

BATEMANS MARINE PARK

User Guide

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Department of
Primary Industries



This brochure provides a guide to the management rules for the Batemans Marine Park. Information contained is a summary of the *Marine Estate Management (Management Rules) Regulation 1999*.

These management rules have been in force since 2007.

GPS locations within the Batemans Marine Park are in degrees and decimal minutes using the datum GDA94.

NSW Marine Park Zoning Maps are available for free for mobile devices as part of the NSW DPI FishSmart App and from the Avenza Map Store.

Search for FishSmart on the iTunes App Store or Google Play.

Alternatively, download the Avenza Maps app and search the Avenza Map Store for "NSW DPI Fisheries" to find available maps.



Introduction

Marine parks help conserve our state's marine life for present and future generations, whilst providing a great opportunity to improve public appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of our unique marine environment.

The Batemans Marine Park was declared in 2007. The park starts at the north end of Murramarang Beach near Bawley Point south to Wallaga Lake. It includes all of the seabed and waters from the mean high water mark to three nautical miles offshore.

It includes all estuaries, creeks, rivers and lakes (except Nargal Lake) to the limit of tidal influence, and covers an area of approximately 85,000 hectares.

The marine park contains a diverse range of habitats, including sponge gardens, beaches, rocky shores, kelp beds, coralline algal banks, rocky reefs, islands, seagrass, mangroves, saltmarsh and historic shipwrecks.

Each habitat supports a different community of animals and plants, some of which, like the grey nurse shark, require special protection. Batemans Marine Park is zoned to protect marine biodiversity while supporting a wide range of recreational and commercial activities.

The zoning map specifically prohibits commercial trawling and dredging in the marine park.





Zoning

The Batemans Marine Park is a multiple use park with a comprehensive zoning scheme designed to protect the natural values and sensitive areas including providing for recreational and commercial use.

Sanctuary zones

(coloured pink on map)

No fishing or collecting of any species of plant or animal is permitted within this zone. Sanctuary Zones provide the highest level of protection for long-term conservation of marine biodiversity.

The only activities permitted in sanctuary zones are those that do not involve the harming or taking of any plants or animals. All fishing is prohibited in these zones so that marine life can continue to thrive and reproduce. Fish or fishing gear cannot be cleaned in a sanctuary zone.

All vessels may enter sanctuary zones, but fishing gear must be stowed. Moored or anchored vessels in sanctuary zones must have all fishing lines un-rigged.

Most recreational activities may be conducted in sanctuary zones including swimming, sightseeing, boating, surfing, snorkelling, diving and approved research and educational activities.

Habitat Protection Zones

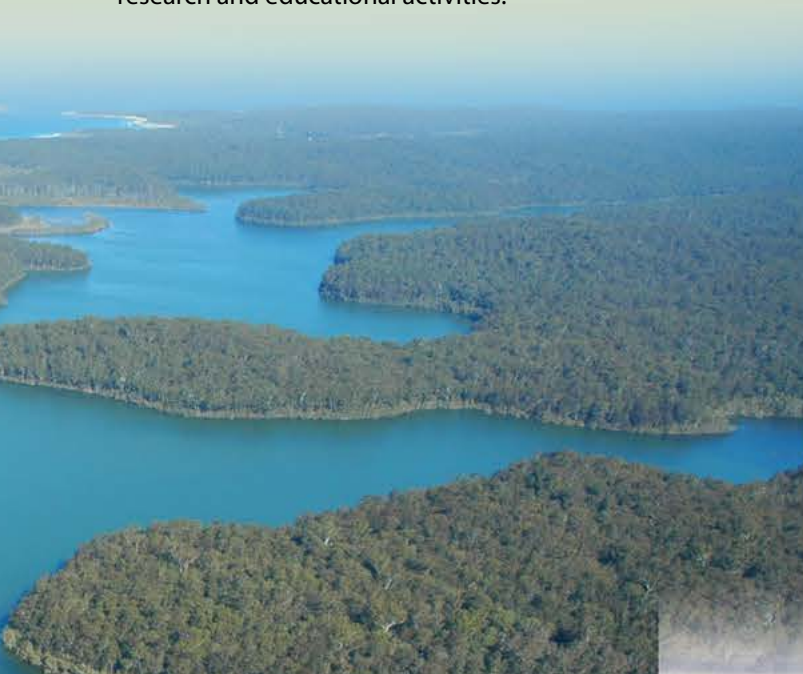
(coloured yellow on map)

