

# Southern Kangaroo Island 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.

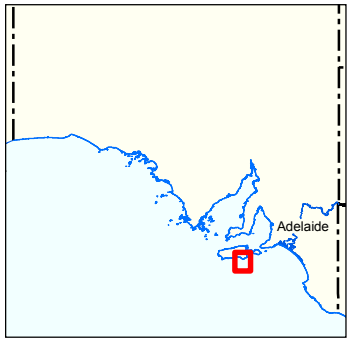
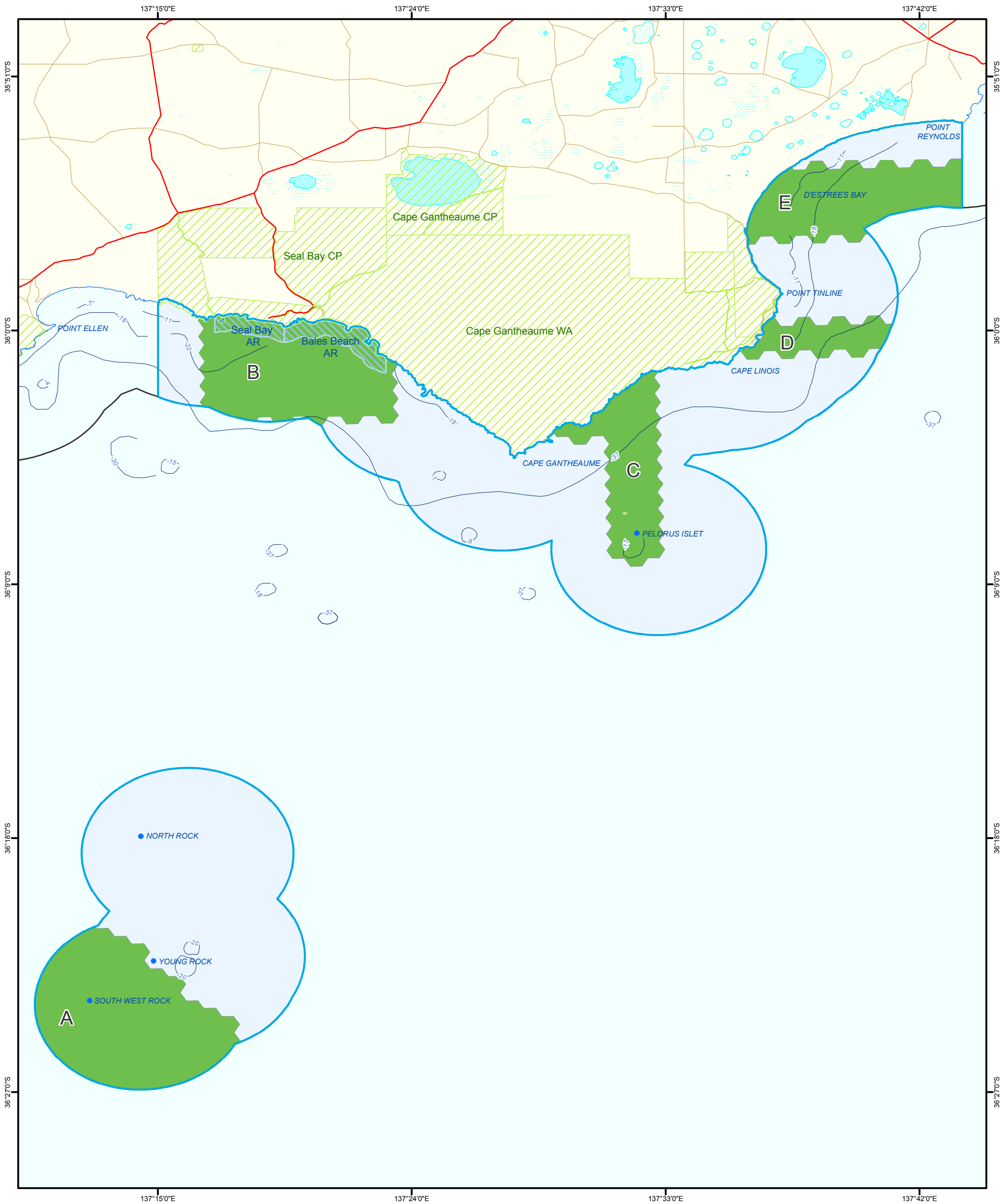
However, this is a guideline only and may not be achievable in some marine parks, particularly where there are significant policy commitments in place to provide for various current and future activities.

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).

