








Moreton Bay Marine Park User Guide

Marine park boundaries:

-  Marine national park (green) zones
-  Conservation park (yellow) zones
-  Go slow areas for turtles and dugong
-  Go slow areas for vessels >8m
-  Go slow areas for natural values
-  No anchoring areas
-  Grey nurse shark areas

from the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008

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Photo acknowledgments:

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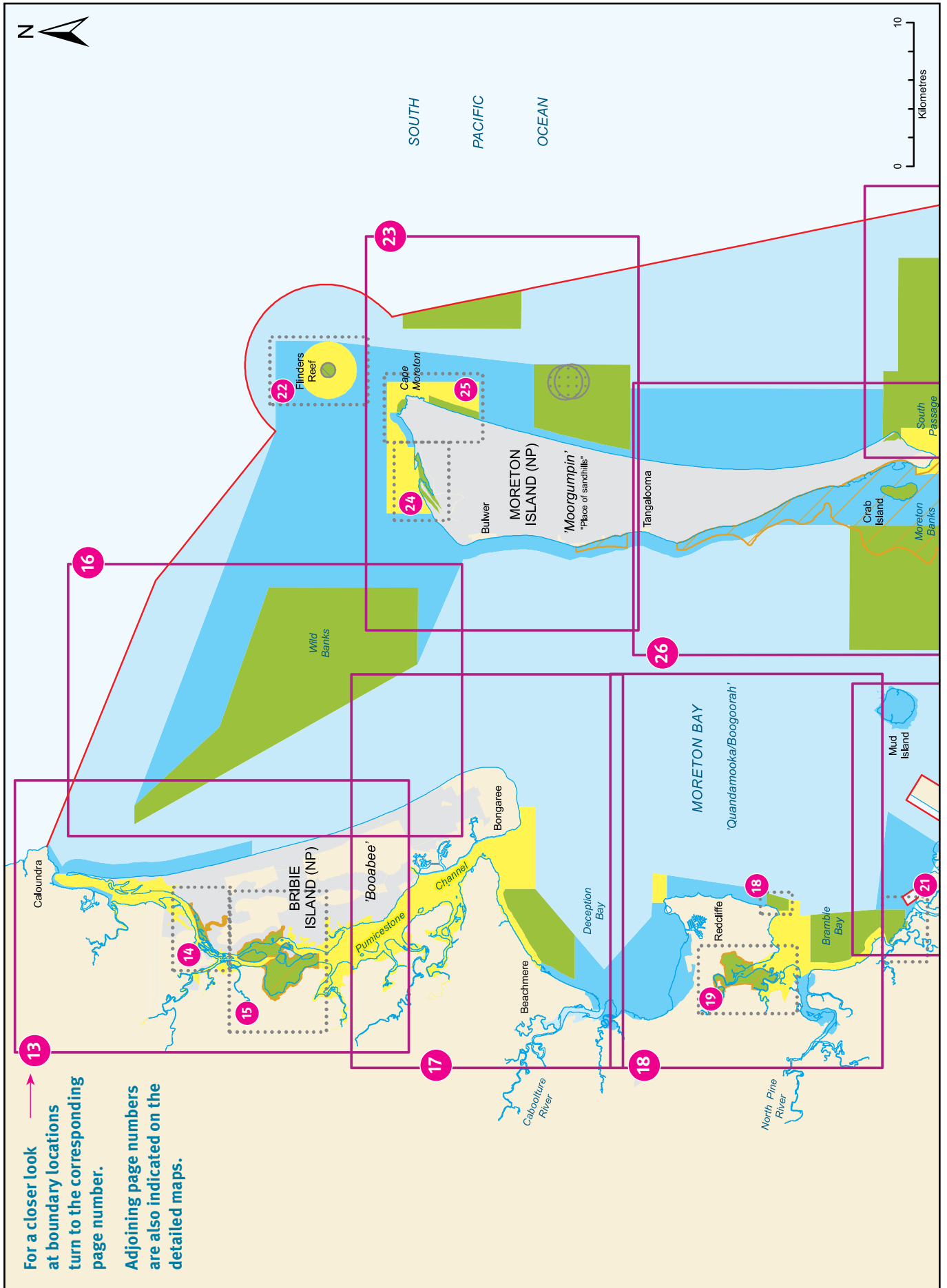
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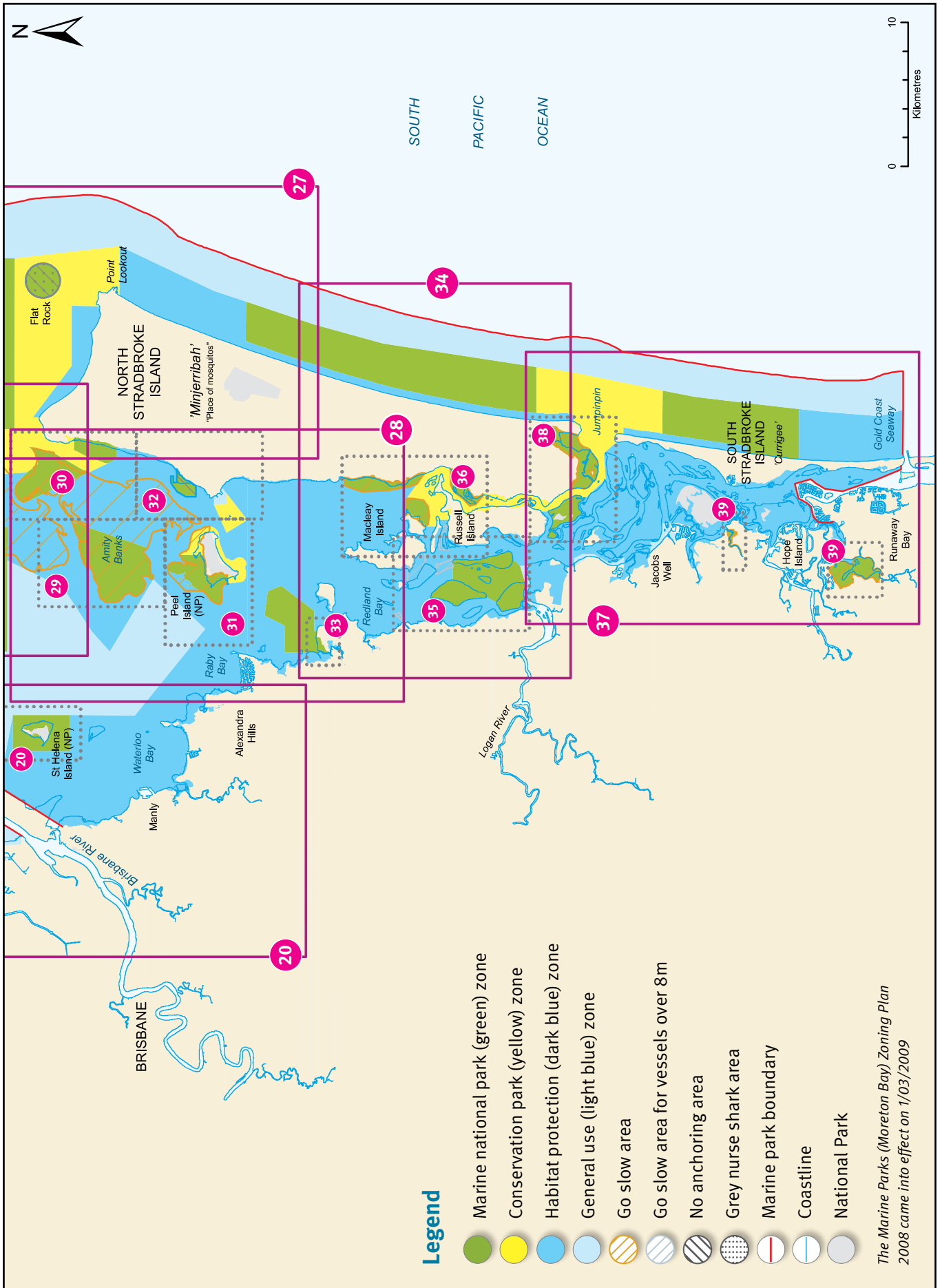
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Contents

Overview map	2–3
Where is Moreton Bay Marine Park?	4
What’s special about the marine park?	4
Managing the marine park.....	4
Zoning	5
Marine national park zone	5
Conservation park zone	6
Habitat protection zone	7
General use zone	7
Designated areas	8
Go slow areas for turtles and dugong	8
Go slow areas for turtles and dugong (vessels over 8m).....	8
Go slow areas for natural values	8
No anchoring areas	8
Grey nurse shark areas	8
What you need to know	9
Quick guide to activities	9
Boating.....	9
Jet skis and other personal watercraft (PWC).....	9
Motorised water sports.....	9
Time limits	9
Recreational fishing, crabbing, bait gathering and netting	9
Collecting.....	10
Navigating the zones and designated areas	10
Navigation/chart plotting equipment.....	10
Boundary description terms explained	10
Using this guide	11
Important notes for map users.....	11
Map legend	11
Zoning	11
Designated areas	11
Disclaimer.....	12
Maps	13–39
Entry and use guide.....	40
Contact details	40







The Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 came into effect on 1/03/2009

Where is Moreton Bay Marine Park?

