

Reef bioregion: RHC2 High Continental Island Reefs

RHC2

Bioregion Description

Whitsunday Islands: Geomorphologically unique. Both cross-shelf and north/south gradient in benthic communities. Species-poor, muddy reefs close to the Proserpine River. Unique and very fragile hard and soft coral communities in the inlets.

Existing zoning within bioregion (as % of total bioregion area)			Bioregion area	102 km ²
Marine National Park 'B' / National Park *	Dark Green	11 %	Proportion of the GBRMP	<1 %
Marine National Park 'A' / Conservation Park	Yellow	39 %		
General Use 'B' / Habitat Protection	Dark Blue	43 %	No-take Zone statistics	
General Use 'A' / General Use	Light Blue	1 %	Area of no-take zone(s)	11 km ²
Island		6 %	Percent of bioregion	11 %
* No-take zones			Number of no-take zones	4

Reef size distribution

Number of reefs	127
Reef sizes	
Smallest	<1 km ²
Largest	7 km ²
Average	1 km ²

Area exposed to flooding events 1994 - 98

No recorded event	68 %
1, 2 or 3 events	32 %

Reef Geomorphology

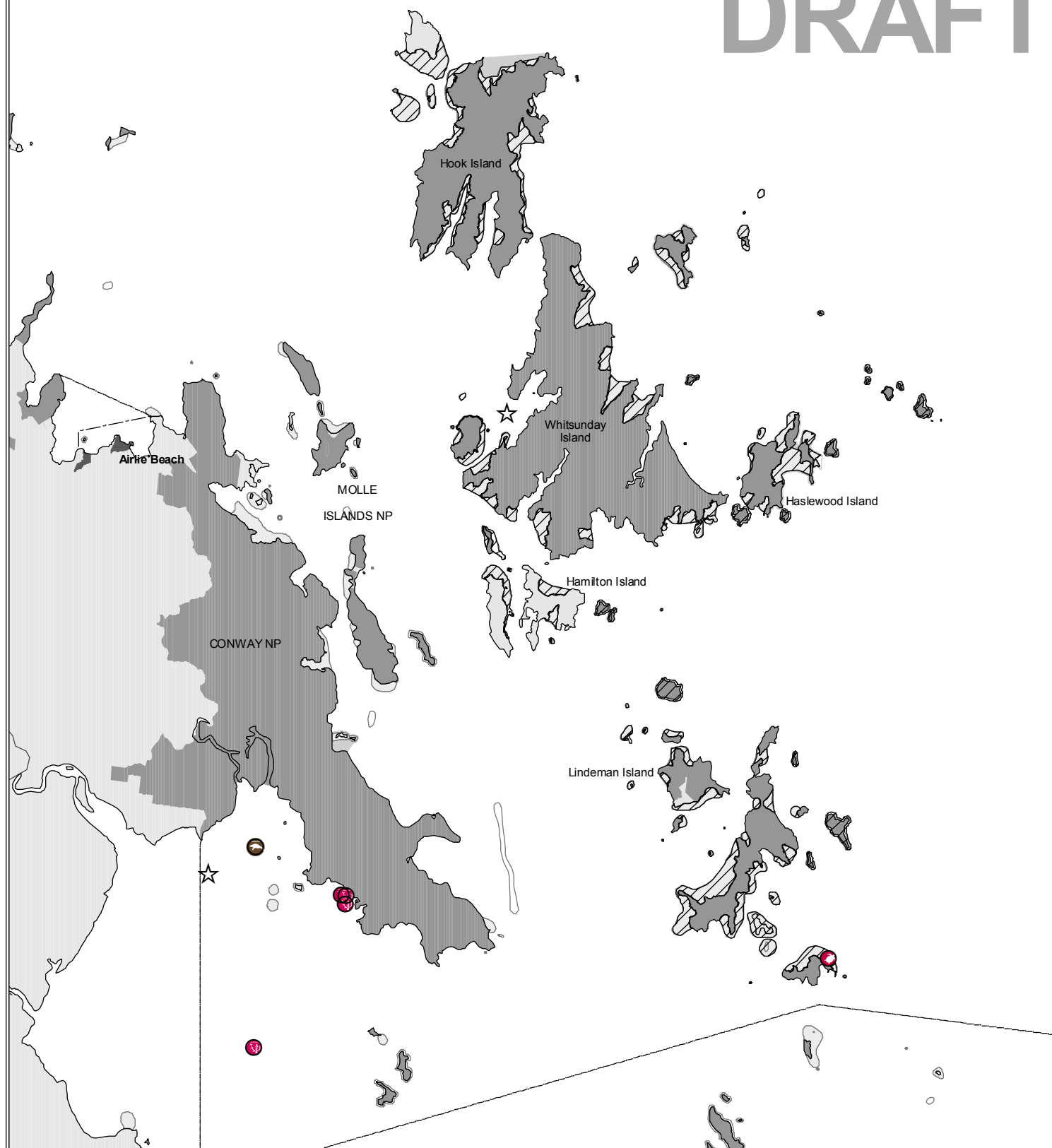
Fringing reef	89 %
Incipient fringing reef	6 %
Submerged reef	3 %
unknown	2 %

Interim biophysically special/unique sites

Whitsundays

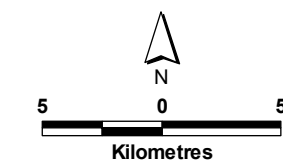
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| | Bioregion RHC2 | | Reef edge or shoal edge |
| | Existing no-take zone | | Reef shoal |
| | National Park (State) | | River |
| | Interim biophysically special/unique sites | | GBRMP boundary |
| | Dugong Protection Area | | GBRMP Section boundary |
| | Turtle nesting site | | Built-up area |
| | Turtle foraging area | | |

Map Produced: 13 May 2002
Datum: GDA94 Projection: Albers



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