

Far West Coast MARINE PARKS

Incorporating the Far West Coast and Nuyts Archipelago 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.





1
Far West Coast
Marine Park

2
Nuyts Archipelago
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.

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 FAR WEST COAST 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.

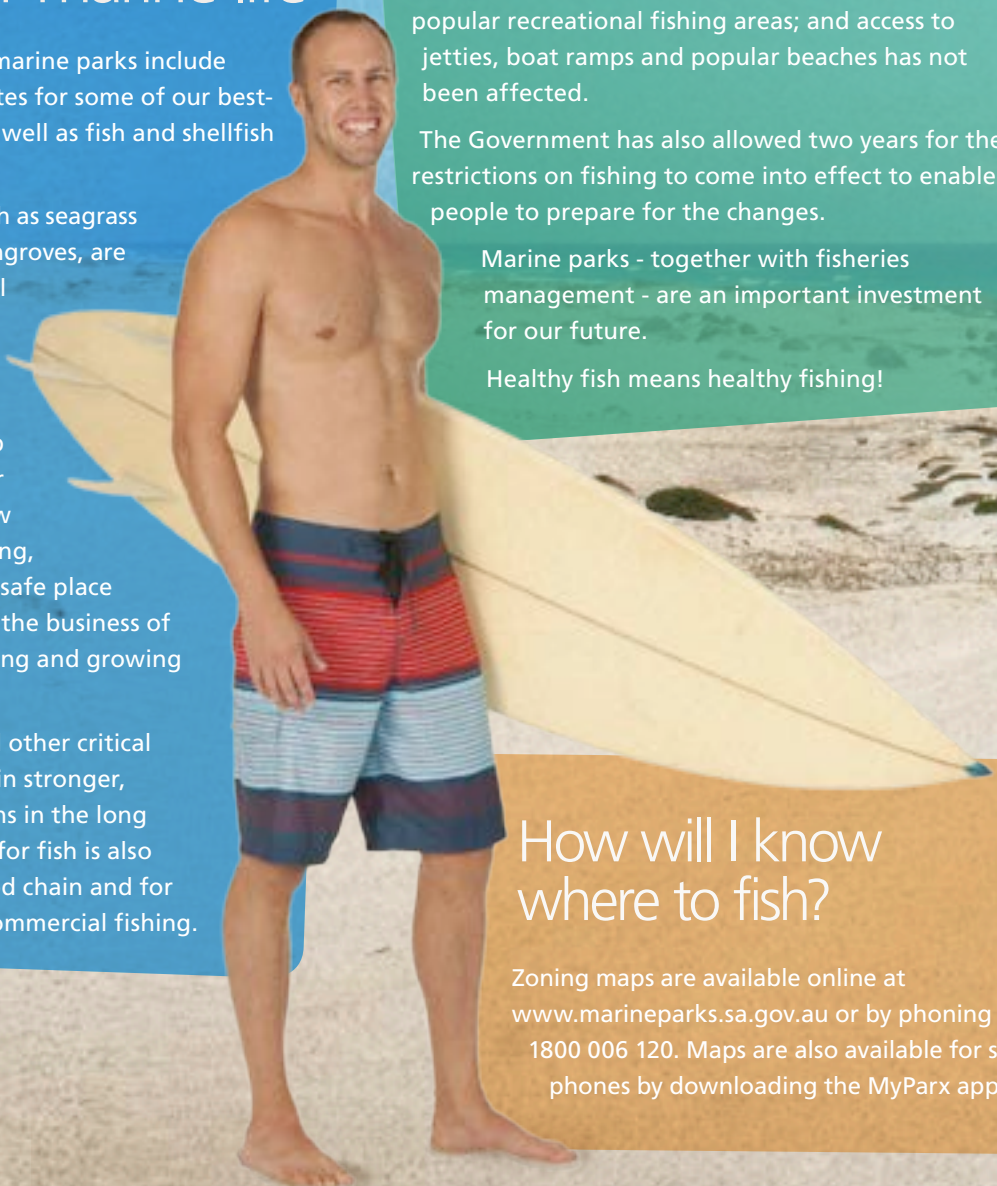
The Government has also allowed two years for the restrictions on fishing to come into effect to enable people to prepare for the changes.

Marine parks - together with fisheries management - are an important investment for our future.

