

Franklin Harbor 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.

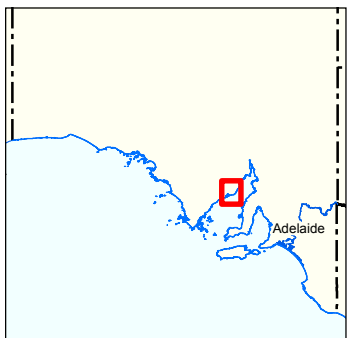
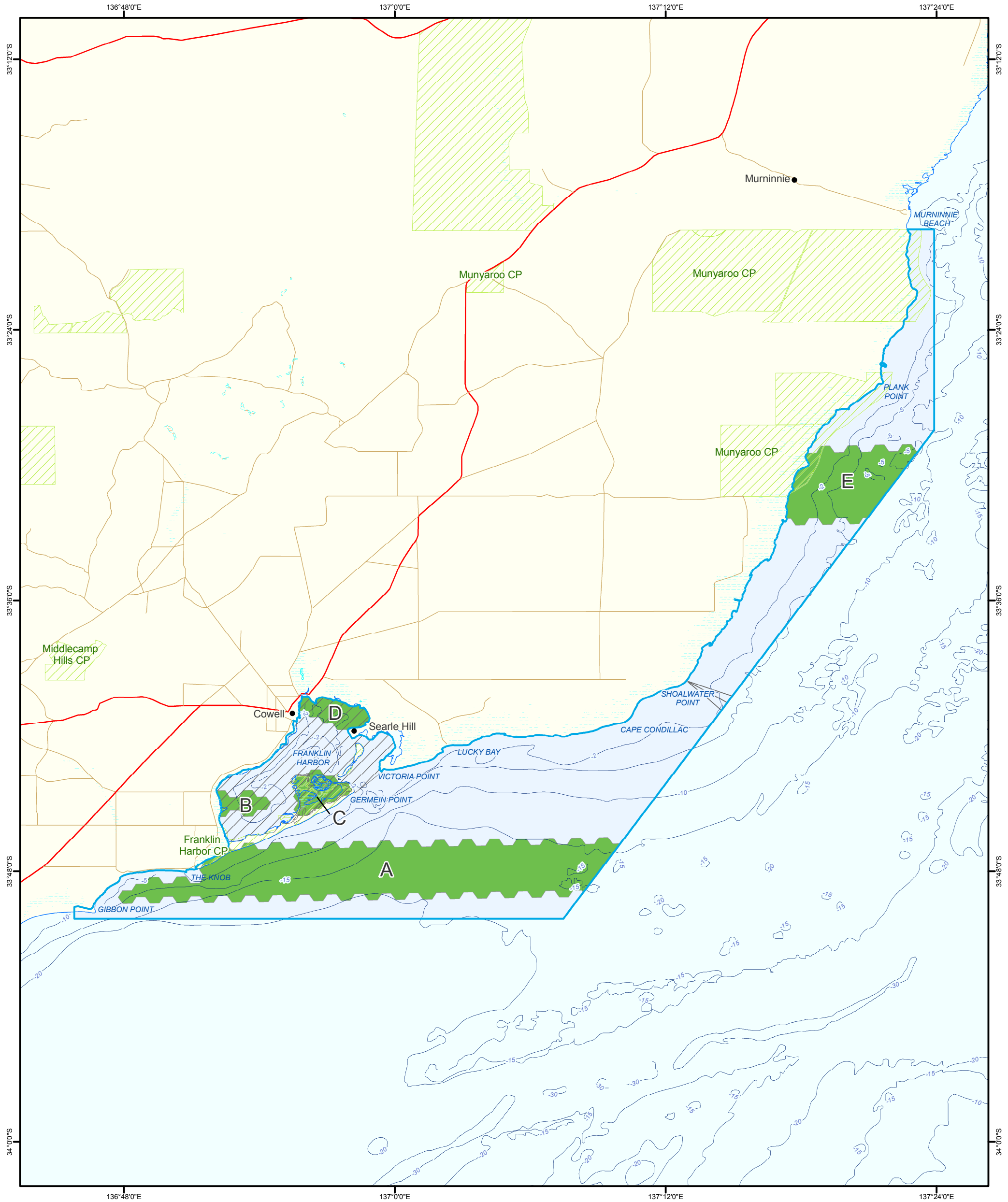
However, this is a guideline only and may not be achievable in some marine parks, particularly where there are significant policy commitments in place to provide for various current and future activities.

