

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 759

23 MAY 2019

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****NOTICE DECLARING THE ALIWAL SHOAL MARINE PROTECTED AREA IN
TERMS OF SECTION 22A OF THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003 (ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)**

I, Nomvula Paula Mokonyane, Minister of Environmental Affairs, hereby, in terms of section 22B of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003), withdraw the existing Aliwal Shoal Marine Protected Area declared in *Government Gazette* 26433, Notice No. 697 of 4 June 2004, and declare, in terms of section 22A of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003, the Aliwal Shoal Marine Protected Area as set out in the Schedule hereto.



**NOMVULA PAULA MOKONYANE
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

SCHEDULE

All geographic co-ordinates are determined in accordance with the *WGS 84* datum.

Boundaries of the Marine Protected Area

The Aliwal Shoal Marine Protected Area in KwaZulu-Natal is a coastal and offshore Marine Protected Area lying between the Lovu and Mzimayi estuary, with the outer boundary being comprised of straight lines sequentially joining the following coordinates: A, B, C, D and E and linking the first to the last along the high-water mark excluding estuaries. The area includes the substrata, sea bed, subsoil and water column within these boundaries.

Purpose

The purpose of declaring this marine protected area is:

- (a) To contribute to a national, regional and global representative system of marine protected areas by conserving and protecting coastal and offshore benthic and pelagic ecosystems comprising of reef complex, deep reefs, and other ecosystems on the shelf and including threatened ecosystem types;
- (b) to conserve and protect the biodiversity and ecological processes associated with these ecosystems, including protected, threatened or overexploited species such as tiger sharks, red steenbras, seventy four, geelbek and dusky kob and processes such as the sardine run;
- (c) to facilitate species management and sustainable use of linefish, subtidal and intertidal resources by supporting fisheries recovery and enhanced species abundance in fished areas;
- (d) to support the recovery of linefish and sharks by protecting spawning, nursery, foraging, aggregation and refuge areas;
- (e) to conserve and protect an area of life history importance for migratory species including seabirds, turtles, sharks, seabreams and other fish;
- (f) to support sustainable nature-based tourism opportunities in the area through the protection of marine wildlife and maritime heritage;
- (g) to protect and regulate a scenic area to support sustainable nature-based tourism, cultural and spiritual assets and a functionally connected coastal-marine system to retain a land-ocean 'sense of place'; and
- (h) to protect and provide an appropriate environment for research and monitoring particularly research on recovery of linefish, and also to promote and contribute to environmental education.

Commencement

This notice takes effect on 1 August 2019.

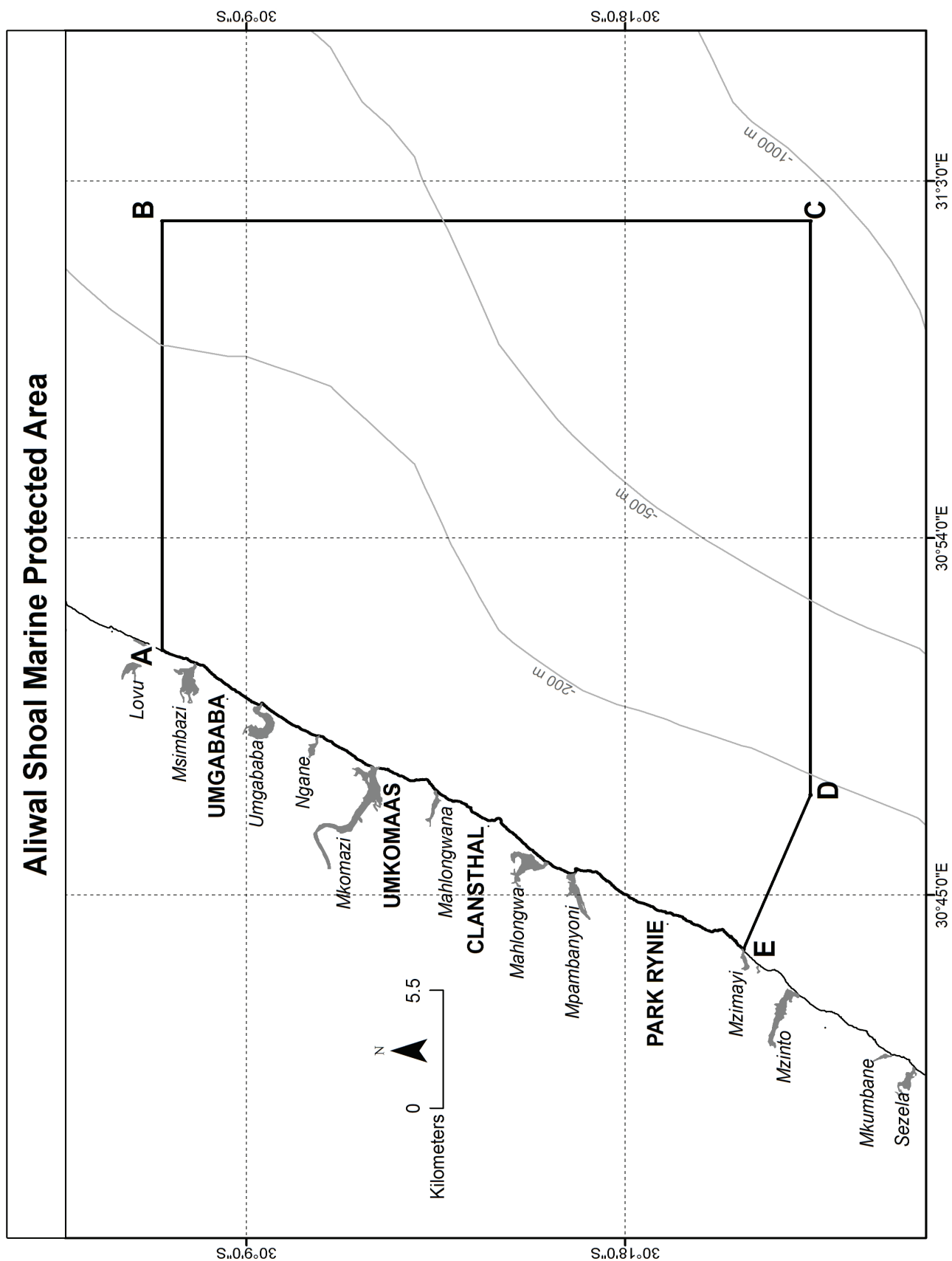
Annexure:**Figure 1: The Aliwal Shoal Marine Protected Area**

Table 1: The exact geographic coordinates {WGS 84} of points in Fig 1.

	POINT	X	Y
Aliwal Shoal MPA	A	30.853	-30.116663
Aliwal Shoal MPA	B	31.0333	-30.116663
Aliwal Shoal MPA	C	31.0333	-30.3735
Aliwal Shoal MPA	D	30.7922	-30.3735
Aliwal Shoal MPA	E	30.727334	-30.34694