

Guidelines

Navigating recreational hovercraft in the Moreton Bay Marine Park and the Great Sandy Marine Park

1. Purpose

Marine parks are set aside for the conservation of the marine environment, while providing opportunities for reasonable use of some areas—subject to the special management and habitat protection objectives that may apply in particular areas.

Hovercraft access to the Moreton Bay Marine Park and Great Sandy Marine Park is governed by the:

- Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 (MB Zoning Plan)
- Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2006 (GS Zoning Plan)

These zoning plans are authorised under the Marine Parks Act 2004 (Act) and additional access conditions are outlined in the Marine Park Regulation 2006.

Under these instruments, hovercraft are defined as 'managed vessels'. This means that any person proposing to navigate a hovercraft in any zone of a marine park is required to seek a permission under the Act and relevant zoning plan.

This Code of practice: Navigating recreational hovercraft in the Moreton Bay Marine Park and the Great Sandy Marine Park ('code') effectively removes the need for a recreational hovercraft operator to seek a marine park permission when navigating in the Moreton Bay Marine Park (MBMP) or Great Sandy Marine Park (GSMP), subject to the following conditions. The conditions have been formulated to manage the potential environmental impacts of hovercraft use on marine park values.

2. Operation of this code

This code is accredited under section 85 of the Regulation and states the conditions under which a person may navigate a recreational hovercraft in the MBMP or GSMP. The code must be read in conjunction with any general requirements outlined in the Act and the Regulation.

Navigating a recreational hovercraft in the MBMP or GSMP without a permission is subject to the operator:

- remaining only within the permitted locations outlined in section 3(a)
- complying with the access conditions outlined in section 3(b).

To clarify, an operator will still need to seek a marine park permission if the hovercraft is proposed to be:

- navigated in the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park (an additional permission under federal legislation may also be required)
- navigated in an area other than a permitted location stated in section 3(a) of this code
- operated in a way that is not captured by the access conditions stated in section 3(b) of this code
- operated commercially.

3. Permitted locations

1. This code applies to allow recreational hovercraft to be navigated in the following permitted zones within MBMP and GSMP:
 - a. General use zones

R

- b. Habitat protection zones
- c. Conservation park zones

For the MBMP, these permitted zones are identified in Parts 1–3, Schedule 1 of the MB Zoning Plan and shown in the attached Map 1.

For the GSMP, these permitted zones are mapped in Schedule 1 of the GS Zoning Plan and the attached Map 2 and visitors guide (attachment 1).

GSMP: Hovercraft are not permitted to operate in:

- The Great Sandy Strait and Tin Can Bay Ramsar Wetland (refer to maps 1 and 3).
 - Go-slow areas – designed for turtle and dugong populations resting and feeding (refer to map 5 and GSMP visitors guide in attachment 1).
 - The Mon Repos area—designated for the protection of marine turtles (refer to map 2)
 - Turtle protection areas (refer to map 2).
 - All marine national park zones (green) (refer to map 4).
 - To access tidal land (including beaches and creeks) within Fraser Island and Cooloola Recreation Areas (refer to maps 6 and 7).
2. Access to these permitted locations remains subject to the site-specific restrictions outlined in sections (a) and (b) below.

(a) Restricted locations within MBMP

3. Navigation of recreational hovercraft is prohibited in the following designated areas of the MBMP:
 - a. Go slow areas set aside for turtle and dugong feeding and resting, as shown in the attached Map 3
 - b. Go slow areas for natural values, as shown in the attached Map 3
4. Hovercraft are not permitted to access intertidal areas included within Moreton Island Recreation Area (shown in the attached Map 4), Bribie Island Recreation Area (shown in the attached Map 5) and Minjerribah Recreation Area (shown in the attached Map 6) without a permit to land a recreational craft or a commercial activity permit.
5. Hovercraft are permitted to operate in the following Marine National Park Zones only (highlighted in green in the attached Map 1)
 - a. MNP03 – Northern Wedge
 - b. MNP07 – Braydon Beach
 - c. MNP08 – Deep Offshore Moreton Island
 - d. MNP09 – Deception Bay
 - e. MNP10 – Cherubs Cave-Henderson Rock
 - f. MNP12 – Scotts Point
 - g. MNP13 – Bramble Bay (excluding Nundah & Nudgee Creek)
 - h. MNP14 – Middle Moreton Bay
 - i. MNP16 – Mirapool Islands-Offshore Area (excluding Mirapool Lagoon)
 - j. MNP17 – St Helena
 - k. MNP18 – Amity Banks
 - l. MNP21 – Amity Banks (West)
 - m. MNP24 – Cox Bank
 - n. MNP25 – Offshore North Stradbroke Island
 - o. MNP27 – Lamb Island
 - p. MNP28 – Pannikin Island

q. MNP32 – Offshore South Stradbroke Island

(b) Restricted locations within GSMP

6. Navigation of recreational hovercraft is absolutely prohibited in:
 - a. the following designated areas of the GSMP, which are illustrated in Schedule 2 of the GS Zoning Plan, and have been set aside for special management (refer to maps):
 - i. Go-slow areas
 - ii. The Mon Repos area—designated for the protection of marine turtles
 - iii. Turtle protection areas
 - b. The Great Sandy Strait and Tin Can Bay Ramsar wetland of international importance
 - c. Marine National Park Zones (highlighted in green).
7. Hovercraft must maintain a distance of at least 200m from other shorebird roost sites (northern section of the marine park. Hovercrafts are excluded from the Great Sandy Straits Ramsar wetland (southern section) of the marine park.
8. Unless the operator has a permit to land a recreational craft or a commercial activity permit, hovercraft are not permitted to operate within the Fraser Island Recreational Management Area (World Heritage Area) (this includes all beaches and creeks), along with Cooloola Recreational Management Area (RAM).

4. Access conditions for navigating within MBMP and GSMP

7. Hovercraft entry and egress to the marine park must only be via formalised access points (e.g. boat ramps) or via water bodies adjoining the marine park.
8. Hovercraft must not traverse exposed seagrass beds, mudflats, saltmarsh, salt pans, sandbanks, and other exposed intertidal areas including beaches not open to vehicles. This includes not traversing the real time water line associated drainage lines and other shallow water bodies within areas of exposed mudflats or other intertidal areas.
9. Hovercraft must maintain a distance of at least 200m from other shorebird roost sites within the marine park/s.
10. Hovercraft must not conduct motorised watersports (as that term is defined in the Regulation):
 - a. on any exposed seagrass beds, mudflats, and sandbanks
 - b. in areas where seabirds are present
 - c. within 500 metres of adjacent developed areas.
11. Hovercraft must travel past areas with visible dwellings, campgrounds or anchored vessels at a distance that keeps the noise levels below 75db when recorded from the receptor.
12. In all other locations not adjacent to sensitive receptors hovercraft must not cause noise that is of nuisance to the public and operate at noise levels acceptable to the public.
13. After starting the hovercraft, the hovercraft must where possible move away as quickly as possible from the start up location.
14. Hovercraft must not operate in a way that makes audible noise before 7am or after 7pm on a business day or Saturday or before 8am or after 6:30pm on any other day.
15. Other than at formalised access points (e.g. boat ramps), traversing, landing/take off must not be conducted within 100m of other people within the marine park (people in water and on beach).
16. Hovercraft must not operate more than twice in any 7-day period in the same location.
17. If whales and dolphins are incidentally encountered, the hovercraft operator must:
 - a. maintain a distance of 300 metres from a whale
 - b. maintain a distance of 300 metres from a whale, if:
 - i. three or more vessels are already closer than 300 metres to the whale

- ii. the boat is moving in a similar direction to, and behind, the whale
- iii. the boat is moving at more than 4 knots
- c. not enter water closer than 300 metres to a whale or 100 metres to a dolphin.

5. Definitions

Other than the definitions in this section, other terms in this code are defined according to Schedule 4 of the Regulation.

Anchorage means a place designated for vessels to anchor.

Audible noise means noise that can be clearly heard by an individual who is an occupier of a building.

Campground means a piece of land available for rent as a camp or caravan site to holiday makers.

Designated area means an area within a marine park set aside for special management, as described in the Great Sandy Zoning Plan.

Dwelling means a house used as a residence.

Fraser Island World Heritage Area means the area of the whole island to high water mark plus a marine component to a distance of 500 metres offshore.

Managed vessel or aircraft means managing a vessel or aircraft that is any of the following: (a) a hovercraft; (b) a wing in ground effects craft; and (c) a hydrofoil.

