

Eyre Peninsula MARINE PARKS

*Incorporating the West Coast Bays, Investigator, Thorny Passage,
Sir Joseph Banks Group, Neptune Islands Group Ron and Valerie Taylor
and Gambier Islands Group Marine Parks*



**ENJOY LIFE IN OUR
MARINE PARKS.**



Government
of South Australia



Why we need Marine Parks

Southern Australia is lucky to have some of the most spectacular coastline in the world and an even greater variety of marine life than the Great Barrier Reef.

Our marine areas boast iconic species such as the southern right whale, bottlenose dolphin, leafy sea dragon, great white shark, Australian pelican, little penguin, Australian sea lion and giant cuttlefish.

Some of our marine life is found nowhere else on earth.

South Australia's marine environment is under pressure from population growth, development and pollution.

To help protect both our native species and the beautiful marine environment they call home, South Australia has created a system of marine parks as an investment in the state's future.





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West Coast Bays
Marine Park

4
Investigator
Marine Park

Enjoying marine parks

Over the years, more than 21 per cent of South Australia's land has been set aside for conservation in parks and reserves.

Our marine parks are much the same. They help protect and conserve our marine environment while allowing us to enjoy the beauty of the scenery and a variety of recreational activities many South Australians love such as fishing, boating, swimming, diving, surfing and paddling.

The majority of South Australian waters is still available for fishing.

South Australia already has a vibrant tourism industry and it is anticipated our marine parks will also offer the state economic benefits in the form of increased tourism and new regional business opportunities.

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Thorny Passage
Marine Park

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Neptune Islands Group
(Ron and Valerie Taylor)
Marine Park

Sir Joseph Banks Group
Marine Park

Gambier Islands Group
Marine Park

***Let's respect and enjoy our marine parks
so our marine environment and animals
have a healthy future. Your marine life
will be protected and so will theirs.***



the EYRE PENINSULA region

How marine parks protect our marine life

Many South Australian marine parks include feeding and breeding sites for some of our best-loved marine animals as well as fish and shellfish nursery areas.

Some of these areas, such as seagrass meadows, reefs and mangroves, are incredibly fragile and will benefit from the extra protection provided by sanctuary zones.

These areas only take up about six per cent of our waters and will not allow mining, trawling or fishing, giving marine animals a safe place to retreat and go about the business of breeding, caring for young and growing to adulthood.

Protecting nurseries and other critical habitats can only result in stronger, healthier fish populations in the long term, and what is good for fish is also good for the marine food chain and for both recreational and commercial fishing.

What does this mean for fishing?

Marine parks have been carefully designed to avoid popular recreational fishing areas; and access to jetties, boat ramps and popular beaches has not been affected.

The Government has also allowed two years for the restrictions on fishing to come into effect to enable people to prepare for the changes.

Marine parks - together with fisheries management - are an important investment for our future. Healthy fish means healthy fishing!



Tourism

The Neptune Islands in particular are home to great white shark, one of the most feared and revered of all marine predators. Tourists come from around the world to experience the thrill of cage diving with giant great whites, swim with blue-fin tuna, join adventure fishing charters and, of course, feast on the area's magnificent seafood.

Nurturing local marine life

The West Coast marine parks take in some of our wildest off-shore islands, the beautiful Chain of Bays area and Coffin Bay, which is justifiably famous for its oysters. They are home to a huge diversity of coastal habitats, from seagrass meadows and sponge gardens to sandy sea floors, spectacular reefs and nationally-significant wetlands.

Enjoying the region

The area is known for its wonderful fishing opportunities, and outside of the sanctuary zones, fishing will continue to be a big part of West Coast life. Surf fishing is especially popular on the coast at Ellison and the Australian Salmon Fishing Championship will continue to take place. Up to 13 species of whale visit the point of Eyre Peninsula, making the Thorny Passage Marine Park an ideal place for whale watching.

How will I know where to fish?

Zoning maps are available online at www.marineparks.sa.gov.au or by phoning 1800 006 120. Maps are also available for smart phones by downloading the MyParx app.



WESTERN BLUE GROPER

The western blue groper is found in reef areas around the West Coast. A great favourite with divers, it can reach 1.7m and weigh up to 40kg and will live in the same small area for many years.



DOLPHINS

Bottlenose and common dolphins breed and calve in the Thorny Passage Marine Park. They are inquisitive, intelligent marine mammals and will often approach boats of all sizes.