Nestled in Queensland's south-east corner, Moreton Bay Marine Park covers 3400km² and stretches 125km from Caloundra to the Gold Coast. The marine park includes most of the bay's tidal waters including many estuaries and extends seawards to the limit of Queensland waters (see map on pages 2 and 3). The landward boundary is generally the line of highest astronomical tide (HAT).

What's special about the marine park?

Moreton Bay is one of the largest estuarine bays in Australia and sits in an 'overlap zone' where tropical and temperate species mix.

The habitats found in the marine park include open ocean, sandy beaches, coral reefs, rocky shores, seagrass and sponge beds, mangrove forests, mudflats and sandbanks. These habitats support a diversity of marine fauna and flora including more than 1000 species of fish, that share the waters with six of the world's seven species of marine turtles and several threatened species such as grey nurse sharks and dugong.

The marine park is also important for other marine mammals such as humpback whales and dolphins. Many thousands of migratory shorebirds also visit the marine park, feeding and roosting on its shoreline. It is this biodiversity—the variety of species, habitats and ecosystems, and the processes that sustain them—that makes the marine park special.

Another major feature of the marine park is its proximity to Brisbane, which has one of the fastest growing urban populations in Australia. Visitors and residents are attracted to the marine park for a wide range of recreational activities—a wonderful

destination to play and relax. It also contributes significantly to the Queensland economy through a range of industries including shipping, tourism, commercial fishing, recreational boating and fishing, diving and aquaculture.

Managing the marine park

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) manages the marine park as a multi-use marine protected area. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS), a business unit of DES, is responsible for the day-to-day management of the marine park. Unlike a national park on land where everything is protected to the greatest possible extent, the marine park is zoned to allow a range of recreational and commercial activities to occur while also setting aside some areas for higher protection. This approach recognises that people use and value marine park resources in many different ways.

Marine park management aims to ensure Moreton Bay remains a diverse, resilient and productive ecological system that can be enjoyed and accessed in a sustainable way. Marine parks like Moreton Bay, that include green (no-take) zones have been proven around the world to help conserve marine biodiversity by setting aside some areas where species and habitats can evolve and function relatively undisturbed. With the use of the marine park increasing, it is everyone's responsibility—governments, communities and individuals—to work together to ensure species and habitats are protected and that use of the park's resources is sustainable.



Do you know just how remarkable Moreton Bay Marine Park is?

- ▶ Most of Moreton Bay is a Ramsar wetland of international importance recognised under the international Ramsar convention. It is Queensland's third-largest—and one of Australia's top 12—shorebird habitats.
- ▶ It is one of three extensive intertidal areas of seagrass, mangroves and saltmarsh on Australia's east coast.
- ▶ It supports the southern most population of dugong in Australia and is among the top 10 habitats nationally for this vulnerable species.
- ▶ It is one of the most important feeding areas for threatened marine turtles along Australia's east coast.
- ▶ Its bottlenose dolphin population, centred around Point Lookout, is one of the largest congregations of bottlenose dolphins in the world.
- ▶ Covering just three per cent of Queensland's coastline, industries in the marine park contribute significantly to the state's economy.

All this on the doorstep of a capital city!



Zoning

The Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 (the zoning plan) is the primary tool used to manage the marine park, supported by public education programs, signs, permits, compliance programs, routine surveillance and scientific monitoring.

Zoning manages different activities in the marine park and separates potentially conflicting uses, while maintaining the park’s unique biodiversity.

The benefits of zoning are that it:

- protects biodiversity
- helps ensure the continued existence of the unique species and habitat
- provides greater protection for threatened species
- supports sustainable uses in the marine park
- protects important recreational, cultural, educational and scientific values.

Types of zones and what you can do in them

There are four zone types in Moreton Bay Marine Park:

- Marine national park (green) zone (MNP)
- Conservation park (yellow) zone (CPZ)
- Habitat protection (dark blue) zone (HPZ)
- General use (light blue) zone (GUZ)

The following tables show the percentage of each zone type in the marine park and outline the activities most relevant to recreational and commercial use of the marine park.

Permits may be required for some activities. If you are unsure, contact DES on 13 QGOV (13 74 68) or refer to the zoning plan at www.des.qld.gov.au

MNP Marine national park (green) zone (16 %)		
<p>Like a national park in the water, these areas are ‘no-take areas’ of high conservation value. Anyone can enter and undertake activities such as boating, snorkelling and sailing.</p> <p>Green zones provide the greatest level of protection in the marine park. All forms of take (fishing, collecting or extracting) are prohibited.</p>	What can I do there?	
	Boating	✓
	Diving	✓
	Line fishing	✗ ¹
	Trolling	✗ ¹
	Crabbing	✗ ¹
	Bait gathering	✗ ¹
	Bait netting	✗ ¹
	Netting (other than bait netting)	✗ ¹
	Limited spearfishing*	✗ ¹
	Limited collecting**	✗ ¹
Trawling	✗ ¹	

¹ All equipment to conduct this activity must be **stowed or secured** in board the vessel and completely out of the water.

* See definition on page 9.

** See definition on page 10.

Other state legislation such as the *Fisheries Act 1994* continues to apply in the marine park.

For fisheries information

Fisheries Queensland
Ph 13 25 23
www.fisheries.qld.gov.au

CPZ Conservation park (yellow) zone (8 %)

<p>These zones are areas of high conservation value for habitat and wildlife that also allow for limited recreational and commercial uses such as fishing and crabbing.</p>	What can I do there?	
	Boating	✓
	Diving	✓
	Line fishing	✓ ²
	Trolling	✓ ²
	Crabbing	✓ ³
	Bait gathering	✓
	Bait netting	✓ ⁴
	Netting (other than bait netting)	✗ ¹
	Limited spearfishing*	✓
	Limited collecting	✓ ⁵
	Trawling	✗ ¹

- 1 All equipment to conduct this activity must be stowed or secured in board the vessel and completely out of the water.
 - 2 A maximum of two lines and a total of two hooks per angler.
 - 3 Maximum of four crab pots per person.
 - 4 Refer to Fisheries Regulation 2008 for net type restrictions. Commercial bait netters are excluded from taking species of the genus *Acanthopagrus* or *Rhabdosargus* (bream), *Platycephalus* (flathead) or *Sillago* (whiting).
 - 5 No coral or protected species (except under a permit). Limits apply to species and equipment used. See page 10.
- # The Pumicestone Passage commercial fishing closure under the *Fisheries Act 1994* still applies.
- * See definition on page 9.

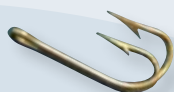
What is a hook?

Conservation park zones allow line fishing using two lines and a maximum of two hooks per angler. A hook includes any of the examples in the picture below:

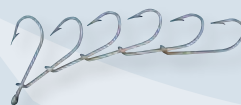
single hook



single-shanked double hook



ganged hook set (of up to six adjoined hooks)



lure with up to three hooks



squid jig



artificial fly



a bait jig (of up to six hooks, size 1–12)



Photos courtesy of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia

HPZ Habitat protection (dark blue) zone (30 %)	
Protect sensitive habitats by keeping them generally free from potentially damaging activities. No trawling is allowed in these zones.	What can I do there?
	Boating ✓
	Diving ✓
	Line fishing ✓
	Trolling ✓
	Crabbing ✓
	Bait gathering ✓
	Bait netting ✓
	Netting (other than bait netting) ✓
	Limited spearfishing* ✓
	Limited collecting ✓ ⁵
	Trawling ✗ ¹

- 1 All equipment to conduct this activity must be stowed or secured in board the vessel and completely out of the water.
- 5 No coral or protected species (except under a permit). Limits apply to species and equipment used. See page 10.
- * See definition on page 9.

GUZ General use (light blue) zone (46 %)	
Provide for conservation while allowing a wide range of activities to occur including trawling.	What can I do there?
	Boating ✓
	Diving ✓
	Line fishing ✓
	Trolling ✓
	Crabbing ✓
	Bait gathering ✓
	Bait netting ✓
	Netting (other than bait netting) ✓
	Limited spearfishing* ✓
	Limited collecting ✓ ⁵
	Trawling ✓

- 5 No coral or protected species (except under a permit). Limits apply to species and equipment used. See page 10.
- * See definition on page 9.