Minimal impact means operating with minimal noise and/or disturbance within an environmentally sensitive area (i.e. shorebird roost and feeding area).

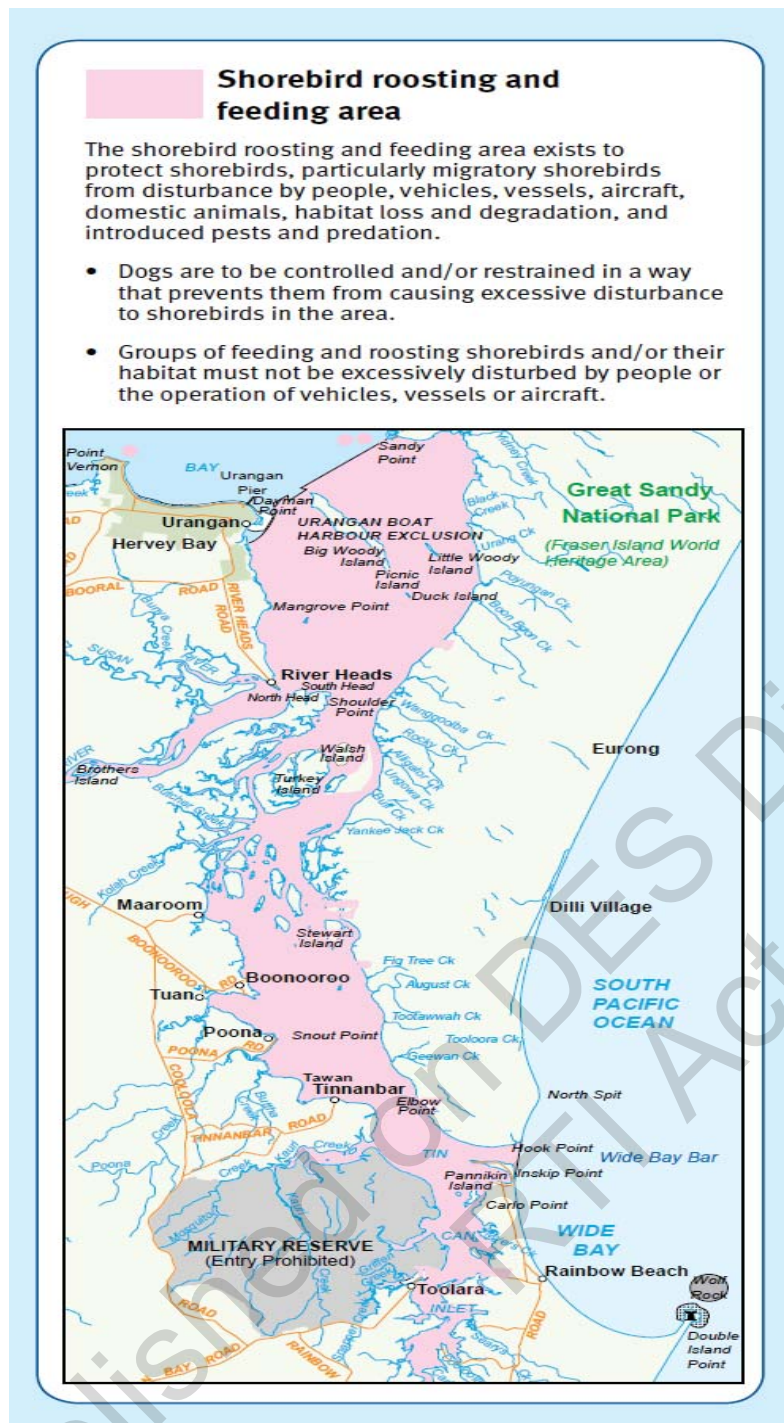
Real time water mark means where the water is at that specific time.

Recreation means an activity or operation not conducted for commercial gain.

