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APPENDIX 1

Extract from the Register of the National Estate (Indicative List⁶³)

Certain islands in the Wellesley Group have important bird rookeries occurring on them. In particular these include: North Bountiful Island which supports the largest crested tern (*Sterna bergii*) breeding colony recorded in the world; Southeast Bountiful Island, which has the second largest breeding colony of roseate terns in eastern Australia, a species which is threatened in the northern hemisphere; Manowar Island, which supports a frigatebird colony which contains about 60 % of this species in Australia; and Rocky and Manowar Islands, which together support the largest brown booby nesting populations in eastern Australia and the Coral Sea.

The Wellesley Islands are important as migratory bird habitats. Twenty-eight birds from the area are listed under the Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement, and 31 species of bird are listed under the China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement.

The seagrass beds around the Wellesley group of islands are significant feeding grounds for the third largest population of dugong in Queensland, and are also significant feeding grounds for green turtles and many commercial fishing species, including prawns.

The Wellesley Island Group is significant as a major breeding site for a number of marine reptiles. A number of islands, particularly North Bountiful, South Bountiful, Pisonia and Rocky Islands, support a major green turtle nesting rookery, one of only four in Australia. This population is genetically different from east coast populations. In addition, these islands are the only remaining site in Australia where major intertidal basking of inter-nesting green turtles occurs. The larger islands of the Wellesleys have been recorded as a nesting site of the olive ridley turtle. Bountiful and Pisonia Islands support major nesting populations of flatback turtles, one of six significant breeding sites in Australia.

The Wellesleys constitute the only records in the Australian region for the gray sharp-nosed shark and the wide saw fish.

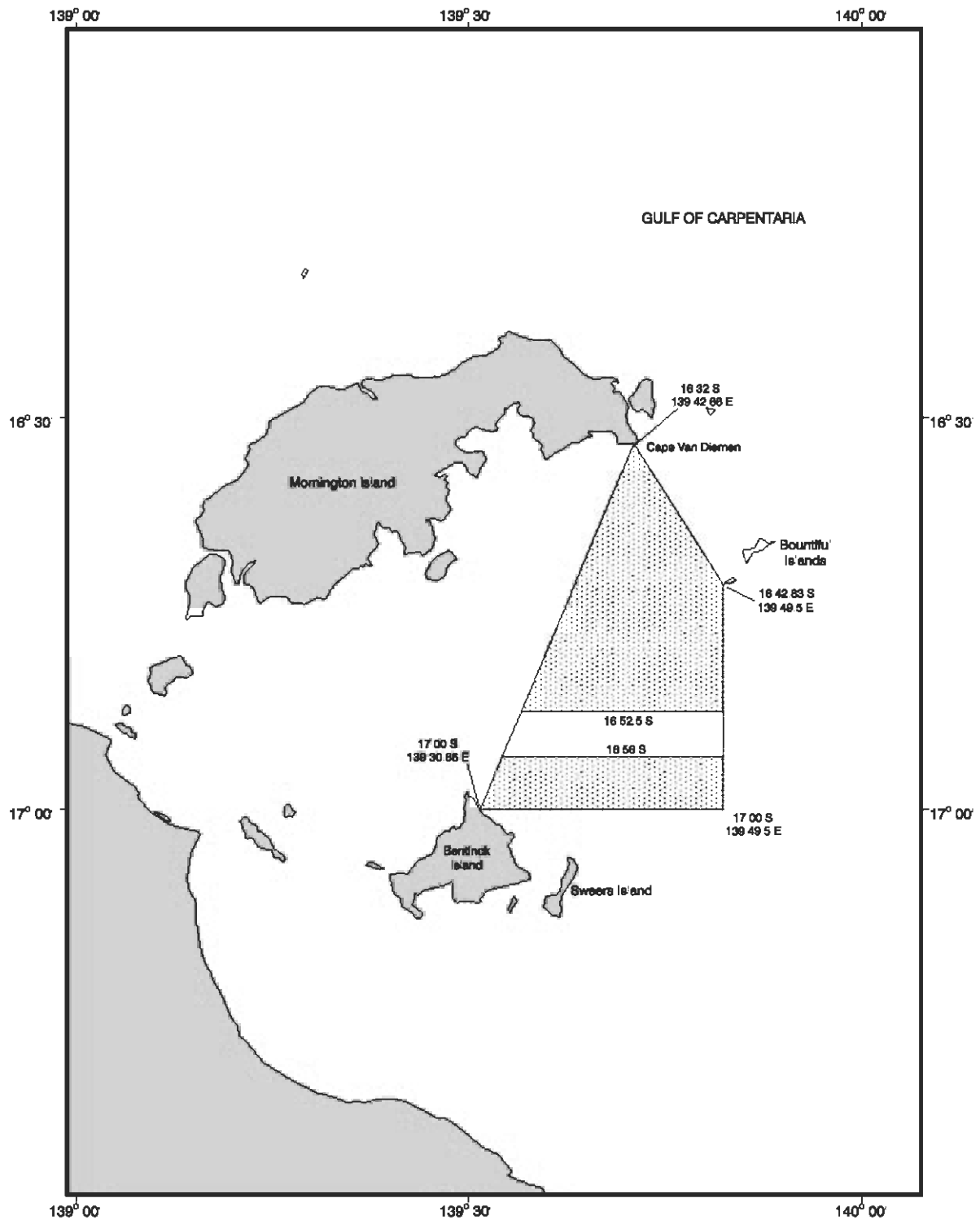
The Wellesley Islands are important as habitats for a number of rare, endangered and uncommon animals and plants. These are: common death adder, black-necked stork, Radjah shelduck, painted snipe, eastern curlew, sooty oystercatcher, Irrawaddy river dolphin and Indo-Pacific hump-back dolphin, which are listed as rare in Queensland; the estuarine crocodile, beach thick-knee, little tern, dugong and flatback turtle which are listed as vulnerable in Queensland; star finch which is endangered in Queensland; loggerhead turtle which is endangered both in Queensland and nationally; green turtle, and hawksbill turtle which are both vulnerable in Queensland and nationally; leatherback turtle and olive ridley turtle which are both endangered in Queensland and vulnerable nationally. The plant, *Dodonaea oxyptera*, is also found on the islands and is considered rare in Queensland. Many of these species are also recognised as rare or endangered under the Bonn Convention, including 36 species of birds, one marine mammal, and 7 marine reptiles.