Designated areas

Zones are overlaid by designated areas used to help manage specific issues that occur at specific locations in the marine park. The rules that apply to designated areas are in addition to zoning rules, not instead of them.

There are nine types of designated areas in Moreton Bay Marine Park. Four of these relate to recreational and commercial use of the park and are covered in this guide. The remaining five, which relate to activities such as dredging and works, can be found in the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008, available at www.des.qld.gov.au

 <h3>Go slow areas for turtles and dugong</h3>	<p>See map on page(s):</p>
<p>Protect turtles and dugong from boat strike, which is a major threat to these species in Moreton Bay Marine Park. In these areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ all vessels must travel off-the-plane or in displacement mode, and in a way that minimises the chance of a turtle or dugong being struck ➤ motorised water sports are prohibited. 	<p>23, 26, 28, 34</p>
 <h3>Go slow areas for turtles and dugong (vessels >8 m)</h3>	
<p>Address the specific issue of larger vessels striking dugong in southern Moreton Bay. In these areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ vessels >8m are restricted to 10 knots or less. 	<p>34</p>
 <h3>Go slow areas for natural values</h3>	
<p>Protect the natural integrity of the location and provide the opportunity for all marine park users to appreciate and enjoy the undisturbed values and beauty of an area without the interruption and impacts of fast moving vessels. In these areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ all vessels must travel off-the-plane or in displacement mode ➤ motorised water sports are prohibited. 	<p>13, 18, 37, 34</p>
 <h3>No anchoring areas</h3>	
<p>Protect sensitive reef habitats from anchor damage. In these areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ anchoring is prohibited ➤ where public moorings are available they are on a 'first come first served' basis and a two-hour time limit applies. 	<p>22, 27, 28</p>
 <h3>Grey nurse shark areas</h3>	
<p>Three grey nurse shark areas help conserve one of Australia's most endangered marine species. These areas are located within marine national park (green) zones where fishing is prohibited. A number of regulations apply to activities such as diving (refer to the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 for details).</p>	<p>23, 27</p>



What you need to know

Quick guide to activities

Boating	Motorised water sports
<p>Boating is largely unrestricted in the marine park; however boat operators must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ adhere to rules in go slow and no anchoring areas (see designated areas) ➤ ensure they do not unreasonably disturb shorebirds anywhere in the marine park ➤ not discharge any waste, including treated or untreated sewage in marine national park (green) zones. 	<p>Motorised water sports are not allowed in go slow areas for turtles and dugong, and natural values. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ driving a vessel (including personal watercraft) other than in a straight line; for example driving in circles, weaving, and surfing down or jumping over waves, swell or wash ➤ towing a person (waterskiing, parasailing or wakeboarding) ➤ personal watercraft not taking the most reasonable direct route between two places.
Jet skis and other personal watercraft (PWC)	Time limits
<p>In the zoning plan jet skis are considered vessels and the same rules apply. Operators must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ adhere to rules in go slow and no anchoring areas (see designated areas) ➤ ensure they do not unreasonably disturb shorebirds anywhere in the marine park. 	<p>Time limits apply to vessels anchoring throughout the marine park, other than at approved moorings. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ anchoring more than 14 consecutive days, or more than 30 days in any period of 60 days, in one area will require a permit ➤ a two-hour limit applies on using public moorings in the marine park.
<p style="text-align: center;">Recreational fishing, crabbing, bait gathering and netting Allowed in all zones except marine national park (green) zones, subject to the following restrictions</p>	
<p>Line fishing and trolling is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ limited to two lines and a total of two hooks per angler in conservation park (yellow) zones (see page 6). 	<p>Bait netting/gathering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ taking by hand or hand-held implement only ➤ commercial bait netters are excluded from taking species of the genus <i>Acanthopagrus</i> and <i>Rhabdosargus</i> (bream), <i>Platycephalus</i> (flathead) or <i>Sillago</i> (whiting).
<p>Crabbing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ limited to four pots per person in conservation park (yellow) zones. 	<p>Limited spearfishing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ that does not include the use of a power-head, firearm, light or underwater breathing apparatus — other than a snorkel ➤ under other state legislation, spearfishing is prohibited in some areas ➤ contact Fisheries Queensland (phone 13 25 23) and your local council about the area you wish to spearfish ➤ where legislation contradicts the other, the one with higher protection prevails.
<p>Netting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ bait netting is the only type of netting allowed in conservation park (yellow) zones. 	



Collecting

Collecting organisms is a popular activity in the marine park but care is needed as some species are protected and many others have limits on the number of specimens that can be collected, defined as **limited collecting**.

- All limited collecting must be undertaken by hand or using a hand-held implement that is not motorised or pneumatically or hydraulically driven.
- A permit is required to collect more than the prescribed numbers.

Schedule 3 of the zoning plan lists protected species that cannot be collected without a permit.

Schedule 4 of the zoning plan lists restricted and excluded animals for fishing or collecting.

- Part 1 lists restricted coral species whose collection (live or dead) is prohibited anywhere in the marine park without a permit.
- Part 2 lists species to which collection limits apply. A total of five specimens and only two of each species can be collected of,
 - (i) a listed fish species or
 - (ii) a marine invertebrate, other than an excluded invertebrate, greater than 5mm in length.
- Part 3 lists invertebrates excluded from Part 2 requirements.

Navigating the zones and designated areas

Knowing which zone or designated area you are in while on the water is important. Zone and designated area boundaries are, where possible, based on simple shapes with north–south or east–west bearings. In areas near the coast, boundaries are aligned with landmarks where feasible. In some cases recognisable natural features, such as the edge of mangroves, have been used to define zone boundaries.

Moreton Bay Marine Park boundaries and information are currently available in ‘Beacon-to-Beacon’ 9th edition (and any later editions) on msq.qld.gov.au/Boating-maps/Moreton-Bay-guides

The definitive reference for zone and designated area boundaries remains the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 available from www.des.qld.gov.au

Major GPS manufacturers and electronic chart companies have incorporated the new zoning data into their products. Enquire with your supplier or manufacturer regarding access to up-to-date Moreton Bay Marine Park zoning plan data.

Some boundary description terms explained

Maps in this user guide contain the terms below. The Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 also includes a dictionary to help interpret these terms.

100m or 500m high water line:

A line 100m or 500m seawards from the high water mark on an island or the mainland.

Depth contour:

A depth contour links adjacent points on the sea floor that are at the same depth, in the same way contours are used on topographic maps to show land of the same height. The depth contour is taken at low tide. For example, a 2m depth contour links points that are 2m deep **at low tide**.

To determine the depth of water you need to be in at the 2m depth contour at any particular time, you need to make allowances for the tide—determine how much extra water there is on top of the 2m depth contour, remembering this is measured at low tide.

Low water line:

A line that runs along the low water mark. If there is a gap caused by a mouth of a bay, inlet, creek or stream then the line continues by joining one side to the other following the general trend of the low water line.

Mangrove line:

A line that runs between the trunks at the outer boundary of a mangrove forest. If there is a gap caused by a mouth of a river, creek or stream the line continues by joining one side to the other in the general trend of the outer boundary of the forest. Individual mangroves that lie outside the forest are not included. A mangrove forest is a group of mangroves with a continuous canopy and obvious outer boundary.



Using this guide

1. Before you leave, find the area you wish to visit on the map on pages 2–3 of this guide. This will tell you which page numbers to consult.
2. Determine the colour of the area you wish to visit. This will tell you what zone it is.
3. Look closely at the boundaries of the area—noting landmarks, the GPS points, navigation markers to help determine the boundary for the area.
4. Check if the area you intend to visit is also a designated area.
5. Check the activities that are allowed in the zone you are visiting (see pages 5–7 and the back page of this guide). If it is a designated area, determine the rules that also apply in that area (see page 8 of this guide).

Need advice?

Call the Queensland Government hotline on 13 QGOV (13 74 68).











Important notes for map users

Coordinates shown in italics on the maps represent the ‘at or about’ coordinates found in the boundary descriptions in schedules 1 and 2 of the zoning plan. The ‘at or about’ coordinates are provided as a guide to help locate boundaries in cases where natural features, such as a high tide line or mangrove line, intersect lines of latitude or longitude.





The marine park boundary is shown by either a red line (generally offshore) or the extent of the zone boundaries along the coast or in streams.

The satellite imagery used as a backdrop for the maps was captured in 2006 and natural features such as sand banks, tidal lagoons and coastlines may have changed since that time. Users should also note that parts of the imagery are obscured by clouds.