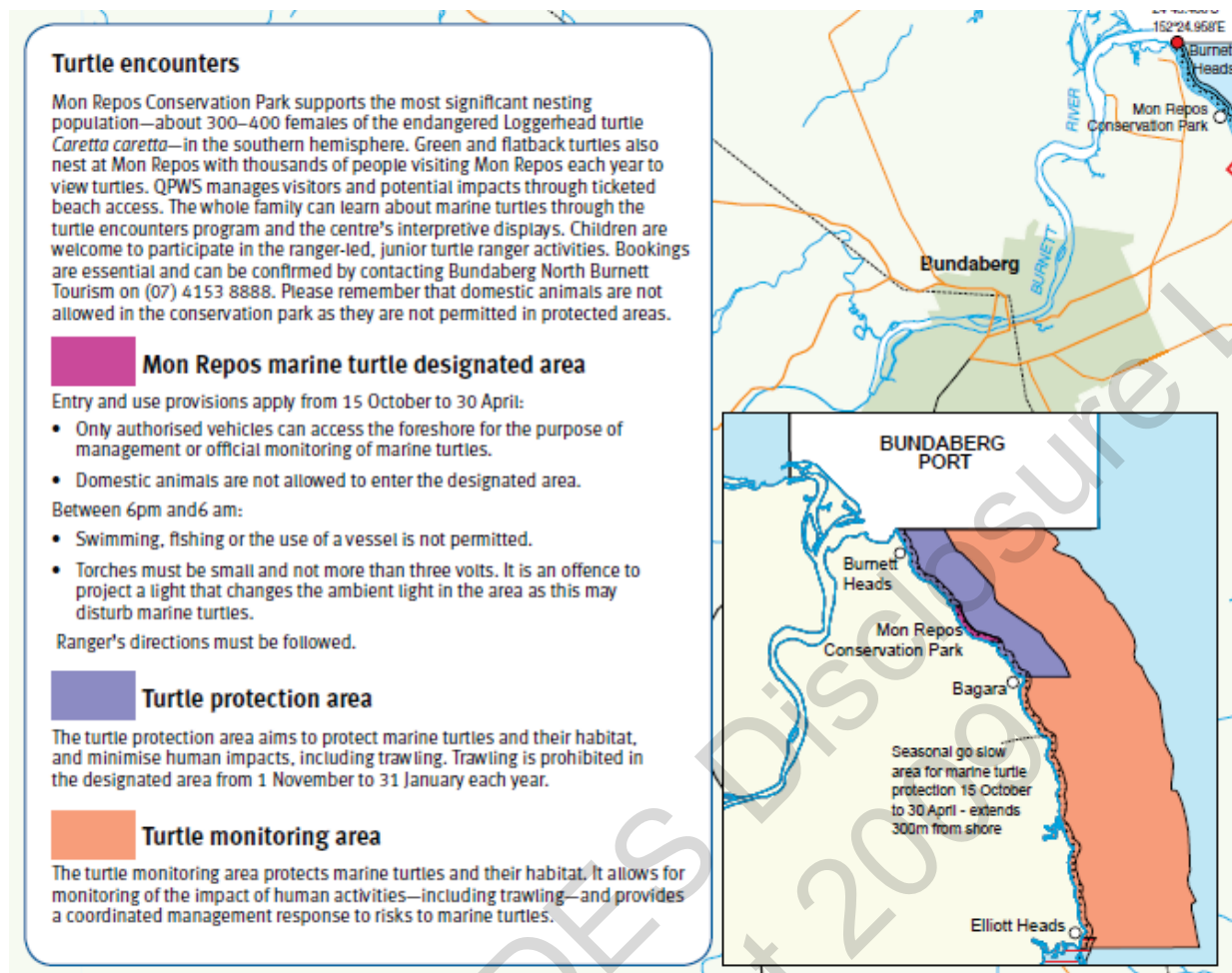
Disclaimer

Approved by

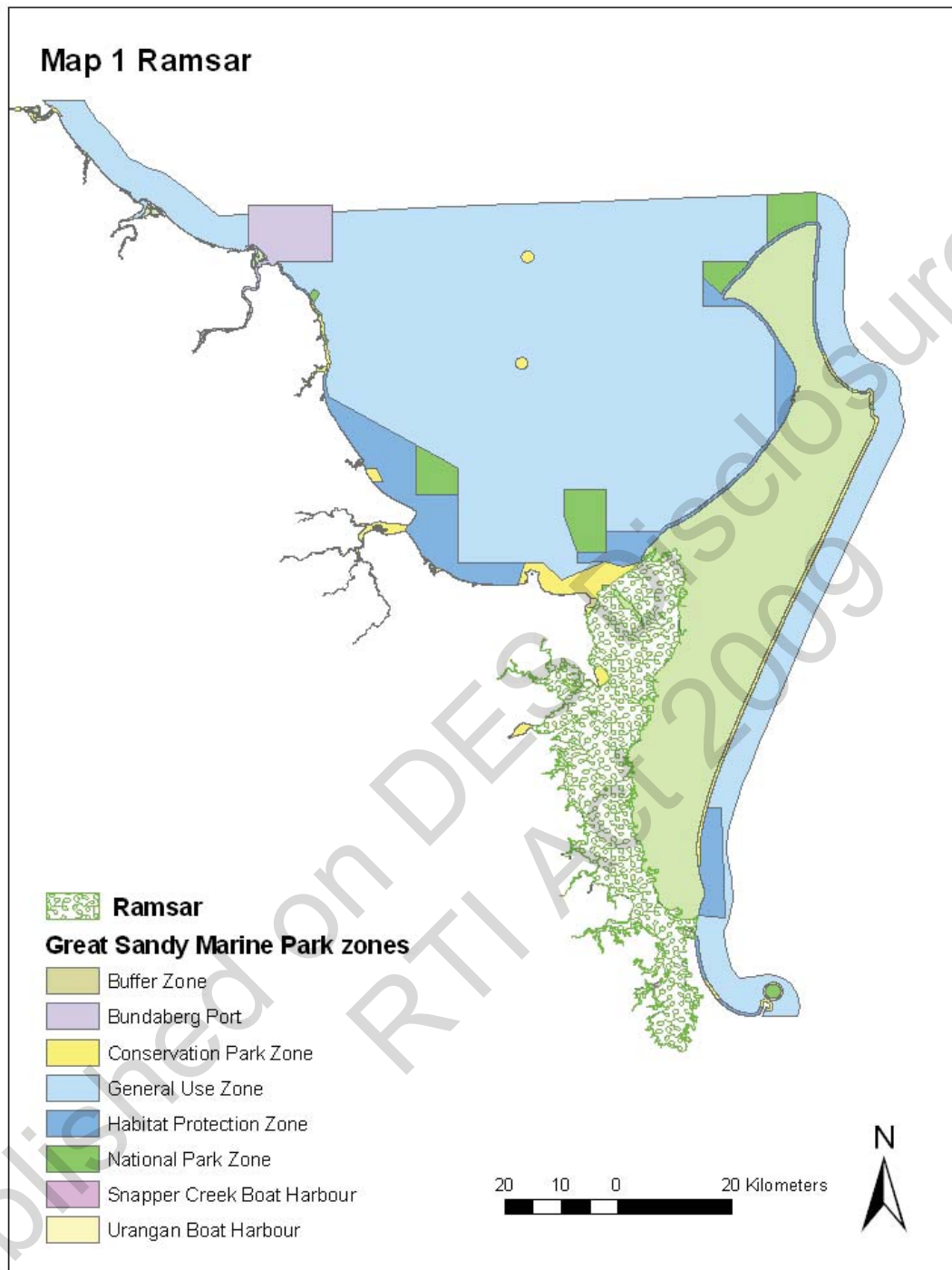
Map 1 – Shorebird Roost and Feeding Area within the Great Sandy Strait



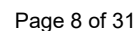
Map 2 – Mon Repos Marine Turtle Area or Turtle Protection Area



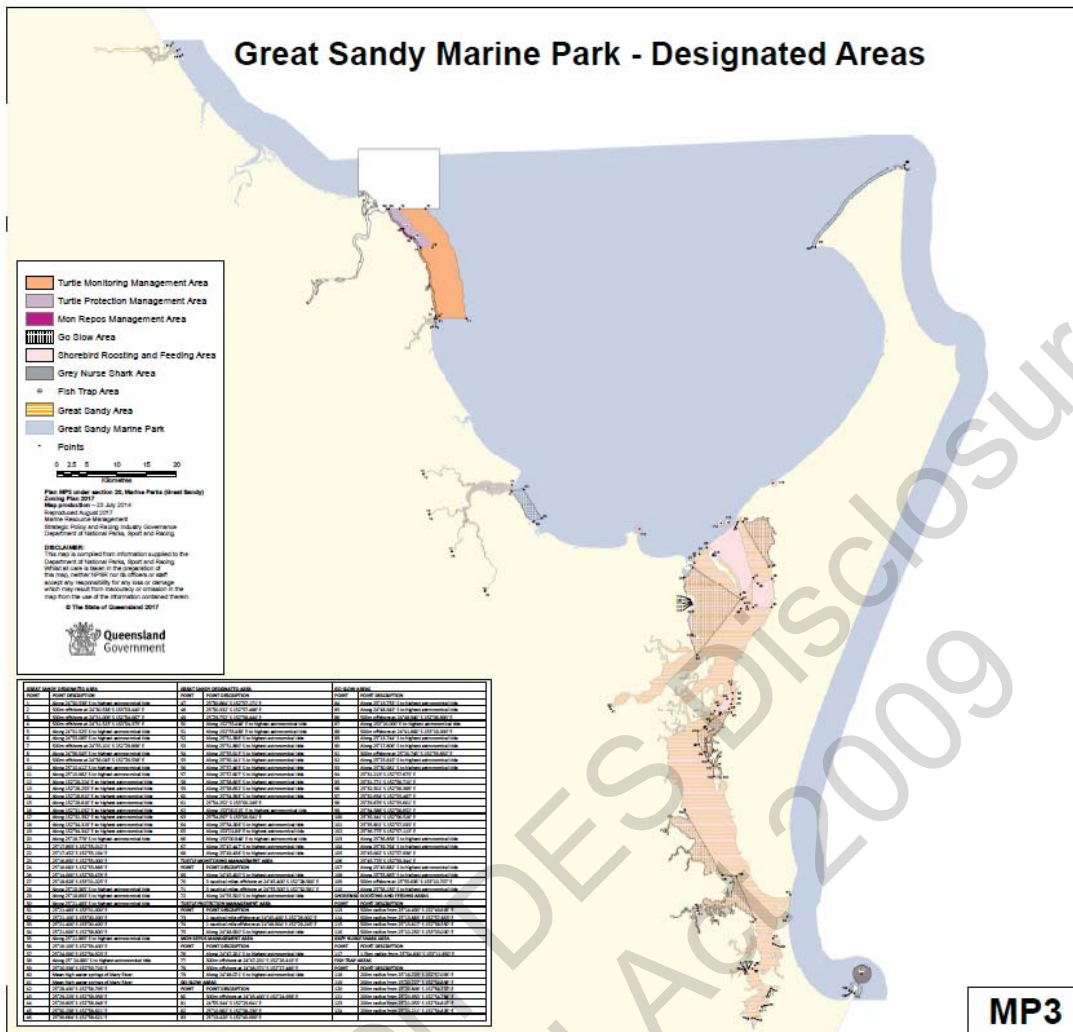
Map 3 – Great Sandy Strait – Ramsar Wetland