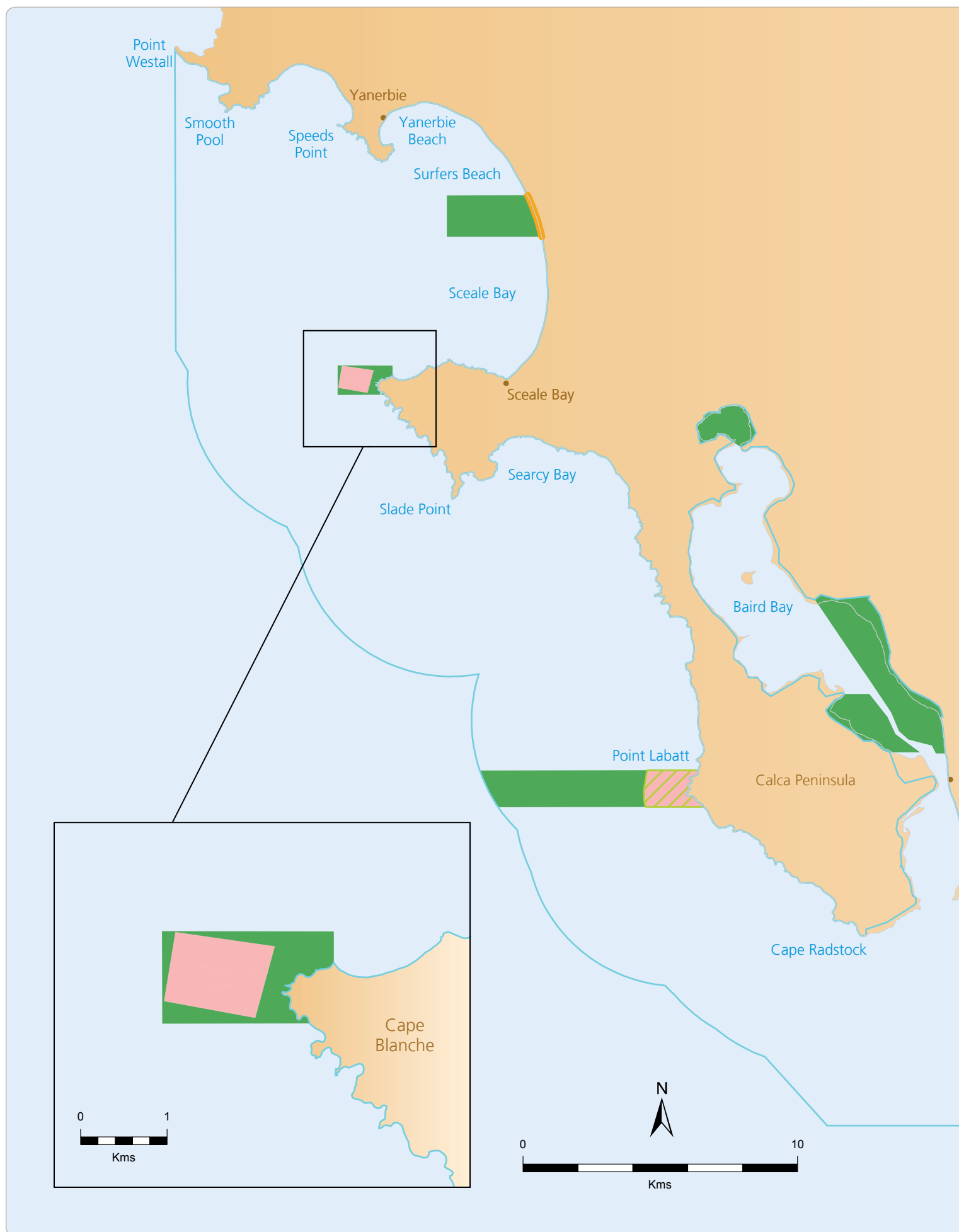


WEEDY SEA DRAGONS

With their long bodies and leafy appendages, weedy sea dragons come from the same family as sea horses and pipe fish. They are usually found in seagrass meadows and on reefs.

MARINE PARK 3

West Coast Bays





All recreation
Enjoy all recreation
including fishing.



Sanctuary zones
Enjoy diving, boating, surfing
and non motorised watersports.



Restricted area
No public access (existing).



