

Information sheet

Marine Management

Information for marine park permit holders

This document informs marine park permit holders about some key provisions of the Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine park zoning plans and other State and federal legislation that is relevant for entry and use of these marine parks. This document does not contain all provisions of the legislation cited and it is the permit holders' responsibility to be aware of all relevant legislation.

Table of contents

1. Using this information sheet	2
2. Marine park zoning plan legislation	2
2.1. Marine national park zones (green zones)	2
2.2. Buffer zones.....	2
2.3. Conservation park zones.....	3
2.4. Go slow areas for turtle and dugong.....	3
2.5. Go slow areas for turtles and dugong (vessels \geq 8 m).....	4
2.6. Go slow areas for natural values	4
2.7. Grey nurse shark areas.....	4
2.8. Turtle protection and monitoring areas	5
2.9. No anchoring areas.....	5
2.10. Shorebirds	5
2.11. Fish trap areas.....	5
2.12. Great sandy area	6
2.13. Aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).....	6
3. Additional information and regulations applicable to both marine parks	6
3.1. Ex-HMAS Tobruk	6
3.2. Artificial reefs Moreton Bay Marine Park	6
3.3. Artificial reefs Great Sandy Marine Park.....	7
3.4. Interactions with marine mammals	7
3.5. Whale watching.....	8
3.6. Interactions with protected animals (i.e. sea turtles, Queensland grouper, dugong)	8
3.7. Injury or capture of protected wildlife	9
3.8. Public moorings	9
3.9. Commercial activity permits	9
3.10. General environmental duty	9
3.11. Charter fishing licence	10
3.12. Discharge of sewage	10

3.13. Water skiing areas and speed limits.....	10
3.14. Certificate of operation.....	10
3.15. Historic shipwrecks	10
3.16. Native title determinations.....	10
3.17. Other land access approvals.....	11
4. Best practice guidelines	11
4.1. Anchoring.....	11
4.2. Minimal impact diving and snorkelling	11
4.3. Interactions with leopard sharks and manta rays.....	11
4.4. Wildlife friendly fishing practices.....	12
4.5. Island biosecurity—Be pest free.....	12
4.6. Be dingo safe	12
4.7. Be croc wise.....	12
Approved by	13

1. Using this information sheet

A number of provisions and designated areas under the Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine park zoning plans are the same. However, where differences between parks exist the information has been specified for each park. This information sheet should be read in conjunction with your marine park permit, specifically the locations, authorised activities and conditions, which may provide further guidance on the conduct of your authorised activity.

2. Marine park zoning plan legislation

This section provides a short summary of zoning plan legislation for both marine parks. Further information about zoning and designated areas is available online at:

- Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine park zoning plans—www.legislation.qld.gov.au
- Moreton Bay Marine Park user guide (includes detailed zoning and designated area maps)—www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/moreton-bay
- Great Sandy Marine Park visitor guide(includes detailed zoning and designated area maps)—www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/great-sandy-marine

2.1. Marine national park zones (green zones)

Unless specifically authorised under your marine park permit, all forms of take (fishing, collecting or extracting) are prohibited in marine national park zones (green zones). When travelling through these zones all fishing gear must be stowed and secured.

2.2. Buffer zones

Unless specifically authorised under your marine park permit, buffer zones of the Great Sandy Marine Park have the same entry and use provisions as green zones, but differ in that trolling for pelagic species is allowed. Trolling is fishing with a line—or lines—trailed behind a vessel that is under way, using not more than three lines for each person on the vessel; and with not more than six hooks in total for each person.

2.3. Conservation park zones

Unless specifically authorised under your marine park permit, fishing limits apply in conservation park zones.

Great Sandy

Limited line fishing—fishing using only one hand-held fishing rod with only one hook, or one hand line with only one hook—is allowed within conservation park zones. The only exception is in the Great Sandy designated area where line fishing is limited to three hand-held rods or hand lines, with a total of not more than six hooks attached to the lines.

Moreton Bay

Limited line fishing, or limited trolling, in Moreton Bay is considered to be fishing using no more than two hand-held fishing rods or hand lines for each person, with no more than two hooks in total for each person.

All fishing must be conducted in accordance with limits outlined under Queensland Fisheries legislation. For further information visit www.daf.qld.gov.au

2.4. Go slow areas for turtle and dugong

Boat strikes on turtles and dugong, regardless of the size or type of vessel, are a major threat to these animals. Several places identified as important feeding areas for these animals have been designated as go slow areas. In these areas:

- all vessels must travel off-the-plane or in displacement mode; and
- vessels must not be operated in a way, or at a speed, that could reasonably be expected to result in the striking of a turtle or dugong.