Map legend

-  Marine park boundary
-  Labelled coordinate
-  Navigation mark
-  Protected area estate (e.g. national park)
-  Rock/reef/artificial reef
-  Indicative shoal boundary
-  Wreck
-  Camping
-  Boat ramp
-  Public mooring

Zoning

-  Marine national park (green) zone
-  Conservation park (yellow) zone
-  Habitat protection (dark blue) zone
-  General use (light blue) zone

Designated areas

-  Go slow area for turtles and dugong
Go slow area for natural values
-  Go slow area (vessels >8m)
-  No anchoring area
-  Grey nurse shark area

Zone identifiers indicate the zone type

- MNP:** Marine national park (green) zone
- CPZ:** Conservation park (yellow) zone
- HPZ:** Habitat protection (dark blue) zone
- GUZ:** General use (light blue) zone

Disclaimer

The purpose of this user guide is to help interpret the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008.

Zone and designated area boundaries are indicative only. While every care has been taken to illustrate zone and designated area boundaries as accurately as possible, users must refer to Schedule 1 and 2 of the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 for precise boundary descriptions.

The maps contained within this guide are not to be used for navigation. Navigation aid positions may change. For navigation, refer to official nautical charts published by maritime agencies.

GDA: All data integrated into this product has been projected to the Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) in accordance with the Geocentric Datum of Australia Technical Manual and the requirements of the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing. Coordinated locations are shown using latitudes and longitudes expressed in degrees decimal minutes.

