

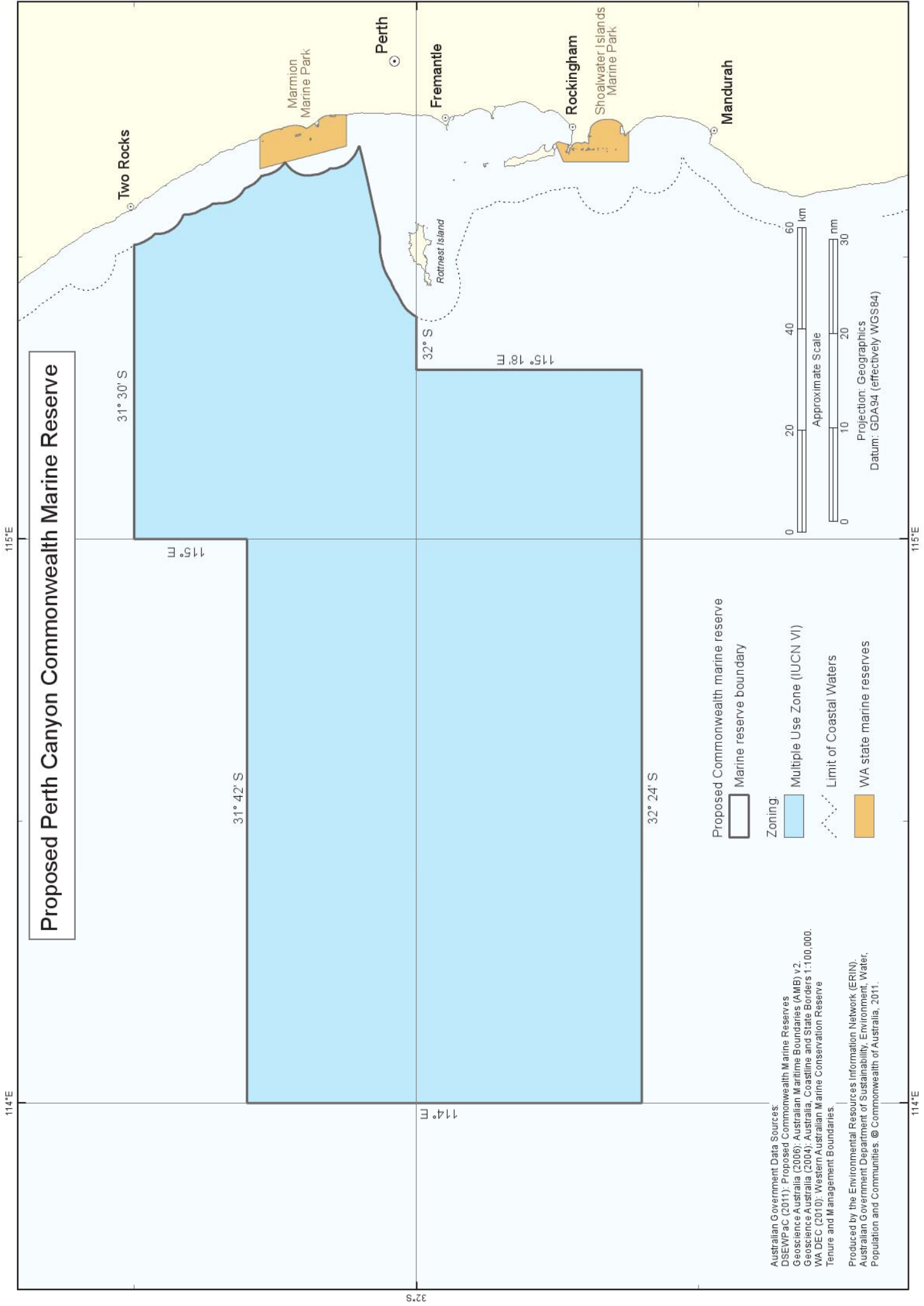


Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Proposed Perth Canyon Commonwealth Marine Reserve – Factsheet