**Existing Aquatic
Reserves**

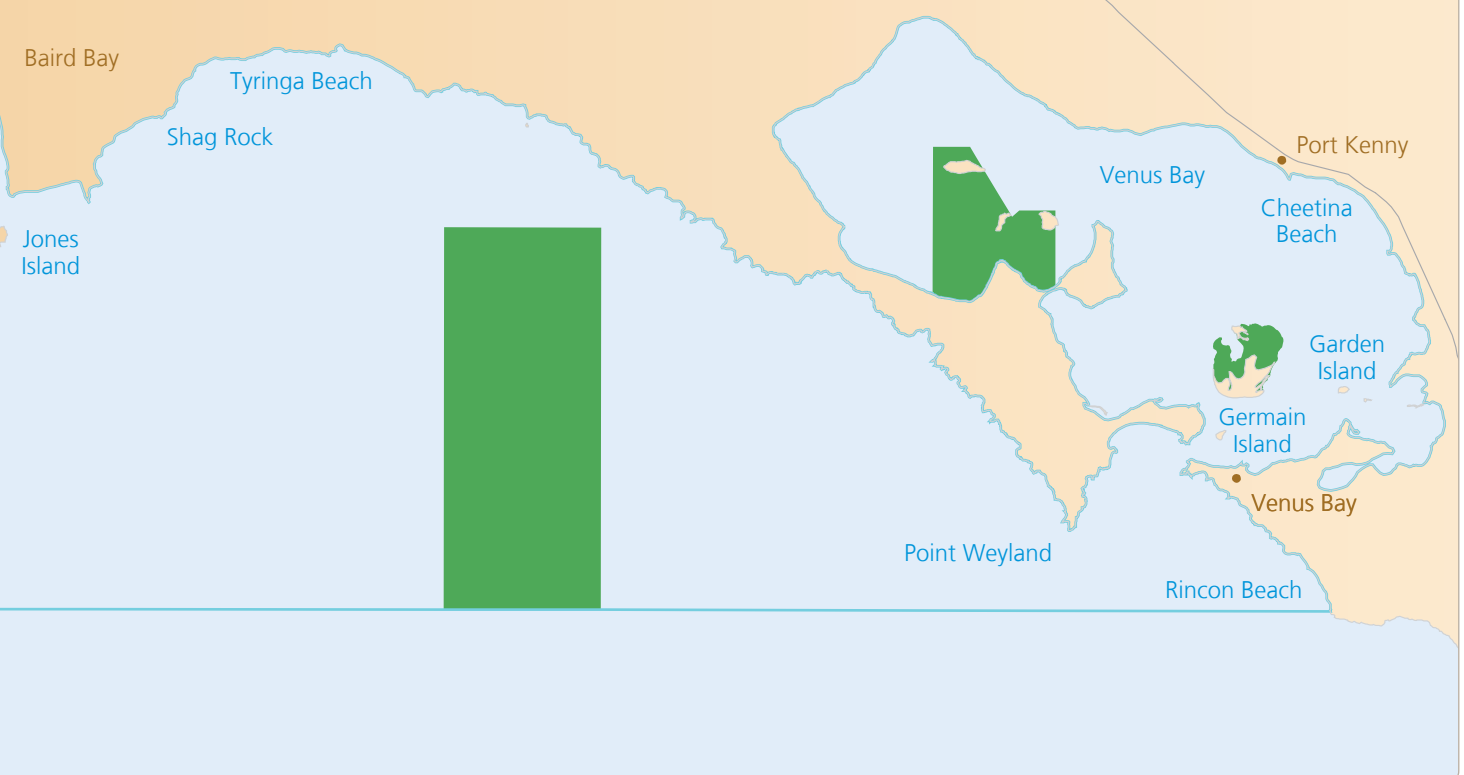


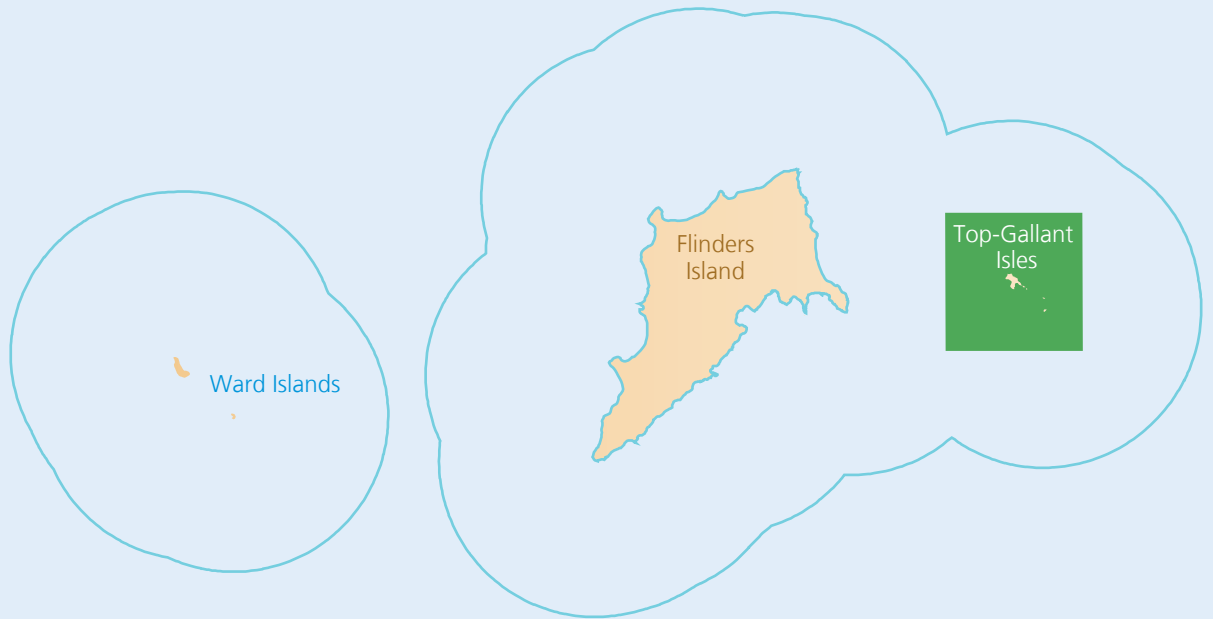
Shore based recreational line fishing permitted
in these parts of Sanctuary Zones and Restricted Areas.

