

Jurien Bay

Marine Park



Visitor guide



Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

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Jurien Bay marine park

The Jurien Bay Marine Park is unique world-wide for the extensive limestone reef system that runs parallel to this section of the Western Australian coastline. The park extends from Wedge Island to Greenhead and 5.5 km offshore. The marine waters encompass numerous island nature reserves and important seagrass meadows critical for the survival of many marine and terrestrial plants and animals.

The park was declared in 2003 and is representative of a temperate reef existing at its northern most limits. The influence of the southern flowing Leeuwin current on these reefs can be seen in the existence of tropical corals within areas of seagrass and stands of cool water macro-algae.

The reef is a marine enthusiast's delight with caves, grottos, and overhangs covered in multi-coloured sponges, sea squirts, sea fans, and anemones. Schools of buffalo bream, western pomfrets and wrasse can be seen swimming with warm water species including butterflyfish and lionfish. Located shoreward of the outer reefs are extensive meadows of seagrass that grow in the shallow lagoons. These areas are vital as nursery habitats for hundreds of marine animals, including juvenile fish and the commercially important western rock lobster.

The marine park is also home to several populations of the endangered Australian sea lion and is occasionally visited by other large marine megafauna such as dugongs, dolphins, turtles, long nosed fur seals and humpback whales.

Island nature reserves

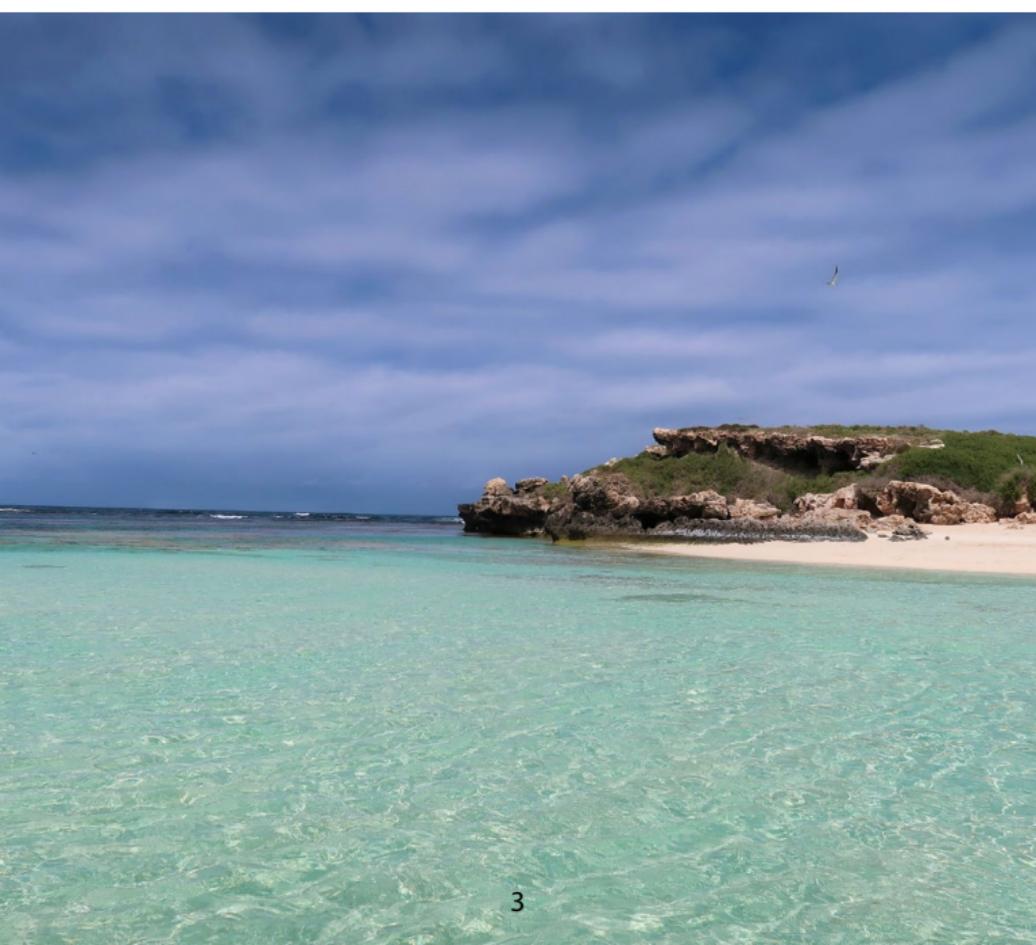
The marine park has twenty-five magnificent islands and rocky outcrops. All of them are nature reserves and eight permit limited access for visitors. Limited access means you may visit, but only during daylight hours, and you must stay on the beaches and not venture into the vegetation. Access to all other rocks and islands in the marine park is prohibited at all times.