Great Sandy

In the Great Sandy Marine Park the above provision applies all year round to all go slow areas for turtle and dugong. Exceptions to the go slow areas include the locations of the Woongarra Coast and the northern end of Fraser Island. For these specific go slow areas the “go slow” restrictions only apply from 15 October to 30 April every year.

Within the Great Sandy Marine Park, go slow areas also do not apply to navigation channels and transit lanes at Kauri Creek and Poona. For maps of the transit lanes visit www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/great-sandy-marine

Moreton Bay

In Moreton Bay Marine Park the above provisions for go slow areas for turtle and dugong apply all year round. In addition, vessels must not undertake motorised water sports in a go slow area for turtle and dugong.

Motorised water sports means:

(a) driving a motorised vessel (which includes a personal water craft (PWC)) other than in a straight line, including:

- (i) in a circular pattern; or
- (ii) by weaving or diverting the vessel; or
- (iii) by surfing down, or jumping over or across, any wave, swell or wash, other than for any necessary turn or diversion;

(b) towing a person behind a motorised vessel, including water skiing or parasailing;

(c) the use of a PWC, other than for transport by the most direct reasonable route between two places.

2.5. Go slow areas for turtles and dugong (vessels \geq 8 m)

In southern Moreton Bay where dugong have been hit by larger vessels, four areas have been designated as go slow areas for turtles and dugong for vessels eight metre and over in length. In these areas, larger vessels must travel at a speed of less than 10 knots.

2.6. Go slow areas for natural values

Go slow areas for natural values provide a place for people to appreciate and enjoy the undisturbed values and beauty of an area without the interruption and impacts of fast moving vessels. In these areas:

- all vessels must travel off-the-plane or in displacement mode, and
- all vessels must not undertake motorised water sports.

Please consult the Moreton Bay Marine Park (www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/moreton-bay) and Great Sandy Marine Park user guides (www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/great-sandy-marine) for go slow area locations and boundaries of these areas.

2.7. Grey nurse shark areas

Australia's east coast population of grey nurse sharks are an endangered species and a number of grey nurse shark areas have been declared in both marine parks to protect grey nurse shark populations and habitat and to minimise harm or distress caused directly or indirectly to these sharks by human activities.

Divers in a grey nurse shark area must not:

- scuba dive between 6pm and 6am
- touch or feed a grey nurse shark
- chase, harass or interrupt the swimming patterns or interfere with a grey nurse shark's natural behaviour
- attempt to block cave entrances or gutters, or entrap grey nurse sharks
- use mechanical or electro-acoustic apparatus including, but not limited to, scooters, horns and shark-repelling devices (commercial operators may use equipment required for diving under the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011)
- dive as part of a group of more than 10 divers (tourist operators may have groups of up to 12 divers, provided the extra divers are either instructors or guides).

Tourism operators are required to display an entry and use provision sign in a prominent position aboard all vessels used in a tourism program, as well as all locations where you advertise diving in grey nurse shark areas. Tourism operators are also required to ensure all divers are given information about the restrictions for the areas. If grey nurse sharks are encountered at other locations you are encouraged to abide by the diving restrictions in place at designated grey nurse shark areas to minimise disturbance to this endangered species.

Moreton Bay

Three areas have been declared grey nurse shark areas in Moreton Bay Marine Park:

- Flat Rock - 27° 23.410' S 153° 33.070' E;
- Cherubs Cave - 27° 07.670' S 153° 28.670' E;
- Henderson Rock – 27° 07.920' S 153° 28. 710' E

Great Sandy Marine Park

One grey nurse shark area has been declared in Great Sandy Marine Park:

- Wolf Rock 25° 54.600'S, 153° 11.850'E.

Each grey nurse shark area has a 1.2 kilometre radius from a central point and are within marine national park zones (green zones), meaning all forms of take (fishing, collecting or extracting) are prohibited. The Wolf Rock grey nurse shark area also has a 300 metre buffer zone radius around the marine national park zone (green zone) which allows for trolling only.

2.8. Turtle protection and monitoring areas

Within the Great Sandy Marine Park, turtle protection and monitoring areas have been established along the Bundaberg Coast to protect and monitor turtles and their habitat. Access to these areas during nesting season (1 November to 31 January) may be limited on your permit and/or conditions may apply to your activity to ensure that it is consistent with the intent of the turtle monitoring and protection areas during turtle nesting season.