Healthy fish means healthy fishing!

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.



Tourism

With spectacular rocky cliffs rising from pounding surf, the Far West Coast is one of the great images of our coastline, showing South Australia at its rugged, windswept best. Whale watching is a major tourism drawcard for the area, as are the colonies of fur seals and sea lions on the Nuyts Archipelago.

Nurturing local marine life

The Far West Coast has been integral to the worldwide recovery of the southern right whale, a species that was nearly wiped out by the whaling industry. These beautiful animals have found a safe haven in the area, returning every year to breed, give birth and raise their young. Around Nuyts Archipelago, the waters are unusually warm for South Australia, supporting tropical marine life such as basket star and the tiny sea star "Little Patty", which is found nowhere else in the world and gives birth to live young.

What can I do?

Fishing has always been popular on the West Coast and will continue to be popular for years to come, with fishers still able to catch abalone, rock lobster, scale fish and even shark outside the sanctuary zones. The area is a diver's dream, with reef fish, corals and invertebrates abundant in the sea around the untouched wilderness of Nuyts Archipelago.



WHITE-BELLIED SEA EAGLES

Sea eagles are large birds of prey that nest and feed along the coast. Beautiful grey-and-white birds that mate for life, they can be seen swooping down to snatch fish from the surface of the sea.



AUSTRALIAN SEA LIONS

Australian sea lions, which usually breed on islands, have a breeding colony along the base of the Bunda Cliffs. These intelligent mammals are swift hunters in water, but on land they love to sun themselves on rocks.