Day access is permitted to beaches on:

- Favorite Island
- Boullanger Island
- Whitlock Island
- Escape Island
- North Cervantes Island
- North Green Island and South Green Island
- Wedge Island

Access to all other rocks and islands is *prohibited*.

Island nature reserves are important breeding areas for many different species including the endangered Australian sea lion, seabirds including fairy terns, ospreys and sea eagles, the endangered Lancelin Island skink, the Dibbler, and the Boullanger Island dunnart, a nocturnal mouse marsupial. For the protection of these species, pets are prohibited on any island nature reserve on the Turquoise Coast.



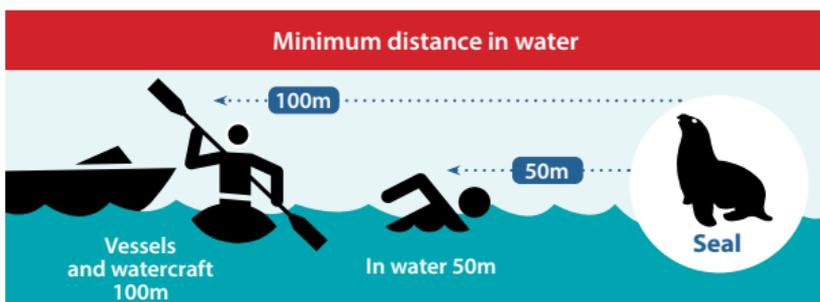
Australian Sea Lions

Australian sea lions (*Neophoca cinerea*) are endemic to the Australian continent and are only found in Western Australia and South Australia. The Jurien Bay Marine Park has two breeding sites at North Fisherman and Buller Islands. These islands are very susceptible to interference as each sea lion colony is genetically distinct from neighbouring colonies and other populations.

When you are out enjoying the beautiful islands and waters of the Jurien Bay Marine Park, a sea lion may approach you, or your vessel. Sea lions are wild animals and are particularly unpredictable during the breeding season. They have been known to bite people and there is the potential for the transfer of diseases such as Tuberculosis. For your safety and the protection of his species, you are required to keep a minimum distance of:

- **100 metres between a sea lion and your vessel**
- **50 metres between a sea lion and a person in the water**
- **10 metres between a person and a sea lion on land**

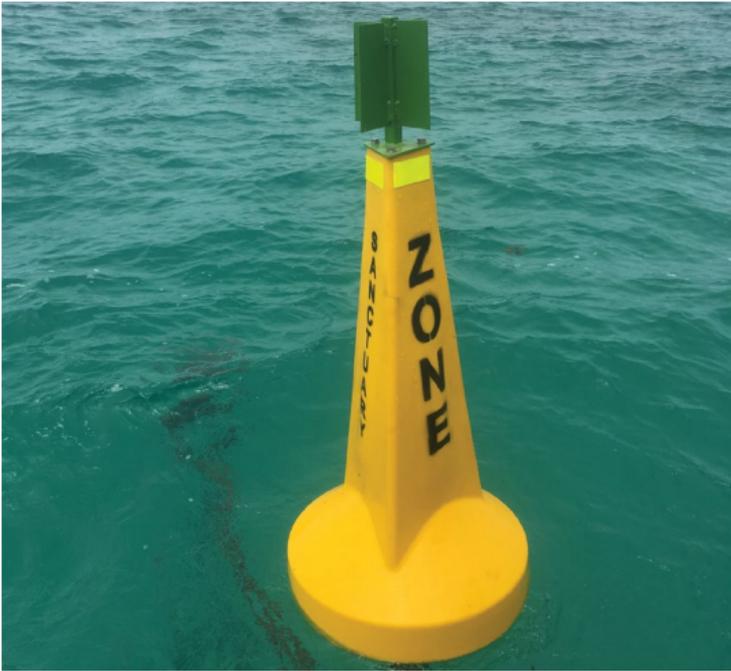
We are fortunate to have such amazing creatures living on our doorstep, so please help protect these endangered animals and enjoy them respectfully. If you observe a sick or injured sea lion, please call the Jurien Parks and Wildlife Office on (08) 9688 6000 or the Wildcare Helpline on (08) 9474 9055.



Marine park zones

Know your zones:

It is your responsibility to know your zones. When further offshore, particularly when fishing, the best method of determining your position in relation to the nearest zone boundary is by using GPS device or the recfishwest app.



Zone markers can also be used to locate and line up zone boundaries. Most zones are identified on-water by yellow marker buoys that extend 1m above sea level and on-land by yellow reflective markers that are visible from the sea.