2.9. No anchoring areas

To protect particularly sensitive reef habitats and high-use areas in the Moreton Bay Marine Park, such as Flinders Reef, Flat Rock and Myora Reef, 'no anchoring areas' have been designated under the Zoning Plan. Anchoring is prohibited in these areas at all times.

2.10. Shorebirds

Beaches, sandbanks and mudflats of Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine parks are important to shorebirds (including seabirds, wading birds, swans and ducks) and are internationally recognised as Ramsar sites for their importance to the survival of these birds. Migratory shorebirds fly thousands of kilometres to their breeding grounds near the Arctic Circle every year. They primarily use Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine parks between September and April, stopping to feed on rich food reserves. Each time these birds are disturbed or put to flight, they use up essential energy reserves needed to successfully complete the long flight back to the Arctic. This can affect their survival and breeding success. Accordingly each Marine Park zoning plan has laws that prohibit disturbance to shorebirds and their habitat.

In all areas of the marine park shorebirds must not be unreasonably or excessively disturbed, whether by vessels, vehicles, uncontrolled dogs or peoples activities. If a shorebird is put to flight this could be considered an unreasonable or excessive disturbance.

Moreton Bay

Across the entire Moreton Bay Marine Park shorebirds must not be 'unreasonably' disturbed, such as causing them to take flight. For maps of Moreton Bay shorebird sites see the attachments provided with your permit.

Great Sandy

Within designated shorebird areas in the Great Sandy Marine Park, including the Great Sandy Straight, shorebirds must not be 'excessively' disturbed. See the www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/great-sandy-marine for information on designated shorebird areas.

For further information on shorebirds visit - www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/moreton-bay

2.11. Fish trap areas

Fish trap areas are only found in the Great Sandy Marine Park. The objective of these areas is to protect important indigenous sites from damaging activities such as anchors or excavation. In these areas activities that may impact on the integrity of cultural values, such as anchoring, must not be undertaken. Check your permit for any restrictions or conditions applying to these areas.

2.12. Great sandy area

In the Great Sandy Marine Park the great sandy area has been declared and it has provisions regarding commercial and recreational fishing which are different from those in the rest of the conservation park zones. In the great sandy area, line fishing is limited to three hand-held rods or hand lines, with a total of not more than six hooks attached to the lines. In all other conservation park zones line fishing is limited to one hand held rod or hand line with one hook.

2.13. Aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)

Permission requirements for flying an aircraft, which includes flying a UAV or helicopter, differ between the two marine parks.

Moreton Bay

In Moreton Bay, operating an aircraft below 500 feet, landing and taking off or conducting a tourism program using aircraft in the marine park requires special permission.

Great Sandy

In the Great Sandy Marine Park, an aircraft may be operated for up to 14 consecutive days, or 30 days in any 60 days, without requiring permission, unless the aircraft is being used for an aircraft charter operation.

3. Additional information and regulations applicable to both marine parks

3.1. Ex-HMAS Tobruk

The scuttling of the ex-HMAS Tobruk is a partnership project between the Queensland Government, Bundaberg and Fraser Coast regional councils to create an artificial reef and world-class dive site in the Hervey Bay region. A restricted access area has been declared around the Tobruk to manage incompatible uses and safety. Entry to the area is prohibited without a permit or written approval. This applies to everyone—all vessels, divers and snorkelers. Commercial activity agreements authorising tours to the site were granted in April 2018 following an expression of interest process. For further information about ex-HMAS Tobruk visit www.qld.gov.au

3.2. Artificial reefs Moreton Bay Marine Park

Eight artificial reefs have been installed across Moreton Bay Marine Park. In order to manage conflicting activities, special activity areas have been declared for these reef sites that prohibit certain activities. Activities that are not permitted to be undertaken within the artificial reef areas are outlined below.

Under section 128 of the Marine Parks Regulation 2017, a person may only conduct a special activity in an artificial reef area with permission. Check your permit for any restrictions or conditions applying to these areas.

Table 1. Activity restriction in each artificial reef area in Moreton Bay Marine Park

Activity allowed	Harry Atkinson Reef	West Peel	East Coochie	North Stradbroke	South Stradbroke	Wild Banks	North Moreton	Turner
SCUBA diving	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Surface supplied air diving	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Recreational fishing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Spearfishing	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹	Yes	Yes
Snorkelling	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Commercial fishing	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Anchoring	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Charter fishing ²	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

1. To a maximum depth of 12 metres

2. A maximum of one visit per artificial reef area, per day for one hour.

For a map of the artificial reef locations in Moreton Bay Marine Park visit

www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/moreton-bay

3.3. Artificial reefs Great Sandy Marine Park

Simpson and Hardie artificial reefs were installed in 2015 by the Queensland Government to provide recreational anglers and divers with a range of exciting fishing and explorative opportunities. These artificial reefs do not have any special activity area restrictions.

