

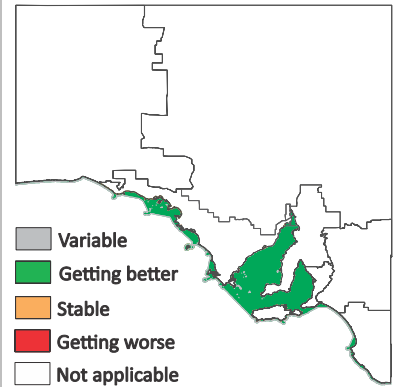
2016 State Report Card

Progress towards protecting marine habitats and species through South Australia's Marine Park network

The marine environment regulates our climate, supports regional tourism, commercial and recreational fishing, aquaculture and shipping, and has significant cultural value for Aboriginal people. Marine ecosystems are under increasing pressure from population growth, coastal development, mining exploration, land-based pollution and fishing.

Much of our marine life is found nowhere else on earth. The waters of southern Australia contain more varieties of marine life than the Great Barrier Reef.

Our marine parks are multiple-use, with four types of zone based on the activities permitted within each zone. [Zones](#) are designated as: General Managed Use, Habitat Protection, Sanctuary, and Restricted Access. Sanctuary Zones and Restricted Access Zones comprise 6 per cent of state waters.



State target

Improve condition of coastal and marine ecosystems

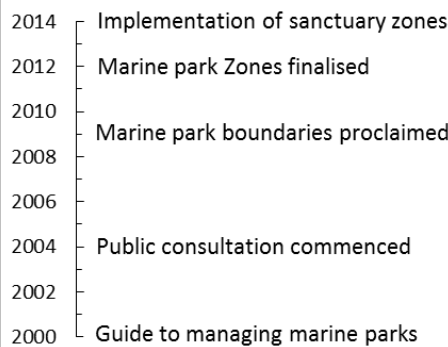
Trend (2000-15)

Getting better

All stages of marine park implementation have now been commenced and performance is being monitored

The network of 19 marine parks was set up to protect 26,655 square kilometres (44 per cent of the state's waters) and 267 square kilometres of coastal land and islands (map bottom right). The marine parks zoning was finalised in November 2012 and restrictions on activities other than fishing in sanctuary zones began in March 2013. Fishing restrictions within marine park sanctuary zones were implemented in October 2014 (graph on right).

The number of land, water, camera and aerial patrols to marine parks and sanctuary zones by compliance officers increased between 2014/15 and 2015/16 (table on right).



	2014/15	2015/16
Patrols		
Shore	1567	2261
Boat	82	208
Aerial	15	61
Camera	-	451
Sanctuary zones visited		
Shore	47	55
Boat	27	41
Aerial	7	34
Camera	-	5
Compliance activities		
Reported incidents	170	293

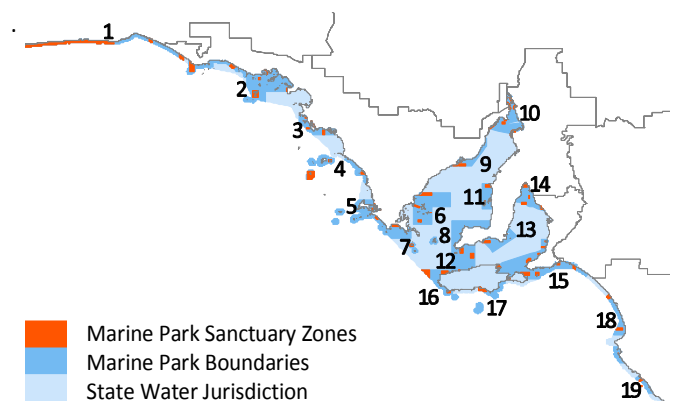
Where we are at (2016)

Good

The monitoring of our marine parks has commenced

A monitoring, evaluation and reporting program has commenced. This program will prioritise specific sanctuary zones in order to assess key [evaluation questions](#) around changes in the size and abundance of some plant and animal species. Information from the monitoring, evaluation and reporting program will be used to assess the effectiveness of the [marine park](#) management plans, which aim to protect marine habitats and species.

A detailed report assessing the implementation of the management plans for marine parks will be available in 2017. Preliminary information to report on the status and condition of marine parks will be available in 2017. Status reports will be produced annually as more detailed data is collected.



Reliability of information



Excellent

Further information: [Technical information for this report card](#), [Marine Parks](#)

