

Southern Spencer Gulf Marine Park

Preliminary sanctuary zone scenario

Starting point for Marine Park Local Advisory Group discussion

South Australians enjoy the benefits of a healthy marine environment. However, the marine environment is under increasing pressure from a range of sources, including climate change, run-off and competition for resources, which could affect how we use and enjoy it in the future.

Marine parks are currently being set up around Australia as part of a national and international response to these increasing pressures.

In 2009, the South Australian Government declared a network of 19 marine parks to help protect and conserve areas of natural value within our State's waters for generations to come.

Your assistance is now needed to help develop the zoning and management plans for these marine parks.

At this meeting, you will begin the process of developing a proposed zoning scenario for your local marine park(s). You will be provided a range of information about zoning, including a preliminary sanctuary zone scenario developed by DENR, and other government agencies to provide a starting point for discussions by your MPLAG about how marine parks might be zoned for conservation, commerce and community use.

The preliminary sanctuary zone scenario is only a starting point and does not represent a Government proposal or preference. There may be better ways to design a marine park zoning scheme to achieve the desired outcomes. Your MPLAG's advice on its preferred zoning scenario(s) is sought.

The preliminary sanctuary zone scenarios have been developed using the environmental, social and economic information currently available to Government, including the information provided through SAMPIT (the South Australian Marine Parks Information Tool).

The next step is for the scenarios to be worked on over the next six months by the MPLAGs and key stakeholders, such as the seafood industry, tourism operators, local government and conservation interests, who all have important information to bring to the table.

It is expected that this work will result in changes to what is initially provided. Indeed, this is the purpose of MPLAGs and key stakeholder engagement - to better inform and assist the Government in this process - so we can help ensure that the needs of local communities and industries are met.

The State Government has not adopted an arbitrary percentage target for the size of sanctuary zones. Instead, it remains open to the advice of the community as to how to best design the marine parks network to protect and conserve marine biodiversity and marine habitats in a manner that accords with the objects of the *Marine Parks Act 2007*.

To assist MPLAGs, key stakeholders and other community members to develop their preferred zoning scenario(s), you will be provided with some indicative zoning guidelines.

These guidelines have been developed with due regard to advice from the Marine Parks Scientific Working Group and Marine Parks Council of South Australia, which provide independent advice on marine park matters.

One of these zoning guidelines is that sanctuary zones should cover about 20-25% of each marine park - this would translate to about 10% of our State's waters.