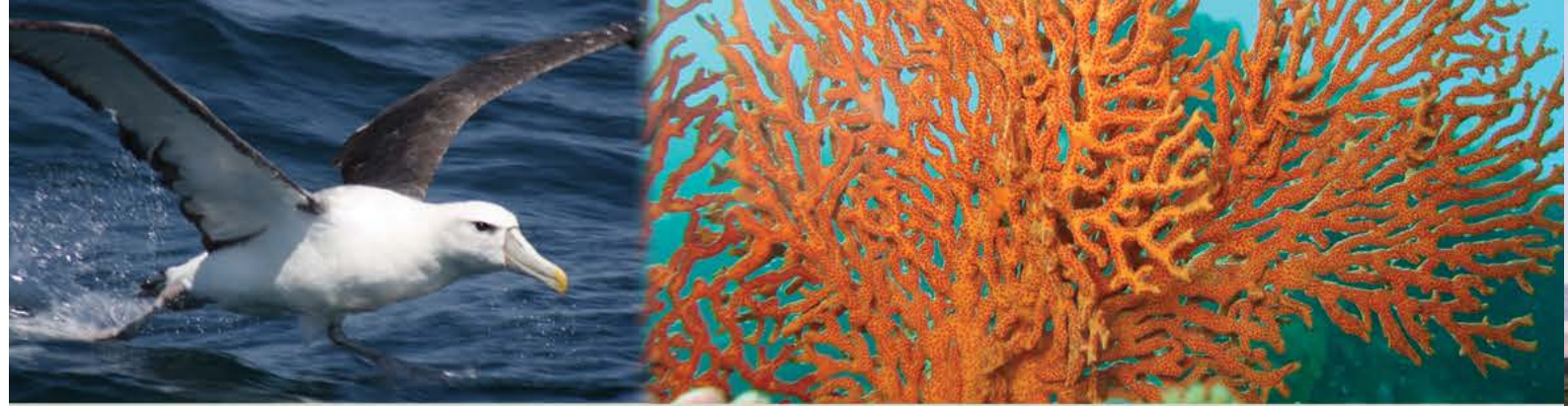
Most recreational activities are allowed in habitat protection zones, but some restrictions apply to the collection of bait and catching of sharks, rays etc. Limited commercial fishing is permitted in habitat protection zones, but no seine netting, set lines or drift lines. The only species that may be taken within these zones are the species listed on Table 1 (Located on this brochure). All cunjevoi and sharks and rays are protected with the exception of the gummy shark and the school shark.

Existing Recreational Fishing Havens in the Tomaga River, Tuross Lake, Lake Brunderee, Mummaga Lake and Little Lake provisions continue to apply, including allowed use of recreational haul nets that are prohibited in other habitat protection zones.

Table 1 lists the species of fish which may be taken from habitat protection zones, but only by the following fishing methods:

- Line fishing
- Hand gathering
- Spearfishing
- Scoop net, landing net, push net, scissor net, lift net
- Trapping





Habitat Protection Zones (Restricted)

(coloured yellow cross-hatched on map)

Some Habitat Protection Zones listed below have extra protection.

The Shallow Crossing habitat protection zone (upper Clyde River) may not be fished between 1 May and 30 November each year to protect breeding fish.