Pisonia Island has the only stand of *Pisonia grandis* to the west of the Great Barrier Reef and is the type locality for the species. There are only about 180 ha remaining of this tree in Australia.

⁶³<http://www.deh.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl>

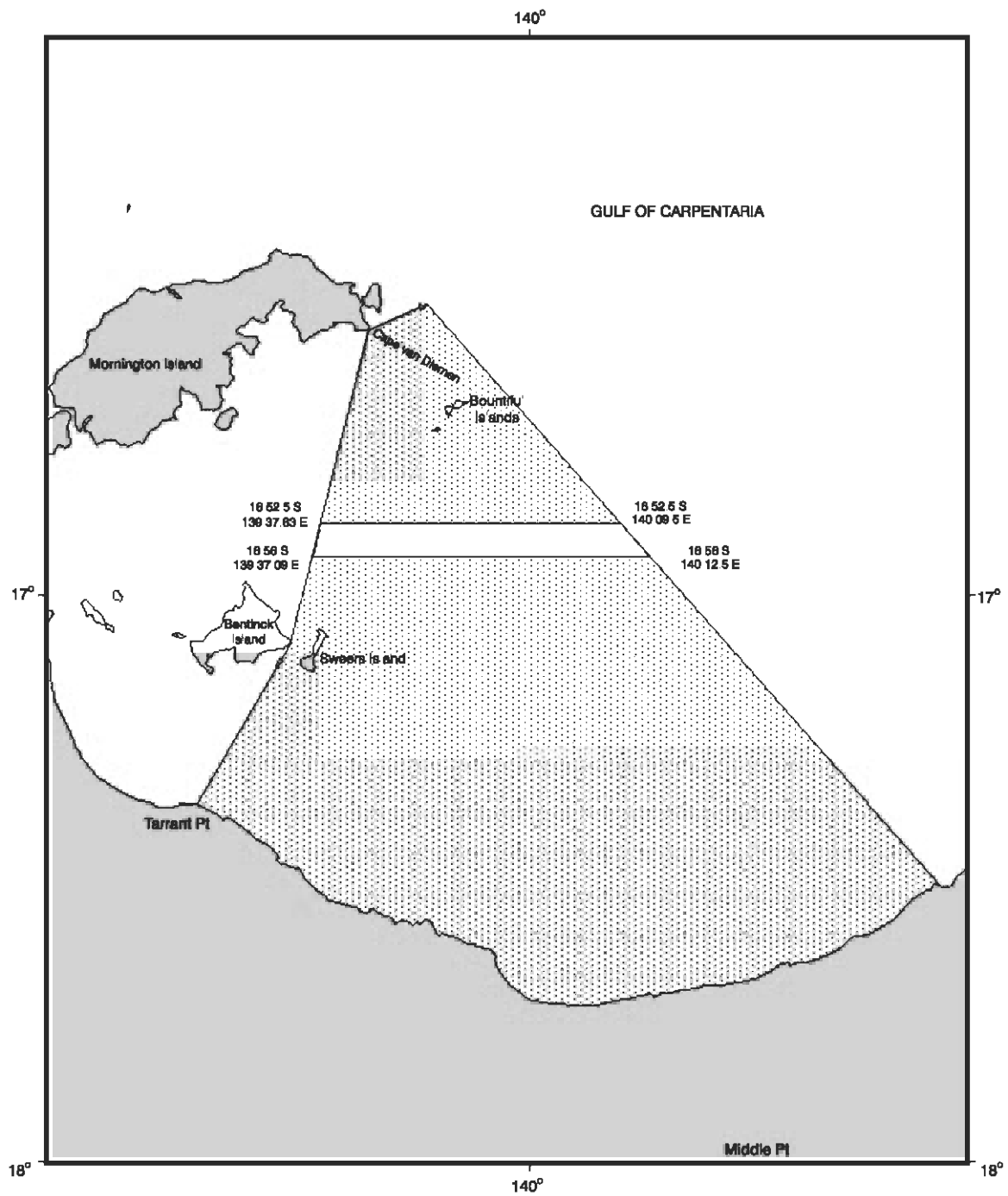
APPENDIX 2

Seasonal closures for the Northern Prawn Trawl applying to the Wellesley Islands region⁶⁴

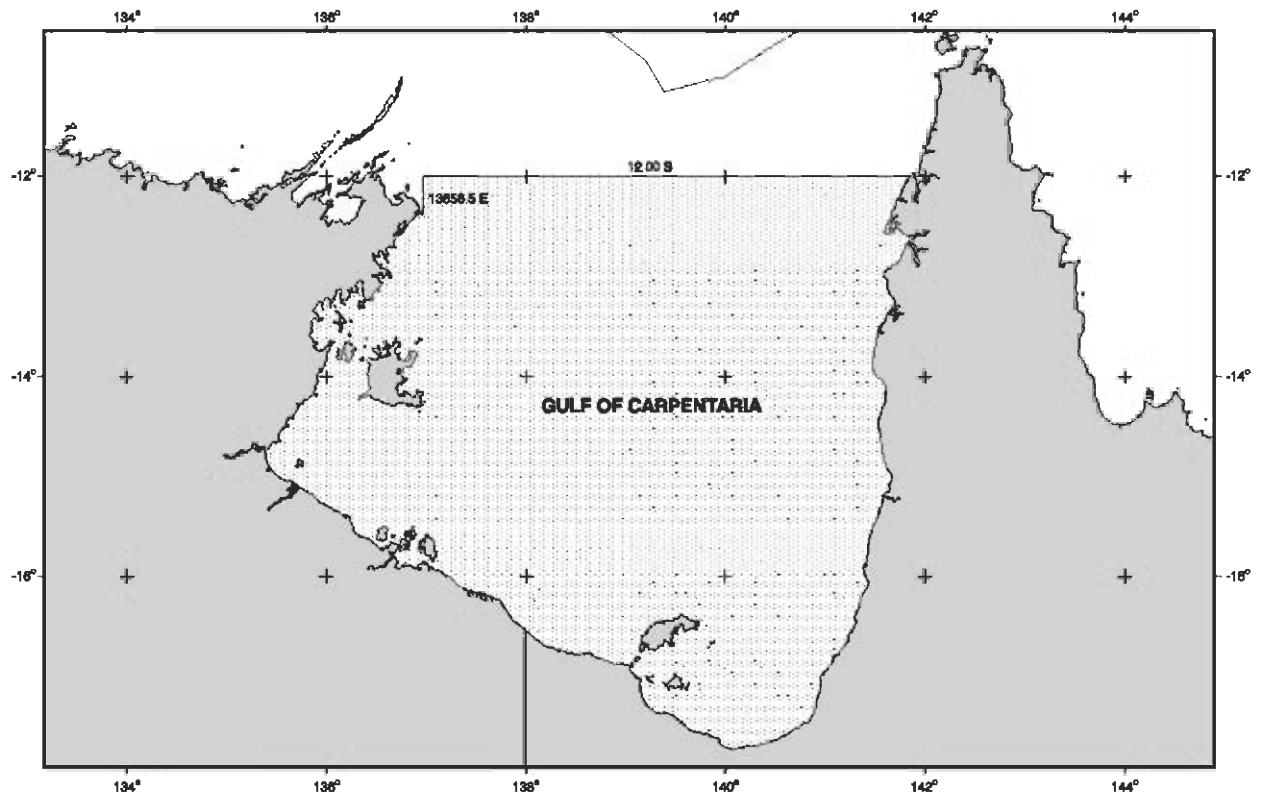


Seasonal closed area 3rd to 27th May - dates may change each year.