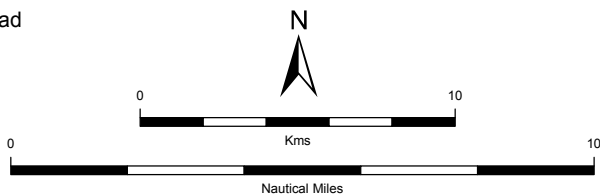
In developing your preferred zoning scenarios it will be important that you apply the full zoning checklists and policy commitments, to help ensure your suggestions meet the marine park design requirements. Doing this will help you develop a proposal for your park(s) that is good for conservation and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

**For more information**, please contact your MPLAG Executive Officer via email at [DENRmarine@sa.gov.au](mailto: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 17 - Southern Kangaroo Island Marine Park  
Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenario Starting Point - Version 1



- |                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Possible Sanctuary Zones         | Bathymetry                    |
| Marine Park                      | Coastline (median high water) |
| Lake - Perennial                 | Coastal Waters of the State   |
| Lake - Intermittent              | Major Road                    |
| Land Subject to Inundation (STI) | Minor Road                    |
| Parks and Reserves               |                               |
| Aquatic Reserves                 |                               |



**Produced by** Coast and Marine Conservation  
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**Data Source** Marine Parks, Parks and Reserves,  
Topographic Data, Bathymetry - DENR,  
Coastal Waters of the State - Geoscience Australia  
Aquatic Reserves - PIRSA  
5 November 2010  
**Compiled Projection Datum** Geographic  
Geocentric Datum of Australia, 1994

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Basis for 'Starting Point' Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenario – Southern kangaroo Island Marine Park (Park 17)		
Location of possible Sanctuary Zone	Area	Rationale for possible Sanctuary Zone
<b>Zone A:</b> South West Rock This possible Sanctuary Zone is situated 40 km offshore and south of Seal Bay. .	76 km <sup>2</sup>	<p><b>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This possible Sanctuary Zone is located over one of the three highly exposed rocky reef formations approximately 40km of Seal Bay. The habitats of the reef systems and the surrounding deep seafloor (50m+) have not yet been mapped.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other important features and natural processes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These reef formations are the southern-most examples of remote emergent land within State waters, adding to the variability represented in this Park, and in the state Marine Park network.</li> <li>They represent examples of vertical benthic gradients for this Park.</li> </ul> <p><b>Social and Economic Considerations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This possible Sanctuary Zone was designed to provide for important commercial fishing locations at North Rock and Young Rock.</li> <li>It is also located over the reef formation furthest from port.</li> </ul>
<b>Zone B:</b> This possible Sanctuary Zone abuts the Seal Bay Conservation Park and Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area. This Zone extends over the existing Seal Bay and Bales Beach Aquatic Reserves seaward approx. 7kms to the State waters limit	63km <sup>2</sup>	<p><b>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This possible Sanctuary Zone represents rocky reef habitats across a range of depths down to 50m with some soft-bottom habitat areas close to shore (the majority in front of Bales beach).</li> <li>This Zone includes a variety of shoreline types including exposed cliffs, bedrock platforms and fine medium sand beaches backed by dunes, as well as the sheltered bays east of Bales beach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other important features and natural processes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The most significant ecological feature of this possible Sanctuary Zone is the Australian sea lion breeding colony at Seal Bay which is considered at 'high' risk due to decreasing pup survival and interaction with fisheries.</li> <li>This Zone provides protection for the Australian sea lions as they travel between foraging grounds and the breeding colony.</li> <li>This Zone would also provide increased protection of foraging grounds for the seabirds that nest on Nobby Island (white-bellied sea eagle and white-faced storm petrel), and along the coastal cliffs (osprey).</li> </ul> <p><b>Social and Economic Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This possible Sanctuary Zone lies adjacent to the Seal Bay Conservation Park and the Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area establishing a corridor from the land to the sea.</li> <li>It overlays and extends the Seal Bay and Bales Beach Aquatic Reserves.</li> <li>No recreational or commercial fishing is permitted within these two Aquatic Reserves and access to the waters of the Seal Bay Aquatic Reserve is not permitted.</li> <li>Shark gill netting has recently been excluded from an 18km radius around Seal Bay beach.</li> <li>To ensure ease of identification and enforcement, the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines.</li> </ul>
<b>Zone C:</b> Commences 3 km NE of Cape Gantheaume and extends along the coastline for approx 7kms in a NE direction. A 3km wide strip runs south for 12kms from Seal Slide to Pelorus Islet.	35 km <sup>2</sup>	<p><b>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This possible Sanctuary Zone has relatively shallow (0-10m), near-shore rocky reefs which line the shore.</li> <li>Beyond them (1-2km offshore) the habitats in the extension to Pelorus Islet have not yet been mapped.</li> <li>Pelorus Islet is an isolated granite formation with large polished boulders that protrude the sea surface. It is surrounded by waters up to 50m deep.</li> <li>The shoreline in this Zone is dominated by bedrock platforms at the base of high cliffs (&gt;50m).</li> <li>The only exception is two 200m sheltered pockets of mixed beach at the southern end of the zone.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other important features and natural processes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This possible Sanctuary Zone includes the 'Seal Slide' Australian sea lion breeding colony, the smaller of the two colonies on Kangaroo Island shores. It also includes the New Zealand fur seal breeding colony at Berris Point, the second largest on the island after Cape Gantheaume.</li> <li>A white-bellied sea eagle nest is on the cliffs at the southern edge of the zone.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extension of the Zone to and including Pelorus Islet links a variety of habitats across a range of depths and provides a corridor for the species that live in, or move through and feed in that area.</li> <li>• This Zone includes the only sheltered example of a mixed beach on the otherwise mostly exposed coastline of this park, and the entire southern coast of the island.</li> </ul> <p><b>Social and Economic Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This possible Sanctuary Zones lies adjacent to the Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area establishing a corridor from the land to the sea.</li> <li>• This Zone was designed to minimise impact on commercial fishing locations near Cape Gantheaume.</li> <li>• Recreational fishing effort in this Zone is considered low because there is no formal vehicle access within the park.</li> <li>• To ensure ease of identification and enforcement, the Zone uses straight north, south, west and east lines.</li> </ul>
<b>Zone D:</b> Commences near Cape Linois and extends NE for 3 km to the northern end of Wheaton's Beach. It extends 5km east to the State waters limit.	15 km <sup>2</sup>	<p><b>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This possible Sanctuary Zone includes examples of inshore rocky reef habitats mapped to approximately 2km offshore.</li> <li>• The remainder of the Zone has waters from 10-50m deep which are yet to be mapped.</li> <li>• The shoreline in this Zone has a combination of sand beach types (fine medium and coarse), and a boulder beach with bedrock platform in between.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other important features and natural processes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This possible Sanctuary Zone includes one example of a sheltered, fine-medium sand beach within this park (Wheaton's beach).</li> <li>• It is also the only mapped example of that shoreline type within a marine park on the south coast of the island.</li> </ul> <p><b>Social and Economic Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This possible Sanctuary Zone lies adjacent to both D'Estrees Bay Conservation Park and the Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area establishing a corridor from the land to the sea.</li> <li>• It is acknowledged that Wheaton's and Wreckers Beaches are popular recreational fishing sites for locals and park visitors.</li> <li>• This Zone includes Wheaton's Beach but Wrecker's Beach is not within this possible zone.</li> <li>• To ensure ease of identification the boundaries of this Zone have been aligned N, S, E and W.</li> </ul>
<b>Zone E:</b> Commences where the D'Estrees Bay Rd joins the coastline and extends approx. 6km NE. It then extends 12km seaward to State waters limit in the north of the zone and 6km seaward to State waters limit in the south of the zone.	44 km <sup>2</sup>	<p><b>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This possible Sanctuary Zone has the highest habitat diversity of all the zones in this Marine Park and includes examples of seagrass, bare sand and different reef types at a range of depths from the coast out to 50m deep.</li> <li>• The shoreline included is a 4km section of D'Estrees Bay beach, a fine-grained sand beach which is exposed to the dominant summer, south-easterly winds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other important features and natural processes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This possible Sanctuary Zone includes a portion (approx. 6km<sup>2</sup>) of the only significant seagrass bed on the south coast of Kangaroo Island.</li> </ul> <p><b>Social and Economic Considerations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure ease of identification the boundaries of this possible Sanctuary Zone have been aligned N, S, E and W.</li> <li>• This was designed to provide for important recreational and commercial fishing locations in the southern section of D'Estrees Bay.</li> </ul>