8
File B



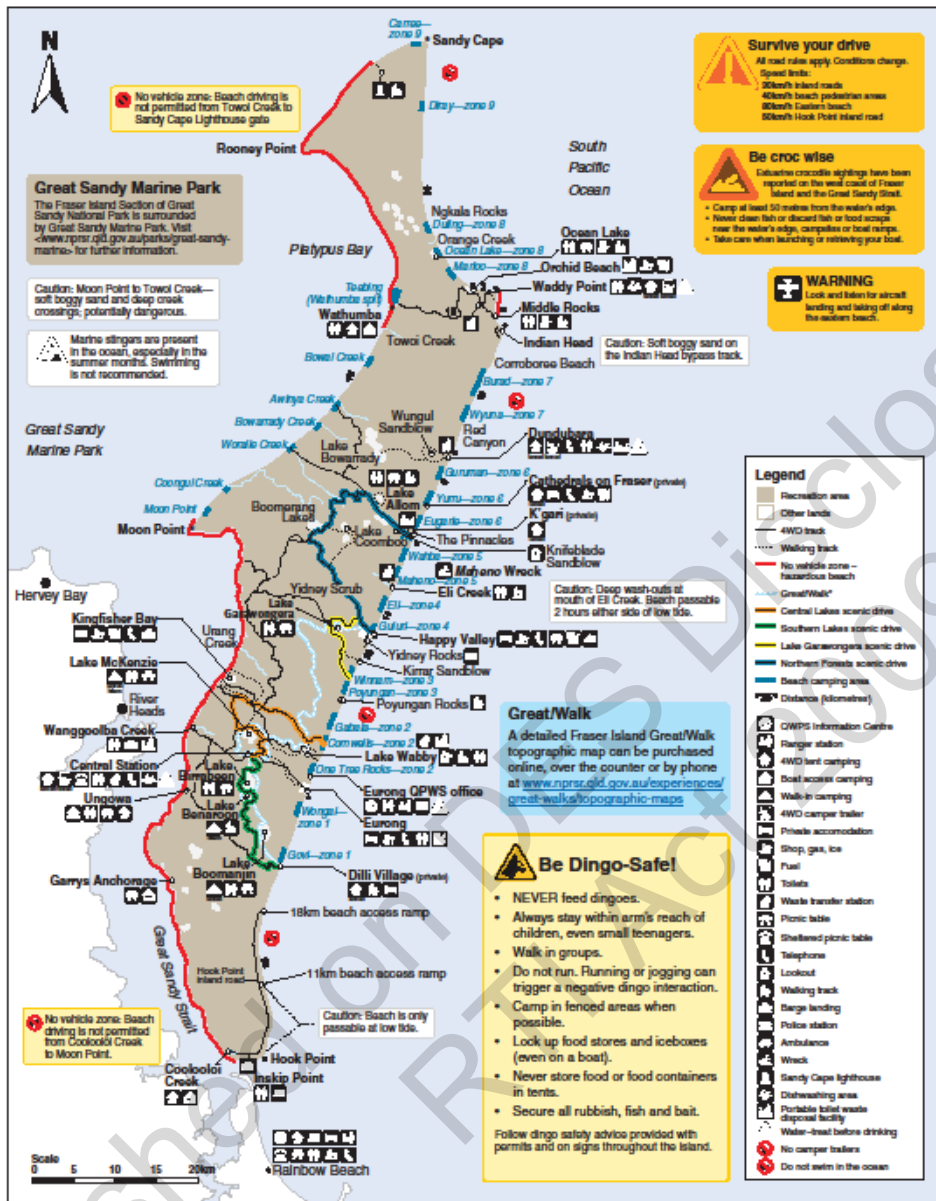
MAP 5 – Great Sandy Designated Areas (MP3) (as per visitors guide)



Map 7 – Fraser Island Recreation Area (RAM)

Fraser Island Recreation Area map

Great Sandy National Park



Procedural guide (internal)

Navigating recreational hovercraft in the Moreton Bay Marine Park and the Great Sandy Marine Park

1. Purpose

This document guides the management and framework of recreational hovercraft across both the southern marine parks to ensure a consistent approach.

The procedural guide is supported by the Southern Marine Parks Technical Support and Operations within the Great Barrier Reef and Marine Parks Region. The conditions are/have been supported and approved by the southern Region. If there is to be any amendment to the conditions this need approval by the Principle Ranger/s. This will ensure consistency and provide a clear and transparent way forward, given the complexities and varied approaches over previous years.

2. Supporting information

Marine parks are set aside for the conservation of the marine environment, while providing opportunities for reasonable use of some areas—subject to the special management and habitat protection objectives that may apply in particular areas.

Hovercraft access to the Moreton Bay Marine Park and Great Sandy Marine Park is governed by the:

- Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 (MB Zoning Plan)
- Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2017 (GS Zoning Plan)

These zoning plans subordinate legislation to the under the Marine Parks Act 2004 (Act) and additional access conditions are outlined in the Marine Park Regulation 2017.

Under the entry and use provisions of the respective zoning plans permission is required to operate a 'managed vessel' in each marine park. A managed vessel is defined as:

Managed vessel means any of the following—

- (a) a hovercraft;
- (b) a wing in ground effect craft;
- (c) a hydrofoil;
- (d) an airboat.

As such an operator of a hovercraft requires permission (i.e. a marine parks permit) to use this type of vessel in either of the marine parks. An assessment of the permit application for a permission is required. The activity is assessed against specific legislative criteria. Specifically, the Marine Park Regulation 2017, the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 and Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2017 outline the matters QPWS, as the responsible agency, must have in regard to considering applications for permissions.

- Under the Marine Parks Regulation 2017 these matters are specified under Regulation 10. If relevant, the Chief Executive may also consider additional matters specified under Regulation 11(1).

- Under the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 these matters are specified under Part 2 (section 10).

- Under the Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2017 these matters are specified under Part 6 (section 72).

- With the matters the Chief Executive may consider, only those which add value to the consideration by the Delegate are to be included in the assessment. However, some of these criteria are considered for all applications, specifically MPR11(1)(i).



As part of that process the conditions have been formulated to manage the potential environmental impacts of hovercraft use on marine park values.

3. Permitted locations

1. The procedural guide allow recreational hovercraft to be navigated in the following permitted zones within MBMP and GSMP:

- a. General use zones
- b. Habitat protection zones
- c. Conservation park zones

For the MBMP, these permitted zones are identified in Parts 1–3, Schedule 1 of the MB Zoning Plan and shown in the attached Map 1.

Historical use/approvals in MNPZ

MBMP: Hovercraft are not permitted to operate in:

XX

Commented [A1]: Michelle - did you want to add some information in here about the operators allowed access in the MNPZ - is this due to historical use?

Commented [A2]: Can you include this section for MBMP as our zoning plan differ as you know? Please also include the relevant maps

For the GSMP, these permitted zones are mapped in Schedule 1 of the GS Zoning Plan and the attached Map 2 and visitors guide (attachment 1).

GSMP: Hovercraft are not permitted to operate in:

- The Great Sandy Strait and Tin Can Bay Ramsar Wetland (refer to maps 1 and 3).
 - Go-slow designated areas – designed for turtle and dugong populations resting and feeding (refer to map 5 and GSMP visitors guide in attachment 1).
 - The Mon Repos designated area (refer to map 2)
 - Turtle protection areas (refer to map 2).
 - All marine national park zones (green) (refer to map 4).
 - To access tidal land (including beaches and creeks) within Fraser Island and Cooloola Recreation Areas (refer to maps 6 and 7).
2. Access to these permitted locations remains subject to the site-specific restrictions outlined in sections (a) and (b) below.

(a) Restricted locations within MBMP

3. Navigation of recreational hovercraft is prohibited in the following designated areas of the MBMP:
- a. Go slow areas set aside (turtle and dugong) as shown in the attached Map X
 - b. Go slow areas for natural values, as shown in the attached Map X
4. Hovercraft are not permitted to access intertidal areas included within Moreton Island Recreation Area (shown in the attached Map X), Bribie Island Recreation Area (shown in the attached Map 5) and Minjerribah Recreation Area (shown in the attached Map X) without a permit to land a recreational craft or a commercial activity permit.
5. Hovercraft are permitted to operate in the following Marine National Park Zones only (highlighted in green in the attached Map X)
- a. MNP03 – Northern Wedge
 - b. MNP07 – Braydon Beach
 - c. MNP08 – Deep Offshore Moreton Island
 - d. MNP09 – Deception Bay
 - e. MNP10 – Cherubs Cave-Henderson Rock
 - f. MNP12 – Scotts Point

- g. MNP13 – Bramble Bay (excluding Nundah & Nudgee Creek)
- h. MNP14 – Middle Moreton Bay
- i. MNP16 – Mirapool Islands-Offshore Area (excluding Mirapool Lagoon)
- j. MNP17 – St Helena
- k. MNP18 – Amity Banks
- l. MNP21 – Amity Banks (West)
- m. MNP24 – Cox Bank
- n. MNP25 – Offshore North Stradbroke Island
- o. MNP27 – Lamb Island
- p. MNP28 – Pannikin Island
- q. MNP32 – Offshore South Stradbroke Island

(b) Restricted locations within GSMP

6. Navigation of recreational hovercraft is prohibited in:

- a. the following designated areas of the GSMP, which are illustrated in Schedule 2 of the GS Zoning Plan, and have been set aside for special management (refer to maps):
 - i. Go-slow designated areas
 - ii. The Mon Repos designated area
- b. The Great Sandy Strait and Tin Can Bay Ramsar wetland of international importance (and shorebird designated area)
- c. Marine National Park Zones (highlighted in green).

7. Hovercraft must maintain a distance of at least 200m from other shorebird roost sites (northern section of the marine park (refer to map X). Hovercrafts are excluded from the Great Sandy Straits Ramsar wetland (southern section) of the marine park.