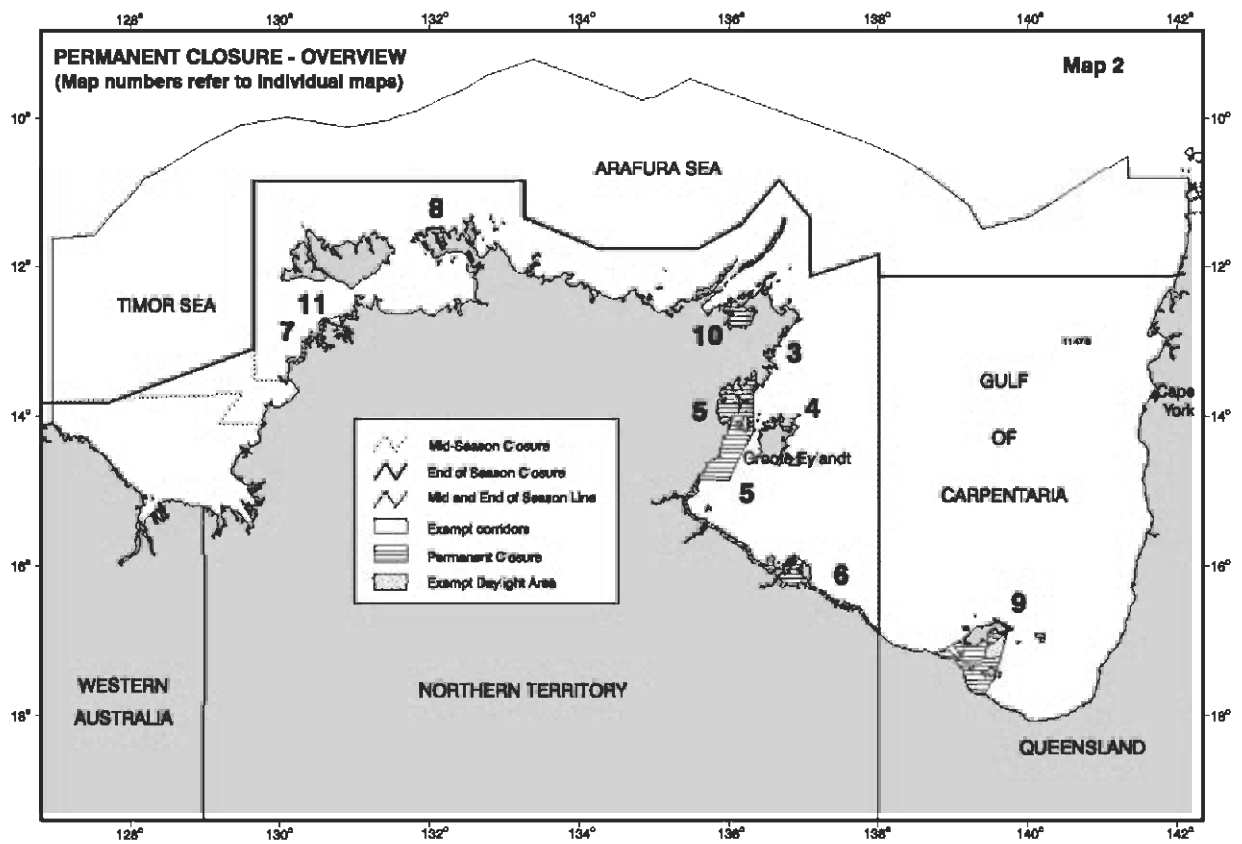
⁶⁴AFMA Northern Prawn Trawl Management Plan
(http://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries/northern_trawl/northern_prawn/mgt/default.htm)



Seasonal closed area 30th September to 30th November - dates may change each year.



Seasonal closure for Gulf of Carpentaria 30 Nov. to 3 April - dates may change each year.



Seasonal closure for coastal waters from 9 March to 8 April - dates may change each year.