



Australian Government

Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park Authority

Site Management Arrangements

Clump Point, Mission Beach

Prepared September 2005

1. Site Description

Clump Point is a northerly facing headland approximately two kilometres north of the Mission Beach township. The township of Mission Beach has a resident population of approximately 1000; tourism is a growing industry in this region. The promontory shelters Boat Bay (the Bay) and a second small bay, which becomes exposed at low tide. Facilities located in the Bay, including a boat ramp and jetty, provide a departure point for commercial and recreational users to access nearby Dunk Island and the Great Barrier Reef. The Activity Plan (map) illustrates the facilities located in the Bay and the management intent of this area. The Site Management Arrangements should be read in conjunction with this map.

2. Objectives

These Site Management Arrangements focus on the location of buoy moorings at Clump Point. Maritime Safety Queensland, the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) have jointly developed these Site Management Arrangements. The need for site-specific management has been triggered by the receipt of mooring applications and the potential for permitted moorings to conflict with current use. Additionally, there are a number of installed, unpermitted/unauthorised buoy moorings in the Bay that conflict with permitted moorings.

3. Conservation, Cultural and Heritage Values

The terrestrial aspect of Clump Point is recognised in the *Wet Tropical Coast Regional Coastal Management Plan* as being of very high scenic value and is noted for its native vegetation, including endangered regional ecosystems. Boat Bay supports a number of significant species and communities. Natural values in the Bay include:

- Fringing intertidal mangrove communities;
- Seagrass meadows throughout the Bay;
- Areas of fringing reef support several hard and soft coral species and macro-algae;
- Rare and threatened species using the Bay include the beach stone-curlew, dugong, turtles and Irrawaddy and Indo Pacific humpback dolphins. (EPA, 2003)

The Djiru Indigenous Traditional Owners have a strong cultural connection with this area. There are several archaeological sites located in and around Boat Bay. The Bay is culturally important for hunting and fishing, seagrass meadows, ceremonial grounds and the cultural landscape.



4. Current Use

The northerly aspect of the Bay provides some natural protection from southeasterly winds, making the area popular for vessel traffic, anchoring and mooring.

The Clump Point jetty is the primary departure point used by commercial operators to load and unload passengers on a daily basis. Additionally, the Clump Point boat ramp is used for commercial and recreational purposes.

At the time of preparation of the Site Management Arrangements, there were 15 moorings installed in the Bay, three (3) of these have Maritime Safety Queensland buoy mooring approvals. The remainder do not have a Marine Park permit or Maritime Safety Queensland buoy mooring approval.

Other uses in the Bay include:

- Anchoring;
- Traditional fishing by the Djiru Traditional Owners;
- Recreational fishing;
- Commercial fishing and netting; and
- Spearfishing at several locations around Clump Point.

5. Management Strategies

5.1 Current Management

The area is zoned Habitat Protection Zone under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003* and the *Great Barrier Reef Coastal Marine Park Zoning Plan 2004 (Queensland)*. Construction or operation of mooring facilities is consistent with the objectives of this zone and requires written permission.

A 136ha area within Boat Bay is designated a reserve for boat harbour purposes, with Johnstone Shire Council as the Trustee. The installation of moorings is consistent with the intent of this reserve. The framework for management and future development at Clump Point is provided for in the *Wet Tropical Coast Regional Coastal Management Plan, December 2003*. Moorings fit within the intended scope of development at this site.

5.2 Site Management Arrangements

5.2.1 Mooring Area

The Activity Plan (map), shows the current infrastructure at Clump Point and the GBRMPA's preferred management of moorings at this site.

Two areas, illustrated by black hatching, are designated as vessel transit areas. These areas are to be free of moorings due to maritime safety and navigational requirements, providing unrestricted vessel access to the Clump Point jetty and boat ramp.

An area, identified by anchor symbols on the map, has been set-aside as an area for vessels that wish to anchor at Clump Point. While anchoring is not limited to this site, it is intended that this area will remain free of moorings for safe vessel access and anchorage.

The embayment adjacent to the Clump Point boat ramp is a drying intertidal area. The area is used by the Djiru Traditional Owners and contains several archaeological artefacts. Due to the tidal range in this area, moorings would be impractical. Recognising the cultural values and the tidal values, it is intended that this area should remain free of moorings.

The area where mooring installation will be permitted is identified on the map by a broken orange line, labelled A to F. Moorings will be permitted inside this area, identified by coordinates:

A	146° 06.691' E	17° 50.965' S
B	146° 06.522' E	17° 51.014' S
C	146° 06.749' E	17° 51.114' S
D	146° 06.749' E	17° 51.191' S
E	146° 06.887' E	17° 51.191' S
F	146° 06.887' E	17° 50.959' S

(Coordinates shown in WGS 84 datum)

Consideration may be given to constructing or operating mooring facilities outside this area if special circumstances can be demonstrated.

6. Community Engagement

The GBRMPA has conducted targeted stakeholder consultation and received advice from the Mission Beach Local Marine Advisory Committee, in the preparation of these Site Management Arrangements. Feedback and advice received was taken into account in the planning at this site.

The community is encouraged to become involved in monitoring in the Bay and providing advice on the effectiveness of the Site Management Arrangements.

Details of approved moorings will be made available on the online Moorings Register on the GBRMPA web site. While the GBRMPA encourages the sharing of moorings in the Marine Park, you must have the owner's permission to use privately owned moorings.

Reference:

Environmental Protection Agency Wet Tropical Coast Regional Coastal Management Plan (December 2003).