

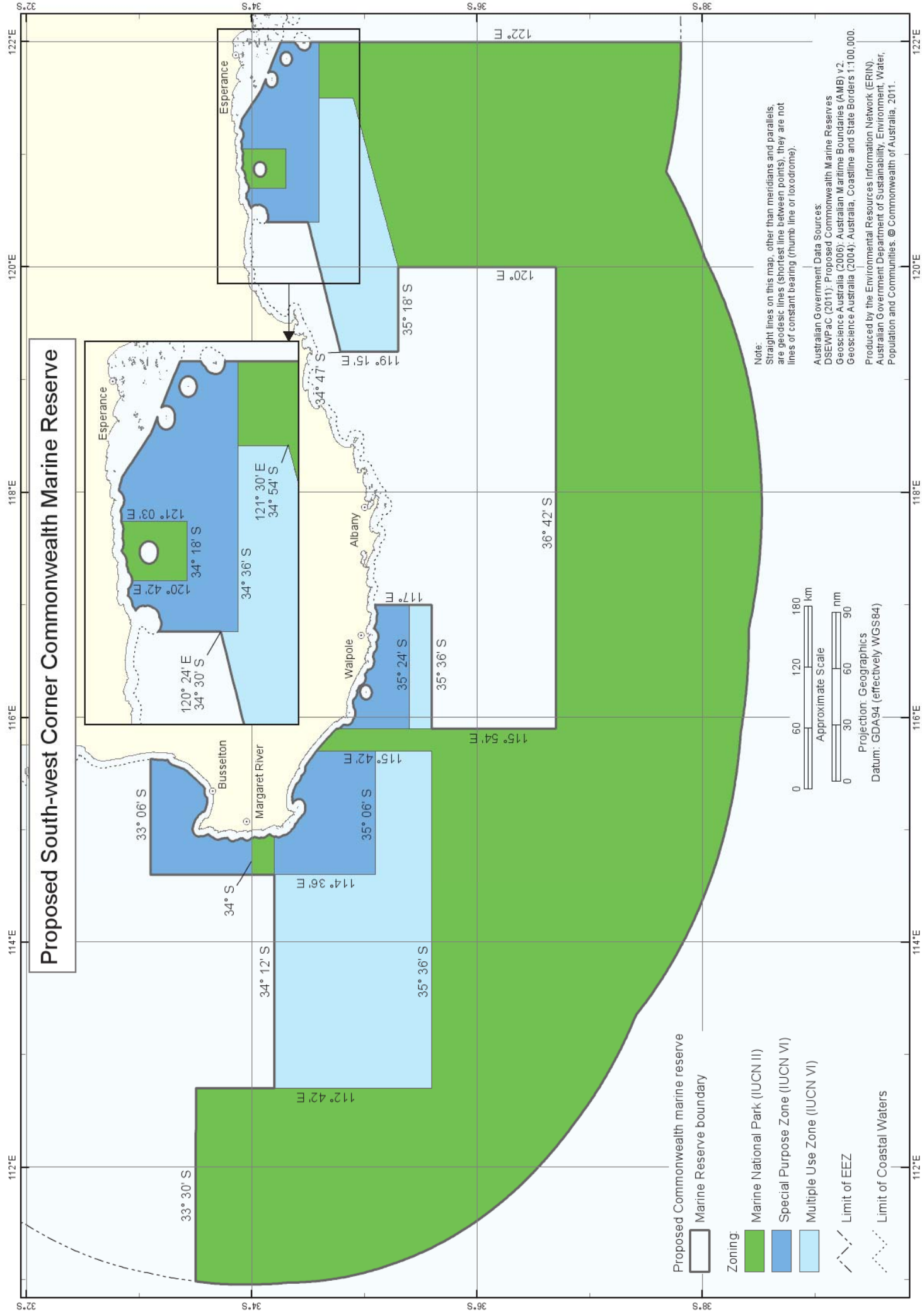


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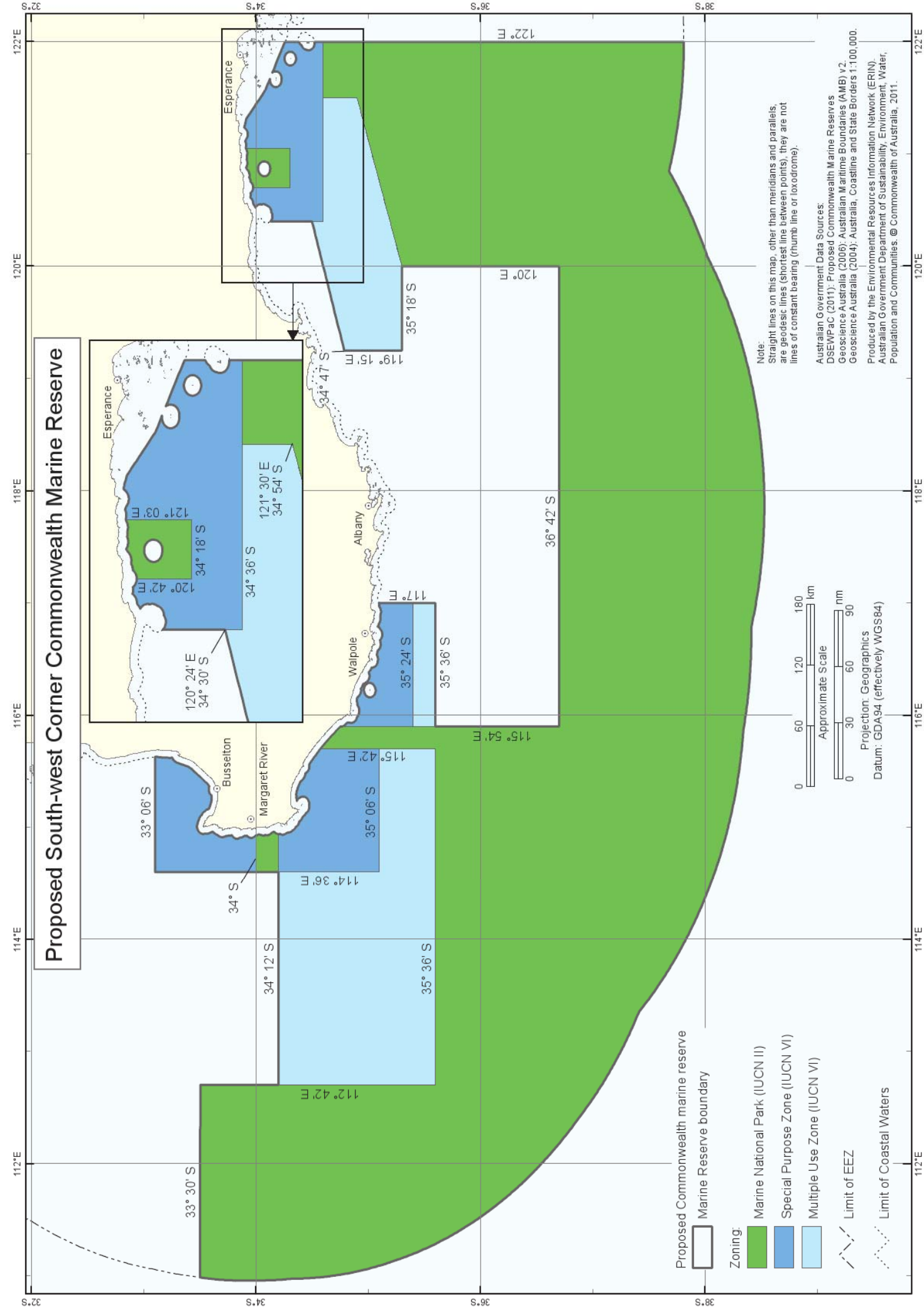
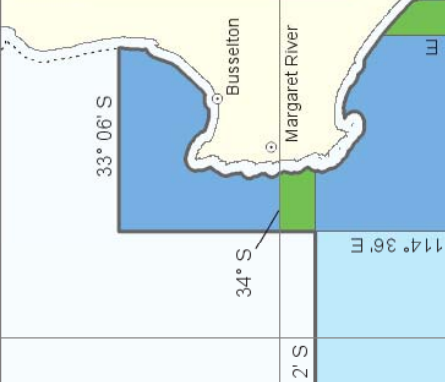
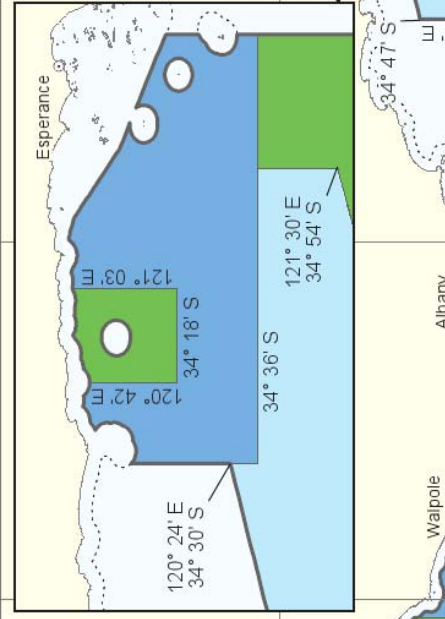
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Proposed South-west Corner Commonwealth Marine Reserve – Factsheet