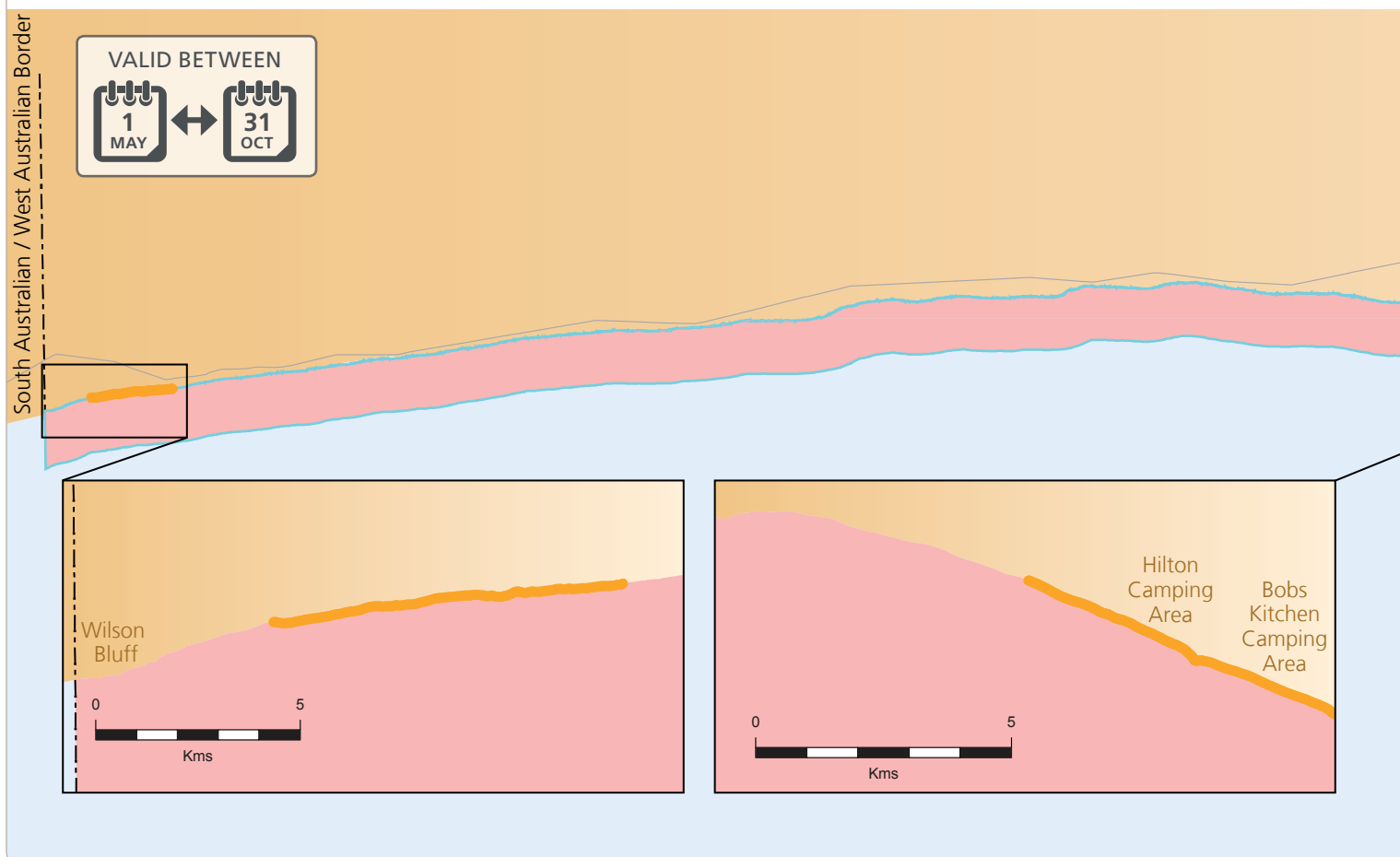
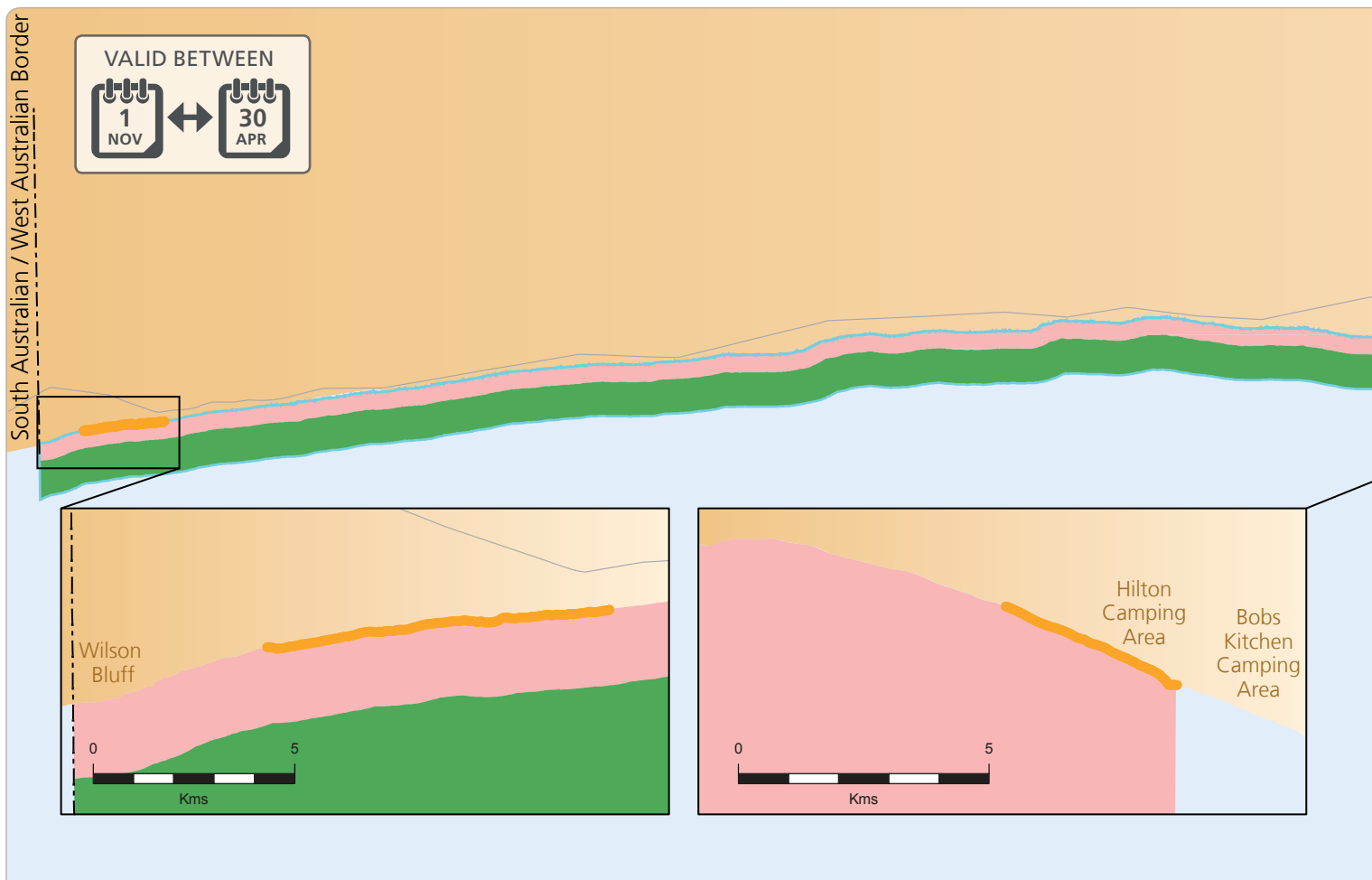
NUDIBRANCH