For a map of the artificial reef locations in Great Sandy Marine Park visit www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/great-sandy-marine

3.4. Interactions with marine mammals

If you encounter marine mammals such as whales, dolphins and dugong during the conduct of your permitted activities, regulated approach distances and behaviour applies. In accordance with Chapter 6 Marine Mammals - the Nature Conservation (Animals) Regulation 2020, operators must:

- keep a sharp lookout for whales, dolphins and whale watchers
- slow down or stop to see what direction the whales and dolphins are travelling
- do not approach from directly in front or behind
- stay outside the 'no approach zone' for:
 - whales – 100 metres from the whale or 300 metres from any point in front or behind; and
 - dolphins – 50 metres from the dolphin or 150 metres from any point in front or behind.
- If there are three or more boats within 300 metres from whales and 150 metres from dolphins stay outside the 'caution zone', at 300 metres from whales and 150 metres from dolphins
- maintain a speed of no more than six knots or no wake within 300 metres from whales and 150 metres from dolphins
- if possible, stay on the landward side of the whale or dolphin

- prohibited vessels¹, such as jet skis and hovercraft, must stay at least 300 metres away from whales and dolphins
- persons in or entering the water must be at least 100 metres from whales and 50 metres from dolphins.

1. A prohibited vessel means a hovercraft, hydrofoil, jet ski, motorised diving aid ², parasail or wing in ground effect craft.

2. Motorised diving aid means a vessel that has a motor and is used to aid diving e.g. a diver propulsion vehicle, an underwater scooter.

It is illegal to feed dolphins or encourage this type of behaviour and penalties apply under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

For further information on marine mammal approach distances visit www.environment.des.qld.gov.au

3.5. Whale watching

Section 18 of the Marine Parks Regulation 2017 provides for granting permission for commercial whale watching in the Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine parks. Commercial whale watching can only be conducted under a permission granted under the *Marine Parks Act 2004*, meaning that within Queensland State waters, commercial whale watching can only be conducted within an area declared as a marine park.

When traversing State waters to reach Commonwealth waters you must not conduct commercial whale watching, which is defined as 'carrying people in a boat to watch whales'. If you happen to encounter whales in State waters you must comply with the approach distances (see section 3.4.) outlined under the Nature Conservation (Animals) Regulation 2020 which also apply if you are watching whales recreationally.

3.6. Interactions with protected animals (i.e. sea turtles, Queensland grouper, dugong)

Under marine parks legislation and the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* a person must not take (or attempt to take) a protected animal unless the person is an authorised person or the taking is authorised under this legislation. 'Take' includes, but is not limited to: pursue, lure, remove, catch, injure, harm, or kill. Observing protected animals, such as sea turtles, under water can be a rewarding experience. In order to allow these animals to continue their normal behaviour with minimal disturbance divers, swimmers and snorkelers should:

- not attempt to chase, touch or ride them as this could result in behavioural changes for the animal and injury to you
- swim slowly and calmly and maintain your distance
- avoid surrounding or crowding them and always ensure they have an escape route
- do not approach mating turtles as they may separate and cease mating if disturbed
- not use underwater scooters, as they are likely to cause disturbance
- minimise the use of lights and do not shine lights directly at an animals' head and eyes
- do not feed them—they may bite!

3.7. Injury or capture of protected wildlife

If protected wildlife (i.e. dolphin, whale, dugong, turtle, seabird, grey nurse shark) are accidentally captured or injured during the conduct of your authorised activities you are required to immediately contact 1300 Animal (1300 264 625) after the incident occurs and quote your permit number.

3.8. Public moorings

Public moorings may be installed from time to time as a management tool, generally in order to prevent damage from anchoring. Where installed, they are accompanied by a regulatory notice, in accordance with the Marine Park Regulation 2017, outlining the requirements for using the mooring/s.