Name	Perth Canyon Commonwealth marine reserve
Area	11 720 km ²
Depth range	10–4800 m (approx.)
Major conservation values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of the ecosystems of the southernmost parts of the Central Western Province and South-west Shelf Transition (including the Central West Coast meso-scale bioregion), and the northernmost parts of the South-west Transition and Southwest Shelf Province (including the Leeuwin-Naturaliste meso-scale bioregion) • Six key ecological features are included within the proposed reserve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ancient coastline (high productivity) • demersal slope fish communities (communities with high species diversity) • meso-scale eddies (high productivity, feeding aggregations) • Perth Canyon and other west-coast canyons (high productivity, feeding aggregations) • west-coast inshore lagoons (high productivity and aggregations of marine life) • western rock lobster habitat (species with an important ecological role) • Important foraging areas for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the threatened soft-plumaged petrel • several species of migratory seabirds • the threatened Australian sea lion • Biologically important seasonal feeding aggregations of four whale species, including the northernmost extent of seasonal calving habitat for the threatened southern right whale, foraging areas for the threatened blue whale and sperm whale, and the migration pathway for the threatened humpback whale
Existing uses	A number of fisheries operate in this area, including the state-managed Western Rock Lobster, South West Inshore (managed) Trawl, Western Australian Abalone, West Coast Purse Seine and West Coast Deep Sea Crab fisheries; and the Commonwealth Western Tuna and Billfish and Western Deepwater Trawl fisheries. Recreational and charter fishing are also important, mainly near Rottnest Island, but extending to the head of the canyon. Other activities in the area include shipping, defence training and petroleum exploration.
Types of zoning proposed	Multiple Use Zone (IUCN Category VI)
Adjacent protected areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rottnest Island Reserve • Marmion Marine Park • The proposed reserve overlaps Western Australia’s Metropolitan Fishing Zone



Proposed Perth Canyon Commonwealth Marine Reserve

Proposed Commonwealth marine reserve

- Marine reserve boundary

Zoning:

- Multiple Use Zone (IUCN VI)
- Limit of Coastal Waters
- WA state marine reserves

Approximate Scale

0 20 40 60 km

0 10 20 30 nm

Projection: Geographics
Datum: GDA94 (effectively WGS84)

Australian Government Data Sources:
 DSEWPac (2011): Proposed Commonwealth Marine Reserves
 Geoscience Australia (2006): Australian Maritime Boundaries (AMB) v2.
 Geoscience Australia (2004): Australia, Coastline and State Borders 1:100,000.
 WA DEC (2010): Western Australian Marine Conservation Reserve Tenure and Management Boundaries.
 Produced by the Environmental Resources Information Network (ERIN).
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Overview of proposed zoning scheme for the South-west Commonwealth Marine Reserve Network

Activity	Marine National Park Zone (IUCN Category II)	Multiple Use Zone (IUCN Category VI)	Special Purpose Zone (IUCN Category VI)
Recreational fishing ^a	✘	✓	✓
Recreational scuba diving and snorkelling ^b	✓	✓	✓
Research and monitoring ^b	✓	✓	✓
Tourism, including dive/snorkel tours, nature watching ^b	✓	✓	✓
Mining, including petroleum exploration and development ^c	✘	✓	✓
Shipping ^d	✓	✓	✓
Charter fishing ^e	✘	✓	✓
Offshore aquaculture ^e	✘	✓	✓
Commercial fishing (except as indicated below) ^e	✘	✓	✓
— demersal trawl	✘	✘	✘
— demersal gillnet	✘	✘	✓
— demersal longline	✘	✘	✓
a	Recreational fishing is managed by the states. All state rules and regulations (e.g. size and bag limits) will apply in Commonwealth marine reserves unless otherwise specified in statutory management plans		
b	Approval will be required for these activities (e.g. registration, general approval or individual permit) in Marine National Park Zones (IUCN Category II)		
c	As currently applies, individual project assessment and approval is required by the Director of National parks and under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> as Commonwealth marine areas are protected as a matter of national environmental significance.		
d	Ballast water exchange is managed under national arrangements. Restrictions may apply in sensitive areas.		
e	Approval will be required for these activities (e.g. registration, general approval or individual permit) in multiple use and special purpose zones		