
GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. R. 92

03 FEBRUARY 2016

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****DRAFT NOTICE DECLARING THE PORT ELIZABETH CORALS MARINE
PROTECTED AREA UNDER SECTION 22A OF THE NATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003 (ACT NO.
57 OF 2003)**

I, Bomo Edith Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs, hereby publish for public comment, the intention to declare under section 22A of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003), the Port Elizabeth Corals Marine Protected Area as set out in the Schedule hereto.

Any person who wishes to submit representations or comments in connection with the proposed declaration is invited to do so within 90 days from the date of publication in the *Government Gazette* and by no later than 16h00 on the last day. Comments received after this time may not be considered. All representations and comments must be submitted in writing to the Deputy Director-General of the Department of Environmental Affairs, Branch Oceans and Coasts:

By post to: The Deputy Director-General
Environmental Affairs
Oceans and Coasts
Attention: Xola Mkefe
P.O Box 52126
V and A Waterfront, Cape Town
8002

By hand: East Pier Building 2, East Pier Road, V&A
Waterfront, Cape Town

By e-mail to: MPARegs@environment.gov.za
Enquiries: Xola Mkefe 021 819 2466



**BOMO EDITH EDNA MOLEWA
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

datum, and all bearings are true bearings as detailed in Annexure 1 hereto.

Boundaries of the Marine Protected Area

The Port Elizabeth Corals Marine Protected Area, offshore of the Eastern Cape is an offshore Marine Protected Area in the 400 to 1000 m depth range lying approximately 47 nautical miles south of Jeffreys Bays. The Port Elizabeth Corals Marine Protected Area is bounded by a series of straight lines sequentially joining the following four coordinates: (A) 34° 35' S, 25° 30' E; (B) 34° 40' S, 25° 30' E; (C) 34° 55' S, 25° 0' E; and (D) 34° 50' S, 25° 0' E. The area includes the sea bed, water column and subsoil within these boundaries.

Purpose

The purpose for declaring Marine Protected Area is:

- (a) To contribute to a national and global representative system of marine protected areas by providing protection to the benthic ecosystems of the shelf edge and slope of this region;
- (b) to conserve and protect cold water coral reefs and associated ecosystems;
- (c) to conserve and protect the biodiversity and ecological processes associated with these ecosystems; and
- (d) to protect and provide an appropriate reference environment for research and monitoring particularly research on fisheries impacts and recovery and kingklip spawning and nursery requirements.

Annexure 1:

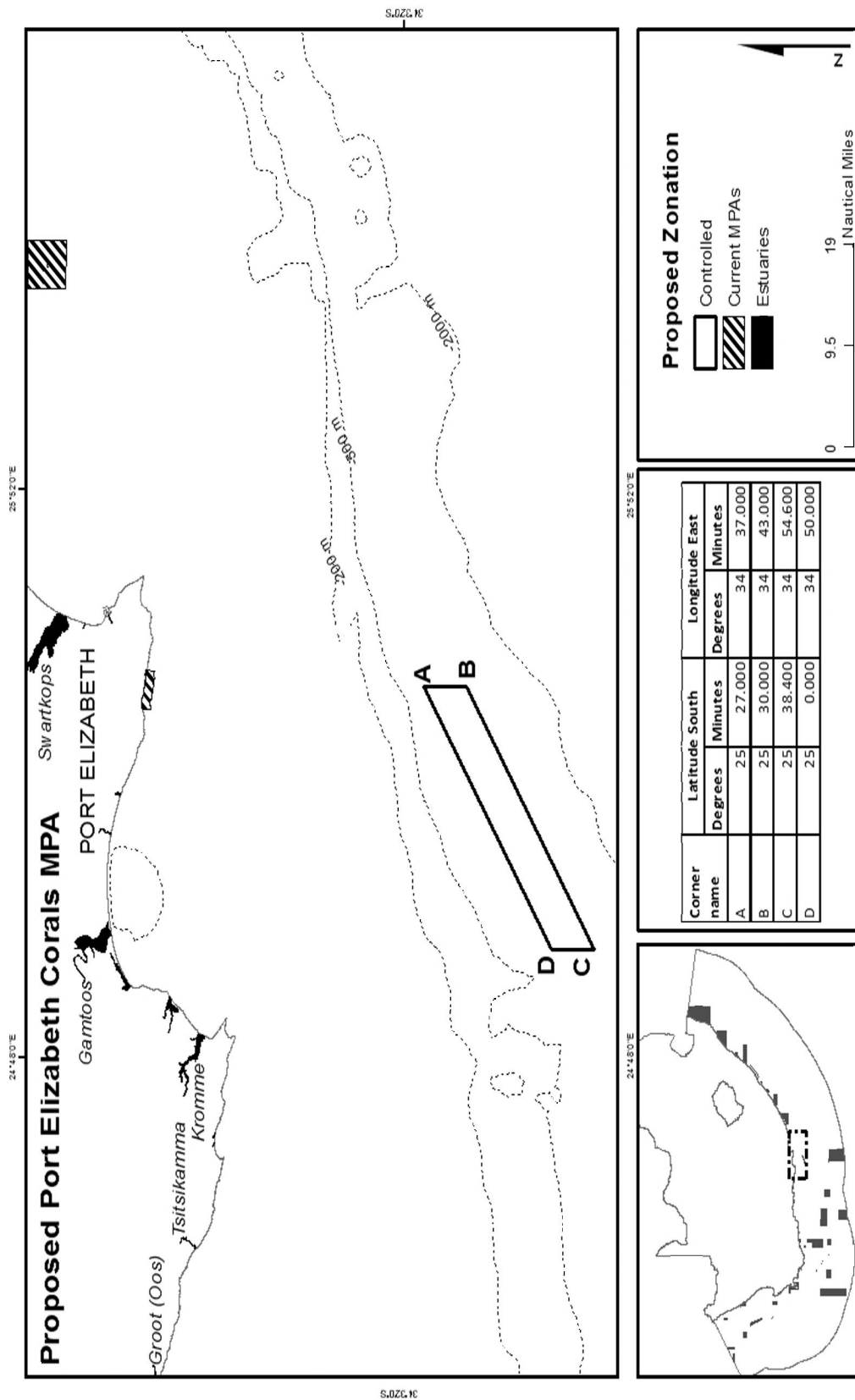


Fig 1. The proposed boundaries for the Port Elizabeth Corals Marine Protected Area

Table 1. The exact geographic coordinates (WGS 84) of points A-D in Fig 1.

Corner name	X (East) Decimal Degrees	Y (South) Decimal Degrees	X (East) Degrees	X (East) Minutes	Y (South) Degrees	Y (South) Minutes
A	25.5000	-34.5833	25	30.000	34	35.000
B	25.5000	-34.6667	25	30.000	34	40.000
C	25.0000	-34.9166	25	0.000	34	55.000
D	25.0000	-34.8333	25	0.000	34	50.000