



## Fact sheet – Proposed Abrolhos (Wallaby extension) Commonwealth marine reserve

A draft Marine Bioregional Plan and Commonwealth marine reserve network proposal for the North-west Marine Region have been released for public consultation. People with an interest in the Marine Bioregional Planning Program are encouraged to provide feedback through a submission. For more information about how to lodge a submission and closing dates for receiving submissions visit the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities website: [www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mbp/north-west/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mbp/north-west/index.html)

Submission forms are available at [www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mbp/north-west/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mbp/north-west/index.html) and:

- can be completed and submitted online;
- saved and emailed to [Submissions.Northwest@environment.gov.au](mailto:Submissions.Northwest@environment.gov.au)
- or printed and posted free of charge to:

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities  
MBP Submissions – North-west  
Reply Paid 787  
Canberra ACT 2601

If you have any questions about how to provide feedback or on any other aspects of the Marine Bioregional Planning Program please email [Northwest.MarinePlan@environment.gov.au](mailto:Northwest.MarinePlan@environment.gov.au) or phone **1800 069 352**.

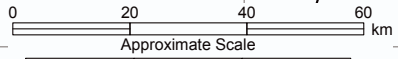
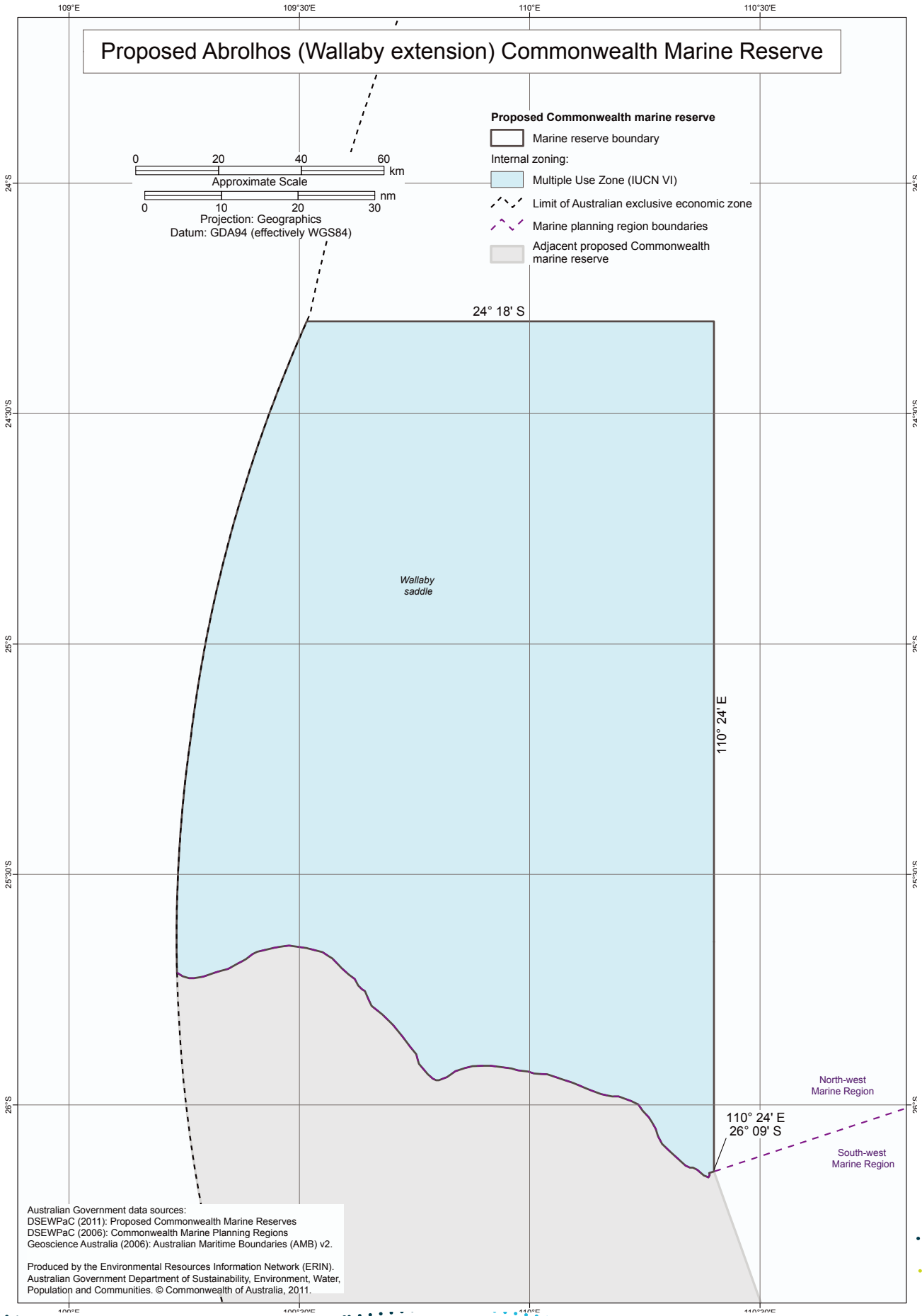
The proposed Abrolhos (Wallaby extension) Commonwealth marine reserve is one of ten reserves that make up the Commonwealth marine reserve network proposal for the North-west Marine Region. A description of the proposed reserve is provided in the following table.

<b>Area</b>	19 009 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>Depth range</b>	2000–5000 m (approx.)
<b>Major conservation values<sup>a</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The entirety of one <b>key ecological feature</b> is included within the proposed reserve:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Wallaby Saddle—a unique sea-floor that supports aggregations of baitfish that in turn attract large pelagic predators</li></ul></li><li>• Examples of the deeper ecosystems of the <b>Central Western Transition</b> provincial bioregion</li></ul>
<b>Existing uses</b>	There is one fishery operating in the area: the Commonwealth-managed Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery.
<b>Types of zoning proposed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Multiple Use Zone (IUCN Category VI): 19 009 km<sup>2</sup></li></ul>
<b>Adjacent protected areas</b>	The proposed Abrolhos Commonwealth marine reserve in the South-west Marine Region adjoins this proposed reserve.

<sup>a</sup> A full list of the conservation values included in the reserve is in the detailed analysis of the North-west Commonwealth marine reserve network, available at [www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mbp/north-west/index.html](http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mbp/north-west/index.html)

The marine reserve network will not affect waters within the 3-nautical-mile (5.5-kilometre) limit of coastal waters of Western Australia. It applies to Commonwealth waters only.

# Proposed Abrolhos (Wallaby extension) Commonwealth Marine Reserve



Projection: Geographics  
Datum: GDA94 (effectively WGS84)

### Proposed Commonwealth marine reserve

- Marine reserve boundary
- Internal zoning:
  - Multiple Use Zone (IUCN VI)
  - Limit of Australian exclusive economic zone
  - Marine planning region boundaries
  - Adjacent proposed Commonwealth marine reserve

Australian Government data sources:  
 DSEWPaC (2011): Proposed Commonwealth Marine Reserves  
 DSEWPaC (2006): Commonwealth Marine Planning Regions  
 Geoscience Australia (2006): Australian Maritime Boundaries (AMB) v2.

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