Sanctuary zones are look but don't take areas and provide the highest level of protection for marine habitat and wildlife. Non-extractive activities are permitted including boating, swimming, snorkelling, scuba diving and nature appreciation. Fishing is not permitted in sanctuary zones.

General use zones make up most of the park and allow for a range of commercial and recreational activities such as boating, fishing, aquaculture, kite and windsurfing, kayaking, diving and snorkelling.

Special purpose zones protect specific features or habitats.

There are four types in the park including:

Scientific reference zones - Large areas where natural processes can be studied relatively free from human influence.

Shore-based activities - Provide areas where beach fishing is the priority.

Puerulus monitoring zone - Provides for the monitoring of rock lobster larvae.

Aquaculture - provides area for aquaculture farming.

Caring for the marine environment

- Know the marine park zones and permitted activities in the area you plan to visit.
- Fish for the future. Observe size, bag, and possession limits.
- Anchor in the sand to avoid damaging fragile reef and seagrass areas.
- Quickly return undersize and unwanted fish to the water. Use wet hands or a wet cloth when handling fish and avoid placing on hot, dry surfaces.
- Dispose of litter thoughtfully, especially plastics and fishing line.
- Stay at least 100m from whales. Please refer to the Parks and Wildlife Service website or whale watching brochure to ensure a safe and memorable whale watching experience.
- Keep a look out for sea lions, dugongs, turtles, and dolphins when boating to avoid boat strikes.
- If you find an injured, stranded, or sick animal please call the 24-hour Wildcare Helpline on (08) 9474 9055.



Download the SHARKSMART WA APP

The SharkSmart WA app combines shark activity information, beach safety features such as Surf Life Saving WA patrolled beaches and weather forecast, to help you plan your trip to the beach.

The app will help you switch on your Sea Sense by providing near real-time information of shark activity including current alerts and warnings. Select your favourite coastal locations and use notifications to receive relevant updates as they happen.

www.sharksmart.com.au



More information

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Turquoise Coast District Office

67 Bashford Street

Jurien Bay 6516

For general enquiries

Ph (08) 9688 6000

dbca.wa.gov.au

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

fish.wa.gov.au

Shire of Dandaragan

69 Bashford Street

Jurien Bay 6516

Ph (08) 9652 0800

Jurien Bay Sea Rescue

Ph (08) 9652 1950

Working Channel	
VHF	Ch 21
Emergency Channels	
VHF	Ch 16
27 Mhz	Ch 88
HF	4125
You can also log on and off with us by phone on (08) 9652 1950	



Save the
app that
could save
your life



emergencyplus.com.au

Download the free Emergency+ app before your visit. Use the app in an emergency to call for assistance. If there is no mobile phone coverage you **WILL NOT** be able to call **000** but the app will provide you with your GPS location.

Check for alerts and updates directly related to parks and major trails at alerts.dbca.wa.gov.au and for all emergency information in Western Australia at emergency.wa.gov.au.

Find more park visitor information, book campsites and share your experiences at exploreparks.dbca.wa.gov.au.



Information current December 2023.

Publication available in alternative format on request.

