

Activities Guide for the new Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning

Please note: As at 1 July 2004, the activities that can be carried out within most State and Commonwealth Marine Park zones are the same, however the Conservation Park (yellow) Zone may differ. Refer to the Queensland State Zoning Plan for details of State restrictions. In all zones where fishing is allowed, Queensland fisheries legislation continues to apply.

PRESERVATION (PINK) ZONE (PZ)

The Preservation Zone (Pink Zone) is a 'no go' area for the general public. A person should not enter a Pink Zone unless they have special permission and extractive activities are strictly prohibited. Research may occur in a Pink Zone, but only if the research is relevant to, and a priority for, management and cannot be conducted elsewhere.

A permit is required to conduct research in this zone. The Preservation Zone makes up less than 1% of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

ACTIVITY	Preservation Zone
Aquaculture	✗
Bait Netting	✗
Boating, diving, photography	✗
Crabbing (trapping)	✗
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm	✗
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster	✗
Limited collecting	✗
Limited impact research	Permit
Limited spearfishing (snorkel only)	✗
Line fishing	✗
Netting (other than bait netting)	✗
Research (other than limited impact)	Permit
Shipping (other than a designated shipping area)	✗
Tourism program	✗
Traditional use of marine resources	✗
Trawling	✗
Trolling	✗

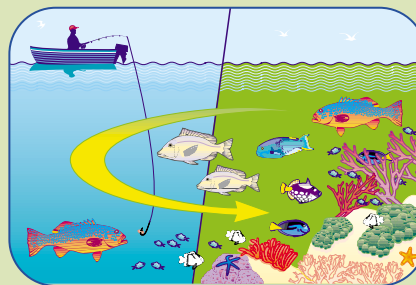
Benefits of Preservation Zones

The Preservation Zone provides high-level protection for special and unique places, habitats, plants and animals within the Marine Park.

MARINE NATIONAL PARK (GREEN) ZONE (MNPZ)

The Marine National Park Zones (Green Zones) are 'no-take' areas and extractive activities like fishing or collecting are not allowed without written permission. Anyone can enter a Green Zone and participate in activities such as boating, swimming, snorkelling and sailing. **Travelling through a Green Zone with fish on board is also allowed (it is only an offence to fish in a Green Zone).** Stowing fishing gear, such as rods, in board the boat or in rod holders with a hook still attached is allowed in a Green Zone, provided the fishing apparatus is out of the water. Anchoring is also allowed in a Green Zone, however in high use and sensitive areas, use of a mooring may be necessary. The Marine National Park (green) Zone makes up about 33% of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

ACTIVITY	Marine National Park Zone
Aquaculture	✗
Bait Netting	✗
Boating, diving, photography	✓
Crabbing (trapping)	✗
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm	✗
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster	✗
Limited collecting	✗
Limited impact research	✓
Limited spearfishing (snorkel only)	✗
Line fishing	✗
Netting (other than bait netting)	✗
Research (other than limited impact)	Permit
Shipping (other than a designated shipping area)	Permit
Tourism program	Permit
Traditional use of marine resources	Permit or an accredited TUMRA
Trawling	✗
Trolling	✗



Benefits of Green Zones

Green Zones protect the biodiversity within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park by protecting important breeding and nursery areas such as seagrass beds, mangrove communities, deepwater shoals and reefs. The size of fish within no-take areas will increase and these bigger fish will produce more offspring. Adult fish and their offspring are not confined to the no-take areas and can move into adjacent areas, creating a 'spill-over' effect that helps replenish fish stocks in areas where fishing is allowed.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (ORANGE) ZONE (SRZ)

The **Scientific Research Zone** facilitates research by providing areas, primarily around scientific research facilities, that allow studies to occur in areas relatively undisturbed by extractive activities. Scientific Research Zones have been placed adjacent to all island research institutions in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and adjacent to the Australian Institute of Marine Sciences.

Most Scientific Research Zones allow public access and are shown as green with an orange outline on Zoning Maps (see Fig 1). For people who are not undertaking research, these areas are essentially the same as Green Zones where only non-extractive activities like swimming, snorkelling and diving are allowed without written permission.

Scientific Research Zones adjacent to the Australian Institute of Marine Science near Townsville and surrounding One Tree Island Research Station in the Capricorn Bunker Group **do not allow public access**, providing an area undisturbed by the general public for research. These areas are shown as orange (Fig 2). The Scientific Research Zone makes up less than 1% of the Marine Park.

ACTIVITY	Scientific Research Zone
Aquaculture	✗
Bait Netting	✗
Boating, diving, photography	✓
Crabbing (trapping)	✗
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm	✗
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster	✗
Limited collecting	✗
Limited impact research	✓
Limited spearfishing (snorkel only)	✗
Line fishing	✗
Netting (other than bait netting)	✗
Research (other than limited impact)	Permit
Shipping (other than a designated shipping area)	Permit
Tourism program	Permit
Traditional use of marine resources	Permit or an accredited TUMRA
Trawling	✗
Trolling	✗

Benefits of the Scientific Research Zone

The Scientific Research Zone helps to manage research activities and separates research from conflicting, high impact activities. This helps to ensure research and data gathered within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is less influenced by human activity.

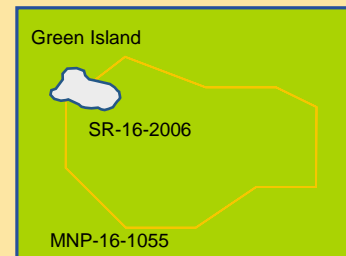


Fig. 1.

