



PROPOSED SOUTH COAST MARINE PARK



Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions



PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Proposed South Coast Marine Park



Special purpose zones

There are three kinds of proposed special purpose zones in the proposed South Coast Marine Park. Special purpose zones are managed for a particular conservation purpose. Uses compatible with the conservation purpose of the zone are allowed in these areas.

Special purpose zones (cultural protection/management) are areas of Sea Country that Traditional Owners have identified as being culturally sensitive or as having important cultural features. Some are associated with cultural stories, some are important for cultural-ecological research, and some relate to ongoing cultural obligations. It is important to align contemporary management of these areas with their cultural value, to care for these special places and help to enrich connection to Sea Country.

Research will be a strong focus in the proposed special purpose zones (cultural protection/management) to help us learn more about the impacts and pressures on cultural values and how everyone can best work together to protect these values.

No restrictions on commercial and recreational fishing are proposed for special purpose zones (cultural protection/

management). However, marine park users visiting these areas are asked to respect their cultural significance. Traditional Owners want all visitors to learn about their culture and share in their cultural ways, heritage and protocols.

Special purpose zones (wildlife conservation) in the proposed park are designed to protect important wildlife conservation areas, including Australian sea lion breeding sites and seabird rookeries and foraging areas; and representative examples of key habitats including reef, filter feeding and seagrass communities. Hand collection of abalone, crustacean, octopus, aquarium fish and specimen shells is allowed in this zone, but other recreational and commercial fishing is excluded.

Special purpose zones (whale conservation) are designed to protect significant southern right whale breeding and calving areas. They are in sheltered bays that are of high ecological importance to southern right whales and protect a range of other habitats. It is intended that these zones will permit all current commercial and recreational fishing activities. Activities relating to mining and petroleum exploration and production; and aquaculture will not be permitted.

More information
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Have Your Say on the proposed South Coast Marine Park
Public comment is open for four months, until Sunday 16 June 2024.
 Download the plans and make an online submission at: dbca.wa.gov.au/pscmp
 Your feedback is important and will further shape how the proposed marine park will be managed into the future.