1. The Great Sandy Marine Park (GSMP) is a marine protected area that provides for a variety of recreational, commercial and tourism activities in addition to its primary purpose of conserving the marine environment. It contains a diverse range of natural and cultural values. These include extensive seagrass meadows and mangrove communities, some of the world’s most southerly coastal fringing coral reefs, and species of international and national conservation significance such as shorebirds, grey nurse sharks, turtles and dugongs.
2. The management and use of the GSMP is guided by the Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2017 (zoning plan) which is subordinate legislation under the *Marine Parks Act 2004*.
3. The zoning plan has undergone its first comprehensive review since it was declared in 2006. This ensures a more contemporary management approach to the GSMP that is based on leading science, best practice marine protected area management and input from First Nations peoples and the broader community.
4. The outcomes of the review have been incorporated into a new zoning plan consistent with the Decision Regulatory Impact Statement that was released in July 2023.
5. Amendments to other related legislation are also being made to support the new zoning plan, including amendments to the Marine Parks (Declaration) Regulation 2006 to redefine the outer boundary of the marine park and to the Fisheries (General) Regulation 2019 to align the boundaries of the declared fish habitat areas with the new Great Sandy Marine Park boundary.
6. Cabinet endorsed that the Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2024 be recommended to the Governor in Council for approval.
7. Cabinet endorsed that the Marine Parks and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024 be recommended to the Governor in Council for approval.
8. *Attachments*:
* [Marine Parks (Great Sandy) Zoning Plan 2024](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2024/Feb/GSMP/Attachments/Plan.PDF)
* [Zoning Plan - Explanatory Notes](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2024/Feb/GSMP/Attachments/PlanExNotes.PDF)
* [Zoning Plan - Human Rights Certificate](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2024/Feb/GSMP/Attachments/PlanHRC.PDF)
* [Marine Parks and Other Legislation Amendment Regulation 2024](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2024/Feb/GSMP/Attachments/Reg.PDF)
* [Amendment Regulation - Explanatory Notes](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2024/Feb/GSMP/Attachments/RegExNotes.pdf)
* [Amendment Regulation - Human Rights Certificate](https://dpcqld.sharepoint.com/sites/DPC-CABINETSERVICES/Shared%20Documents/General/Proactive%20Release/ToBeProcessed/2024/Feb/GSMP/Attachments/RegHRC.pdf)