

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. R. 98

03 FEBRUARY 2016

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****DRAFT NOTICE DECLARING THE BROWNS BANK COMPLEX 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 publishes 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 Browns Bank Complex 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**

SCHEDULE

All geographic co-ordinates are determined in accordance with the *WGS 84* datum, and all bearings are true bearings as detailed in Annexure 1 hereto.

Boundaries of the Marine Protected Area

The Browns Bank Complex Marine Protected Area in the Western Cape is an offshore Marine Protected Area in the 100m to 200m depth range lying approximately 100 nautical miles southeast of Cape Agulhas. The Browns Bank Complex Marine Protected Area is bounded by a series of straight lines sequentially joining the following four coordinates: (A) 36° 25' S, 20° 38' E; (B) 36° 25' S, 21° 0' E; (C) 36° 38' S, 21° 0' E; and (D) 36° 38' S, 20° 38' E. The area includes the sea bed, water column and subsoil within these boundaries.

Purpose

The purpose for declaring this Marine Protected Area is:

- (a) To contribute to a national and global representative system of marine protected areas by providing protection to offshore benthic and pelagic ecosystems of this region;
- (b) to conserve and protect offshore gravel, sandy, rocky and open ocean habitats;
- (c) to conserve and protect threatened ecosystems;
- (d) to conserve and protect the biodiversity and ecological processes associated with these ecosystems;
- (e) to contribute to the conservation and protection of a fish spawning area;
- (f) to conserve and protect threatened seabird species that forage in this area; and
- (g) to protect and provide an appropriate reference environment for research and monitoring particularly research on ecosystem impacts and recovery.

Annexure 1:

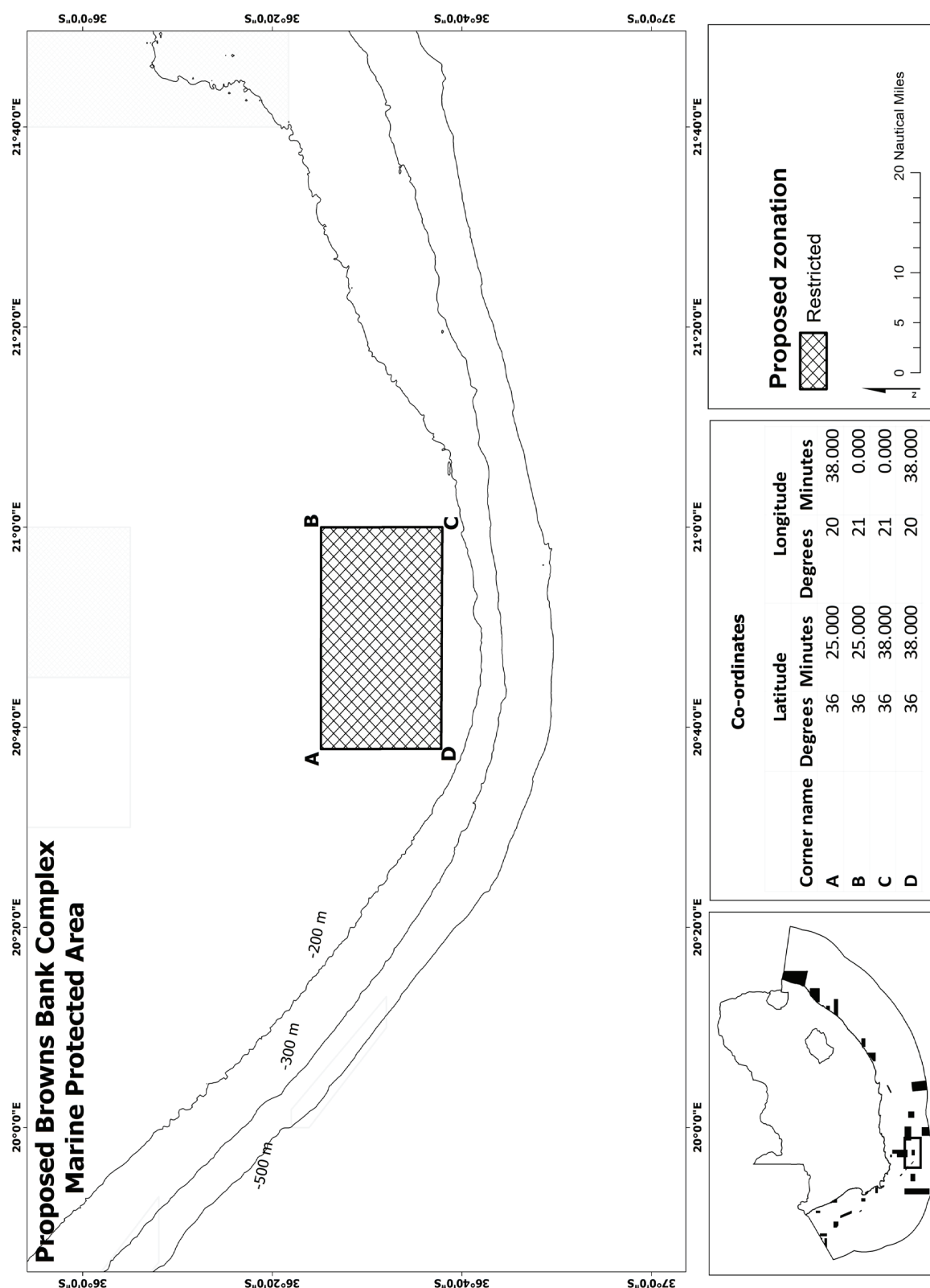


Fig. 1. The proposed boundaries for the Browns Bank Complex Marine Protected Area

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	20.6333	-36.4167	20	38.000	36	25.000
B	21.0000	-36.4167	21	0.000	36	25.000
C	21.0000	-36.6333	21	0.000	36	38.000
D	20.6333	-36.6333	20	38.000	36	38.000