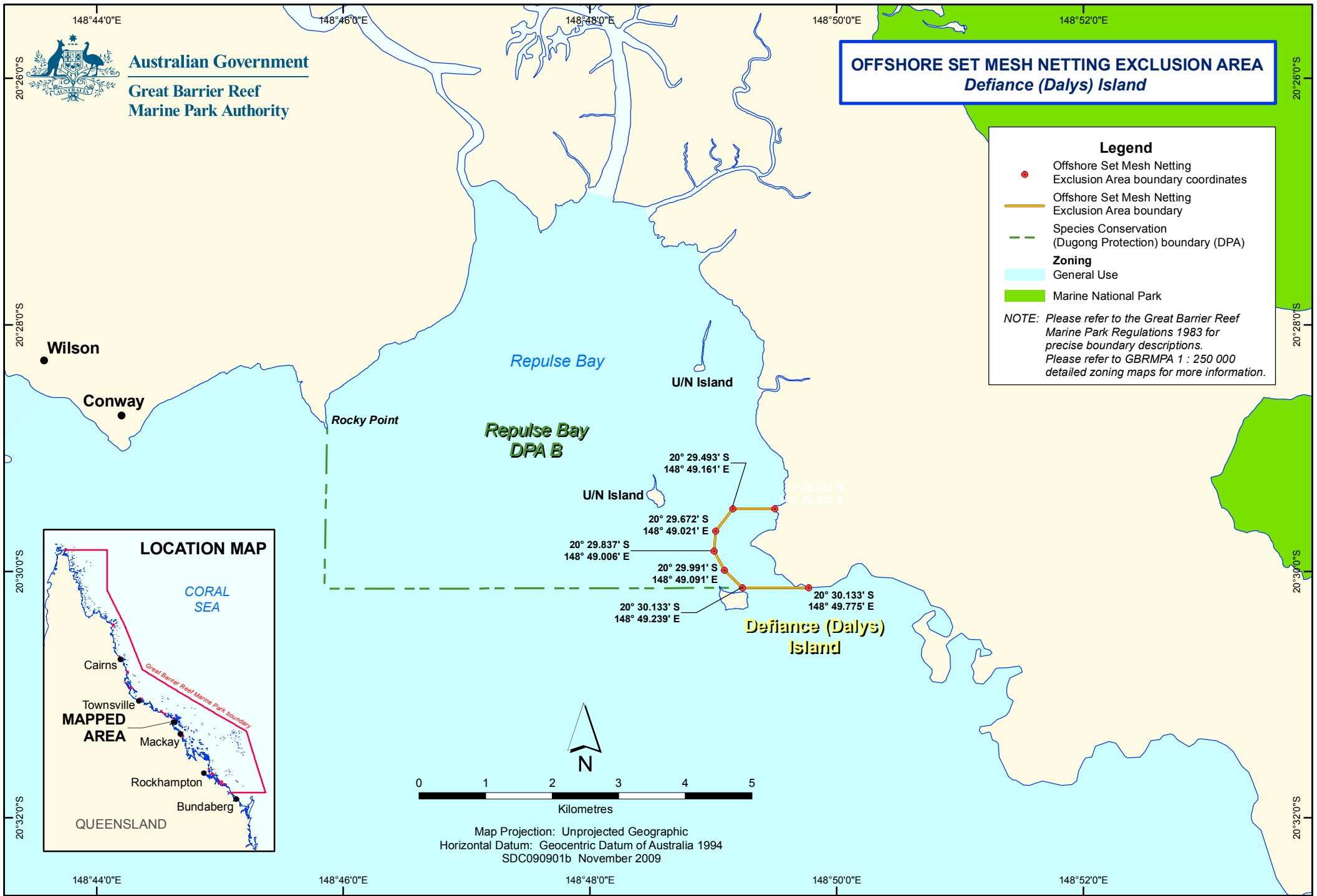
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- Marine National Park