Eyre Peninsula

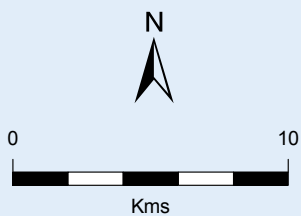
Fast facts

- South Australia has 19 marine parks to help protect our marine life.
- The parks contain small sanctuary zones where fishing, mining, aquaculture and trawling are not permitted.
- Sanctuary zones take up about 6 per cent of state waters leaving plenty of places to wet a line, including from jetties, boat ramps and popular beaches.
- You can still travel through a sanctuary zone with fish and fishing gear on board, and anchor if you need to.
- Diving, boating, surfing and non-motorised watersports are all welcome in sanctuary zones.
- For more information and detailed zoning maps please visit www.marineparks.sa.gov.au





Investigator Group





All recreation
Enjoy all recreation
including fishing.



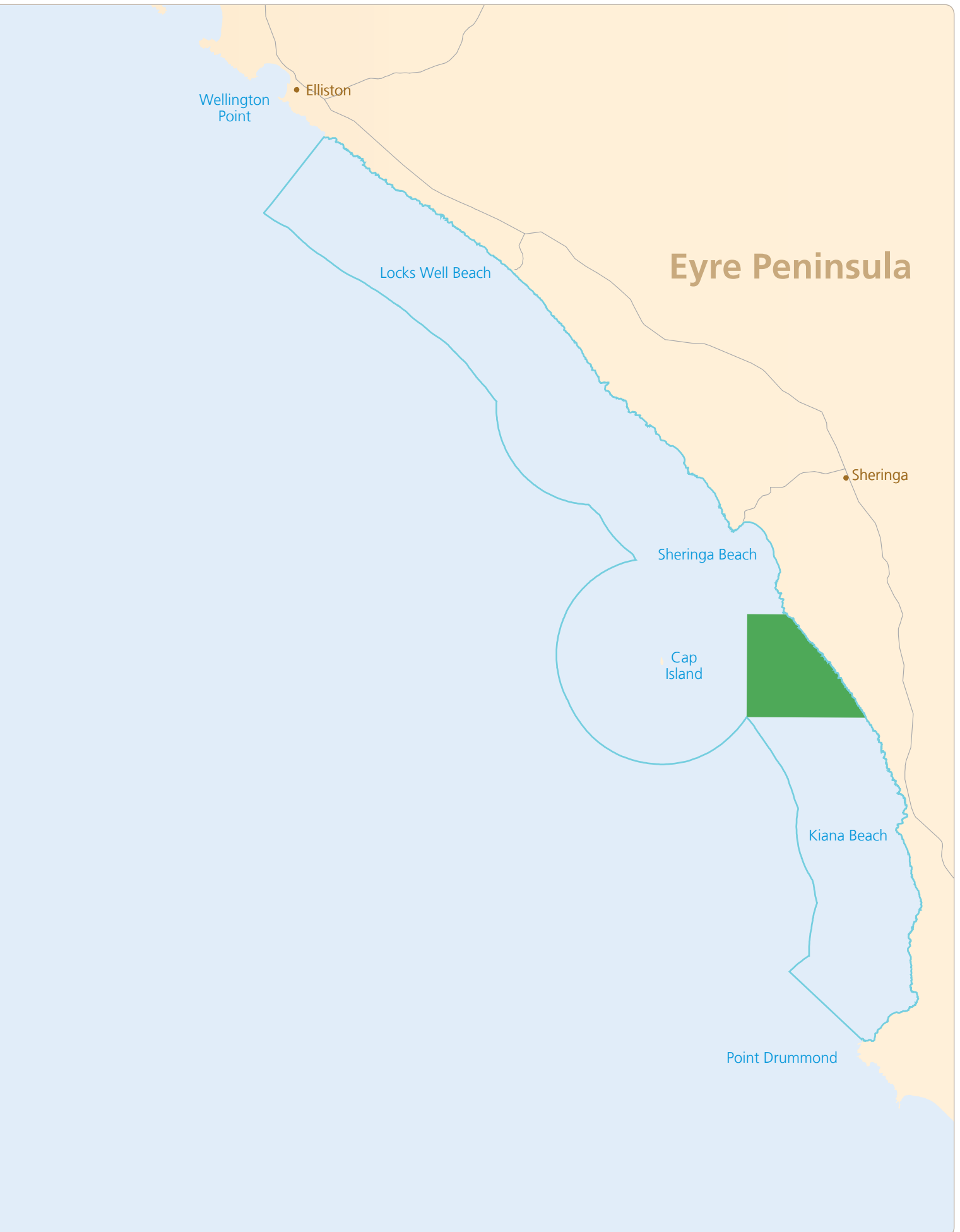
Sanctuary zones
Enjoy diving, boating, surfing
and non motorised watersports.



