

(16 September 2011 – to date)

MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT 18 OF 1998

(Gazette No. 18930, Notice No. 747. Commencement date: 1 September 1998 [Proc. No. 80, Gazette No. 19148])

DECLARATION OF AMATHOLE MARINE PROTECTED AREA IN THE AMATHOLE REGION UNDER SECTION 43 OF THE MARINE LIVING RESOURCES ACT, 1998 (ACT NO. 18 OF 1998)

Published under Government Notice R730 in Government Gazette 34596 dated 16 September 2011.

Commencement date: 16 September 2011

I, B.E.E.Molewa, the Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs, hereby in terms of section 43 of the Marine living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998) ("the Act") declare the areas in the Schedule to be a marine protected area for the purpose set out in the Schedule.

Mrs B.E.E. Molewa, Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs

Schedule

Boundaries of the Amathole Marine Protected Area

1. All geographic co-ordinates are determined in accordance with the *WGS 84* datum and expressed as degrees and decimal minutes, and all bearings are true bearings.
2. The Gxulu area encompasses the sea area (excluding any estuary) between the high water mark, and a distance of three nautical miles seaward, and between, as southern-western boundary, a line drawn 149° from Christmas Rock ($33^{\circ} 11' .560$ S; $027^{\circ} 38'.626$ E), and, as north-eastern boundary, a line drawn 144° from the Gxulu River mouth ($33^{\circ} 07'.145$ S; $027^{\circ} 43' .893$ E). The south-eastern offshore boundary is a straight line running 045° , which joins the southern corner ($33^{\circ} 14'.018$ S; $027^{\circ} 40'.422$ E) and the eastern corner ($33^{\circ} 09'.513$ S; $027^{\circ} 45'.913$ E) of the area.
3. The Gonubie area encompasses the sea area (excluding any estuary) between the high water mark and a distance of three nautical miles seaward, and between, as southern-western boundary, a line drawn 145° from Nahoon Point ($32^{\circ} 59'.778$ S; $027^{\circ} 57'.096$ E), and, as north-eastern boundary, a line drawn 145° from Gonubie Point ($32^{\circ} 56'.485$ S; $028^{\circ} 02'.120$ E). The south-eastern offshore boundary is a straight line running 045° , which joins the southern corner ($33^{\circ} 02'.213$ S; $027^{\circ} 59'.119$ E) and the eastern corner ($32^{\circ}58'.955$ S; $028^{\circ} 04'.125$ E) of the area.

Prepared by:

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4. The Kei area encompasses the sea area (excluding any estuary) with a boundary that starts at the mouth of the Kei River (32° 40'.816 S; 028° 23' .193 E) and runs generally south-westward along the high water mark to the mouth of the Nyara River (32° 47'.000 S; 028° 10'.883 E) and then proceeds from here along a series of straight lines joining eight offshore positions in the sequence listed below ending at the point of beginning at the mouth of the Kei River.

- (1) 32° 49'.464 S; 28° 12'.877 E
- (2) 32° 49'.332 S; 28° 14'.245 E
- (3) 32° 48'.679 S; 28° 16'.369 E
- (4) 32° 47'.807 S; 28° 18'.335 E
- (5) 32° 44'.925 S; 28° 22'.487 E
- (6) 32° 44'.695 S; 28° 24'.200 E
- (7) 32° 44'.380 S; 28° 24'.691 E
- (8) 32° 42'.833 S; 28° 25'.266 E

The south-western boundary bears 146° from the mouth of the Nyara River, and the north-eastern boundary bears 139° from the mouth of the Kei River.

Purpose for declaring the Marine Protected Areas

The purpose for declaring the Marine Protected Area is:

- (1) To protect and conserve the marine environment and marine biodiversity in the Amathole region;
- (2) To provide a sanctuary for species impacted by boat-based exploitation;
- (3) To provide benchmark areas for scientific research and monitoring aimed at the protection and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems;
- (4) To control activities in the Marine Protected Area to reduce the risks of habitat degradation.

Annexure 1

Maps and graphical display of co-ordinates

(Please note that copies of Annexure 1 will be provided upon request. Kindly refer to our website for our contact details.)