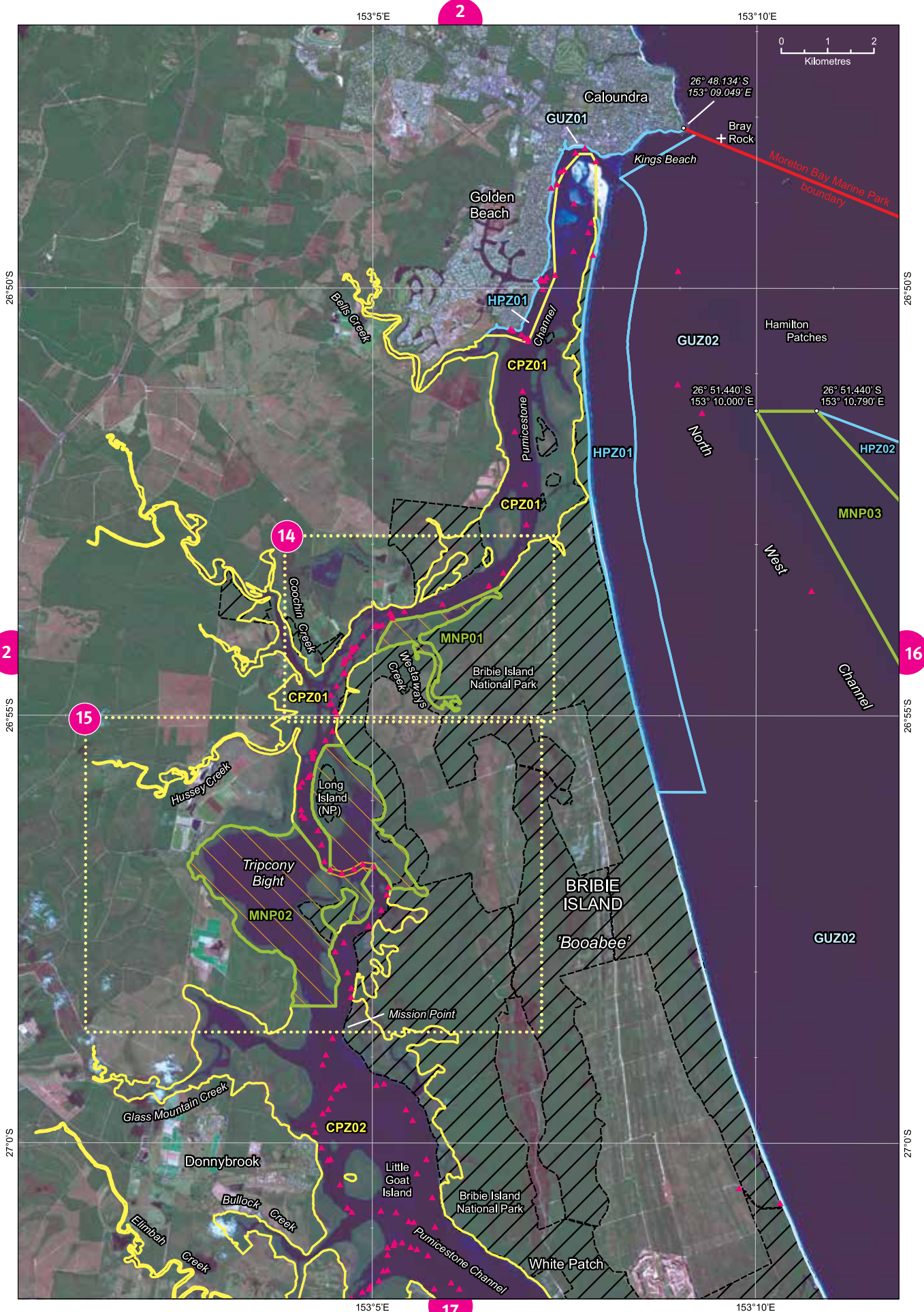
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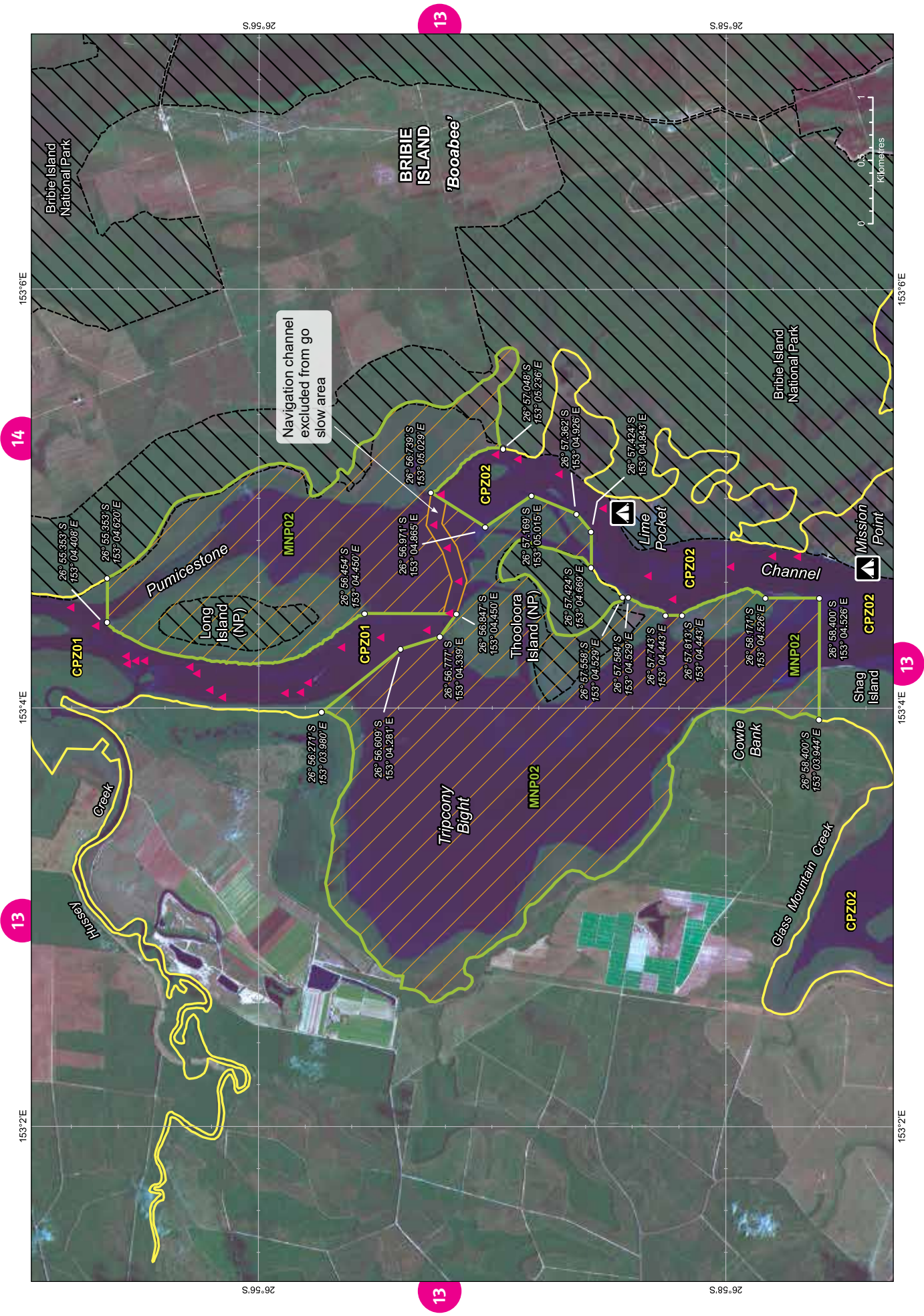
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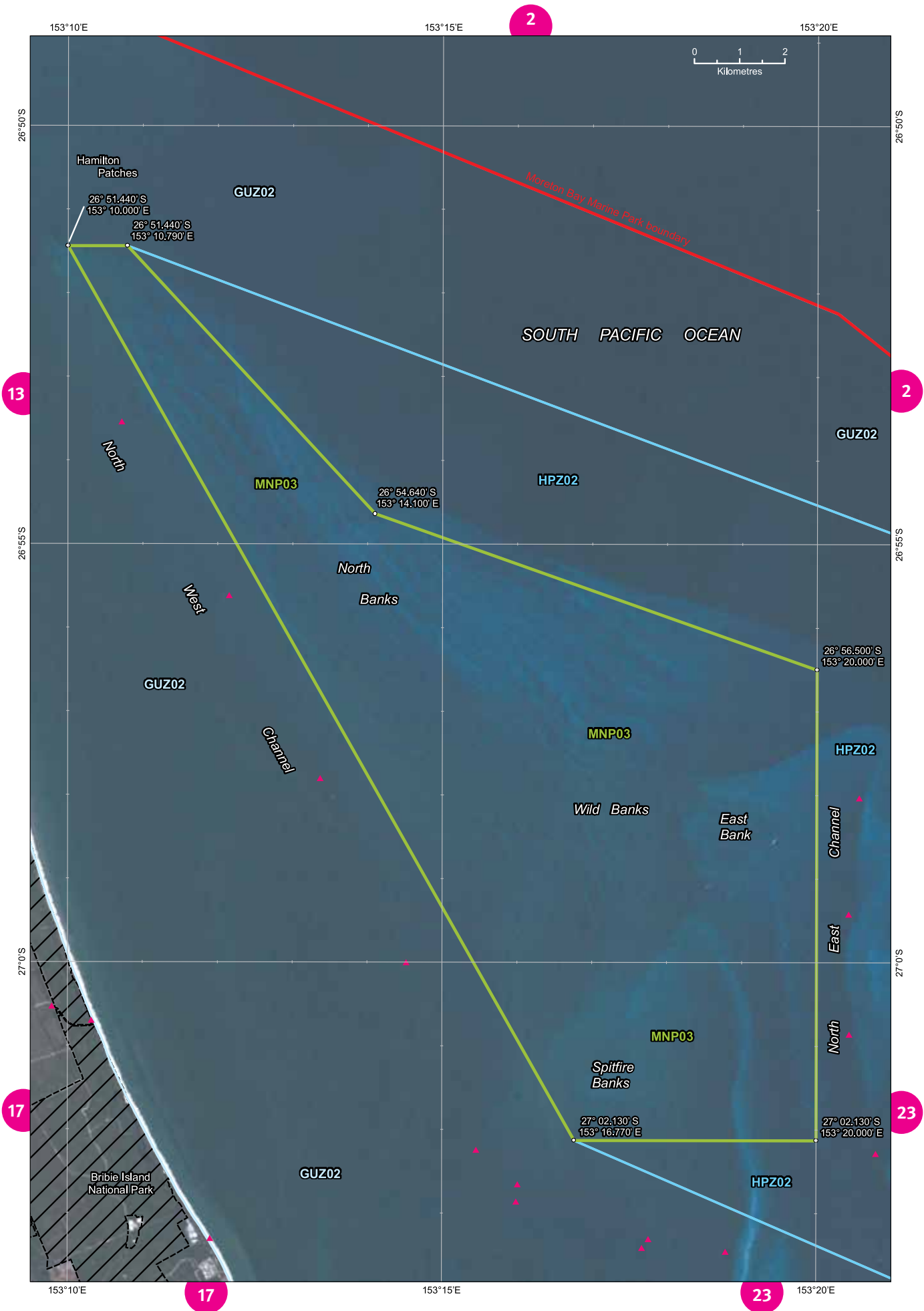
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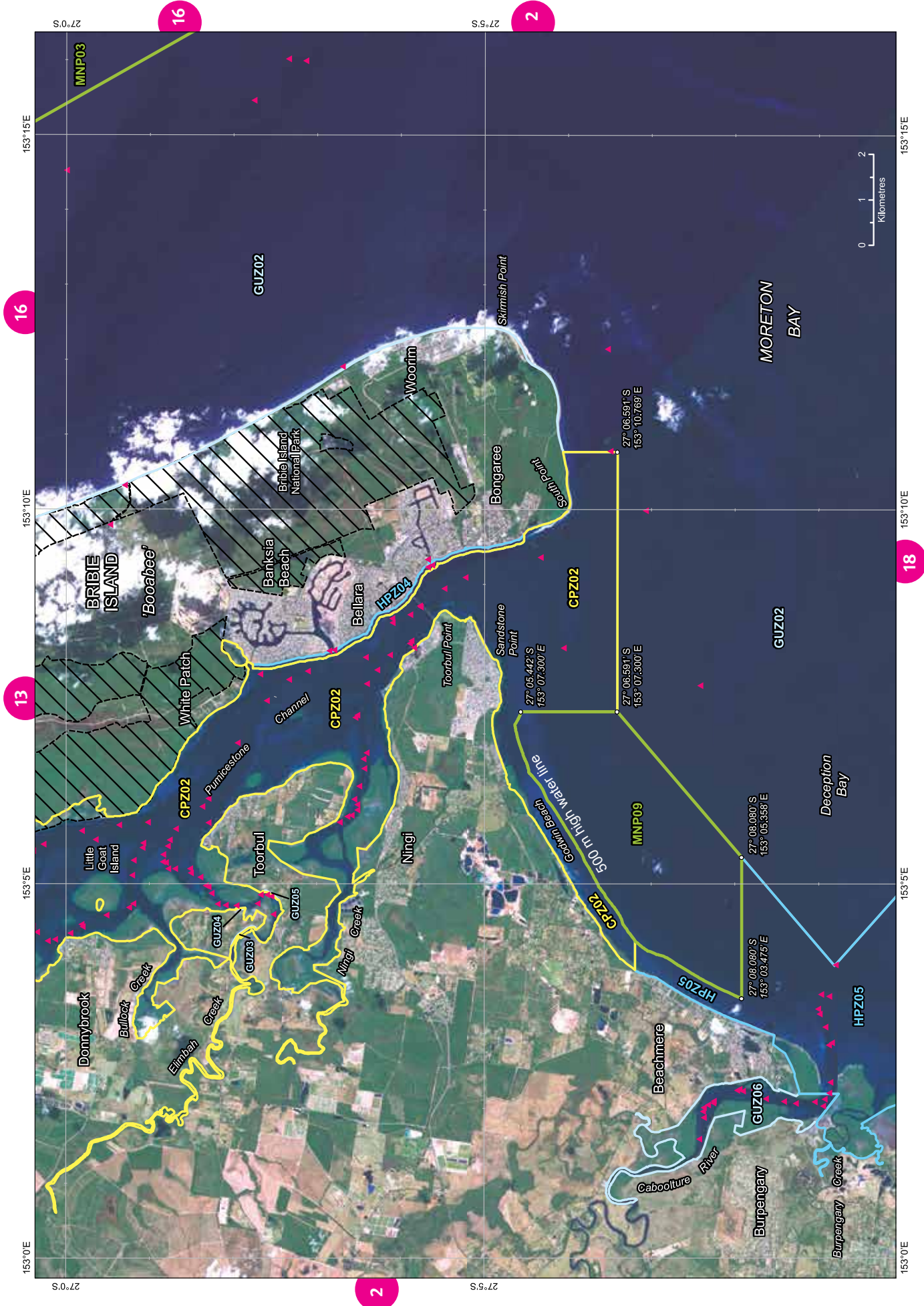


