



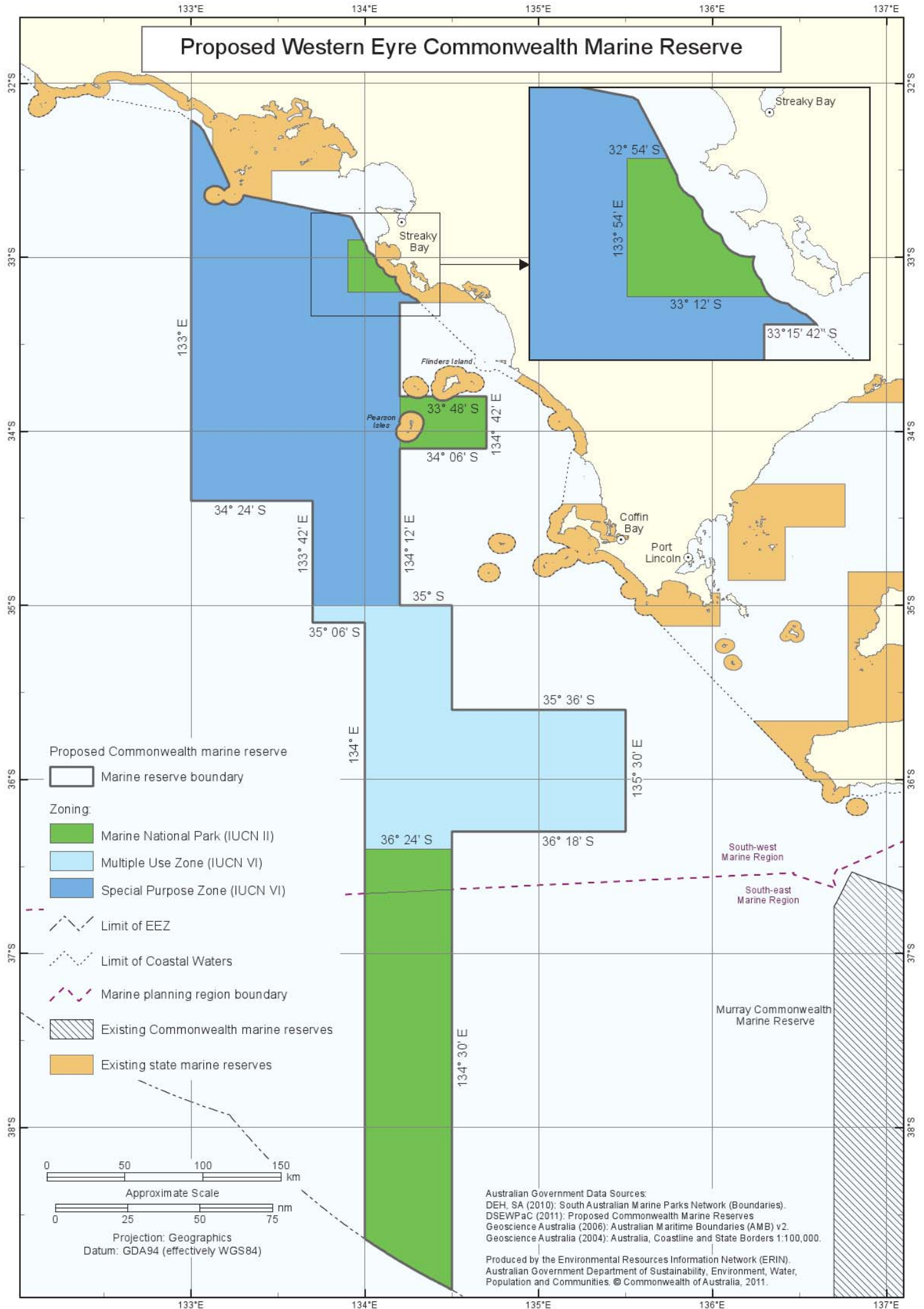
Australian Government

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Proposed Western Eyre Commonwealth Marine Reserve – Factsheet

Name	Western Eyre Commonwealth marine reserve
Area	51 220 km ² (10 510 km ² of which extends into the South-east Marine Region)
Depth range	20–5750 m (approx.)
Major conservation values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of the westernmost ecosystems of the Spencer Gulf Shelf Province (including the Eyre meso-scale bioregion) and the easternmost ecosystems of the Great Australian Bight Shelf Transition (including the Murat meso-scale bioregion) • Examples of the easternmost ecosystems of the Southern Province • Five key ecological features are included within the proposed reserve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ancient coastline (high productivity) • Kangaroo Island Pool, canyons and adjacent shelf break, and Eyre Peninsula upwelling (high productivity, breeding and feeding aggregations) • meso-scale eddies (high productivity and feeding aggregations) • benthic invertebrate communities of the eastern Great Australian Bight (communities with high species diversity) • areas important for small pelagic fish • Important seasonal calving habitat for the threatened southern right whale • Important foraging areas for the <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • threatened Australian sea lion, including major colonies at Streaky Bay, the Investigator group of islands and Nuyts Archipelago • threatened white shark • endangered blue whale • sperm whale • migratory seabirds, short-tailed shearwater and Caspian tern
Existing uses	The area supports a number of fisheries, including the South Australian Rock Lobster and Sardine fisheries and the Commonwealth Gillnet, Hook and Trap sector of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery. Other fisheries include the South Australia Marine Scalefish Fishery, South Australian Abalone Fishery, Commonwealth Great Australian Bight Trawl sector of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, and Commonwealth Small Pelagic and Western Skipjack Tuna fisheries. Other activities in the area include petroleum exploration and some charter and recreational fishing.
Types of zoning proposed	<p>Marine National Park (IUCN Category II)—13 650 km²</p> <p>Multiple Use Zone (IUCN Category VI)—14 340 km²</p> <p>Special Purpose Zone (IUCN Category VI)—23 230 km²</p>
Adjacent protected areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Australian Investigator, West Coast Bays and Nuyts Archipelago state marine reserves <p>The proposed reserve overlaps the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Gillnet, Hook and Trap sector dogfish closures • Great Australian Bight Trawl Deepwater Closure

Proposed Western Eyre 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		