The Montague Island (inner) habitat protection zone at the northern end of Montague Island is restricted as follows between 1 November and 30 April each year to protect grey nurse sharks:

- No fishing with bait
- No fishing at anchor
- No fishing with a wire trace line
- No nets (but landing nets are allowed)

The Meringo-Mullimburra Point Habitat Protection Zone and Wagonga Head Habitat Protection zone (restricted) prohibit the collection of invertebrates by hand (including lobsters and abalone). Recreational line fishing, spearfishing and trapping is permitted within these zones and no commercial abalone collecting is permitted.

Only shore based recreational line fishing is permitted in the North Head, Congo South Beach, Bingie, Brou Beach, and Bullengella Beach-Loader Beach habitat protection zones.

General Use Zones

(coloured blue on map)

Provide for all forms of recreational fishing and most forms of commercial fishing (except trawling, dredging and long lining). Some forms of commercial netting are prohibited in estuarine general use zones. Bag limits, size limits and seasonal closures continue to apply.

Permits

A variety of activities undertaken in the marine park require a written permit from the Batemans Marine Park including:

- Commercial activities
- Collecting for aquariums
- All competitions including fishing, spearfishing, surfing and boating.
- Hovercraft, airboats and seaplanes
- Organised events including sporting or other activities
- Research
- Aquaculture
- Construction and maintenance (e.g. jetties)
- Organised educational activities


Fishing Rules

The *Fisheries Management Act 1994* continues to apply in the marine park for fishing closures, size and bag limits and licence requirements. Free copies of the NSW Government Recreational Fishing Rules and Regulations brochure can be obtained from www.dpi.nsw.gov.au.

Recreational fishing

Over 80% of the Batemans Marine Park is available to recreational fishing, however, all recreational fishing, netting, trapping, collecting and fish cleaning is prohibited in sanctuary zones, and restricted in some other zones.

When fishing or collecting in habitat protection zones, you may take only those species listed in Table 1, using recreational fishing methods approved under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*. All species that may be lawfully taken under the Fisheries Management Act and Regulations are allowed to be taken in general use zones.



Anchoring and mooring

Anchoring is permitted in all zones except on seagrass beds in sanctuary zones. Vessel operators must ensure that no part of the anchor, chain, rope or vessel makes contact with a seagrass bed in any sanctuary zone.

Domestic animals

Domestic animals are not permitted within the Marine Park on beaches and rock platforms adjacent to national parks such as Murramarang and Eurobodalla. In all other areas Local Government rules apply.

Collecting

No collecting in sanctuary zones and cunjevoi may not be collected in any habitat protection zone.

Bait collection (only species listed in Table 1) is allowed in general use zones and most habitat protection zones, but only in accordance with the Fisheries Management Act and Regulations.

Hand picking of plants and invertebrates (animals that do not have a backbone e.g. shellfish, crabs, urchins, abalone, lobster etc) is not permitted in the following habitat protection zones:

- 1) Meringo and Mullimburra Point
- 2) Wagonga Head
- 3) North Head
- 4) Congo South Beach
- 5) Bingie
- 6) Brou Beach
- 7) Bullengella Beach-Loader Beach

For recreational purposes, it is permissible to hand collect Sea lettuce and Bait weed (*Ulva* species) in habitat protection and general use zones. Collecting fish and plants for aquariums is allowed in general use zones and habitat protection zones with a permit from the Batemans Marine Park.

Collecting shells and shell grit is prohibited in sanctuary zones, national parks, nature reserves and Aboriginal areas where all flora and fauna is protected. Unoccupied shells and shell grit may be collected in other habitat protection and general use zones for non-commercial purposes. Collection of more than 10 kg per person per day requires a permit.

Collecting seaweed from beaches is permitted within habitat protection zones and general use zones. Collecting more than 20 litres per person per day requires a permit.

Vehicles

Vehicles are only permitted in Batemans Marine Park for the purpose of launching and retrieving vessels from designated boat launching facilities, or beaches subject to Local Government and National Parks and Wildlife Service requirements.