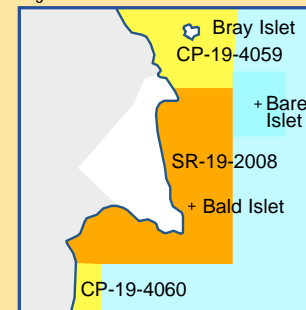


Fig. 2.

BUFFER (OLIVE GREEN) ZONE (BZ)

The **Buffer Zone** provides for the protection and conservation of areas of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in their natural state, while continuing to allow the public to appreciate and enjoy the relatively undisturbed nature of the area. Trolling for pelagic fish species (eg marlins, mackerels, trevallies) is allowed in the Buffer Zone, however most other forms of extractive activities such as bottom fishing are prohibited in this zone. The Buffer Zone makes up approximately 2.9% of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.



ACTIVITY		Buffer Zone
Aquaculture		✗
Bait Netting		✗
Boating, diving, photography		✓
Crabbing (trapping)		✗
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm		✗
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster		✗
Limited collecting		✗
Limited impact research		✓
Limited spearfishing (snorkel only)		✗
Line fishing		✗
Netting (other than bait netting)		✗
Research (other than limited impact)		Permit
Shipping (other than a designated shipping area)		Permit
Tourism program		Permit
Traditional use of marine resources		Permit or an accredited TUMRA
Trawling		✗
Trolling		✓



CONSERVATION PARK (YELLOW) ZONE (CRZ)

The Conservation Park Zone (Yellow Zone)

allows for increased protection and conservation of areas of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, while providing opportunities for reasonable use and enjoyment, including limited extractive use. The Conservation Park (yellow) Zone makes up approximately 1.5% of the Marine Park.

Fishing in a Yellow Zone

Fishing activities allowed in a Yellow Zone include:

- **Limited Line Fishing** (1 hand-held rod/line per person & 1 hook per line)
- **Trotting** (no more than 3 lines per person and up to 6 hooks combined total per person)
- **Limited spearfishing**
- **Bait netting**
- **Limited crabbing** (4 crab pots, dillies or inverted dillies)
- **Limited collecting** (includes oysters and bait)

Public Appreciation Special Management Areas restrict spearfishing, commercial fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm and aquaculture in some Yellow Zones.

ACTIVITY		Conservation Park Zone
Aquaculture		Permit
Bait Netting		✓
Boating, diving, photography		✓
Crabbing (trapping)		Limited
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm		Permit
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster		✗
Limited collecting		✓
Limited impact research		✓
Limited spearfishing (snorkel only)		✓
Line fishing		Limited
Netting (other than bait netting)		✗
Research (other than limited impact)		Permit
Shipping (other than a designated shipping area)		Permit
Tourism program		Permit
Traditional use of marine resources		Permit or an accredited TUMRA
Trawling		✗
Trotting		✓

Public Appreciation Area boundaries are shown as pink dotted lines on the zoning maps.



HABITAT PROTECTION (DARK BLUE) ZONE (HPZ)

The Habitat Protection Zone provides for the conservation of areas of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park by protecting and managing sensitive habitats and ensuring they are generally free from potentially damaging activities. The Habitat Protection Zone continues to provide for reasonable use of areas and makes up about 28% of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Trawling is not permitted in the Habitat Protection Zone.



ACTIVITY	Habitat Protection Zone
Aquaculture	Permit
Bait Netting	✓
Boating, diving, photography	✓
Crabbing (trapping)	✓
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm	Permit
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster	Permit
Limited collecting	✓
Limited impact research	✓
Limited spearfishing (snorkel only)	✓
Line fishing	✓
Netting (other than bait netting)	✓
Research (other than limited impact)	Permit
Shipping (other than a designated shipping area)	Permit
Tourism program	Permit
Traditional use of marine resources	Permit or an accredited TUMRA
Trawling	✗
Trolling	✓



GENERAL USE (LIGHT BLUE) ZONE (GUZ)

The objective of the **General Use Zone** is to provide opportunities for reasonable use of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, while still allowing for the conservation of these areas.

ACTIVITY	General Use Zone
Aquaculture	Permit
Bait Netting	✓
Boating, diving, photography	✓
Crabbing (trapping)	✓
Harvest fishing for aquarium fish, coral and beachworm	Permit
Harvest fishing for sea cucumber, trochus, tropical rock lobster	Permit
Limited collecting	✓
Limited impact research	✓
Limited spearfishing (snorkel only)	✓
Line fishing	✓
Netting (other than bait netting)	✓
Research (other than limited impact)	Permit
Shipping (other than a designated shipping area)	✓
Tourism program	Permit
Traditional use of marine resources	Permit or an accredited TUMRA
Trawling	✓
Trolling	✓

COMMONWEALTH ISLAND ZONE (CIZ)

The Commonwealth Island Zone is comprised of those areas of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park that are above the low water mark; namely, Commonwealth islands or parts of Commonwealth islands.

The areas forming part of the Commonwealth Island Zone include North Barnard Island, the Pilon Islands, Russell Island, North Reef Island, Low Isles, Pine Islet, Lady Elliot Island, Albany Rock, Coppersmith Island, Hannah Island, Bailey Islet, Clerke Island, Coquet Island, Eshelby Island, Hannibal Island, High Peak Island, Rocky Island and South Brook Island, together with parts of Dent and Penrith Islands.

The Commonwealth Island Zone can be used or entered without permission for low impact (non-extractive) activities, photography, filming, sound recording and limited educational programs. Traditional use of marine resources is allowed with written permission or in accordance with an accredited Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreement.

