

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 770

23 MAY 2019

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****NOTICE DECLARING THE PORT ELIZABETH CORALS 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 Port Elizabeth Corals 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 Port Elizabeth Corals Marine Protected Area, offshore of the Eastern Cape is an offshore Marine Protected Area in the 400 meter to 1000 meter depth range lying more than 30 nautical miles south off Cape St Francis. The Port Elizabeth Corals 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 cold water coral reefs and associated benthic ecosystems of the shelf edge and slope;
- (b) to conserve and protect the ecologically sensitive biodiversity and the ecological processes associated with these ecosystems including spawning areas;
- (c) to facilitate seabed and species management including the protection of part of an area of life history importance for kingklip, thereby supporting eco-certification and its associated economic benefits; and
- (d) to protect and provide an appropriate reference environment for research and monitoring particularly research on fisheries impacts and recovery, kingklip and climate change; and also to promote and contribute to environmental education.

Commencement

This notice takes effect on 1 August 2019.

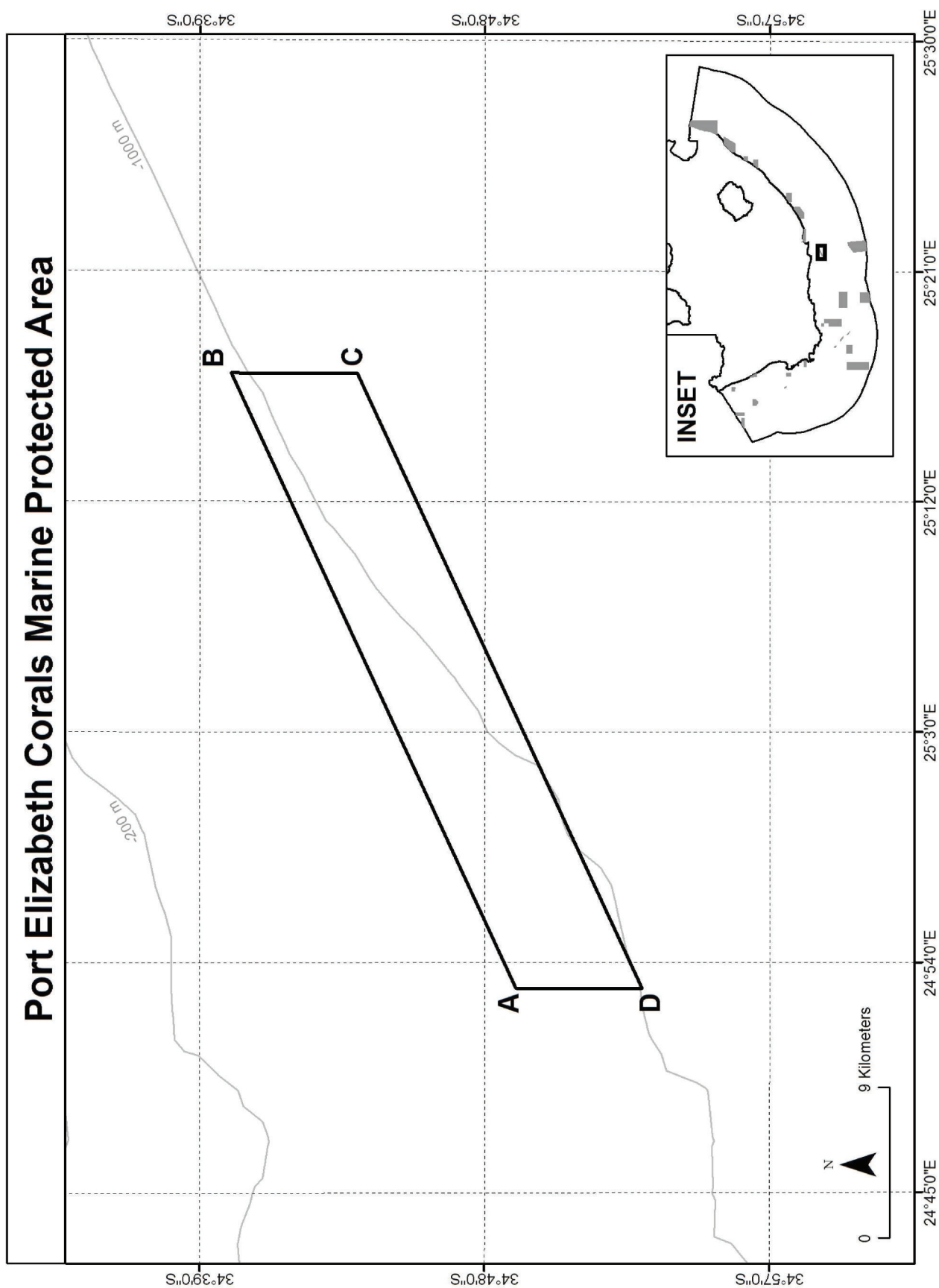
Annexure:

Fig. 1. The boundaries for the Port Elizabeth Corals Marine Protected Area.

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

	POINT	X	Y
Port Elizabeth Corals MPA	A	24.883	-34.8167
Port Elizabeth Corals MPA	B	25.2833	-34.6667
Port Elizabeth Corals MPA	C	25.283	-34.7333
Port Elizabeth Corals MPA	D	24.883	-34.8833