Several species of nudibranch, the invertebrate also known as the sea slug, are found around Nuyts Archipelago. Their bright colours and languid movements make them a favourite with divers.

MARINE PARK 1

Far West Coast

Seasonal restrictions apply for the Head of Bight area.
For more information visit www.marineparks.sa.gov.au



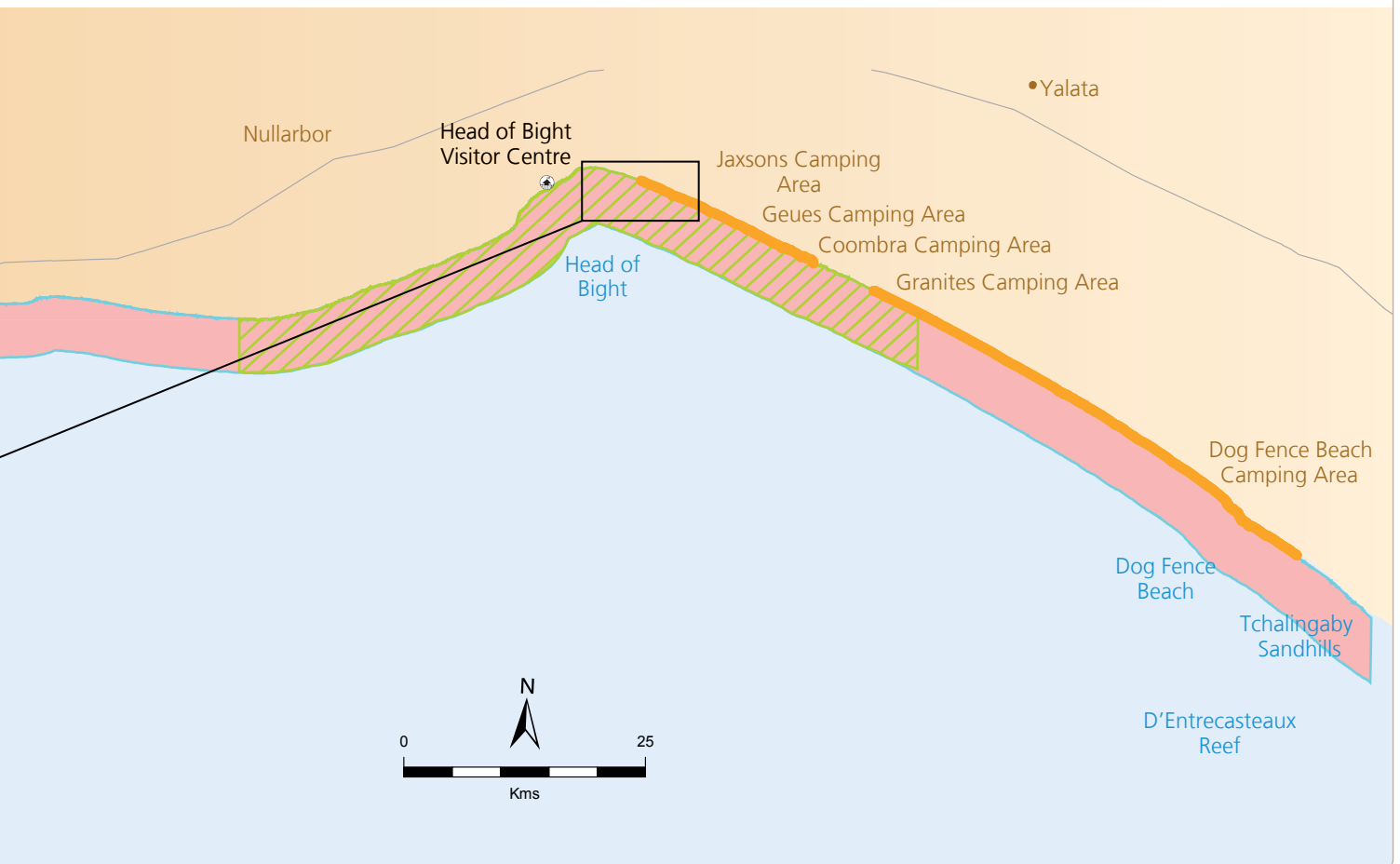
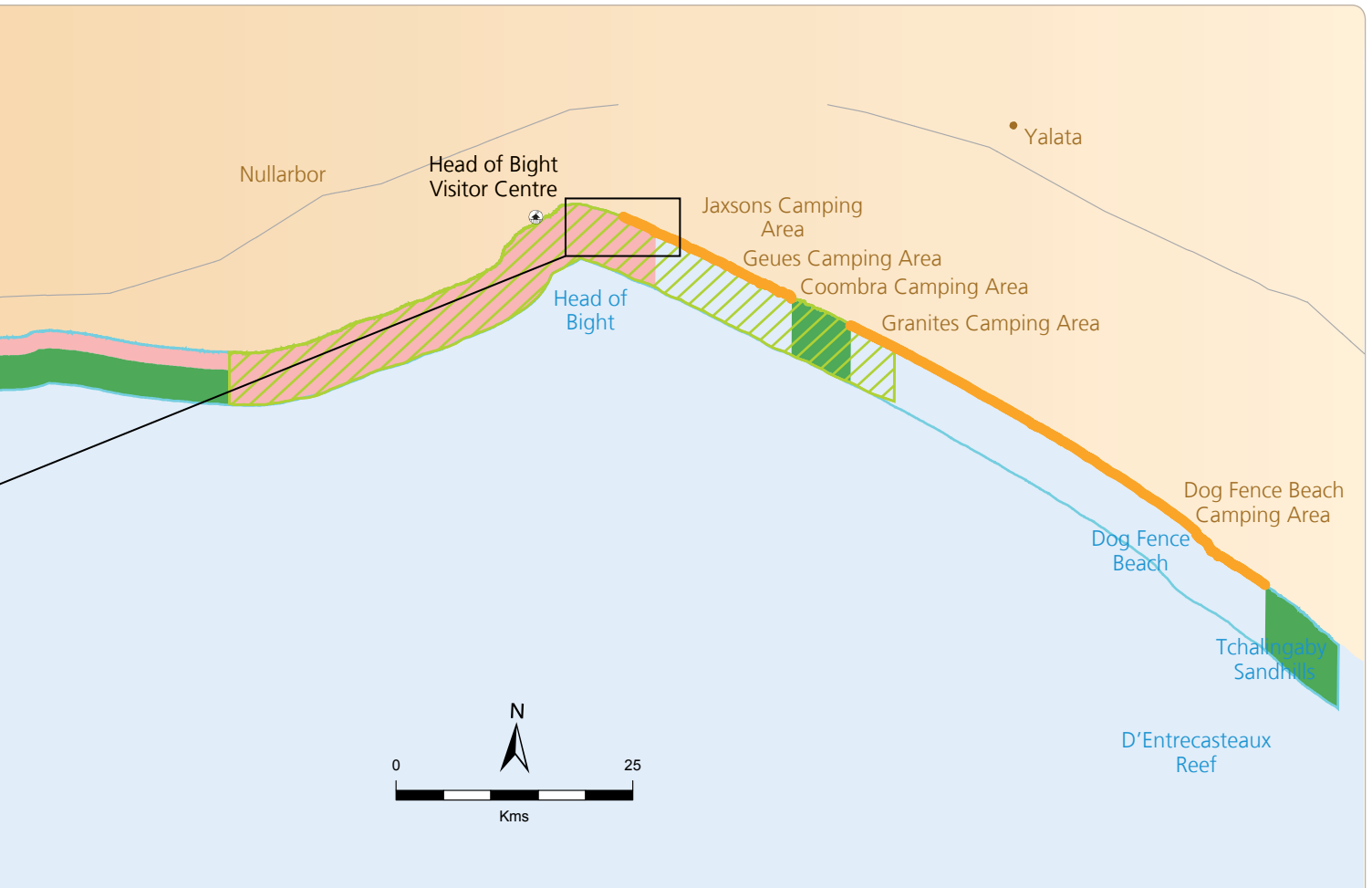
All recreation
Enjoy all recreation including fishing.