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OFFSHORE SET MESH NETTING EXCLUSION AREAS
Cape Hillsborough East and Cape Hillsborough West

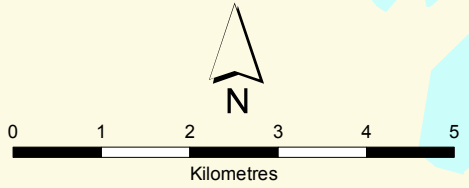
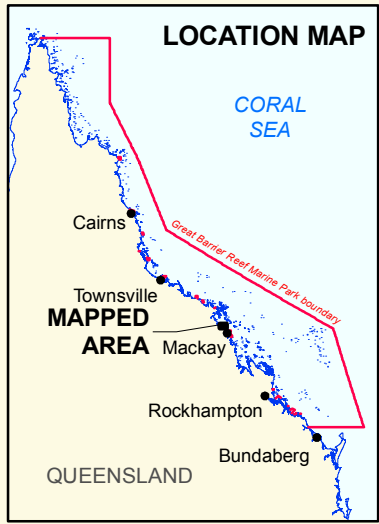
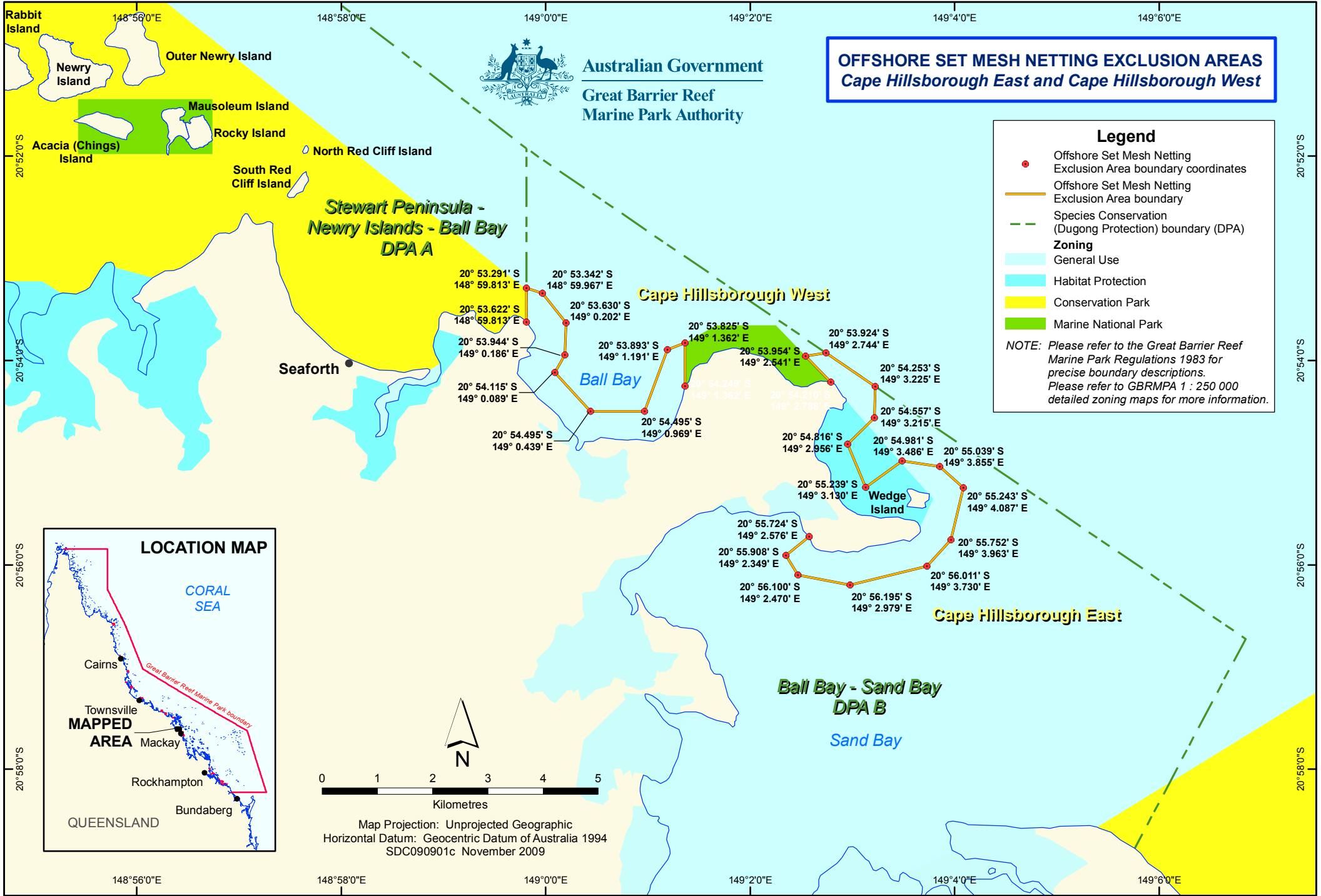
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Zoning