Restricted area
No public access (existing).



Shore based recreational line fishing permitted
in these parts of Sanctuary Zones and Restricted Areas.



MARINE PARK 5

Thorny Passage





All recreation
Enjoy all recreation
including fishing.



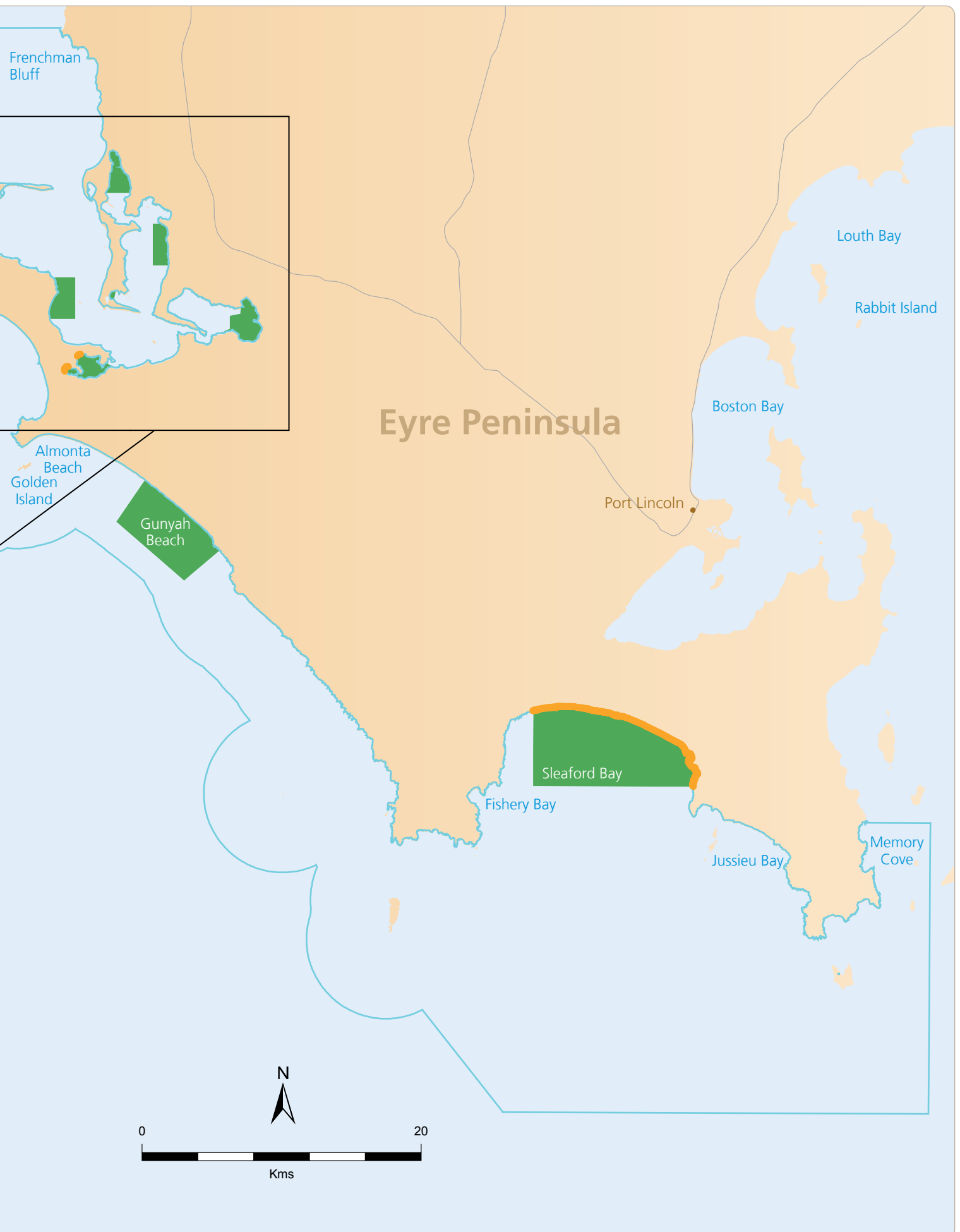
Sanctuary zones
Enjoy diving, boating, surfing
and non motorised watersports.