Commercial fishing

Some forms of commercial fishing are limited within the Marine Park to protect biodiversity. Trawling, long lining and dredging are prohibited in all zones. Purse seining, lift netting, set lining, and estuary mesh netting are prohibited in habitat protection zones. Set lining is only allowed in general use zones with a maximum of 6 hooks per line. Garfish netting is not permitted within estuary habitat protection zones.

Beach haul netting is allowed in general use zones and only at the following beaches within habitat protection zones:

- Long Beach
- Wimbie Beach
- Rosedale Beach
- Beaches between Mullimburra Point and Meringo Lake
- Maloneys Beach

Any questions concerning the commercial fishing industry please contact local fisheries offices or relevant fisheries managers. See www.dpi.nsw.gov.au.

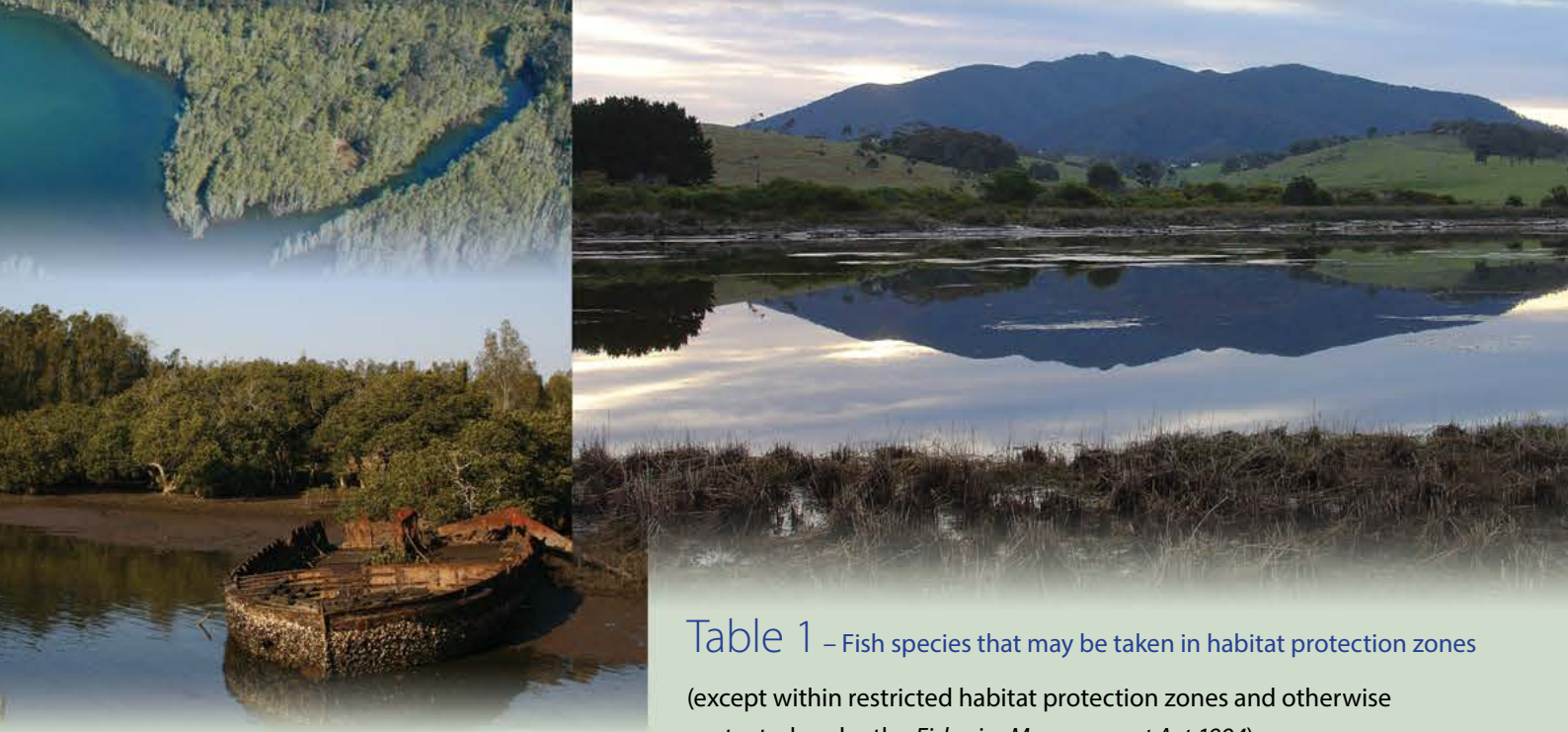


Table 1 – Fish species that may be taken in habitat protection zones
 (except within restricted habitat protection zones and otherwise protected under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*)

Common Name	Class/Family	Species
Finfish	Class Osteichthyes	All species
Gummy shark and school shark	Family Triakidae	<i>Mustelus antarcticus</i> and <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>
Southern and eastern rock lobsters	Family Palinuridae	<i>Sagmariasus verreauxi</i> , <i>Jasus edwardsii</i>
Prawn	Family Penaeidae	All species
Octopus	Family Octopodidae	All species
Arrow squid, southern calamari	Family Loliginidae	<i>Nototodarus gouldi</i> , <i>Septoteuthis australis</i>
Squid, Cuttlefish	Family Spirulidae, Sepiidae and Sepiadariidae	All species
Beach worm	Family Onuphidae	All species
Blood worms	Family Opheliidae	<i>Armandia</i> spp.
Ghost shrimp, marine yabby (nipper)	Family Callinassidae	<i>Callinassa</i> spp.
Mud crab	Family Portunidae	<i>Scylla serrata</i>
Blue swimmer crab	Family Portunidae	<i>Portunus pelagicus</i>
Rock crab	Family Grapsidae	All species
Oyster	Family Ostreidae	<i>Saccostrea</i> spp., <i>Crassostrea</i> spp. and <i>Ostrea angasi</i>