Public moorings have been installed at Flinders Reef and Flat Rock in Moreton Bay Marine Park to facilitate access and use of highly sensitive sites in the marine park. A regulatory notice located on the buoy outlines the requirements for using the moorings. Requirements include:

- the class of public mooring to be used for which sized vessel (refer to table below);
- how mooring lines must be picked up and attached to the bow of the vessel;
- rafting of other vessels (excluding tender vessels) to the moored vessel is prohibited; and
- a maximum tie up time of two hours, except when no other user wishes to access that mooring.

Table 2 – mooring class and vessel size

Mooring class	Maximum boat length (metres)		Wind speed (knots)
	Mono-hull	Multi-hull	
A	10	9	24
B	20	18	24
C	25	22	34
D	35	30	34

3.9. Commercial activity permits

To conduct a commercial activity, such as a guided tour, in a Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) managed area such as a recreation area or national park you must have a commercial activity permit. Recreation areas include the beaches of Fraser Island, Moreton Island, Bribie Island, Minjerribah on North Stradbroke Island and Cooloola.

To apply for a commercial activity permit visit www.business.qld.gov.au or contact parkaccess@des.qld.gov.au for further information.

For the location of recreation areas and national parks visit www.parks.des.qld.gov.au

3.10. General environmental duty

The *Environmental Protection Act 1994* states that we all have a general environmental duty. This means that we are all responsible for the actions we take that affect the environment. Permit holders must not carry out any activity that causes, or is likely to cause, environmental harm unless all reasonable and practicable measures are taken to prevent or minimise the harm. For example, operators must not litter or put waste into the waterway or cause unreasonable noise.

3.11. Charter fishing licence

Tourism programs and vessel charters offering fishing may require a charter fishing licence, issued by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) if operating fishing trips on a commercial basis. All fishing must be conducted in accordance with size and possession limits outlined under the Fisheries Act and Regulations. For further information visit www.daf.qld.gov.au. For more information about charter fishing licences visit www.business.qld.gov.au

3.12. Discharge of sewage

Under the *Transport Operations (Marine Pollution) Act 1995* administered by Maritime Safety Queensland, restrictions apply on discharging sewage in Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine parks. These restrictions include prohibition on discharge of treated and untreated sewage in marine national park zones (green zones) zones. For further information visit www.msq.qld.gov.au

3.13. Water skiing areas and speed limits

The *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 2005* administered by Queensland Transport outlines speed limits and restriction for the operation of vessels and personal watercraft, including where 'freestyling' and water skiing can occur. Permit holders are still required to operate in accordance with Queensland Transport laws. For further information visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au

3.14. Certificate of operation

Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) operates the national system for domestic commercial vessels. Commercial vessels working in Australia need to have, unless exempt, a certificate of survey and a certificate of operation. A copy of these certificates must be provided to QPWS. Please contact AMSA for further information www.amsa.gov.au

3.15. Historic shipwrecks

The *Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976* protects historic wrecks and associated relics that are more than 75 years old and in Commonwealth waters. The Act aims to ensure that historic shipwrecks are protected for their heritage values and maintained for recreational, scientific and educational purposes. It also seeks to control actions which may result in damage, interference, removal or destruction of an historic shipwreck or associated relic. Divers can use wreck sites for recreational purposes but relics must not be removed from the wreck site and the physical fabric of the wreck must not be disturbed, unless a permit has been obtained.

Some historic shipwrecks lie within protected or no-entry zones. For example, a protected area has been established within a 500 metre radius of the wreck located at 26°59.68'S and 153°28.54'E (WGS84) in Moreton Bay Marine Park. Permission is required to conduct activities such as diving and fishing and to anchor a vessel within the Aarhus historic shipwreck protected zone. Permits can be obtained from the Department of Environment and Science by submitting an application via the Australian National Shipwreck Database at www.environment.gov.au. A list of known shipwrecks within or adjacent to Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine parks can also be obtained from the database.

3.16. Native title determinations

The *Native Title Act 1993* provides for the recognition and protection of native title. Two native title claims have been determined over marine park tidal land and waters:

Butchella land and sea claim # 2—in 2015 native title was determined for the Butchulla land and sea claim #2 for tidal land and waters surrounding Fraser Island, including Hervey Bay, Great Sandy Straits and Inskip. For further information visit www.des.qld.gov.au.

Quandamooka People #1—in July 2011, the Federal Court made two native title consent determinations recognising the Quandamooka People's native title rights and interests over lands and waters on and surrounding Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island) and Teerk Roo Ra (Peel island) including part of the Moreton Bay Marine Park. For further information visit www.nntt.gov.au

Refer to the information notice that accompanied your marine park permit for specific requirements relating to traditional owner requests in regards to conducting your activity.