Restricted area
No public access (existing).

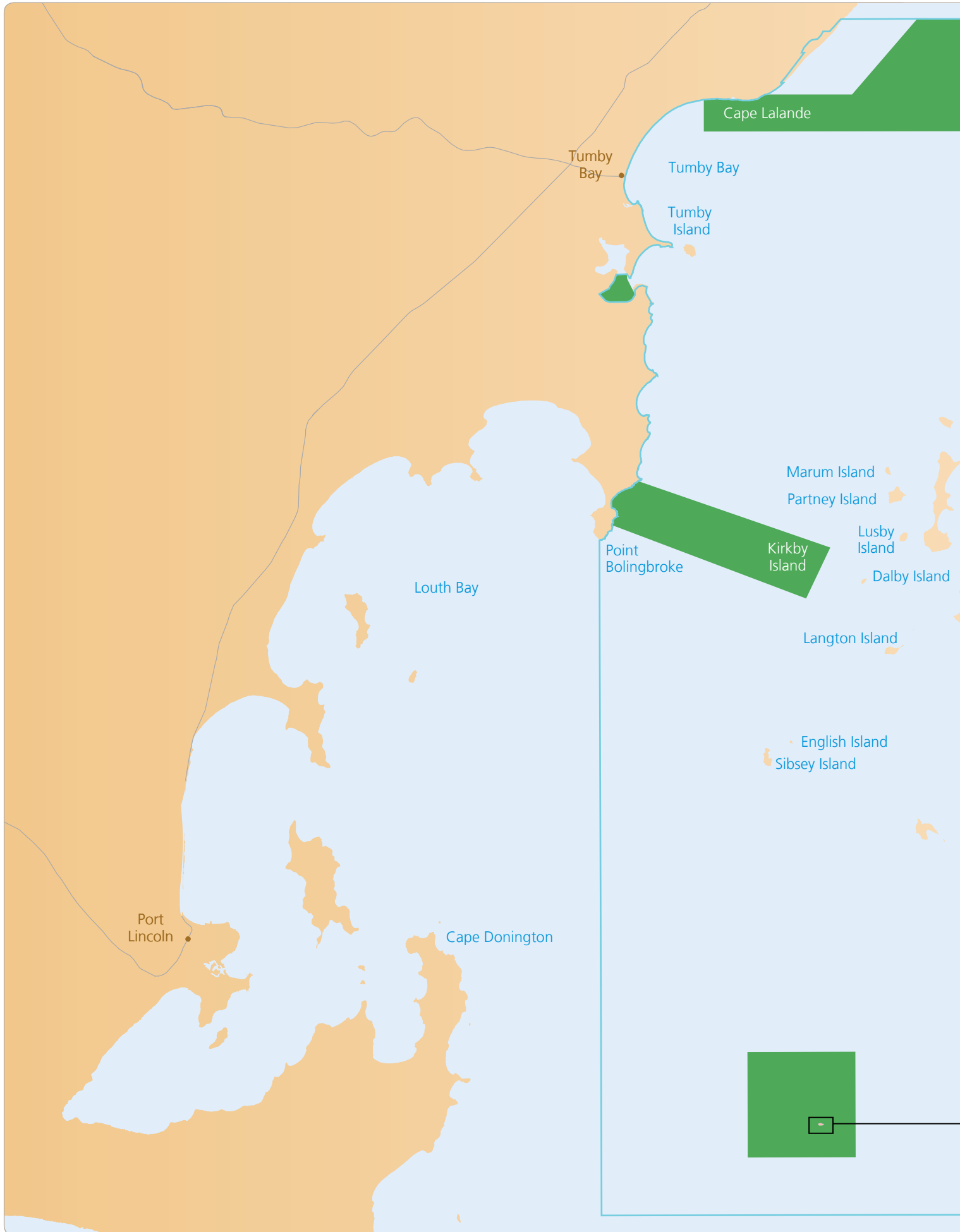


Shore based recreational line fishing permitted
in these parts of Sanctuary Zones and Restricted Areas.