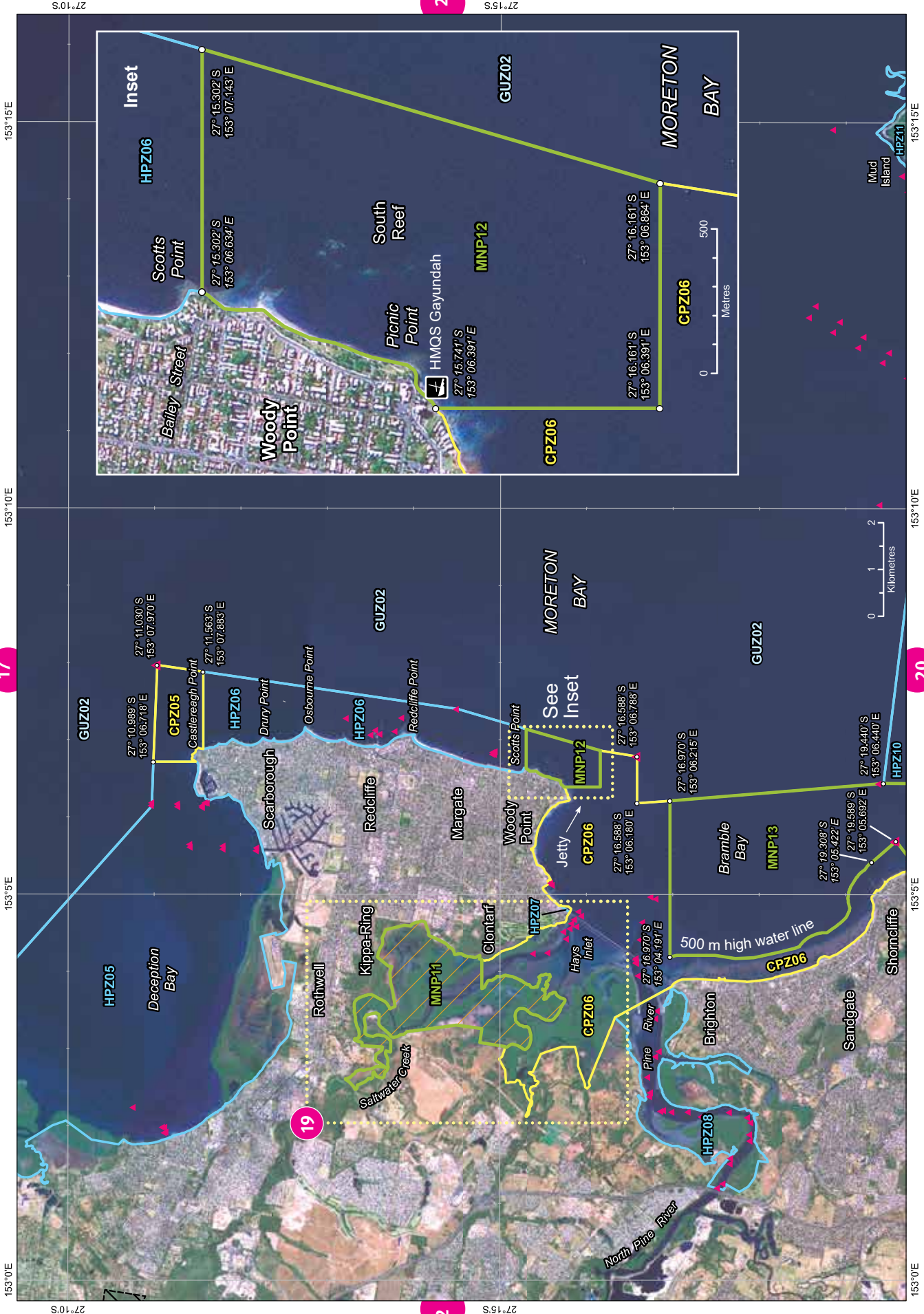


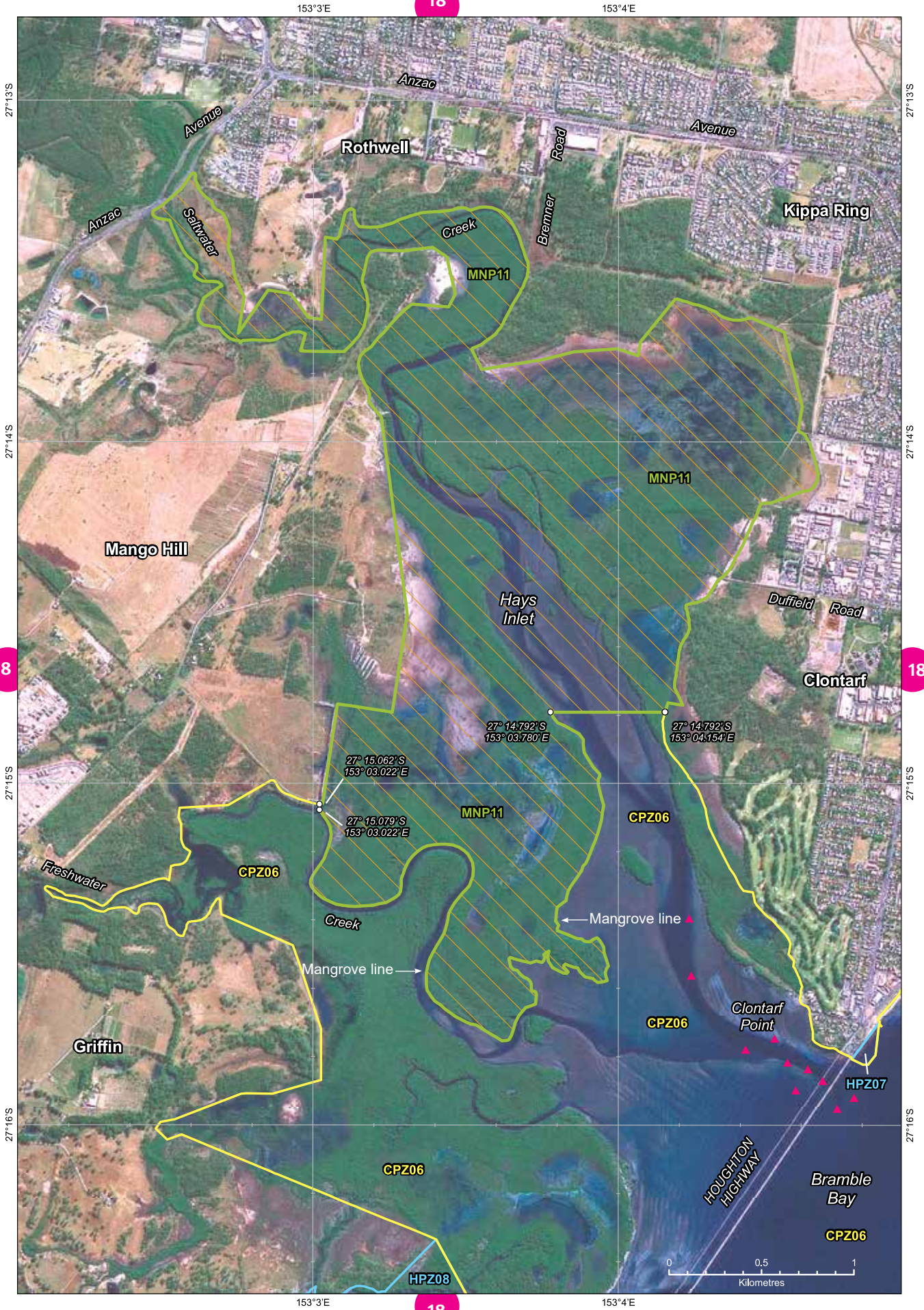


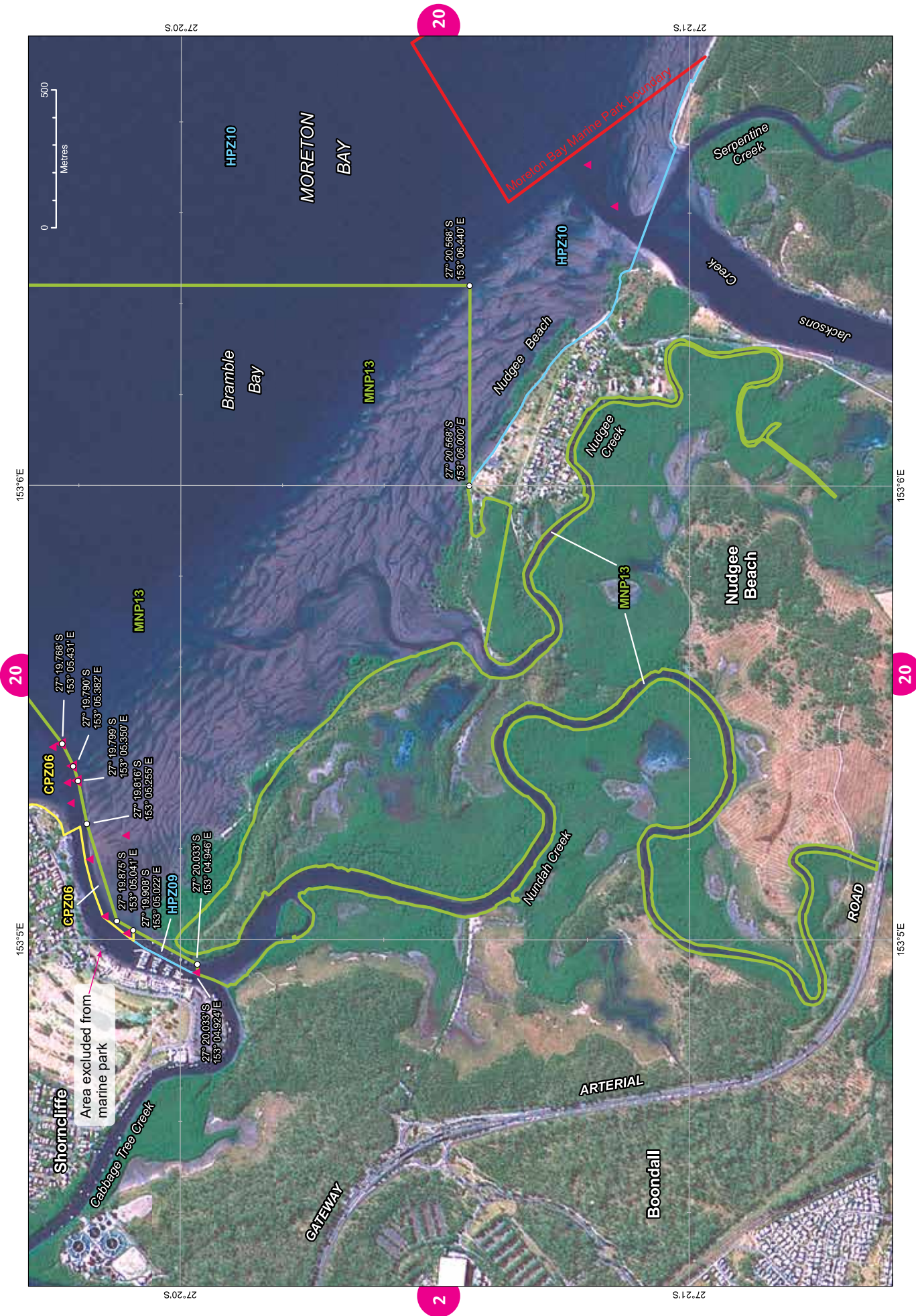












