

# *South Australian* 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.

## 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.

## 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 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 be affected.

While there will be some unavoidable impact on commercial fishing, the South Australian Government has worked with industry to help minimise the impact on this important South Australian industry.

The impact on commercial fishing is about 1.7 per cent and the Government is offering a buy-back of commercial fishing entitlements to offset this impact. That way, the sustainability of our fisheries won't be 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](http://www.marineparks.sa.gov.au) or by phoning 1800 006 120. Maps are also available for smart phones by downloading the MyParx app.

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***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.***

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### SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE

Southern right whales gather in the Encounter and Far West Coast Marine Parks, areas that are recognised as being internationally-significant breeding sites. They are also seen in other parks on Yorke and Eyre Peninsula and Kangaroo Island.



### NEW ZEALAND FUR SEAL

New Zealand fur seals are only now starting to recover after the species was nearly wiped out by commercial sealing in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. These mammals are seen on many South Australian beaches, with breeding colonies on Kangaroo Island and other off-shore islands around the coast.



### BLUE GROPER

The blue groper is a large reef fish that can grow up to 1.7m long and weigh up to 40kg. They are long-lived fish and have been known to stay in the same small area for decades. They are found in many off-shore reefs around the state and are a great favourite with divers.



# South Australian MARINE PARKS

Seasonal restrictions apply for the Head of Bight area. For more information visit [www.marineparks.sa.gov.au](http://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)



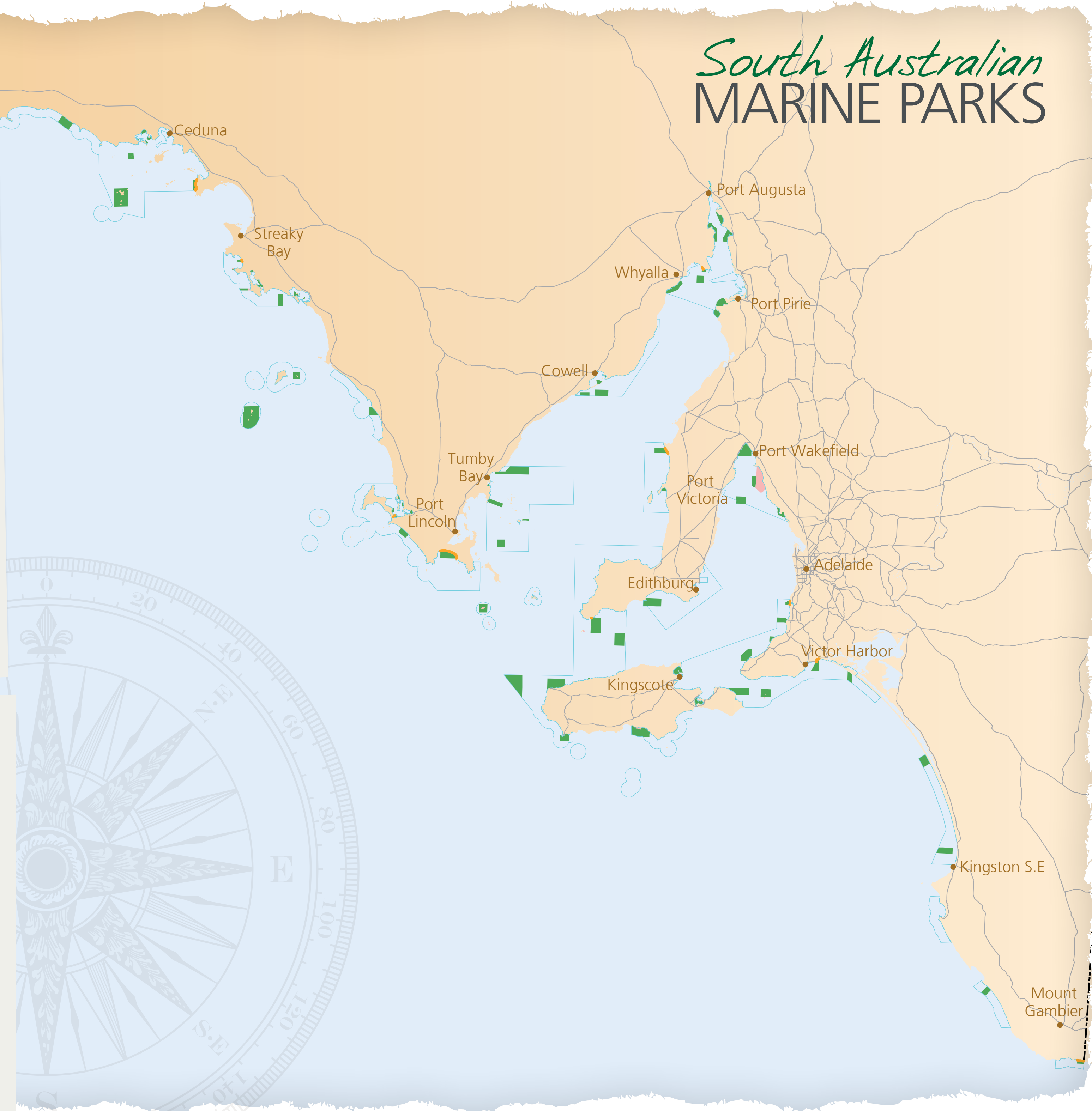
Shore based recreational line fishing permitted in these parts of Sanctuary Zones and Restricted Areas.

- |                                                              |                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1 Far West Coast Marine Park                                 | 10 Upper Spencer Gulf Marine Park       |
| 2 Nuyts Archipelago Marine Park                              | 11 Eastern Spencer Gulf Marine Park     |
| 3 West Coast Bays Marine Park                                | 12 Southern Spencer Gulf Marine Park    |
| 4 Investigator Marine Park                                   | 13 Lower Yorke Peninsula Marine Park    |
| 5 Thorny Passage Marine Park                                 | 14 Upper Gulf St Vincent Marine Park    |
| 6 Sir Joseph Banks Group Marine Park                         | 15 Encounter Marine Park                |
| 7 Neptune Islands Group (Ron and Valerie Taylor) Marine Park | 16 Western Kangaroo Island Marine Park  |
| 8 Gambier Islands Group Marine Park                          | 17 Southern Kangaroo Island Marine Park |
| 9 Franklin Harbor Marine Park                                | 18 Upper South East Marine Park         |
|                                                              | 19 Lower South East Marine Park         |

## 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.
- From 1 October 2014, fishing restrictions in marine park sanctuary zones – marked on the map in green – will come into effect. These zones will work alongside existing aquatic reserves, restricted access areas and fisheries management to help keep our seas healthy.

For more information and detailed zoning maps, please visit [www.marineparks.sa.gov.au](http://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](http://marineparks.sa.gov.au)



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South Australia

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