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.

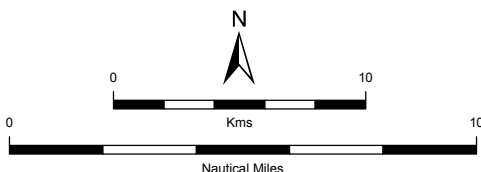
For more information, please contact your MPLAG Executive Officer via email at DENRmarine@sa.gov.au, or phone the Coast and Marine Conservation Branch, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, on Freecall 1800 006 120.

Marine Park 9 - Franklin Harbor Marine Park
Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenario Starting Point - Version 1



- Possible Sanctuary Zones
- Marine Park
- Lake - Intermittent
- Land Subject to Inundation (STI)
- Land Subject to Flooding (STF)
- Parks and Reserves
- Special Purpose Areas (Harbours)
- Special Purpose Area (Underwater Cable)

- Bathymetry
- Coastline (median high water)
- Major Road
- Minor Road



Produced by Coast and Marine Conservation
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
GPO BOX 1047 Adelaide SA 5001
www.marineparks.sa.gov.au
Data Source Marine Parks, Parks and Reserves,
Topographic Data, Bathymetry - DENR
Harbours - DENR & Harbors and Navigation Act
8 November 2010
Compiled Projection Geographic
Datum Geocentric Datum of Australia, 1994

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Basis for 'Starting Point' Preliminary Sanctuary Zone Scenario – Franklin Harbor Marine Park (Park 9)		
Location of possible Sanctuary Zone	Area	Rationale for possible Sanctuary Zone
Zone A: Gibbon Point to Germein Point – including some of the West end of Franklin Harbor, and extending seaward to the park boundary from The Knob	124 km ²	<p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Zone provides a protective corridor between the coast and deeper waters of the Spencer Gulf Bioregion on the western part of the Spencer Gulf. • This area is generally exposed to relatively higher wind and wave energy, and consists of a mix of coarse sandy and pebble/cobble beaches with mix of sheltered and moderate exposure adjacent to sand dunes. • The Knob consists of pebble/cobble and coarse sand beach, with bedrock platform fringing the coast. • This Zone represents unmapped areas at different depth classes, dense and medium seagrass at different depths as well as some rocky reefs of moderate exposure and dominated by macroalgae. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franklin Harbor is one of the most important nurseries for King George whiting in South Australia, with tagged whiting from this area recorded near Port Neill, Tumby Bay, Sir Joseph Banks Group and Port Lincoln bays. • The possible Sanctuary Zone is an important breeding area for resident coastal shore birds. • This Zone is complemented by the inclusion of the Franklin Harbor Conservation Park (excluding Entrance Island and the channel between this island and the rest of the park), protecting ecological linkages across land and sea. • Franklin Harbor Conservation Park is on the <i>Register of the National Estate</i> in recognition of its role in preserving mangrove and saltmarsh habitat and the role of the islands within the park as safe roosting and feeding sites for seabirds. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of this possible Sanctuary Zone has low recreational fishing effort and avoids areas of medium recreational fishing effort along the coast near The Knob and in the entrance to Franklin Harbor.
Zone B: Southern Franklin Harbor	5 km ²	<p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Zone is representative of the southern part of Franklin Harbor, with medium to dense seagrass connected to a significant, continuous mangrove system, backed by supratidal saltmarsh. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheltered waters within Franklin Harbor are considered to be a component of nursery grounds for a wide variety of marine species. • Franklin Harbor is one of the most important nurseries for King George whiting in South Australia, with tagged whiting from this area recorded near Port Neill, Tumby Bay, Sir Joseph Banks Group and Port Lincoln bays. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This possible Sanctuary Zone is complemented by a netting closure. • The Zone has low to nil recreational fishing effort.
Zone C: Central Franklin Harbor	9 km ²	<p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Zone is representative of the central part of Franklin Harbor representing an extensive mangrove system with intertidal creeks and associated saltmarsh habitat. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheltered waters within Franklin Harbor are considered to be a component of nursery grounds. • Franklin Harbour is one of the most important nurseries for King George whiting in South Australia, with tagged whiting from this area recorded near Port Neill, Tumby Bay, Sir Joseph Banks Group and Port Lincoln bays. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This possible Sanctuary Zone is complemented by a netting closure. • The Zone has nil recreational fishing effort.