MARINE PARK 6

Sir Joseph Banks Group







All recreation
Enjoy all recreation including fishing.



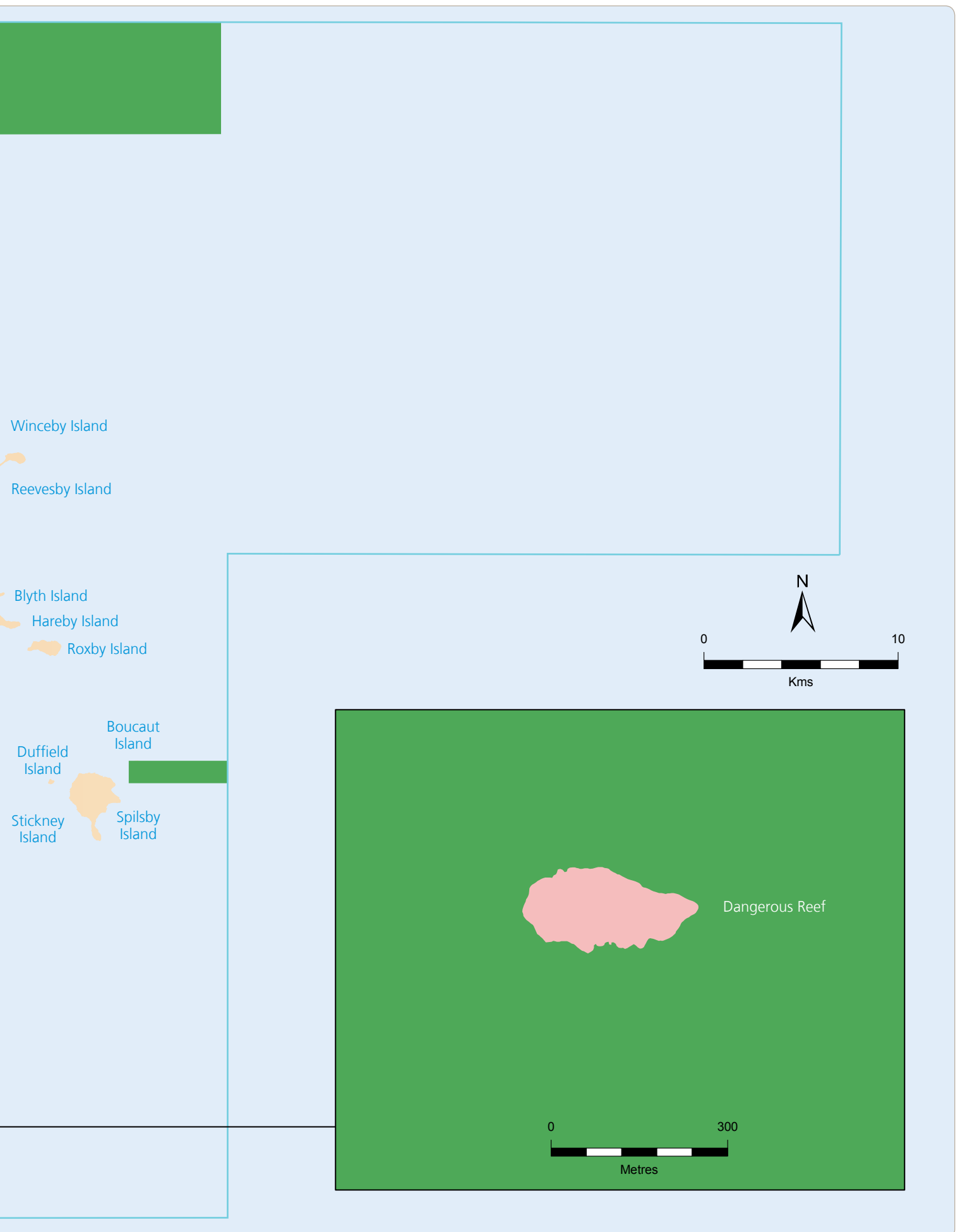
Sanctuary zones
Enjoy diving, boating, surfing and non motorised watersports.



