



NGARI CAPES MARINE PARK– IMPLEMENTATION OF ZONING – Q&As

The Ngari Capes Marine Park (NCMP) was created under the *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* (CALM Act) in June 2012. The marine park covers over 123,700 hectares and includes most of the southern half of Geographe Bay, and extends around Cape Naturaliste and Cape Leeuwin to Flinders Bay near Augusta.

The marine park management plan aims to protect and manage the regions natural and cultural values for future generations, while allowing opportunities for sustainable use, including recreational fishing, commercial fishing, aquaculture and tourism.

What is the current status of the marine park?

On 10 April 2018, the NCMP zoning scheme was gazetted under section 62 of the CALM Act. Following gazettal of the zoning scheme, complementary legislation is made under the *Fish Resources Management Act 1994* (FRMA) to manage fishing in the marine park. While the NCMP has now been created and the zoning scheme gazetted under the CALM Act, the fishing prohibitions have not yet taken effect under the FRMA.

When will the fishing prohibitions be introduced?

Government has agreed to adopt a 12-month transition period between gazettal of the zoning scheme and implementation of the fishing prohibitions under the FRMA. This means that fishing prohibitions in the NCMP will not take effect under the FRMA until 10 April 2019.

The 12-month transitional period will ensure that any fishing licences that were current at the time the marine park zones were gazetted under the CALM Act can be used to their full extent. It also means that all commercial and recreational fishing restrictions in the marine park will be implemented on the same date which is a fair and equitable outcome for all marine park users.

During the transition period, fishers will be able to renew their licences and continue fishing throughout the marine park in accordance with their authorisation until the 12-month transition period ends. At the end of the transition period, licences will remain valid but fishers must then comply with the new marine park fishing prohibitions.

During the 12-month transition period, Government will:

- focus on educating fishers and other marine park users on the zoning scheme and upcoming changes to fishing arrangements; and
- progress the marine park compensation process (further details below).

While the fishing prohibitions will not take effect until 10 April 2019, community stewardship and voluntary compliance with the intended permitted uses of the zones is encouraged where possible.

When can I apply for compensation?

The gazettal of a marine park zoning scheme under the CALM Act may trigger an entitlement to compensation under the *Fishing and Related Industries Compensation Marine Reserves Act 1997* (Compensation Act). To initiate the NCMP compensation process, the Minister for Fisheries will publish a notice inviting affected persons to apply for compensation. DPIRD will provide further advice direct to relevant licence holders once the notice has been published.

An industry information sheet, which includes details on the marine reserve compensation process and clarifies eligibility requirements, is available on the DPIRD website at

http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/Documents/marine_parks/marine_reserve_compensation_process_industry_information.pdf.

Where can I find information on the zoning scheme, permitted activities and zone coordinates?

The final approved NCMP zoning map and permitted uses table are at *Attachment 1*. The zone coordinates and maps of individual zones is at *Attachment 2*.

The NCMP will include:

- fifteen no-take sanctuary zones covering approximately 10.9% of the marine park;
- ten special purpose (surfing) zones covering approximately 0.9% of the marine park;
- two special purpose (shore-based activities) zones covering approximately 0.03% of the marine park;
- two recreation zones covering approximately 0.1% of the marine park; and
- a general use zone covering the remaining 88% of the marine park where all existing fishing activities will be permitted to continue in accordance with the FRMA.

Commercial fishing will be unaffected in over 88% of the NCMP.

What is the next stage of the marine park implementation process?

Once the 12-month transition period expires (9 April 2019), fishing prohibitions in the NCMP will take effect under the FRMA. Prior to taking effect, DPIRD will provide advice and information to commercial fishers to remind them of the upcoming changes to fishing rules.

Where can I find out more information?

Further information about the NCMP is available on the DBCA website (www.dbca.wa.gov.au) and the DPIRD website (www.fish.wa.gov.au). DPIRD will continue to ensure that the fishing sectors are kept well-informed on the progress and development of the NCMP.

If you have any general marine park queries, please contact Eve Bunbury on 9892 8585 or email Eve.Bunbury@dpird.wa.gov.au.

To discuss the marine park compensation process, please contact:

- Ben Fraser on 6551 4343 or email Ben.Fraser@dpird.wa.gov.au.
- Michelle Cridland on 6551 4354 or email Michelle.Cridland@fish.wa.gov.au

Fisheries

Gordon Stephenson House, 140 William Street, Perth WA 6000
Locked Bag 39, Cloisters Square WA 6850

Telephone +61 (0)8 6551 4444 Facsimile +61 (0)8 9482 7389 enquiries@dpird.wa.gov.au

dpird.wa.gov.au

ABN: 18 951 343 745