Zone D: Northern end of Franklin Harbor	8 km ²	<p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Zone is representative of the northern part of Franklin Harbor, with medium to dense seagrass and macroalgae, abutting clumpings of mangrove systems with coarse sand and mixed beaches. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The possible Sanctuary Zone is an important area for resident coastal wader birds. • Franklin Harbor is listed as a Wetland of National Importance. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This possible Sanctuary Zone is complemented by a netting closure. • The Zone has low recreational fishing effort and provides for an area of medium fishing effort close to the Cowell boat ramp and jetty (source: SAMPIT data).
Zone E: Waters adjacent to southern end of Munyaroo Conservation Park	40 km ²	<p>The possible Sanctuary Zone represents the following habitats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Zone represents shallow, coastal waters habitats in the northern component of the Marine Park, characterised by substantial seagrass meadows and soft-bottom habitats, in relatively low exposure to predominant weather. • The corridor consists of supratidal cyanobacterial mats, saltmarsh vegetation, low energy coarse sand beach and a transition to shallow, large intertidal sand/mud flats. Although this combination of habitats is an uncommon occurrence in South Australia it represents the typical habitat north of Shoal Water Point. • This Zone contains calcrete relic dunes. • The seagrass community within this Zone is dominated by <i>Posidonia</i> and <i>Amphibolis</i> spp. <p>Other important features and natural processes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The possible Sanctuary Zone lies adjacent to the Munyaroo Conservation Park, establishing a protected corridor between the land and the sea. • This area faces in an easterly direction and is less exposed to wave energy than the southern part of the Park. <p>Social and economic considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The possible Sanctuary Zone has low recreational fishing effort. • The area is utilised by the marine scale net fishery. • This Zone shows no catch records from the abalone industry.

This table shows the environmental values represented in each possible Sanctuary Zone within Franklin Harbor 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 (haulout sites)	Count							1
Coastal Shorebirds Sites	Count			1	11		12	88
Underwater Habitats								
Cobble (0 to -10m)	Km²							<1
Macroalgae (0 to -10m)	Km²			<1	<1		<1	3
Macroalgae (-10 to -30m)	Km²	2					2	4
Rocky Reef (0 to -10m)	Km²	2			<1		2	11
Rocky Reef (-10 to -30m)	Km²	<1					<1	2
Seagrass (0 to -10m)	Km²	10	2	1	6	36	55	312
Seagrass (-10 to -30m)	Km²	16					16	59
Soft-bottom Habitat (0 to -10m)	Km²	<1	2	4	1	4	12	56
Soft-bottom Habitat (-10m to -30m)	Km²	10					10	14
Unmapped (0 to -10m)	Km²	33	<1	<1	<1	<1	34	60
Unmapped (-10 to -30m)	Km²	50					50	103
Shore Habitats								
Cliff (Sheltered)	Km							<1
Coarse Sand Beach (Moderate)	Km	4		<1			4	19
Coarse Sand Beach (Sheltered)	Km			<1	2		2	20
Estuary	Km²	1	5	9	8		24	98
Mangrove	Km²		<1	4	<1	<1	4	7
Mixed Beach (Moderate)	Km					8	8	34
Mixed Beach (Sheltered)	Km				1		1	40
Saltmarsh	Km²	<1	<1	3	<1	<1	4	7
Sand Dunes (Sheltered)	Km			1			1	1

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