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

		Possible Sanctuary Zones						
Environmental Values	Units	A	B	C	D	E	Total in all Zones	Total in Marine Park
Ecologically Important Species								
Australian Sealions (breeding sites)	Count			1			1	1
Coastal Shorebird Sites	Count		8		11	19	38	60
New Zealand Fur Seals (breeding sites)	Count			1			1	1
Reef Fish Sites	Count							2
Sea Bird Breeding and Nesting Sites	Count		4			1	5	8
Underwater Habitats								
Rocky Reef (0 to -10m)	Km²		12	6	3	6	27	49
Rocky Reef (-10 to -30m)	Km²		28	2	<1	16	46	79
Rocky Reef (-30 to -50m)	Km²		6			6	11	13
Seagrass (0 to -10m)	Km²					6	6	13
Seagrass (-10 to -30m)	Km²							<1
Soft-bottom Habitat (0 to -10m)	Km²		4	1	<1	1	6	17
Soft-bottom Habitat (-10m to -30m)	Km²		1			8	9	19
Soft-bottom Habitat (-30m to -50m)	Km²					<1	<1	2
Unmapped (0 to -10m)	Km²	<1		<1	<1		1	2
Unmapped (-10 to -30m)	Km²	1	2	4	3		10	29
Unmapped (-30 to -50m)	Km²	3	11	22	8	<1	45	184
Unmapped (>-50m)	Km²	72		<1			72	265
Shore Habitats								
Boulder Beach (Exposed)	Km							<1
Bedrock Platform (Exposed)	Km		6	7	<1		14	24
Cliff (Exposed)	Km		<1				<1	4
Coarse Sand Beach (Sheltered)	Km		2				2	5
Fine-medium Sand Beach (Exposed)	Km		3			6	9	23
Fine-medium Sand Beach (Sheltered)	Km				1		1	1
Mixed Beach (Sheltered)	Km			<1			<1	<1
Offshore Islands	Count		1	1			2	2

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