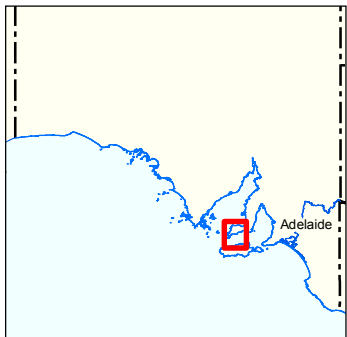
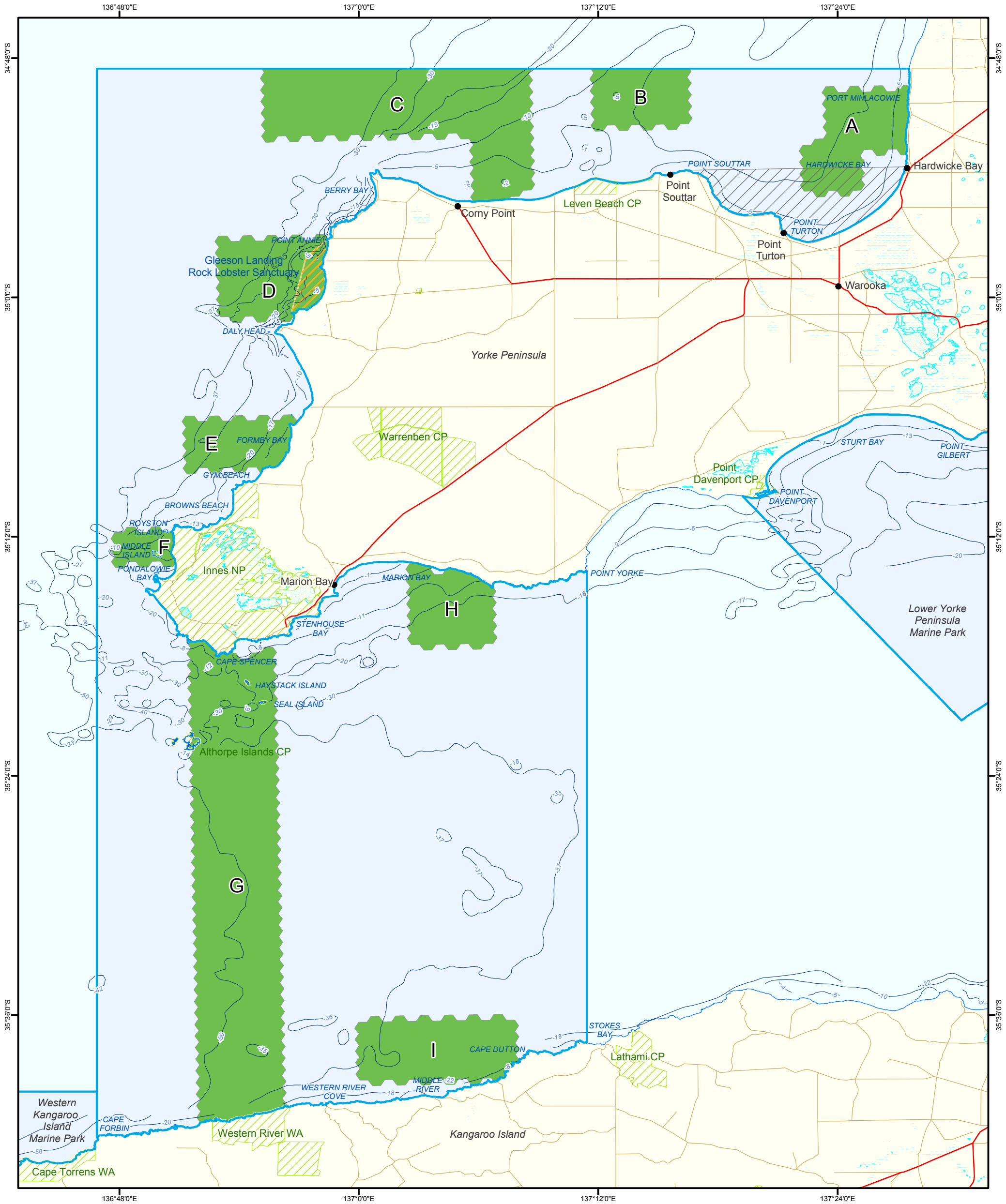
However, this is a guideline only and may not be achievable in some marine parks, particularly where there are significant policy commitments in place to provide for various current and future activities.

Your attention is drawn to the marine park policy commitments made by the Government in 2009, in particular the assurance given to the commercial fishing industry that the outcome of marine parks zoning will have no more than a 5% economic impact (as per the 2007 EconSearch report).

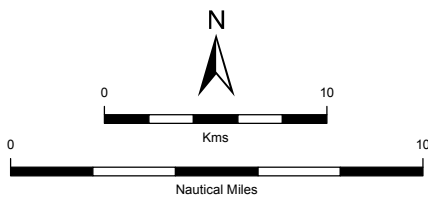
In developing your preferred zoning scenarios it will be important that you apply the full zoning checklists and policy commitments, to help ensure your suggestions meet the marine park design requirements. Doing this will help you develop a proposal for your park(s) that is good for conservation and good for commercial and community interests.

For more information, please contact your MPLAG Executive Officer via email at DENRmarine@sa.gov.au, or phone the Coast and Marine Conservation Branch, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, on Freecall 1800 006 120.

Marine Park 12 - Southern Spencer Gulf Marine Park
Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenario Starting Point - Version 1



- Possible Sanctuary Zones
- Marine Parks
- Lake - Perennial
- Lake - Intermittent
- Land Subject to Inundation (STI)
- Parks and Reserves
- Rock Lobster Sanctuaries
- Special Purpose Areas (Harbours)
- Bathymetry
- Coastline (median high water)
- Major Road
- Minor Road



Produced by Coast and Marine Conservation
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www.marineparks.sa.gov.au
Data Source Marine Parks, Parks and Reserves,
Rock Lobster Sanctuary, Topographic Data
Bathymetry - DENR
Harbours - DENR & Harbours and Navigation Act
Compiled 8 November 2010
Projection Geographic
Datum Geocentric Datum of Australia, 1994