3.17. Other land access approvals

Permit holders may be required to obtain permission and comply with Local Council approvals to operate in a foreshore reserve or bathing reserves. There are also several parcels of land held under lease or permit to occupy which overlap the Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine parks, therefore due diligence should be undertaken to identify land owners and seek their approval.

4. Best practice guidelines

4.1. Anchoring

Where anchoring is allowed, vessel operators are reminded that seagrass beds and rocky reefs are a significant component of our marine parks' ecosystems and are easily damaged by careless anchoring. It is recommended that where possible vessel operators anchor away from these areas.

4.2. Minimal impact diving and snorkelling

To minimise your impact on sensitive environments when diving and snorkelling the following best practice guidelines should be followed:

- avoid walking on corals
- avoid interfering with underwater communities
- be aware of fin placement and take care not to damage coral communities by using fins carelessly
- exercise proper weight and buoyancy control to avoid holding onto or crashing down on coral communities
- ensure that dive equipment is secure and not hanging loosely
- adhere to the grey nurse shark area diving restrictions (see section 2.7.).

For maps of coral reefs in the Moreton Bay and Great Sandy marine parks visit:

www.parks.des.qld.gov.au/parks/moreton-bay

www.reefcheckaustralia.org

4.3. Interactions with leopard sharks and manta rays

Significantly large numbers of leopard sharks (*Stegostoma fasciatum*) and manta rays (*Manta birostris*) are known to aggregate at popular dive locations off North Stradbroke Island during the warmer months of the year (November–February). The purpose of these aggregations is unknown but may be linked to reproduction and 'cleaning stations'. Leopard sharks and manta rays are listed as vulnerable on a global scale under the IUCN Redlist for species conservation and are important species for ecotourism in the region. If a manta ray or leopard shark is encountered the following guidelines should be adhered to:

- do not touch or pursue the animal(s)

- stay away from the top of the cleaning station
- if possible, stay on the reef side of the cleaning station rather than the ocean side
- if possible, try to remain low in the water column during the dive.

4.4. Wildlife friendly fishing practices

Serious, and even fatal, injuries can result from wildlife such as seabirds and dolphins interacting with fishing gear. To minimise direct, or indirect, harm to wildlife from fishing:

- don't cast your line in the direction of dolphins or birds
- don't feed wildlife with unwanted bait or catch
- use corrodible or circle hooks
- don't discard unwanted fishing line or tackle in the waterway.

4.5. Island biosecurity—Be pest free

Pest plants and animals that unknowingly travel in equipment and on clothing can easily spread to island national parks. To prevent this threat to biodiversity there are simple things you can do to quarantine your vessel, equipment and clothing. For further information please visit www.qld.gov.au

4.6. Be dingo safe

Permit holders should be mindful of dingo safety while accessing Fraser Island. Always stay close to your children, even small teenagers, walk in small groups, never feed dingoes, keep all food secure from dingoes and never encourage or excite dingoes. For further information on dingo safety visit www.des.qld.gov.au

4.7. Be croc wise

Crocodiles are a native animal and protected in Queensland. There are confirmed sightings of an estuarine (saltwater) crocodile in the Mary River and credible reports of crocodile sightings in the Great Sandy Strait and western coastline of Fraser Island. Following common sense and 'croc wise' rules will reduce the risk of contact with crocodiles. Persons intending on camping on the western side of Fraser Island should camp at least two metres above the high tide mark and at least 50 metres from the shoreline and creek edges. For further information on being 'croc wise' visit www.des.qld.gov.au. If you sight a crocodile call 1300 130 372.

Human Rights Act 2019 compatibility

The department is committed to respecting, protecting and promoting human rights. Under the [Human Rights Act 2019](#), the department has an obligation to act and make decisions in a way that is compatible with human rights and, when making a decision, to give proper consideration to human rights. When acting or making a decision under this policy, officers must comply with that obligation (refer to [Comply with Human Rights Act](#)).

Disclaimer

While this document has been prepared with care, it contains general information and does not profess to offer legal, professional or commercial advice. The Queensland Government accepts no liability for any external decisions or actions taken on the basis of this document. Persons external to the Department of Environment and Science should satisfy themselves independently and by consulting their own professional advisors before embarking on any proposed course of action.

Approved by

Ben Klaassen

Signature

29 April 2019

Date

Deputy Director General
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and
Partnerships

Enquiries:
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and
Partnerships
Assessments and Approvals
Ph. (07) 3199 7514
Email parkaccess@des.qld.gov.au