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

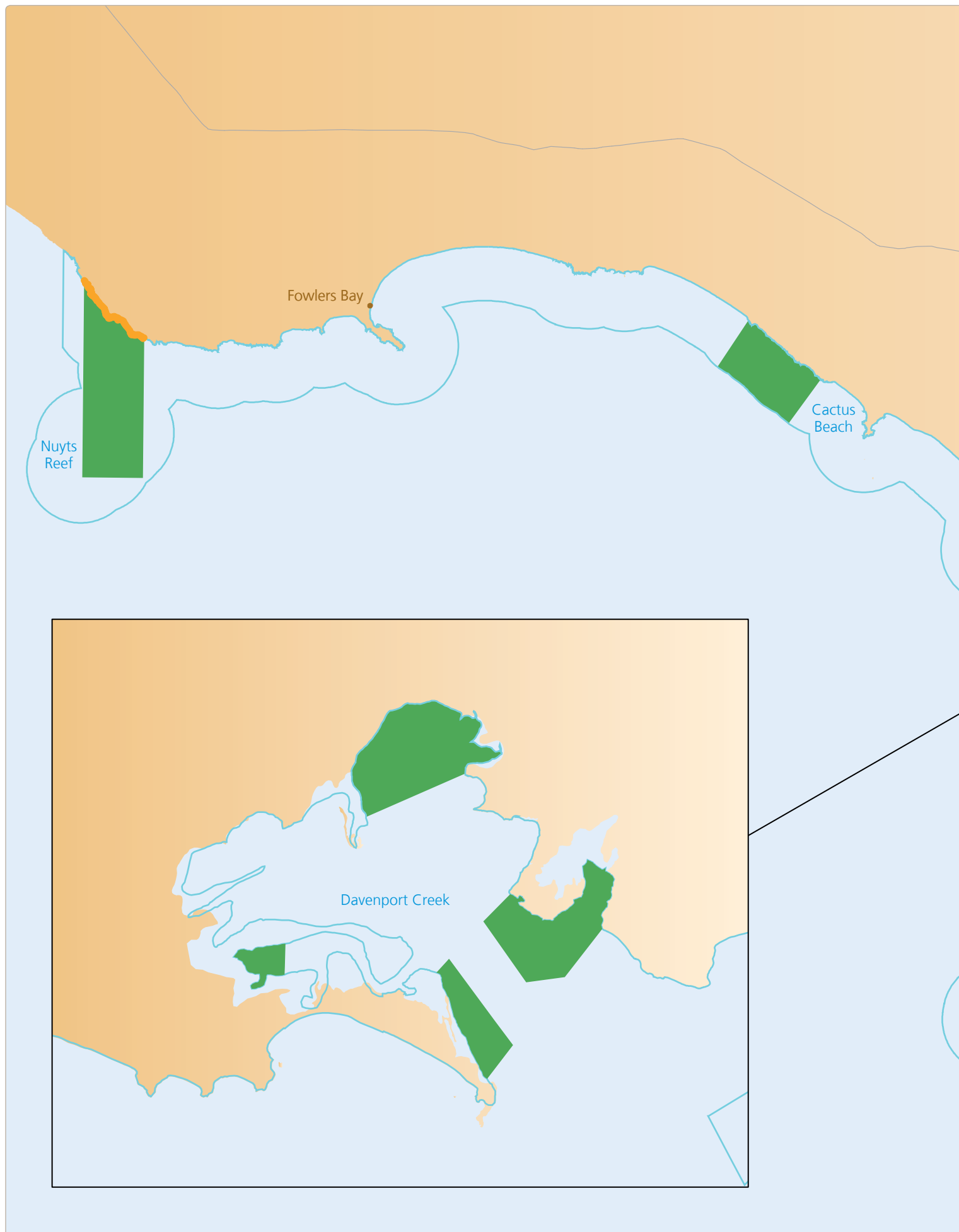
 Restricted area
No public access (existing).

