

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 761

23 MAY 2019

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****NOTICE DECLARING THE AGULHAS FRONT 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 Front 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 Front Marine Protected Area in the Eastern Cape is an offshore Marine Protected Area on the Agulhas Plateau lying approximately 130 nautical miles south of Cape St Francis. The Agulhas Front Marine Protected Area is bounded by a series of straight lines sequentially joining the following coordinates: A, B, C, D, and D to E, which runs along South Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone boundary. 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 benthic and pelagic ecosystems of the area including frontal areas, parts of the lower slope, plateau and abyssal habitats;
- (b) to conserve and protect the biodiversity and ecological processes associated with these ecosystems;
- (c) to facilitate species management by protecting an area of life history importance for migratory species including turtles, seabirds and large pelagic fish; and
- (d) to protect and provide an appropriate environment for research and monitoring particularly research on habitat description, resilience and climate change and to promote and contribute to environmental education.

Commencement

This notice takes effect on 1 August 2019.

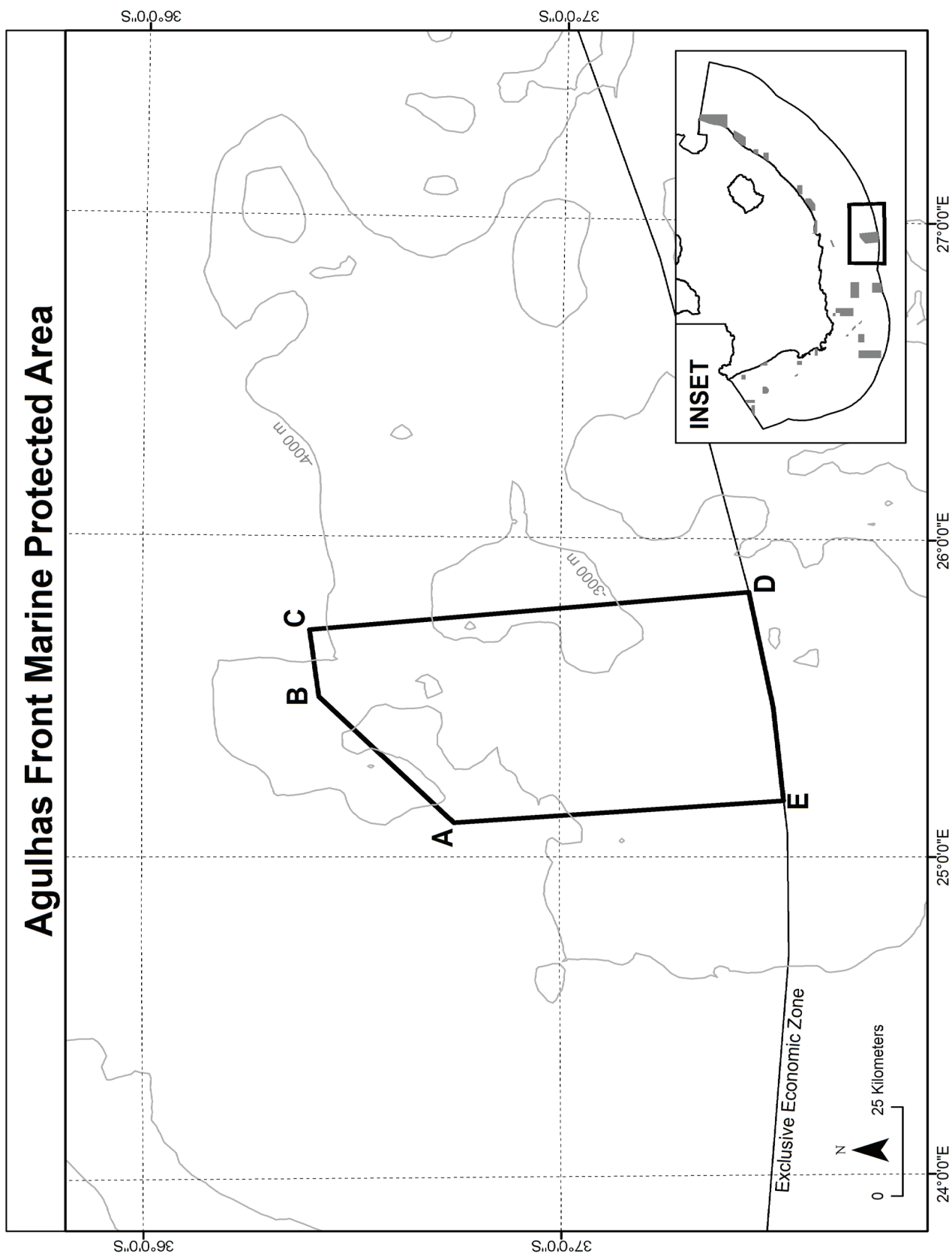
Annexure:**Fig. 1. The boundaries for the Agulhas Front Marine Protected Area.**

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

| | POINT | X | Y |
|---------------|-------|-----------|------------|
| Agulhas Front | A | 25.107586 | -36.747359 |
| Agulhas Front | B | 25.499392 | -36.42263 |
| Agulhas Front | C | 25.708 | -36.4 |
| Agulhas Front | D | 25.833496 | -37.45163 |
| Agulhas Front | E | 25.176663 | -37.537372 |