

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 766

23 MAY 2019

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003  
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****NOTICE DECLARING THE CAPE CANYON 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 Cape Canyon 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 Cape Canyon Marine Protected Area in the Western Cape is an offshore marine protected area within the 200 meter to 400 meter depth range lying approximately 10 nautical miles west of Paternoster. The Cape Canyon 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.

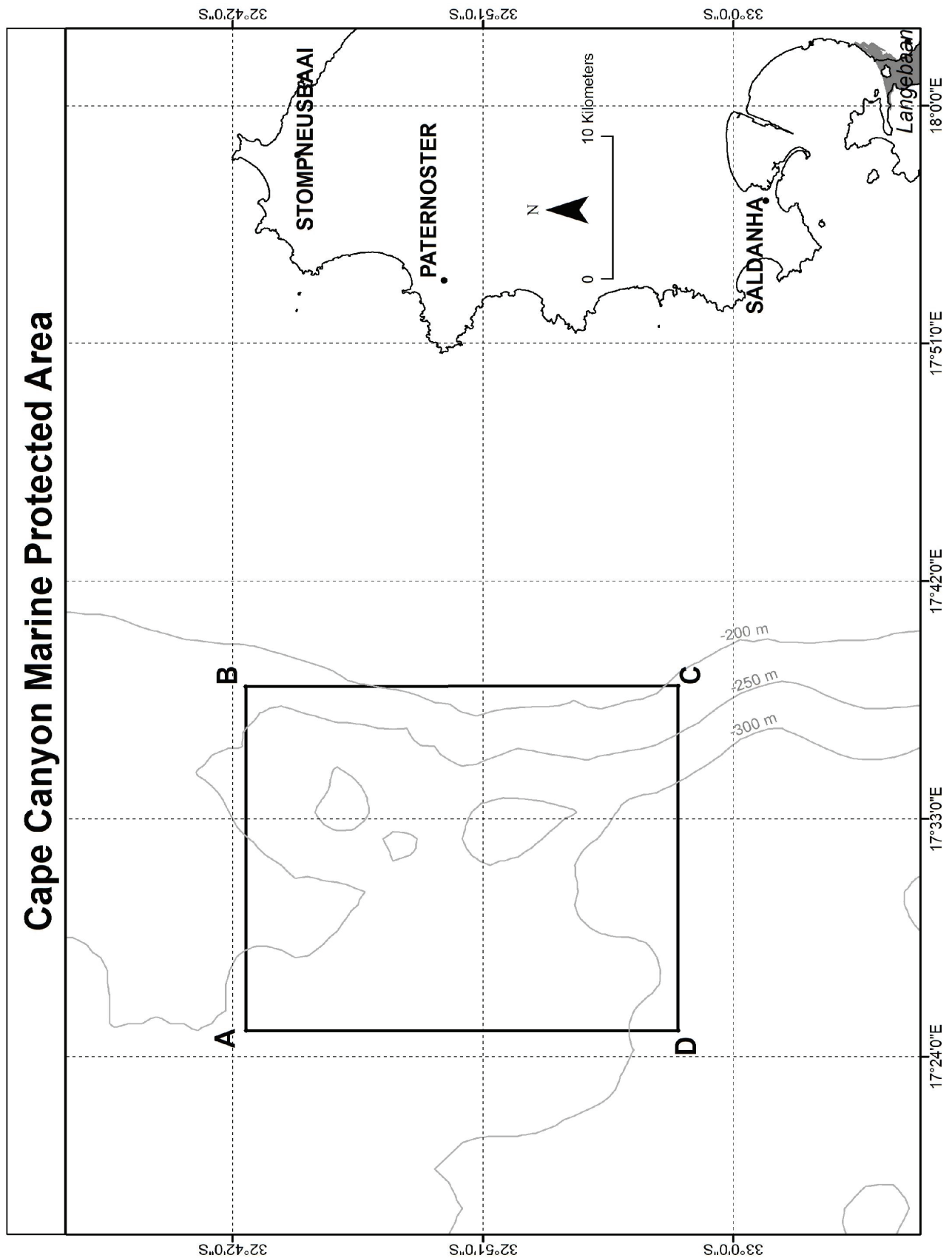
### **Purpose**

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 submarine canyon ecosystem and associated benthic and pelagic habitats in the southern Benguela region, including threatened ecosystem types;
- (b) to conserve and protect the ecological processes and ecologically sensitive biodiversity associated with these ecosystems, including protected and threatened species, thereby supporting eco-certification and its associated economic benefits;
- (c) to facilitate species management by protecting a feeding area for marine mammals and seabirds;
- (d) to support sustainable nature-based tourism opportunities in the area through the protection of marine wildlife; and
- (e) to protect and provide an appropriate environment for research and monitoring particularly research on ecosystem impacts and recovery, ecological function and marine mammals, and also to promote and contribute to environmental education.

### **Commencement**

This notice takes effect on 1 August 2019.

**Annexure:**

**Fig. 1. The boundaries for the Cape Canyon Marine Protected Area.**

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

	POINT	X	Y
Cape Canyon MPA	A	17.416687	-32.708
Cape Canyon MPA	B	17.633558	-32.70774
Cape Canyon MPA	C	17.633949	-32.96669
Cape Canyon MPA	D	17.416687	-32.966679