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OFFSHORE SET MESH NETTING EXCLUSION AREA
Freshwater Point

Legend

- Offshore Set Mesh Netting Exclusion Area boundary coordinates
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Zoning

- General Use
- Habitat Protection

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21° 24.642' S
149° 19.841' E

21° 24.766' S
149° 20.251' E

21° 25.520' S
149° 19.644' E

21° 25.524' S
149° 20.539' E

21° 25.759' S
149° 19.492' E

21° 25.894' S
149° 20.503' E

21° 26.212' S
149° 19.872' E

21° 26.267' S
149° 20.227' E

Freshwater Point

Llewellyn Bay

**Llewellyn Bay
DPA B**

Irving Island

Allom Point

Taffy Island

U/N Island

Glendower Point

Ince Bay

**Ince Bay (Cape Palmerston - Allom Point)
DPA A**

U/N Island

LOCATION MAP

CORAL SEA

Cairns

Townsville

Mackay

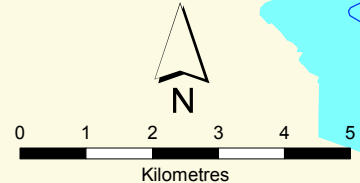
Rockhampton

Bundaberg

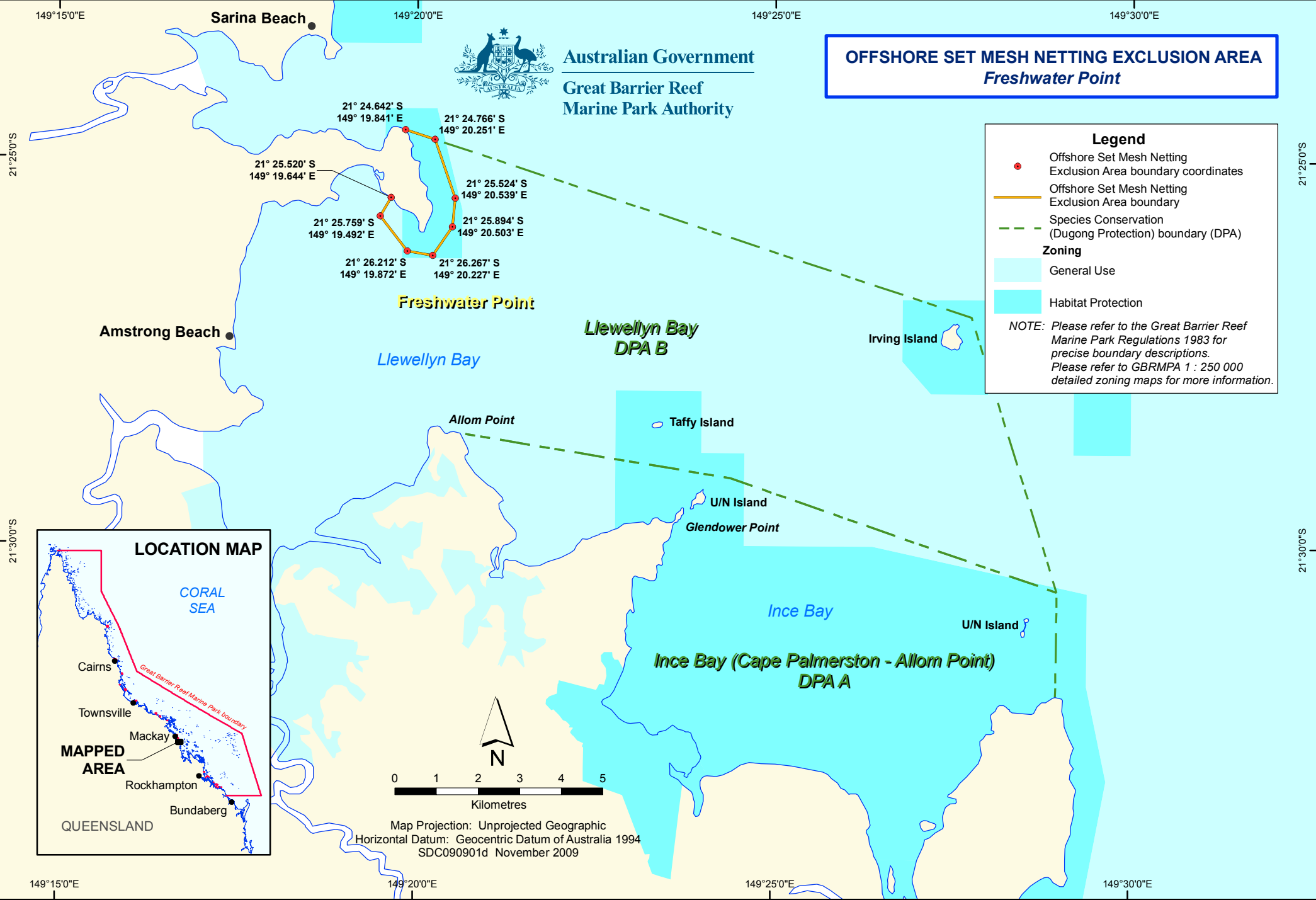
QUEENSLAND

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park boundary

MAPPED AREA