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| Basis for 'Starting Point' Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenario – Southern Spencer Gulf Marine Park (Park 12) | | |
|--|---------------------|--|
| Location of possible Sanctuary Zone | Area | Rationale for possible Sanctuary Zone |
| Zone A: Begins north of Hardwicke Bay and extends towards Port Minlacowie and westward out into the bay. | 57 km ² | <p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Along the coast this possible Sanctuary Zone represents large, low energy coarse sand beaches backed by extensive, densely vegetated sand dune systems. This Zone is in a shallow bay with seagrass meadows, soft-bottom habitat and extensive low profile platform and limestone rocky reefs. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tidal sand flats within the Zone provide habitat for juvenile sand crabs and bait worms. The coastal habitats provide important nesting and feeding grounds for resident shorebirds as well as feeding grounds for migratory shorebirds whose habitats are required to be protected under international treaties. <p>Social and economic considerations in the possible Sanctuary Zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to avoid beach fishing and boat launching at Hardwicke Bay. |
| Zone B: Is an offshore zone in Hardwicke Bay 5km north of Point Souttar. | 40 km ² | <p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included within the Zone are seagrass habitats in water from 0 - 30m deep. Some deeper water habitats in the 10 - 30m range, which are yet to be mapped. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seagrass habitats provide important nursery grounds for popular fish species including King George whiting and southern garfish. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to provide for recreational fishing along the shore from Point Souttar to Leven Beach and the majority of popular fishing grounds accessed from the Point Turton boat ramp. To ensure ease of identification, compliance and enforcement the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines. |
| Zone C: Is situated between Corny Point and the Pines and extends approximately 10 km north into southern Spencer Gulf where it extends west for 22 km. | 156 km ² | <p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A small section of the only north facing coastline on Yorke Peninsula, with sheltered coarse sand beaches backed by low dunes, shallow seagrass meadows and low profile rocky reefs. This possible Sanctuary Zone extends west to cover deep water reef habitats over 30m. This Zone connects a wide variety of habitats from shallow coast out into some of the deepest waters in the gulf. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The coastal habitats included in this possible Sanctuary Zone provide important nesting and feeding grounds for resident shorebirds as well as feeding grounds for migratory shorebirds whose habitats are required to be protected under international treaties. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to provide for popular boat ramps at both Corny Point and The Pines. |
| Zone D: Overlays the existing Aquatic Reserve at Gleeson Landing north of Daly Head and extends approximately 7 km west. | 59 km ² | <p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inshore rocky reef habitat extending out to 30 metres and macroalgae and seagrass habitats are included within this Zone. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The coastal habitats provide important nesting and feeding grounds for resident shorebirds as well as feeding grounds for migratory shorebirds whose habitats are required to be protected under international treaties. The reef provides important habitat for abalone and rock lobster. <p>Social and economic considerations in the possible Sanctuary Zone</p> |