8. Unless the operator has a permit to land a recreational craft, hovercraft are not permitted to operate within the Fraser Island Recreational Management Area (World Heritage Area) (this includes all beaches and creeks), along with Cooloolool Recreational Management Area (RAM).

4. Access conditions for navigating within MBMP and GSMP

9. Hovercraft entry and egress to the marine park must only be via formalised access points (e.g. boat ramps) or via water bodies adjoining the marine park.

10. Hovercraft must not traverse exposed seagrass beds, mudflats, saltmarsh, salt pans, sandbanks, and other exposed intertidal areas including beaches not open to vehicles. This includes not traversing the real time water line associated drainage lines and other shallow water bodies within areas of exposed mudflats or other intertidal areas.

11. Hovercraft must maintain a distance of at least 200m from shorebird roost sites within the marine park/s (Maps x and X).

12. Hovercraft must not conduct motorised watersports (as that term is defined in the Regulation):

- d. on any exposed seagrass beds, mudflats, and sandbanks
- e. in areas where seabirds are present
- f. within 500 metres of adjacent developed areas.

13. Hovercraft must travel past areas with visible dwellings, campgrounds or anchored vessels at a distance that keeps the noise levels below 75db.

14. In all other locations not adjacent to sensitive areas hovercraft must not cause noise that is of nuisance to the public and operate at noise levels acceptable to the public.

15. After starting the hovercraft, the hovercraft must where possible move away as quickly as possible from the start up location.

16. Hovercraft must not operate in a way that makes audible noise before 7am or after 7pm on a business day or Saturday or before 8am or after 6:30pm on any other day.

17. Other than at formalised access points (e.g. boat ramps), traversing, landing/take off must not be conducted within 100m of other people within the marine park (people in water and on beach).

18. Hovercraft must not operate more than twice in any 7-day period in the same location.

19. If whales and dolphins are incidentally encountered, the hovercraft operator must: maintain a distance of 300 metres from a whale.

5. Definitions

In accordance with the Marine Parks Act and supporting Regulation, along with the Moreton Bay and Great Sandy Marine Parks Zoning Plans:

Anchorage means a place designated for vessels to anchor.

Audible noise means noise that can be clearly heard by an individual who is an occupier of a building.

Campground means a piece of land available for rent as a camp or caravan site to holiday makers.

Designated area means an area within a marine park set aside for special management, as described in the Great Sandy Zoning Plan.

Dwelling means a house used as a residence.

Fraser Island World Heritage Area means the area of the whole island to high water mark plus a marine component to a distance of 500 metres offshore.

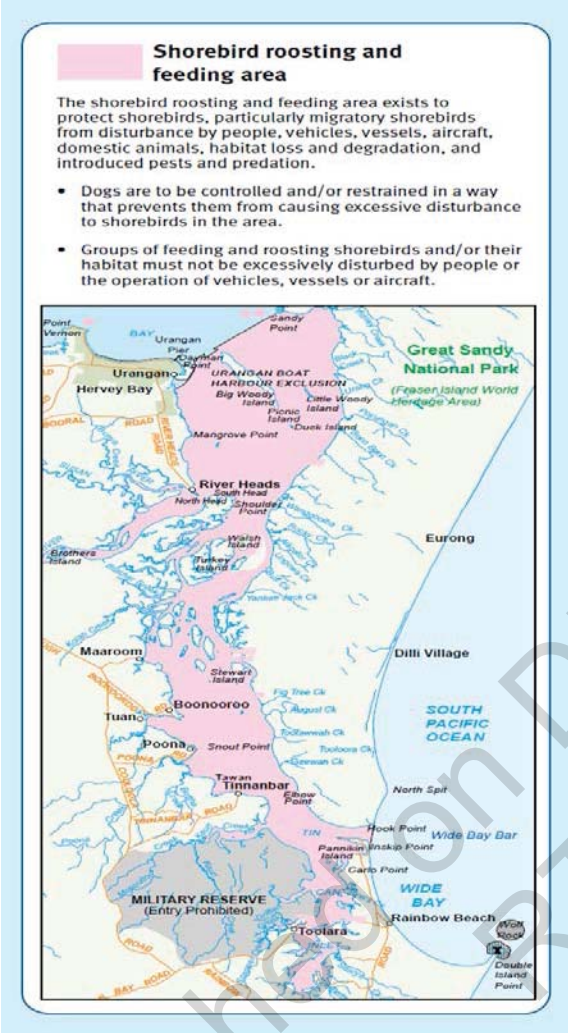
Managed vessel or aircraft means managing a vessel or aircraft that is any of the following: (a) a hovercraft; (b) a wing in ground effects craft; and (c) a hydrofoil.

Minimal impact means operating with minimal noise and/or disturbance within an environmentally sensitive area (i.e. shorebird roost and feeding area).

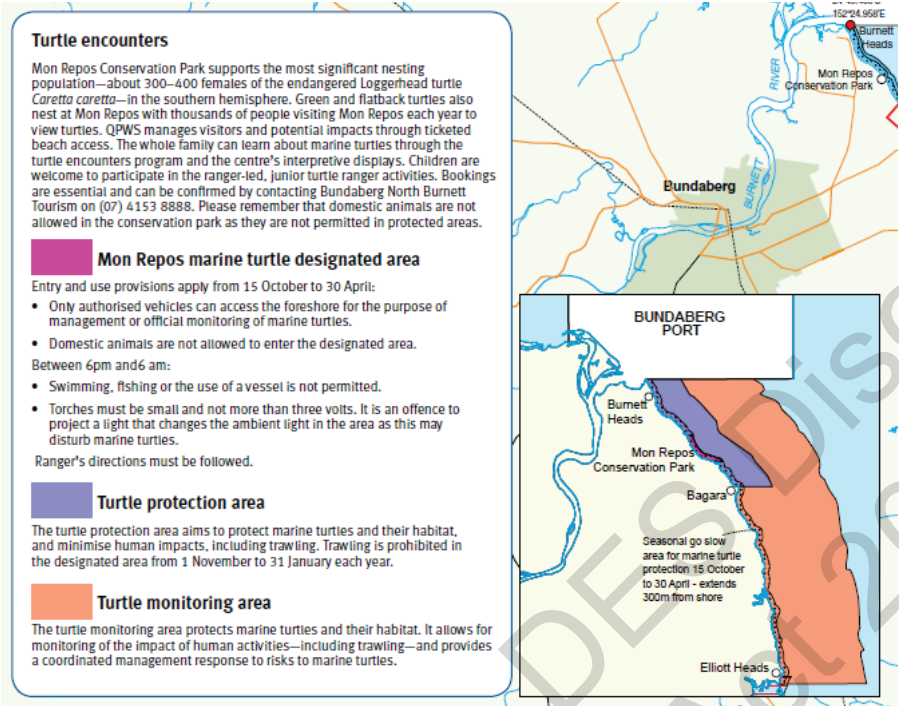
Real time water mark means where the water is at that specific time.

Recreation means an activity or operation not conducted for commercial gain.

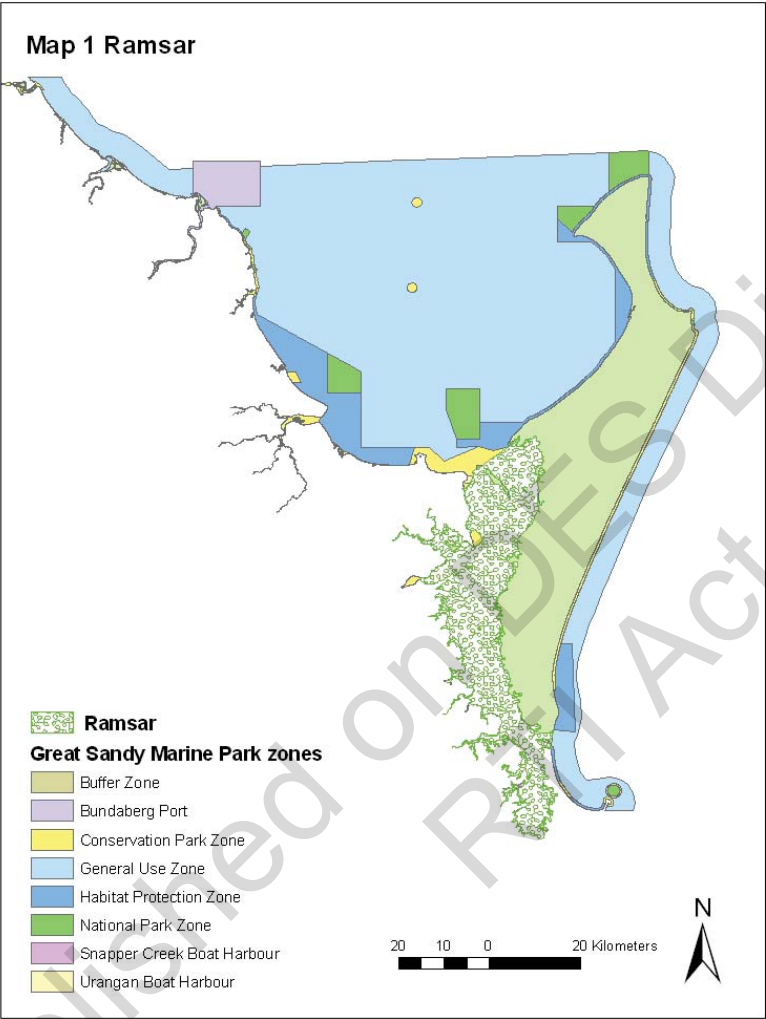
Map 1 – Shorebird Roost and Feeding Area within the Great Sandy Strait