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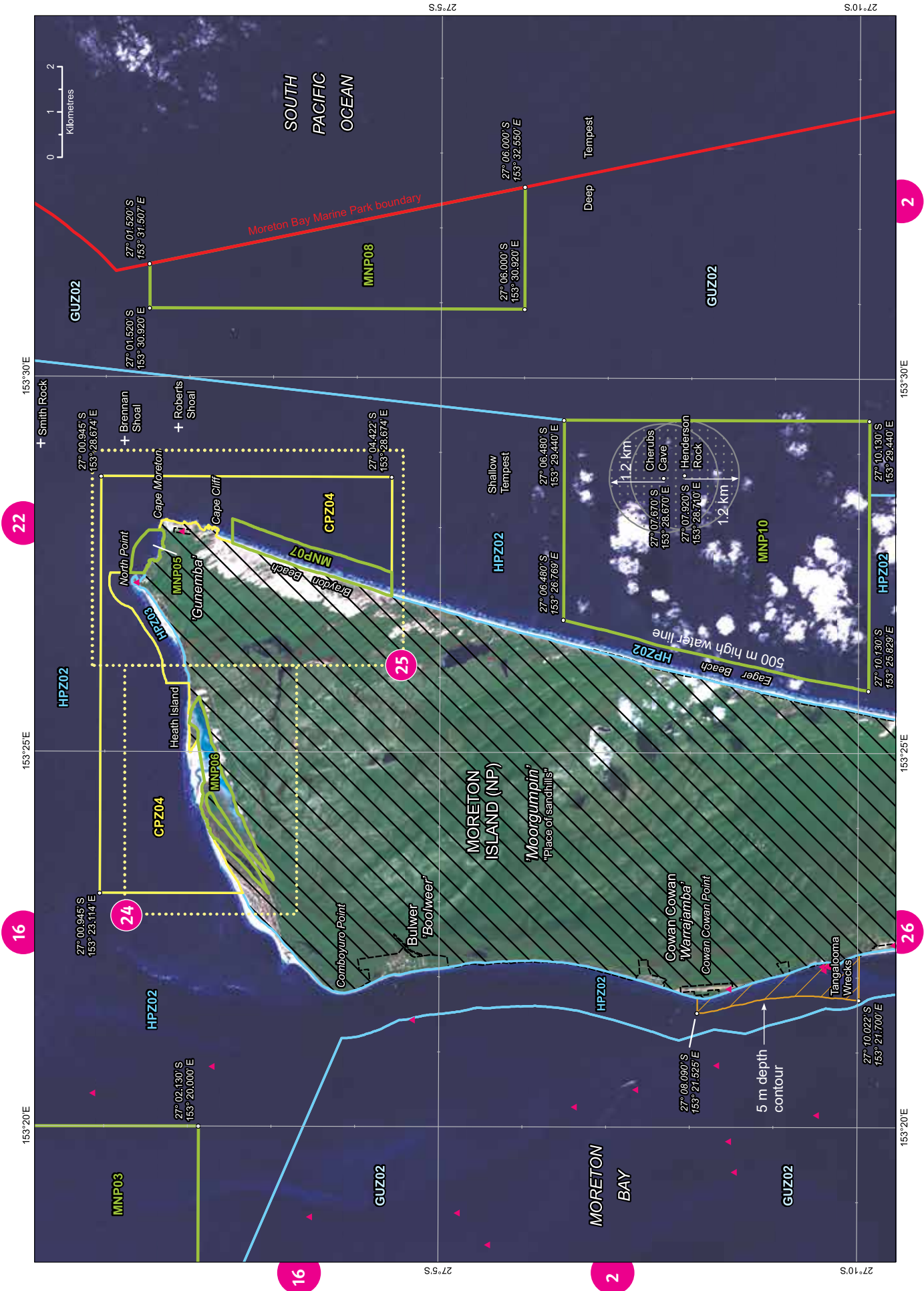
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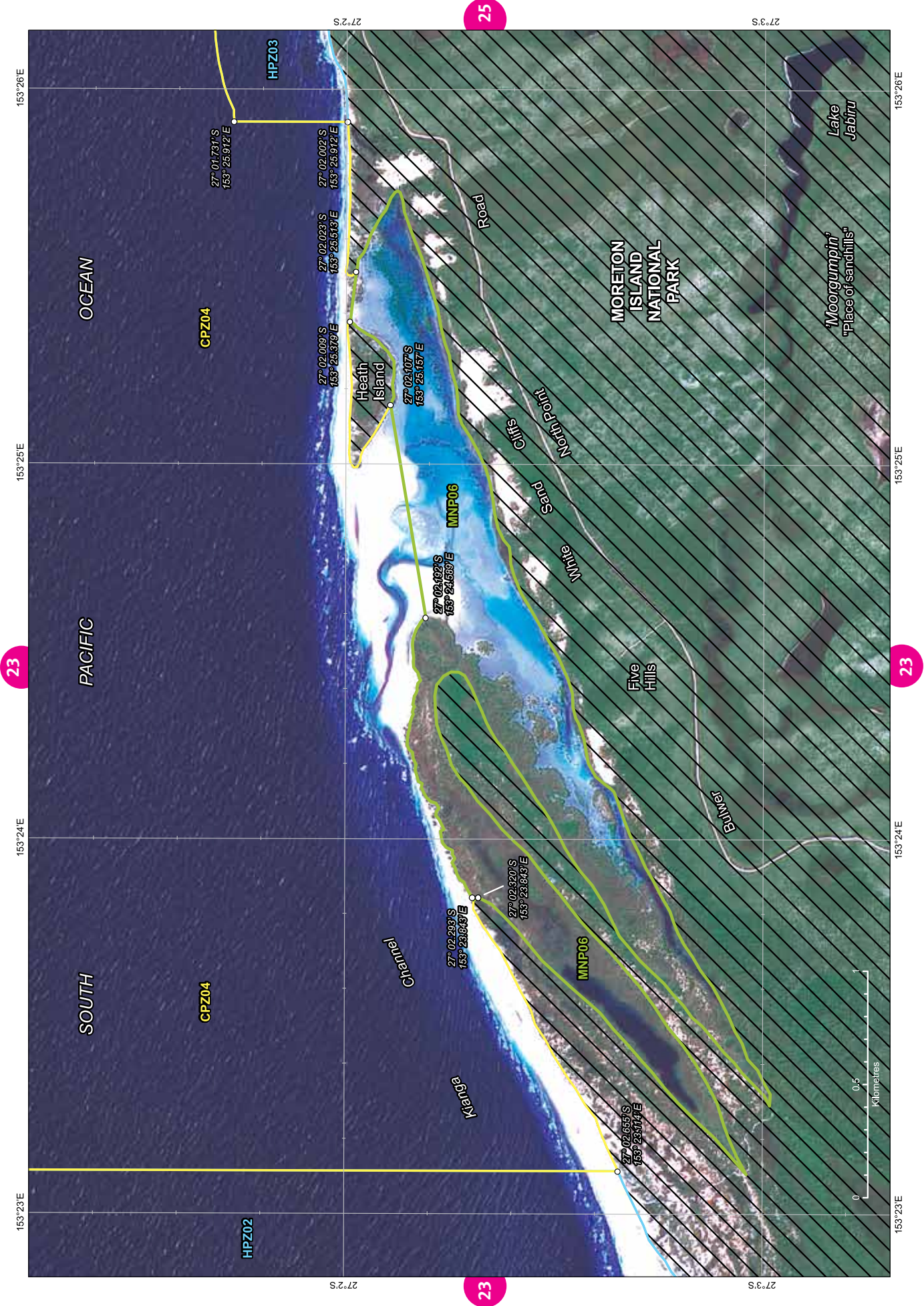