| | | |
|---|---------------------|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to overlay the Gleeson Landing Rock Lobster Sanctuary. To ensure ease of identification, compliance and enforcement the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines. |
| Zone E: Is situated at the southern end of Formby Bay and then extends east for approximately 8 km offshore. | 38 km ² | <p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A variety of shoreline types are contained within this possible Sanctuary Zone including moderately exposed fine-medium sand beaches (2.4km), an area of sheltered coarse sand beach and a small section of moderately exposed bedrock platform. Soft-bottom habitats extend from the coastline into rocky reef environments to depths of 30 metres. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to avoid important recreational fishing locations at Gym Beach and Salmon Hole. It is also located far from public boat ramps. Access to popular surfing breaks along this coast will be unaffected by the Zone. An Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) exists over some of the land included in the Zone. To ensure ease of identification, compliance and enforcement the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines. |
| Zone F: Is situated in the northern end of Pondalowie Bay and extends from Surfers Beach 3 km north and approximately 5 km east. | 15 km ² | <p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Zone includes representative samples of fine medium sand beach along both sheltered and exposed coastline and rocky reef habitats out to 30m deep. This Zone includes two offshore islands: Royston and Middle, which are connected to the mainland by rocky channels. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royston and Middle Islands provide important habitat for resident populations of shorebirds. Sea bird nesting sites are also located on these islands. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Zone was designed to provide for beach and boat fishing in the southern end of Pondalowie Bay, Browns Beach and West Cape. To ensure ease of identification, compliance and enforcement the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines. |
| Zone G: Abuts the Western River Wilderness Protection Area on the north coast of Kangaroo Island and extends in a 7km-wide section to the southern tip of Yorke Peninsula. | 282 km ² | <p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjacent to Yorke Peninsula, this possible Sanctuary Zone represents a variety of habitats including near-shore rocky reefs (platforms, ledges, boulders and caves), seagrass beds and soft-bottom habitats extending from the coast to 30m deep. The Yorke Peninsula shoreline includes an exposed fine medium sand beach leading to high limestone cliffs at Cape Spencer. These cliffs, which are fronted by shoreline bedrock platforms, decrease in height from Cape Spencer toward the sheltered beaches of Cable Hut Bay. The near-shore environment on the Kangaroo Island north coast mostly consists of soft-bottom habitats extending from shoreline bedrock platforms and rocky outcrops near headlands. The Zone is dominated by deeper-water habitats between the two landmasses (approx. 83% of the zone) which are yet to be mapped. The Kangaroo Island shoreline in this Zone is dominated by high cliffs interspersed with pocket boulder beaches and is fronted by fringing rocky reef. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The possible Sanctuary Zone connects a wide variety of habitats through Investigator Strait from Yorke Peninsula to Kangaroo Island and from the coast to waters more than 50m deep. At each end, the Zone lies adjacent to existing protected areas (Western River Wilderness Protection Area on Kangaroo Island and Innes National Park on Yorke Peninsula) establishing a protected corridor between the land and sea. Vulnerable Australian sea lions haul out on Haystack and Seal Islands and the Althorpe Islands whilst New Zealand fur seals breed on Seal Island. The inshore reefs of Yorke Peninsula, Althorpe Islands and Kangaroo Island within this Zone are known to provide habitat for resident reef fish species including the western blue groper and the harlequin fish. The characteristic high cliffs in this Zone (on Yorke Peninsula) provide nesting sites for the endangered white-bellied sea eagle and the endangered osprey from which they forage in nearby waters. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to provide for recreational fishing areas at Cable Bay and Chinamans Beaches and around part of Althorpe |

| | | |
|--|--------------------|--|
| | | <p>Island.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As there is limited access to the coast via the Western River Wilderness Protection Area, this Zone minimises impact on shore-based fishing along the Kangaroo Island coastline. To ensure ease of identification, compliance and enforcement the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines. |
| Zone H: Is approximately a 7 X 7 km square extending from the coast at the eastern end of Marion Bay. | 45 km ² | <p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represented within the possible Sanctuary Zone are shoreline habitats including fine medium and course sand beaches backed by low dunes and cliffs. Underwater habitats include seagrass and rocky reef at a variety of depths. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to provide for the township of Marion Bay including the jetty and boat ramp as well as popular offshore fishing grounds. To ensure ease of identification, compliance and enforcement the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines. |
| Zone I: Extends west from Cape Dutton for approximately 13 km towards Western River Cove in a 6 km wide band. | 70 km ² | <p>The possible sanctuary zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This possible Sanctuary Zone attaches to a small length of coastline (approx 3km) which includes the only representation of a fine medium sand beach along the Kangaroo Island coast within this park (King George Beach). Fingers of rocky reef extend from headlands out to 500m, beginning east of King George Beach (sandy) and continuing to the Marine Park boundary and beyond. Soft-bottom habitats extend beyond the reefs to waters 30m deep and out into waters which are yet to be mapped. <p>Other important features and natural processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The inshore reefs provide habitat for site attached fish such as the western blue groper, western blue devil and harlequin fish. The shoreline includes white-bellied sea eagle nesting habitat. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to provide for recreational fishing locations between Cape Dutton and Stokes Bay. The pebbly King George beach is seasonally used as a boat ramp. Private properties and holiday accommodation exist at King George beaches and at Dutton Park. The sheltered coves along this coast are used for safe swimming, small boating and fishing. To ensure ease of identification, compliance and enforcement the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines. |