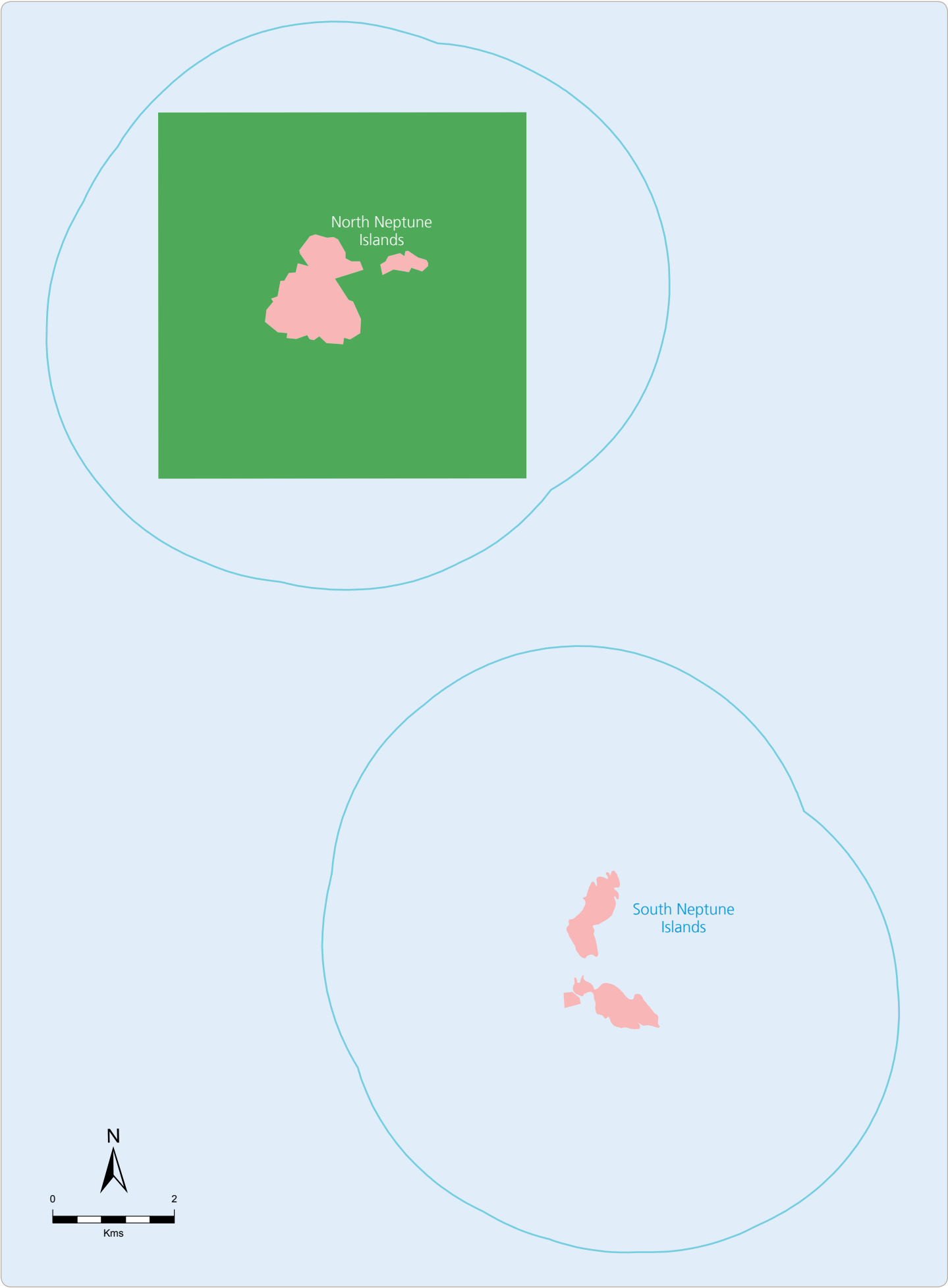
Restricted area
No public access (existing).



Shore based recreational line fishing permitted
in these parts of Sanctuary Zones and Restricted Areas.



Neptune Islands Group (Ron and Valerie Taylor)



MARINE PARK 8

Gambier Islands Group



All recreation
Enjoy all recreation including fishing.



Sanctuary zones
Enjoy diving, boating, surfing and non motorised watersports.



Restricted area
No public access (existing).



Shore based recreational line fishing permitted in these parts of Sanctuary Zones and Restricted Areas.



ENJOY LIFE IN OUR MARINE PARKS.



Fishing with your family is just one of the many great things to enjoy in our 19 new marine parks. From swimming and diving to boating and fishing — you can enjoy all your favourite activities in marine parks. It's only in the sanctuary areas of marine parks — which take up about 6% of state waters — that fishing soon won't be permitted, to help protect fragile habitat and breeding sites for some of our best-loved marine life. There's more variety of marine life in Southern Australian waters than the Great Barrier Reef. Let's respect our marine parks so we can enjoy our marine life in the future.

For more information visit marineparks.sa.gov.au



Government of
South Australia

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