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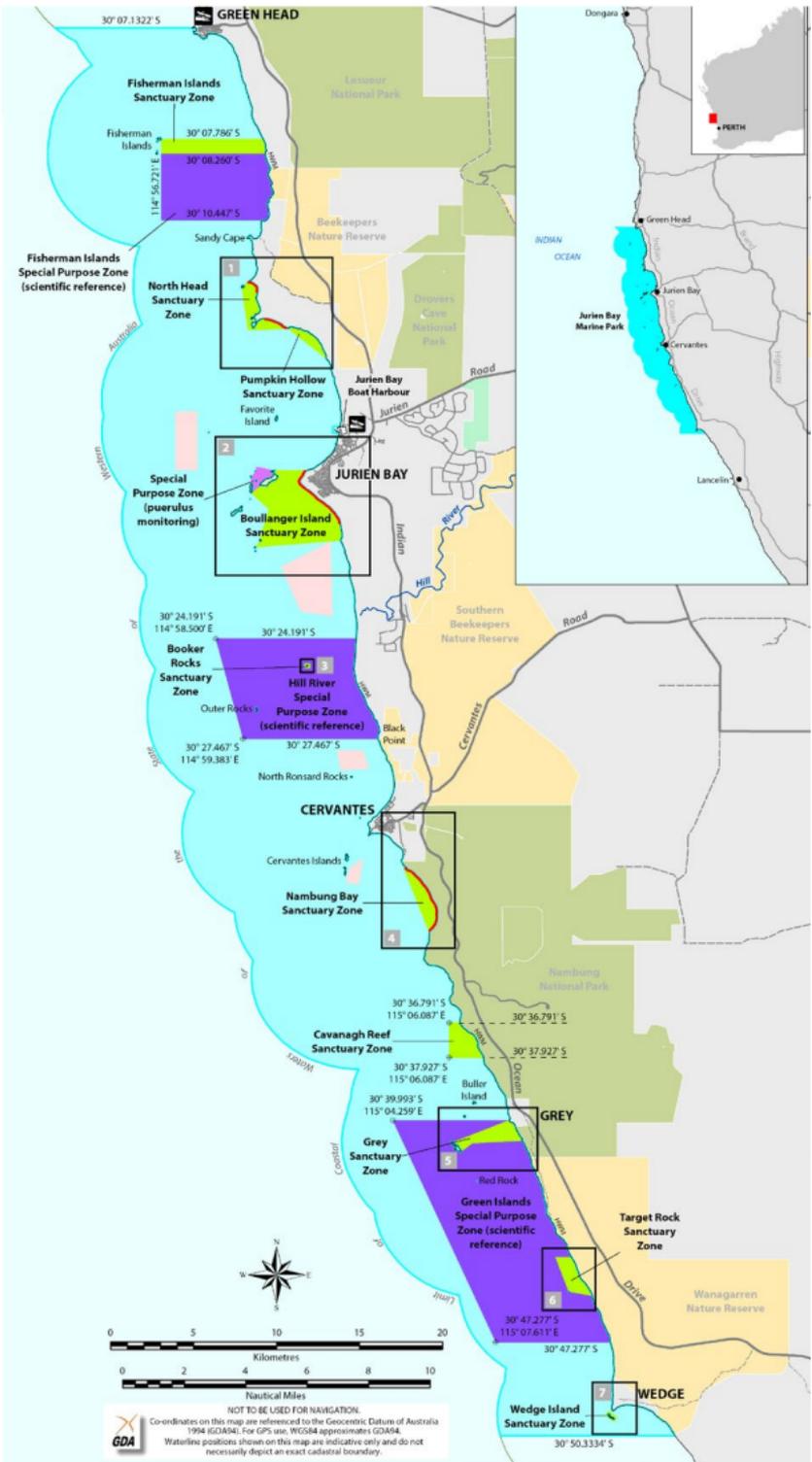


Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Jurien Bay Marine Park

- Marine Park boundary
- Sanctuary zone
- Special purpose zone (puerulus monitoring)
- Special purpose zone (scientific reference)
- Special purpose zone (shore-based activities)
- Special purpose zone (aquaculture)
- General use zone
- Boat ramp
- National Park
- Nature Reserve
- Conservation Park
- HWM High water mark



JURIEN BAY MARINE PARK

RECREATION GUIDE	ACTIVITIES ✓ = Permitted ✗ = Not permitted	SANCTUARY ZONE	SPECIAL PURPOSE ZONE			GENERAL USE ZONE
			puerulus monitoring	scientific reference	shore-based activities ⁴	
Fishing from guided charter vessels	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Line fishing — from boat ²	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Line fishing — from shore	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Rock lobster fishing ^{2, 3, 4}	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Abalone fishing — from boat ^{2, 3, 4}	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Abalone fishing — from shore ^{3, 4}	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Crabbing ²	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Netting (haul and throw only) ⁵	✗	✗	✓ (shore-based only)	✓	✓	✓
Spearfishing ²	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Shell collecting ⁶	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Other fishing activities (eg. octopus)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Diving, snorkelling, swimming	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Boating, yachting and non-motorised water sports ⁷	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Surface water sports	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wildlife interaction ⁸	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wildlife feeding	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

- This table is for recreational activities only. For information on permissible commercial activities contact the numbers below or refer to Jurien Bay Marine Park Management Plan available at www.dbcwa.wa.gov.au
- A fishing licence is required for fishing from powered boats. Recreational fishing rules apply including bag and size limits, species and gear restrictions. For further details visit www.fish.wa.gov.au
- A fishing licence is required and seasonal closures apply. For further details visit www.fish.wa.gov.au
- Fishing for any species while, diving, snorkelling or involving the use of a boat is not permitted in shore-based activities zone.
- A fishing licence is required for the use of all nets. Set netting is not permitted within the Jurien Bay Marine Park. For further details refer to the Recreational Net Fishing Guide available at www.fish.wa.gov.au
- Shell collecting (dead or alive) restrictions apply. The take of coral, live rock and/or totally protected species is prohibited. For further details visit www.fish.wa.gov.au
- For further boating details contact the Department of Transport.
- Subject to the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 and Wildlife Conservation Act 1950.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCWA) - Parks and Wildlife Service
Jurien Bay - (08) 9688 6000

Contacts
Department of Transport (DoT)
Geraldton - (08) 9956 0111

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) - Fisheries
Jurien Bay - (08) 9652 1048