This table shows the environmental values represented in each possible Sanctuary Zone within the Southern Spencer Gulf Marine Park

| Environmental Values | Units | Possible Sanctuary Zones | | | | | | | | | Total in all Zones | Total in Marine Park |
|--|-------|--------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|--------------------|----------------------|
| | | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | | |
| Ecologically Important Species | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Australian Sealions (haulout sites) | Count | | | | | | | 3 | | | 3 | 5 |
| Coastal Shorebird Sites | Count | 2 | | 7 | 9 | | 1 | 5 | | 3 | 27 | 222 |
| New Zealand Fur Seals (breeding sites) | Count | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 |
| Reef Fish Sites | Count | | | | | | | 11 | | 2 | 13 | 52 |
| Sea Bird Breeding and Nesting Sites | Count | | | | | | 2 | 3 | | | 5 | 14 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Underwater Habitats | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rocky Reef (0 to -10m) | Km² | 26 | | | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 36 | 75 |
| Rocky Reef (-10 to -30m) | Km² | | | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 18 | | | 37 | 95 |
| Rocky Reef (-30 to -50m) | Km² | | | 5 | | | | 2 | | | 7 | 15 |
| Macroalgae (0 to -10m) | Km² | 8 | 3 | | | | | <1 | | | 11 | 30 |
| Macroalgae (-10 to -30m) | Km² | | | 1 | 1 | | | 2 | | | 4 | 9 |
| Macroalgae (-30 to -50m) | Km² | | | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| Seagrass (0 to -10m) | Km² | 6 | 11 | 16 | 1 | | | <1 | 7 | <1 | 41 | 177 |
| Seagrass (-10 to -30m) | Km² | | 12 | 30 | 2 | | | 1 | 9 | | 54 | 114 |
| Soft-bottom Habitat (0 to -10m) | Km² | 6 | | 1 | 2 | 1 | <1 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 33 | 105 |
| Soft-bottom Habitat (-10m to -30m) | Km² | | | 14 | 3 | 4 | <1 | 5 | 11 | 10 | 47 | 86 |
| Soft-bottom Habitat (-30m to -50m) | Km² | | | <1 | | | | 2 | | | 2 | 3 |
| Unmapped (0 to -10m) | Km² | 11 | 6 | | | <1 | | 3 | | <1 | 19 | 88 |
| Unmapped (-10 to -30m) | Km² | | 8 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 21 | 9 | 24 | 87 | 225 |
| Unmapped (-30 to -50m) | Km² | | | 80 | 33 | 19 | 3 | 116 | | 27 | 278 | 1592 |
| Unmapped (>-50m) | Km² | | | | | | | 101 | | | 101 | 357 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shore Habitats | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Boulder Beach (Moderate) | Km | | | | | | | <1 | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Boulder Beach (Sheltered) | Km | | | | | | | <1 | | | <1 | <1 |
| Bedrock Platform (Exposed) | Km | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 8 |
| Bedrock Platform (Moderate) | Km | | | | 2 | 2 | 1 | 6 | <1 | 3 | 15 | 71 |
| Bedrock Platform (Sheltered) | Km | 7 | | | | | | | | | 7 | 15 |
| Cliff (Exposed) | Km | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 5 |
| Cliff (Moderate) | Km | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | | 3 | 15 |
| Cliff (Sheltered) | Km | | | | <1 | | | | | | <1 | 1 |
| Coarse Sand Beach (Moderate) | Km | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | 10 |
| Coarse Sand Beach (Sheltered) | Km | 1 | | 3 | 2 | 3 | | | 2 | | 10 | 68 |
| Emergent Land | Count | | | | 2 | | | 3 | | | 5 | 10 |
| Estuary | Km² | | | | | | | <1 | | <1 | <1 | 1 |
| Fine-medium Sand Beach (Exposed) | Km | | | | 5 | | | 2 | | | 7 | 19 |
| Fine-medium Sand Beach (Moderate) | Km | | | | | 2 | 1 | | 2 | | 5 | 7 |
| Fine-medium Sand Beach (Sheltered) | Km | | | | | | 1 | | | <1 | 1 | 5 |
| Offshore Islands | Count | | | | | | 2 | 3 | | | 5 | 14 |
| Saltmarsh | Km² | <1 | | | | | | | | | <1 | <1 |

* note that numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number.