

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 771

23 MAY 2019

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****NOTICE DECLARING THE PROTEA BANKS 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 Protea Banks 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 Protea Banks Marine Protected Area in KwaZulu-Natal is an offshore Marine Protected Area in the 20m to 3000m depth range with the southern portion lying adjacent to the existing Trafalgar Marine Protected Area. The Protea Banks Marine Protected Area is bounded by a series of straight lines sequentially joining the following coordinates: A, B, C, D, E and F, and D to E along a line 1 nautical mile from the high water mark along the offshore boundary of the existing Trafalgar Marine Protected Area. 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 offshore benthic and pelagic ecosystems comprising submarine canyons, deep reefs, cold water corals and other ecosystems of the outer shelf, shelf edge and slope, including threatened ecosystems;
- (b) to conserve and protect the ecological processes associated with these ecosystems such as the sardine run, and biodiversity including protected, threatened or overexploited species such as red steenbras, seventy four, geelbek, turtles, tiger sharks, hammerheads and other sharks;
- (c) to support the recovery of linefish and shark species by protecting spawning and other aggregations;
- (d) to facilitate species management and sustainable use of linefish by supporting fisheries recovery and enhanced species abundance in fished areas;
- (e) to support sustainable nature-based tourism opportunities in the area through the protection of marine wildlife; and
- (f) to provide reference sites for research and monitoring, and also to promote and contribute to environmental education.

Commencement

This notice takes effect on 1 August 2019.

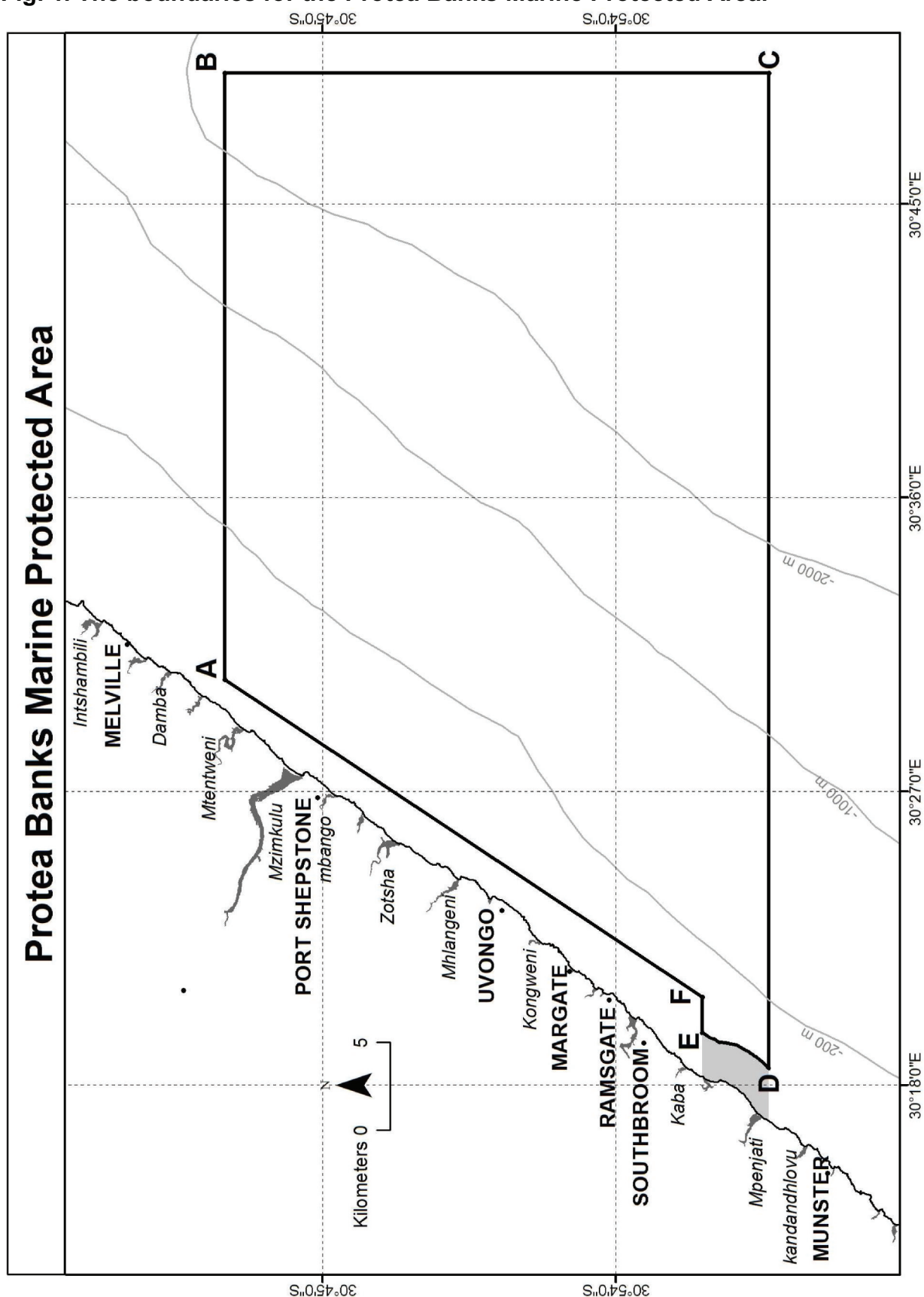
Annexure:**Fig. 1. The boundaries for the Protea Banks Marine Protected Area.**

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

	POINT	X	Y
Protea Banks MPA	A	30.507	-30.7
Protea Banks MPA	B	30.8167	-30.7
Protea Banks MPA	C	30.8167	-30.977867
Protea Banks MPA	D	30.3085	-30.977867
Protea Banks MPA	E	30.3264	-30.944317
Protea Banks MPA	F	30.3448	-30.944317