Name	South-west Corner Commonwealth marine reserve
Area	322 380 km ²
Depth range	5–6400 m (approx.)
Major conservation values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant representation of three provincial bioregions: the South-west Transition and Southern Province in the off-shelf area, and the South-west Shelf Province on the continental shelf. The proposed reserve also represents the southern end of the Leeuwin-Naturaliste meso-scale bioregion and the western and central parts of the Western Australia South Coast meso-scale bioregion • Nine key ecological features are included within the proposed reserve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albany Canyon group (high productivity, feeding aggregations) • ancient coastline (high productivity) • Cape Mentelle upwelling (high productivity) • Commonwealth marine environment surrounding the Recherche Archipelago (high biodiversity, breeding and resting aggregations, including the most extensive areas of reef on the shelf within the South-west Marine Region) • Commonwealth marine environment within and adjacent to Geographe Bay (high benthic productivity, high biodiversity, feeding, resting, breeding and nursery aggregations) • Diamantina Fracture Zone (unique sea-floor feature likely to support deepwater communities characterised by high species diversity and endemism) • meso-scale eddies (high productivity, feeding aggregations) • Naturaliste Plateau (unique sea-floor feature, likely to support deepwater communities characterised by high species diversity and endemism) • western rock lobster habitat (species with an important ecological role) • Seasonal calving habitat for the threatened southern right whale • Foraging habitat for the threatened white shark, Australian sea lion, Indian yellow-nosed albatross and soft-plumaged petrel, and for several species of migratory seabirds • Biologically important areas for several whale species, including resting places for migrating threatened humpback whales, areas where sperm whales feed, and a migration route for threatened blue whales
Existing uses	The area supports a number of fisheries, including the state-managed Western Rock Lobster, South Coast Crustaceans, Joint Authority Southern Demersal Gillnet and Demersal Longline, West Coast Demersal Scalefish, West Coast Deep Sea Crab, South Coast Trawl, South-west Inshore (managed) Trawl, South Coast Purse Seine, and South Coast ‘open access’ fisheries, Western Australian Abalone Fishery, and the Commonwealth Western Deepwater Trawl and Western Tuna and Billfish fisheries. Recreational and charter fishing are important activities, but are mostly limited to state waters. Other activities include petroleum exploration, tourism and shipping.
Types of zoning proposed	<p>Marine National Park (IUCN II)—249 180 km²</p> <p>Multiple Use Zone (IUCN VI)—47 150 km²</p> <p>Special Purpose Zone (IUCN VI)—26 050 km²</p>
Adjacent protected areas	<p>State Capes Marine Conservation Reserve Proposal</p> <p>The proposed reserve overlaps the Great Australian Bight Trawl Deepwater Closure</p>



Proposed South-west Corner Commonwealth Marine Reserve



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		