Map Projection: Unprojected Geographic
Horizontal Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994
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OFFSHORE SET MESH NETTING EXCLUSION AREAS
South-East Facing Island

Legend

- Offshore Set Mesh Netting
- Exclusion Area boundary coordinates
- Exclusion Area boundary
- Marine Parks boundary
- - - Species Conservation (Dugong Protection) boundary (DPA)
- + Bommie / Rock

Zoning

- General Use
- Habitat Protection
- Conservation Park

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Port of Gladstone - Rodds Bay (Part 1)
DPA B

Port of Gladstone - Rodds Bay (Part 2)
DPA B

Port of Gladstone - Rodds Bay (Part 3)
DPA B

South-East Facing Island

Facing Island

Sable Chief Rocks

Port Curtis

Tannum Sands

Wild Cattle Island

Seal Rocks

Rodds Bay

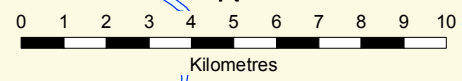
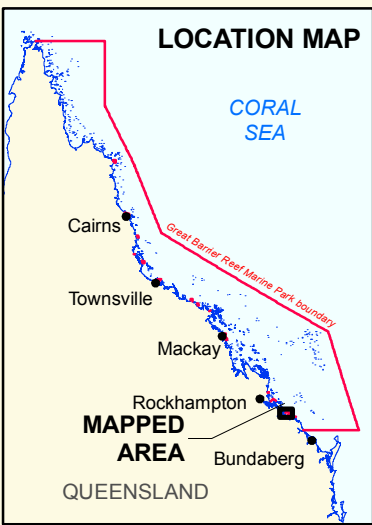
Creek Rocks

Hummock Hill Island

Gladstone

Boyne Island

LOCATION MAP



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