 Existing Aquatic Reserves

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



MARINE PARK 2
Nuyts Archipelago





All recreation
Enjoy all recreation
including fishing.



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



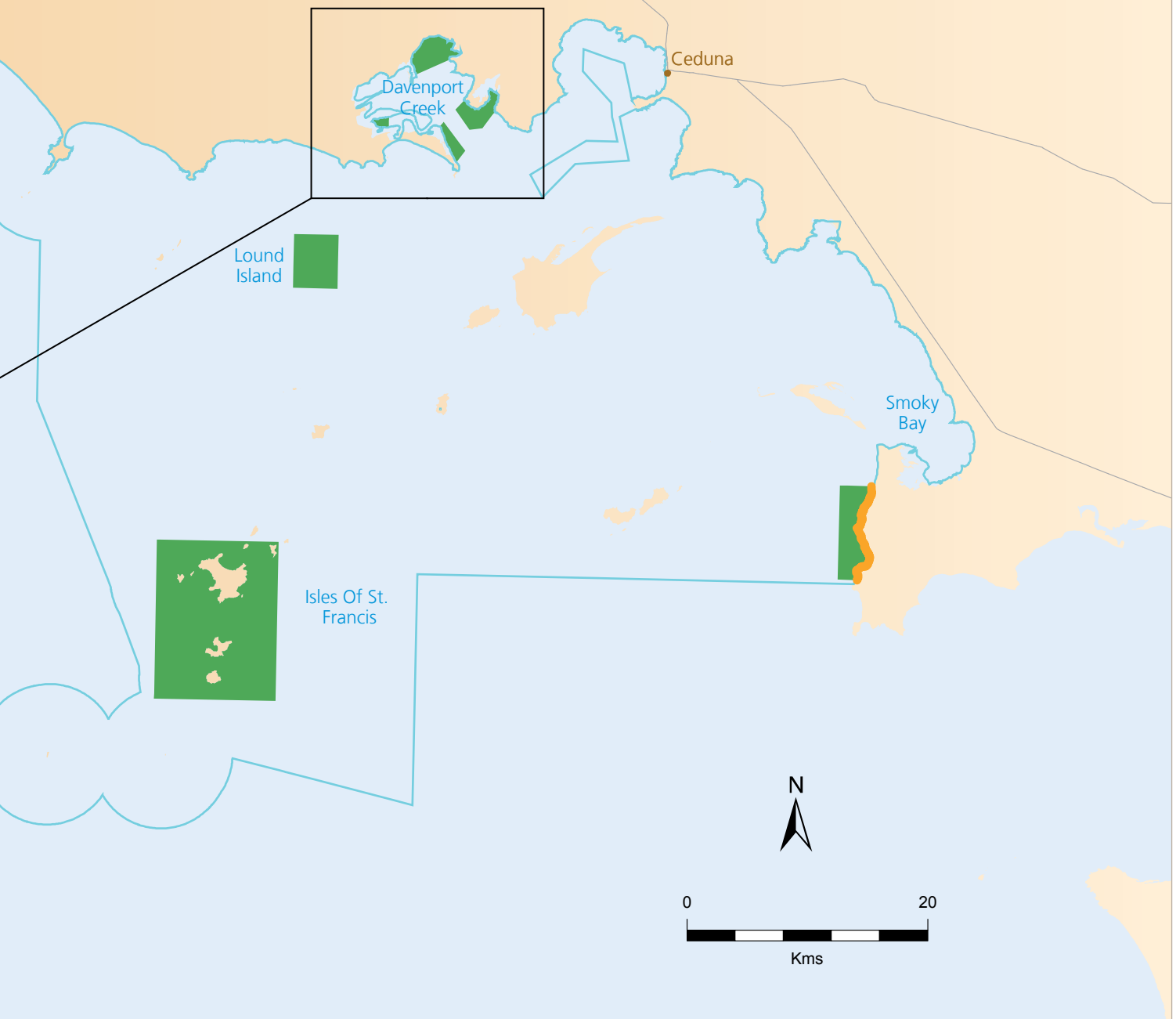
Restricted area
No public access (existing).



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

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



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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Printed July 2013 | FIS 92123