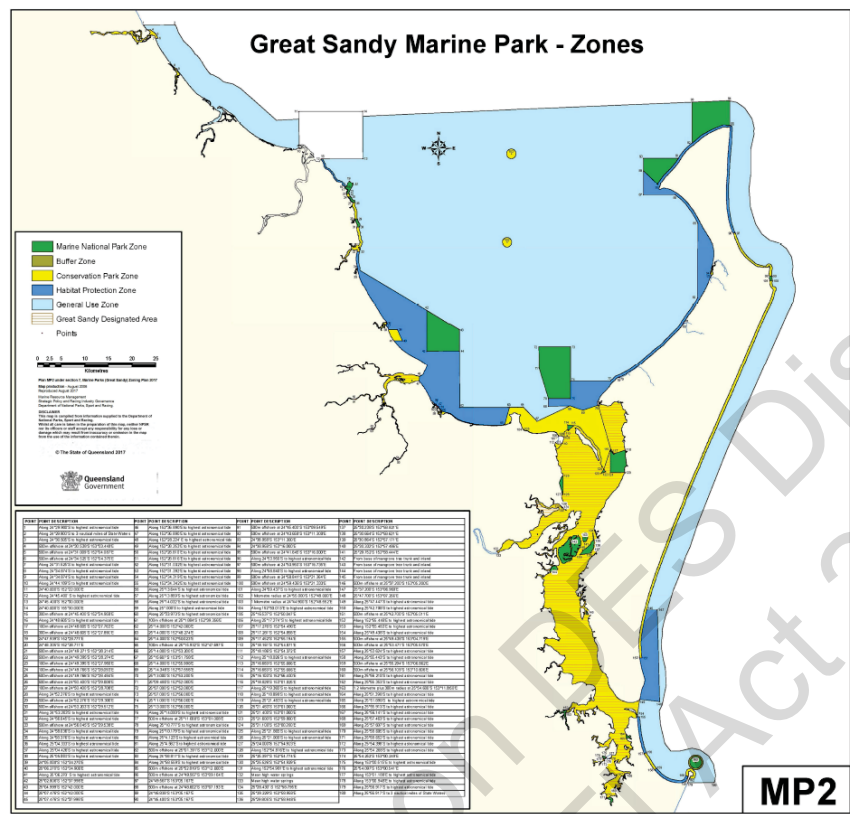
Map 2 – Mon Repos Marine Turtle Area or Turtle Protection Area



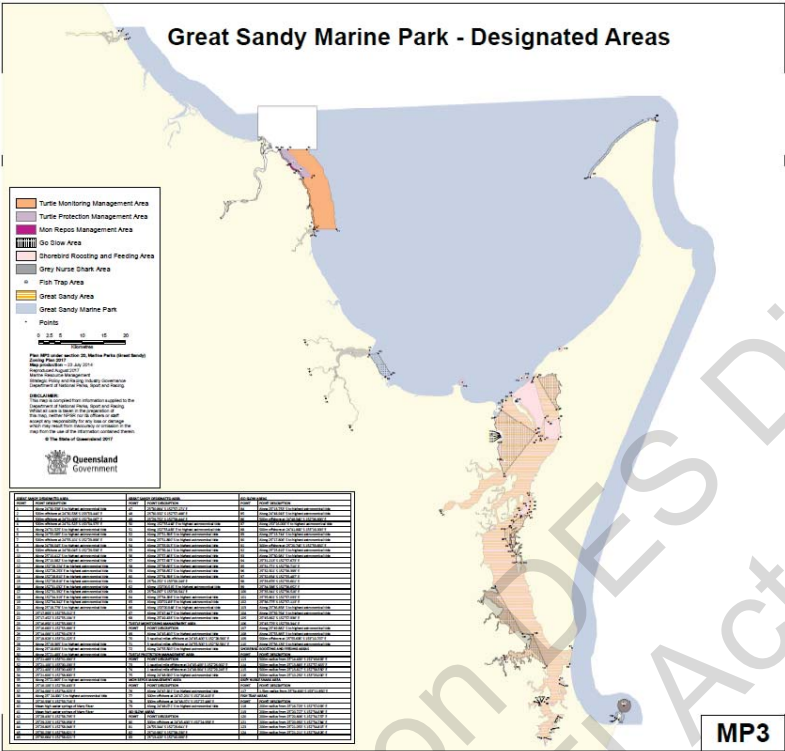
Map 3 – Great Sandy Strait – Ramsar Wetland



MAP 4 – Great Sandy Marine Park Zones (MP2) (as per visitors guide)



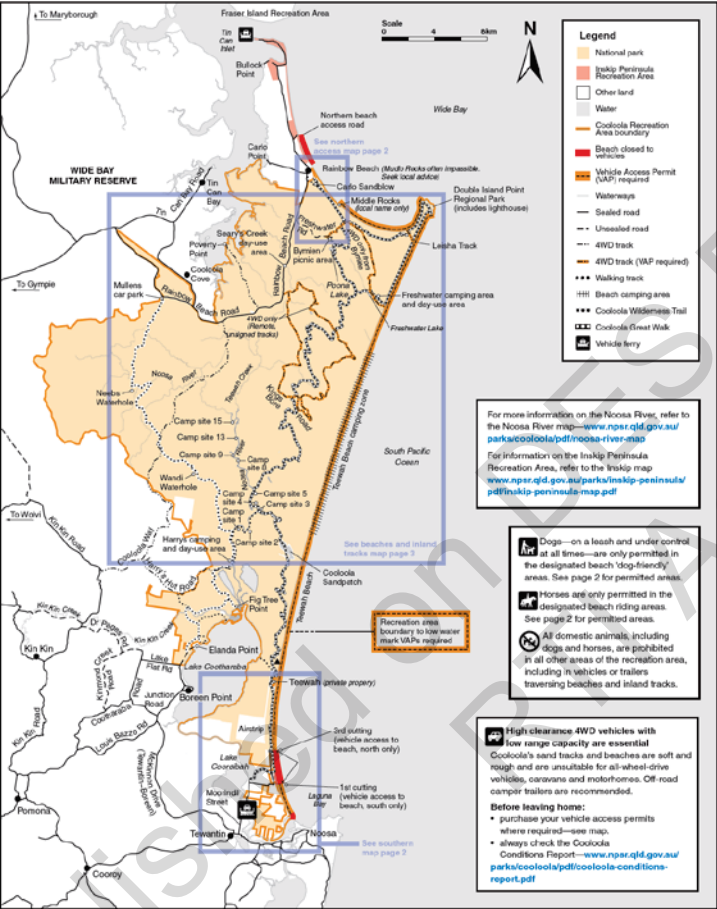
MAP 5 – Great Sandy Designated Areas (MP3) (as per visitors guide)



Map 6 - Coolooloa Recreation Area (RAM)