Pipi	Family Donacidae	All species
Sydney Cockle	Family Arcidae	<i>Anadara trapezia</i>
Clam	Family Veneridae	All species
Blue mussels	Family Mytilidae	<i>Mytilis planulatus</i>
Scallops	Family Pectinidae	<i>Pecten fumatus</i> , <i>Chlamys asperimus</i>
Sea urchin	Class Echinoidea	<i>Centrostephanus rodgersii</i> , <i>Heliocidaris erythrogramma</i>
Turban shell	Family Turbinadae	<i>Turbo</i> spp.
Abalone	Family Haliotidae	<i>Haliotis rubra</i>
Periwinkle	Family Trochidae	<i>Austrocochlea</i> spp.



Zone Markers

Zone markers indicate some zone boundaries within the Marine Park and come in a variety of shapes and sizes required to suit a specific site. It is an offence to moor a vessel to, or otherwise interfere with, a zone marker.

Contacts and Incident Reporting

Batemans Marine Park

Corner of Graham and Burrawang streets
Narooma

Ph: (02) 4476 0800

Fax: (02) 4476 0833

Email: batemans@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Web: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

Reports of illegal activity outside business hours to 1800 043 536



Disclaimer:

This brochure provides a plain English guide to the management rules for the Batemans Marine Park. Full copies of the *Marine Estate Management (Management Rules) Regulation 1999* are available from www.legislation.nsw.gov.au. This brochure should not be used for navigation or legal interpretation purposes. No warranty is given that this guide is free from error or omission. The publication should not be used as an aid in determining whether an activity is safe to perform. Users of this publication should satisfy themselves of the accuracy of the information contained in this publication through their own enquiries. The NSW Department of Primary Industries and its servants and agents expressly disclaim liability for any act done, or omission made, based on the information in this publication and any consequences of any such act or omission. The information contained in this publication may be subject to change.