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GOVERNMENT NOTICES • GOEWERMENTSKENNISGEWINGS

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

NO. 1578

19 DECEMBER 2016

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)****NOTICE DECLARING THE TSITSIKAMMA NATIONAL PARK MARINE
PROTECTED AREA UNDER SECTION 22A OF THE NATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT: PROTECTED AREAS ACT, 2003
(ACT NO. 57 OF 2003)**

I, Bomo Edith Edna Molewa, Minister of Environmental Affairs, hereby publish, in terms of section 22B of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003), the withdrawal of the existing Tsitsikamma Marine Protected Area declared in stipulation 2(19) of *Government Gazette* 21948, Notice No. 1429 of 29 December 2000, and declare under section 22A of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act, 2003 (Act No. 57 of 2003), the Tsitsikamma National Park Marine Protected Area as set out in the Schedule hereto.



**BOMO EDITH EDNA MOLEWA
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS**

SCHEDULE

All geographic co-ordinates are determined in accordance with the *WGS 84* datum, and all bearings are true bearings as set out in Annexure 1 hereto.

Boundaries of the Marine Protected Area

The Tsitsikamma National Park Marine Protected Area straddles the Eastern Cape and Western Cape Provinces. It comprises the area from the western bank of the mouth of the Groot River (in the Eastern Cape) westwards along the high water mark to Die Punt, Nature's Valley (in the Western Cape) and extends seawards to a distance approximately 3 nautical miles offshore (with a depth range 0-100m). The Marine Protected Area is adjacent to and lies south of the Tsitsikamma National Park. The Marine Protected Area comprises the area bounded by a series of straight lines sequentially joining the following five coordinates: (A) 34° 3' 36.00" S, 24° 11' 39.90" E; (E) 34° 6' 36.00" S, 24° 11' 39.90" E; (D) 34° 1' 49.02" S, 23° 38' 51.42" E; (C) 34° 2' 0.00" S, 23° 34' 33.66" E; and (B) 33° 59' 0.00" S, 23° 34' 33.66" E; and then by a line running along the high-water mark back to co-ordinate A (Figure 1 in Annexure 1, with the same co-ordinates set out in decimal degrees in Table 1). The Marine Protected Area includes the sea bed, water column and subsoil within these boundaries.

Purpose

The purpose for declaring this Marine Protected Area is:

- (a) To contribute to a national and global representative system of marine protected areas by providing protection to the coastal and offshore benthic and pelagic ecosystems of the Agulhas Inshore Bioregion;
- (b) to conserve and protect threatened species and ecosystems;
- (c) to conserve and protect the biodiversity and ecological processes associated with these ecosystems;
- (d) to protect and regulate access to a scenic area which contributes to eco-tourism;
- (e) to protect the cultural heritage of the coastline;
- (f) to facilitate species management by protecting spawning stock and nursery areas for fish species and allowing stock recovery and enhancing intertidal and subtidal resource abundance in adjacent areas; and
- (g) to protect and provide an appropriate reference environment for research and monitoring where no fishing is allowed and for research to assess biodiversity status, the impact of limited recreational fishing access in controlled areas, and resource condition in areas where there is no access to resources.

Annexure 1: Fig. 1. The boundaries for the Tsitsikamma National Park Marine Protected Area

Tsitsikamma National Park Marine Protected Area

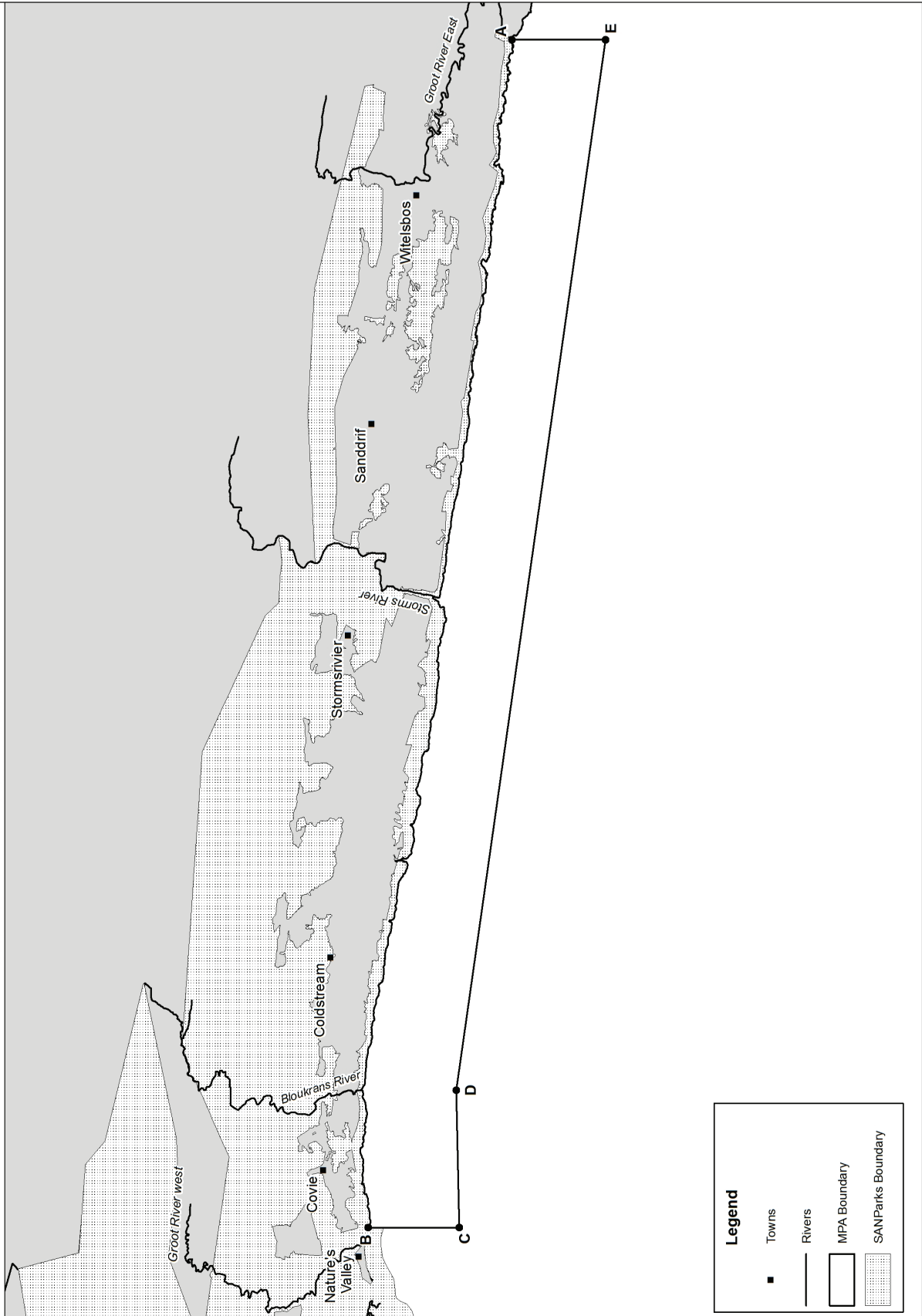


Table 1. The exact geographic coordinates (WGS 84) of points A, B, C, D and E in Fig 1.

POINTS	DECIMAL DEGREES	
	Y	X
A	-34.060000	24.194420
B	-33.983330	23.576020
C	-34.033330	23.576020
D	-34.030280	23.647620
E	-34.110000	24.194420

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