

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 760

23 MAY 2019

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****NOTICE DECLARING THE AGULHAS MUDS 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 declare, in terms of section 22A of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003), the Agulhas Muds 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 Agulhas Muds Marine Protected Area in the Western Cape is an offshore Marine Protected Area in the 80 meter to 100 meter depth range lying approximately 22 nautical miles east of Cape Agulhas. The Agulhas Muds Marine Protected Area is bounded by a series of straight lines sequentially joining the following coordinates A, B, C and D. The area includes the substrata, sea bed, subsoil and water column within these boundaries.

Purpose

The purpose for 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 a threatened benthic mud ecosystem type on the shelf;
- (b) to conserve and protect the biodiversity and ecological processes associated with this ecosystem thereby facilitating seabed management and supporting eco-certification and its associated economic benefits; and
- (c) to protect and provide an appropriate reference environment for research and monitoring particularly research on habitat impacts and recovery, and also to promote and contribute to environmental education.

Commencement

This notice takes effect on 1 August 2019.

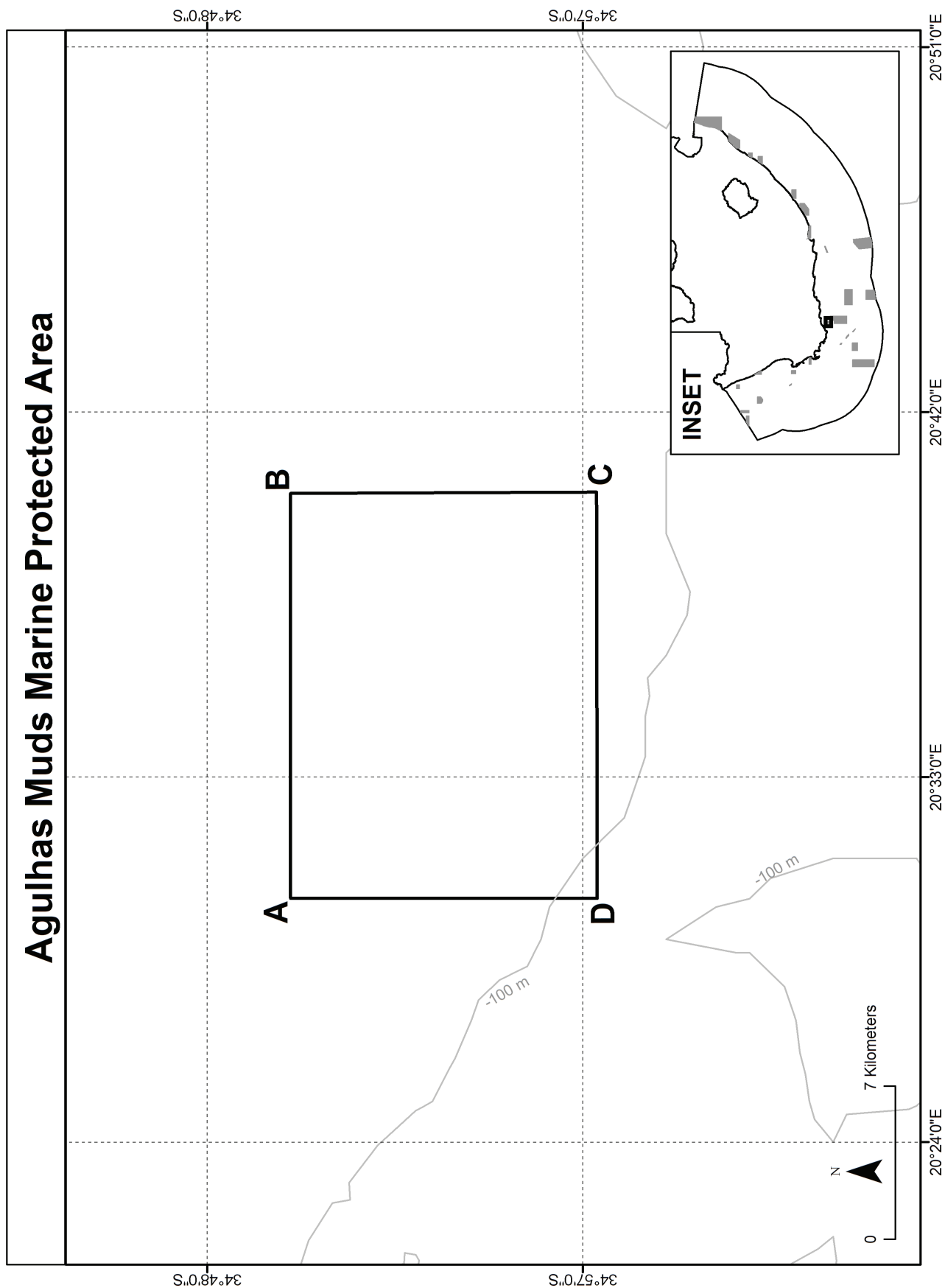
Annexure:**Figure1. The boundaries for the Agulhas Muds Marine Protected Area**

Table 1. The exact geographic coordinates (WGS 84) of points in Fig 1.

	POINT	X	Y
Agulhas Muds MPA	A	20.500122	-34.833313
Agulhas Muds MPA	B	20.666687	-34.833313
Agulhas Muds MPA	C	20.667114	-34.955505
Agulhas Muds MPA	D	20.500122	-34.955811