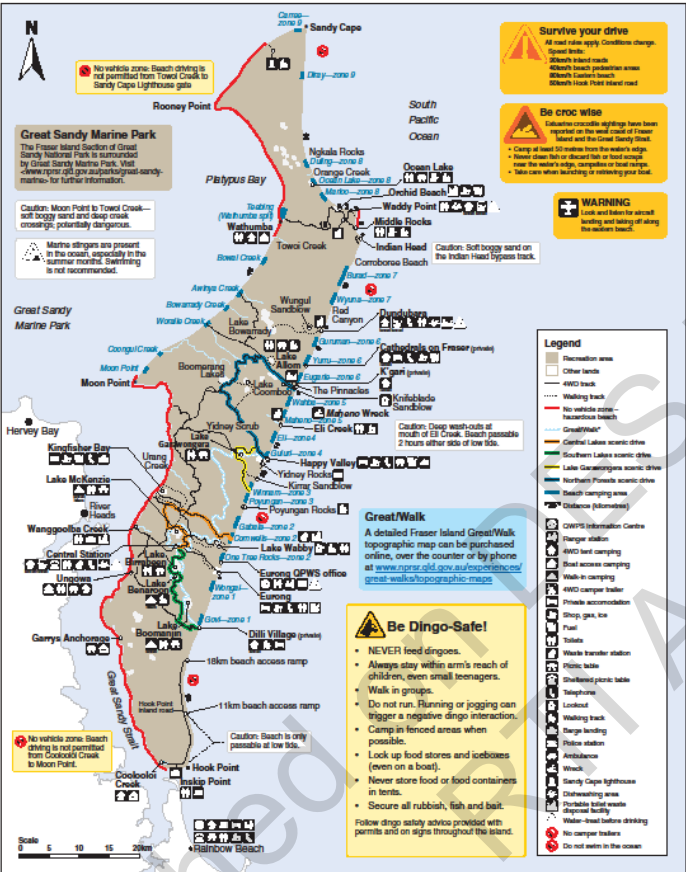
Coolooloa access map
Coolooloa Recreation Area, Great Sandy National Park

Page 1 of 4



Map 7 – Fraser Island Recreation Area (RAM)

Fraser Island Recreation Area map
Great Sandy National Park



Assessment form - decision

Marine park management

Permits for (State only) marine parks – Navigate a managed vessel (hovercraft) – version 1

File reference	GSMP
Assessed by	

DRAFT FOR INTERNAL DISCUSSION The permit application has been assessed as per the class assessment for navigating a managed vessel (hovercraft) which was endorsed for use in 2018 (GSMP_May V1). A review of the class assessment and associated permit documentation is currently being undertaken by Technical Support staff within the Great Barrier Reef and Marine Parks Region. Until such time as a new Standard Operating Procedure is approved, applications to navigate a managed vessel (hovercraft) for recreational use will be assessed in line with the 2018 class assessment for this activity. Minor amendments have been made to permit conditions to reflect decisions made by the Assessments and Approvals Branch of QPWS in 2017 and to ensure consistency across all the GSMP permits issued for GSMP to-date, as such the class assessment makes reference to the amended conditions included in the attached draft permit.

Applicant details

Name of applicant		
Postal address		
Telephone		Fax
Email address		
ABN / ACN	☐ ABN / ACN checked on ASIC website	

Application details

Period of permit	Three years from date of issue (if a new operator) Six years from date of issue (if an existing operator)
Proposed use	1. Navigation of a managed vessel - hovercraft. 2. Vessel charter involving the navigation of a managed vessel - hovercraft.
Zones and locations	General use, habitat protection and conservation park zones, as shown in the Great Sandy Marine Park (GSMP) visitors guide (attachment 1). Hovercraft are <u>not permitted</u> to operate in: 1. The Great Sandy Strait and Tin Can Bay Ramsar Wetland (refer to maps 1 and 3).

Permits for (State only) marine parks – standard assessment

	2. Go-slow areas – designed for turtle and dugong populations resting and feeding (refer to map 5 and GSMP visitors guide in attachment 1). 3. The Mon Repos area—designated for the protection of marine turtles (refer to map 2) 4. Turtle protection areas (refer to map 2). 5. All marine national park zones (green) (refer to map 4). 6. To access tidal land (including beaches and creeks) within Fraser Island and Cooloola Recreation Areas (refer to maps 6 and 7)
Designated areas	As outlined above

Application background

Permit history of applicant (if relevant):

Nature and extent of proposal

Detailed description of the proposed activity, including specific locations involved:

Applicant suitability

a) Has the applicant or any associated person held or been party to an authority or agreement that has been suspended or cancelled in the 3 years prior to the date of this application?	☐ YES ☐ NO
b) Does the applicant or any associated person owe any amount payable under the <i>Marine Parks Act 2004</i> ?	☐ YES ☐ NO
c) Has the applicant or any associated person been convicted of an offence within 3 years prior to the date of this application against legislation that protects the marine park, wildlife, recreation and protected areas?	☐ YES ☐ NO
d) Is the applicant considered to be a suitable person? Discuss history of applicant in relation to environmental matters (if relevant) Discuss ability of applicant to conduct activities under the permission in a competent or ethical way (if relevant)	☐ YES ☐ NO

Native title requirements

☐ The need for Native Title notification was assessed and found not to be necessary; **OR**
☐ The need for Native Title notification was assessed and found to be necessary. Representatives of **<state the Native Title Representative Body>** and **<list Native Title claimants>** was/were invited to provide comments on the proposal. Details of the notification procedure and response(s) obtained are set out below.

Notification sent to	Representative body details	Date
	NT claimant details	Date

Permits for (State only) marine parks – standard assessment

Expiry date for comments (as per DNR&M)		
Comments received from	Representative body details	Date
	NT claimant details	Date
Comments were taken into considerations during the assessment process	☐ YES ☐ NO	

Public notice:

- ☐ The proposed activity does not fall within section 15 of the Regulation and public notice was not required.
- ☐ The proposed activity falls within section 15 and public notice was required.

Summary of public submission comments received:

.....

Copies of all comments received are filed at:

NB. If public notice is deemed necessary it is still appropriate to use the class assessment provided that there is public support for the proposed activity and if issues raised by the public are adequately addressed under the class assessment.

The assessing officer should discuss options with their supervisor prior to proceeding with the class assessment if they consider that a public notice may be required.

REFER TO CLASS ASSESSMENT Navigate a managed vessel (hovercraft) VERSION 1.

<G:\QPWS\Marine Parks\Permits\Proforma Assessment\Class Assessment Hovercraft V1.doc>

Checklist for commercial hovercraft operators

Checklist.	Yes	No	N/a
This check list outlines the critical considerations outlined in the class assessment and that form the basis of permit conditions. Read and answer questions from beginning to end.			
Is this assessment for commercial hovercraft?	☐ go to 1	☐ Conditions previously found in the Code of Practice for recreation hovercraft (attachment to permit) are now listed	

Assessment form

Permits for (State only) marine parks – standard assessment

		as part of the permit conditions.	
1. Will the hovercraft traverse/land on exposed intertidal areas?	☐ go to 2	☐ go to 3	
2. Assess the value of the intertidal areas for marine plants and invertebrates. Assess the location in terms of proximity to sensitive receptors e.g. anchorages, residential areas, campgrounds, popular recreation areas. Marine Park Permit must not authorise traversing/landing within 200m of such locations. Marine Park Permit must not authorise traversing/landing on exposed areas with seagrass and invertebrates. Include condition 4 stipulating suitable areas for landing/traversing and the number of times landing/traversing is supported per day.			
3. Does the tour propose to travel past a shorebird site when not travelling within a marked navigation channel?	☐ go to 4	☐ go to 5	
4. Advise the applicant that this route is not supported.			
5. Include condition 'The permit holder must not travel past a shorebird site shown on Attachment 1 unless travelling within a marked navigation channel'.			
6. Does the hovercraft propose to stop at a location within 200m of a shorebird site?	☐ go to 7	☐ go to 8	
7. Ensure the applicant is advised that stopping at this location is not supported			
8. Include condition 'The permit holder must not use tidal land within 200m of a shorebird area shown on Attachment 1'.			
9. Is exposed intertidal land being used for stops during the navigation?	☐ go to 10	☐ go to 11	
10. Is it necessary to condition the number of times the hovercraft may land at this location?	☐ go to 11	☐ go to 12	
11. Include the condition 'Landing/ take off of the hovercraft is authorised to occur X times per day at the following locations:'			
12. Delete condition X regarding landing and taking off.			
13. Does the tour involve use of tidal land adjacent to a national park?	☐ go to 14	☐ → N/a	
14. Ensure you have consulted with the relevant national park managers. Provide details of consultation in the <i>nature and extent of proposal</i> section above.			
15. Does the tour involve use of a Recreation Area e.g. tidal land adjacent to Fraser Island, Inskip Peninsula and Cooloola declared under the <i>Recreation Areas Management Act 2006</i> ?	☐ go to 16	☐ go to 17	

Permits for (State only) marine parks – standard assessment

16. Ensure the applicant has a current commercial activity permit to access the RAM area and follow note 1 page 1 of the permit proforma.			
17. Ensure that the applicant is not granted access to tidal land adjacent to the RAM area i.e. Fraser Island and/or Cooloola /Inskip Peninsula and follow note 1 page 1 of the permit proforma.			

CONDITIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN PERMIT:

Conduct of approved activity

1. Hovercraft (managed vessel) entry and egress to the marine park must only be via formalised access points (e.g. boat ramps) or via water bodies adjoining the marine park.
2. Hovercraft must not traverse exposed seagrass beds, mudflats, saltmarsh, salt pans, sandbanks, and other exposed intertidal areas including beaches not open to vehicles. This includes not traversing the real time water line associated drainage lines and other shallow water bodies within areas of exposed mudflats or other intertidal areas.
3. Hovercraft must maintain a distance of at least 200m from other shorebird roost sites (northern section of the marine park. *Hovercrafts are excluded from the Great Sandy Straits Ramsar wetland (southern section) of the marine park.*
4. Hovercraft must travel past areas with visible dwellings, campgrounds or anchored vessels at a distance that keeps the noise levels below 75db when recorded from the receptor.
5. In all other locations not adjacent to sensitive receptors hovercraft must not cause noise that is of nuisance to the public and operate at noise levels acceptable to the public.
6. After starting the hovercraft, the hovercraft must where possible move away as quickly as possible from the start up location.
7. Hovercraft must not operate in a way that makes audible noise before 7am or after 7pm on a business day or Saturday or before 8am or after 6.30pm on any other day.
8. Other than at formalised access points (e.g. boat ramps), traversing, landing/take off must not be conducted within 100m of other people within the marine park (people in water and on beach).
9. Hovercraft must avoid repetitively operating in the same location on any one day.
10. Hovercraft are not permitted to operate in turtle and dugong feeding and resting designated go slow area.
11. If whales and dolphins are incidentally encountered, the hovercraft operator must: maintain a distance of 300 metres from a whale.
12. Unless the operator has a permit to land a recreational craft or a commercial activity permit, hovercraft are not permitted to operate within the Fraser Island Recreational Management Area (World Heritage Area) (this includes all beaches and creeks), along with Cooloola Recreational Management Area (RAM).

Recommendation

Please note if the recommendation is to **refuse** the application, or **grant** with modifications to what was initially proposed, this should be discussed with the applicant prior to finalising the assessment and the views of the applicant noted.

The application was discussed with the applicant on and (insert date(s)).

Recommendation ☐ GRANT ☐ REFUSE

Signature _____

Date _____

Assessing officer _____

Position _____

The following documents are attached (delete irrelevant documentation):

☐ Draft permit – recreational

☐ Draft permit – commercial

Attachment 1 – Map of approved landing and take of locations **[This is only applicable to commercial hovercraft - Delete if not applicable]**

☐ Draft information notice

(Note: use the information notice decision_not tourism or the information notice_decision_tourism where the hovercraft navigation also involves tourist program activities.

☐ Draft returns form **[For commercial non-tourist only – Delete if not applicable]**

(Note: where the hovercraft navigation also involves tourist program activities, the tourist return form is to be used)

Assessment Report – Marine Parks (State only)

Park Services

Recreational Hovercraft Assessment – Marine Parks (GSMP only)

This report is for the assessment of applications to authorise activities within QPWS state marine parks managed under the Marine Park Act 2004 and associated Regulations.

File reference / Permit number		Continuation	☐
Application received		New (with approved standard assessment)	☐
Assessments and Approvals Officer			
Assessment commenced (by assessing officer)	<insert date>		

Applicant details - Suitable Person Yes ☐ No ☐

Name of applicant			
Telephone		Email	

Application details

Period of permit			
Proposed activity	Navigate a managed vessel (recreational hovercraft).		
Zones and locations	<p>General use, habitat protection and conservation park zones, as shown in the Great Sandy Marine Park (GSMP) visitors guide (attachment 1).</p> <p>Hovercraft are <u>not permitted</u> to operate in:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Great Sandy Strait and Tin Can Bay Ramsar Wetland (refer to maps 1 and 3). 2. Go-slow areas – designed for turtle and dugong populations resting and feeding (refer to map 5 and GSMP visitors guide in attachment 1). 3. The Mon Repos area—designated for the protection of marine turtles (refer to map 2) 4. Turtle protection areas (refer to map 2). 5. All marine national park zones (green) (refer to map 4). <p>To access tidal land (including beaches and creeks) within Fraser Island and Cooloolo Recreation Areas (refer to maps 6 and 7).</p>		
Designated areas	All designated areas		
Returns (current)	Yes ☐	No ☐	N/a ☐
Signed declaration from previous holder (transfers only)	Yes ☐	No ☐	N/a ☐

Note for amendments: If the proposed amendments are major, then the Marine Parks (State only) full assessment form must be completed. Do not complete the remainder of this form.

Native title requirements

Native title required	Yes ☐	No ☐	N/a ☐
Native title comments received	Yes ☐	No ☐	N/a ☐
Comments taken into consideration	Yes ☐	No ☐	N/a ☐

Outline any additional comments (if any): Comments for GSMP are generic in nature at this stage for the Butchulla Sea and Land Claim. All comments received are filed on EDOCS.

Public notice

Does the proposed activity fall within section 15 of the *Marine Parks Regulation 2017*, thereby requiring a public notice?

- ☐ No
☐ Yes

Assessment

The following questions (1 and 2) relate to transfers only

1. Does the proposed activity include an undeveloped project which will incur a large cost?

- ☐ No
☐ Yes (Provide details on the capacity of the applicant to satisfactorily develop and manage the project)

2. Are there any other matters relevant to the orderly and proper management of the marine park?

- ☐ No
☐ Yes (Provide details) <insert comments>

3. Has the activity been previously assessed against section 10 and 11 of the *Marine Parks Regulation 2017* and section 10 of the *Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2017*?

- ☐ No
☐ Yes (Provide details) <insert comments>

This application:

- ☐ Meets the legislative considerations and **should be issued**.
☐ Does not meet the legislative considerations and **should NOT be issued**.

Additional comments / conditions: As per the standard assessment for recreational hovercrafts in GSMP the conditions / conduct of activity apply below:

- Hovercraft (managed vessel) entry and egress to the marine park must only be via formalised access points (e.g. boat ramps) or via water bodies adjoining the marine park.
- Hovercraft must not traverse exposed seagrass beds, mudflats, saltmarsh, salt pans, sandbanks, and other exposed intertidal areas including beaches not open to vehicles. This includes not traversing the real time water line associated drainage lines and other shallow water bodies within areas of exposed mudflats or other intertidal areas.
- Hovercraft must maintain a distance of at least 200m from other shorebird roost sites (northern section of the marine park. *Hovercrafts are excluded from the Great Sandy Straits Ramsar wetland (southern section) of the marine park.*
- Hovercraft must travel past areas with visible dwellings, campgrounds or anchored vessels at a distance that keeps the noise levels below 75db when recorded from the receptor.

5. In all other locations not adjacent to sensitive receptors hovercraft must not cause noise that is of nuisance to the public and operate at noise levels acceptable to the public.
6. After starting the hovercraft, the hovercraft must where possible move away as quickly as possible from the start up location.
7. Hovercraft must not operate in a way that makes audible noise before 7am or after 7pm on a business day or Saturday or before 8am or after 6.30pm on any other day.
8. Other than at formalised access points (e.g. boat ramps), traversing, landing/take off must not be conducted within 100m of other people within the marine park (people in water and on beach).
9. Hovercraft must avoid repetitively operating in the same location on any one day.
10. Hovercraft are not permitted to operate in turtle and dugong feeding and resting designated go slow area.
11. If whales and dolphins are incidentally encountered, the hovercraft operator must: maintain a distance of 300 metres from a whale.
12. Unless the operator has a permit to land a recreational craft or a commercial activity permit, hovercraft are not permitted to operate within the Fraser Island Recreational Management Area (World Heritage Area) (this includes all beaches and creeks), along with Cooloola Recreational Management Area (RAM).

Signature _____	Date _____
Assessing Officer _____	Position _____
Signature _____	Date _____
Endorsing Officer _____ (if relevant)	Position _____

Please return the complete assessment report to the relevant **Assessments and Approvals Unit** via email with a cc to the relevant Project Manager.