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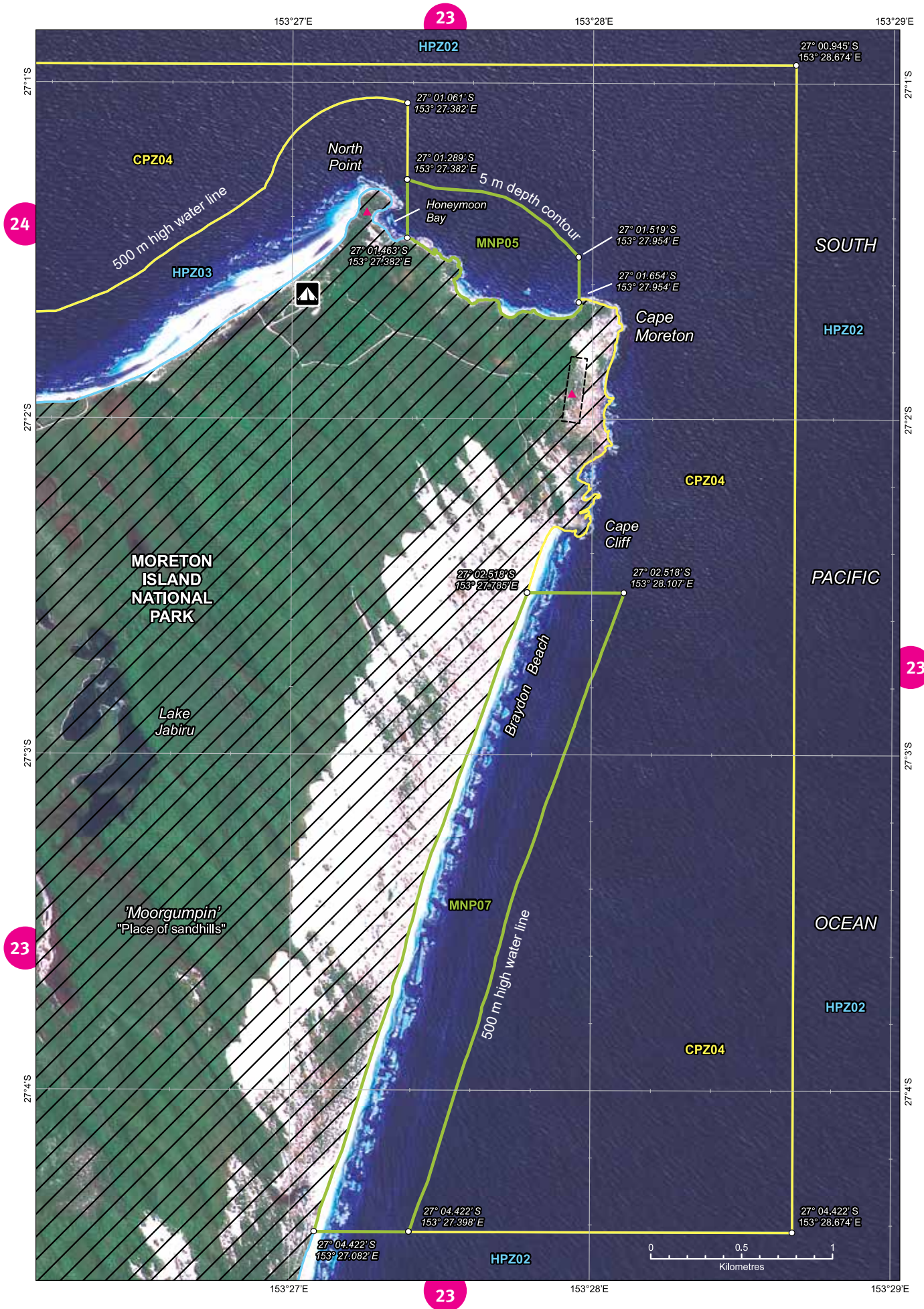


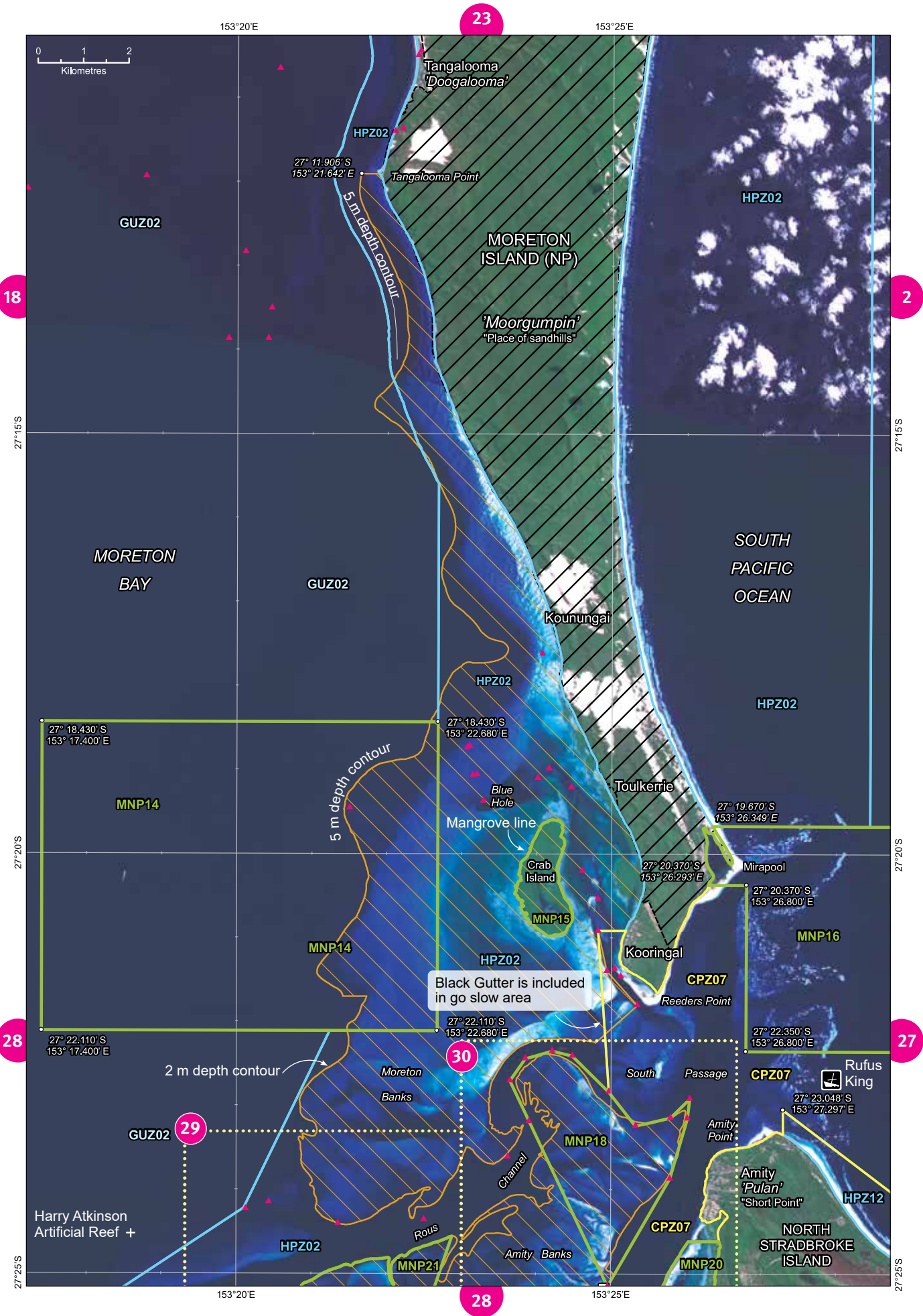
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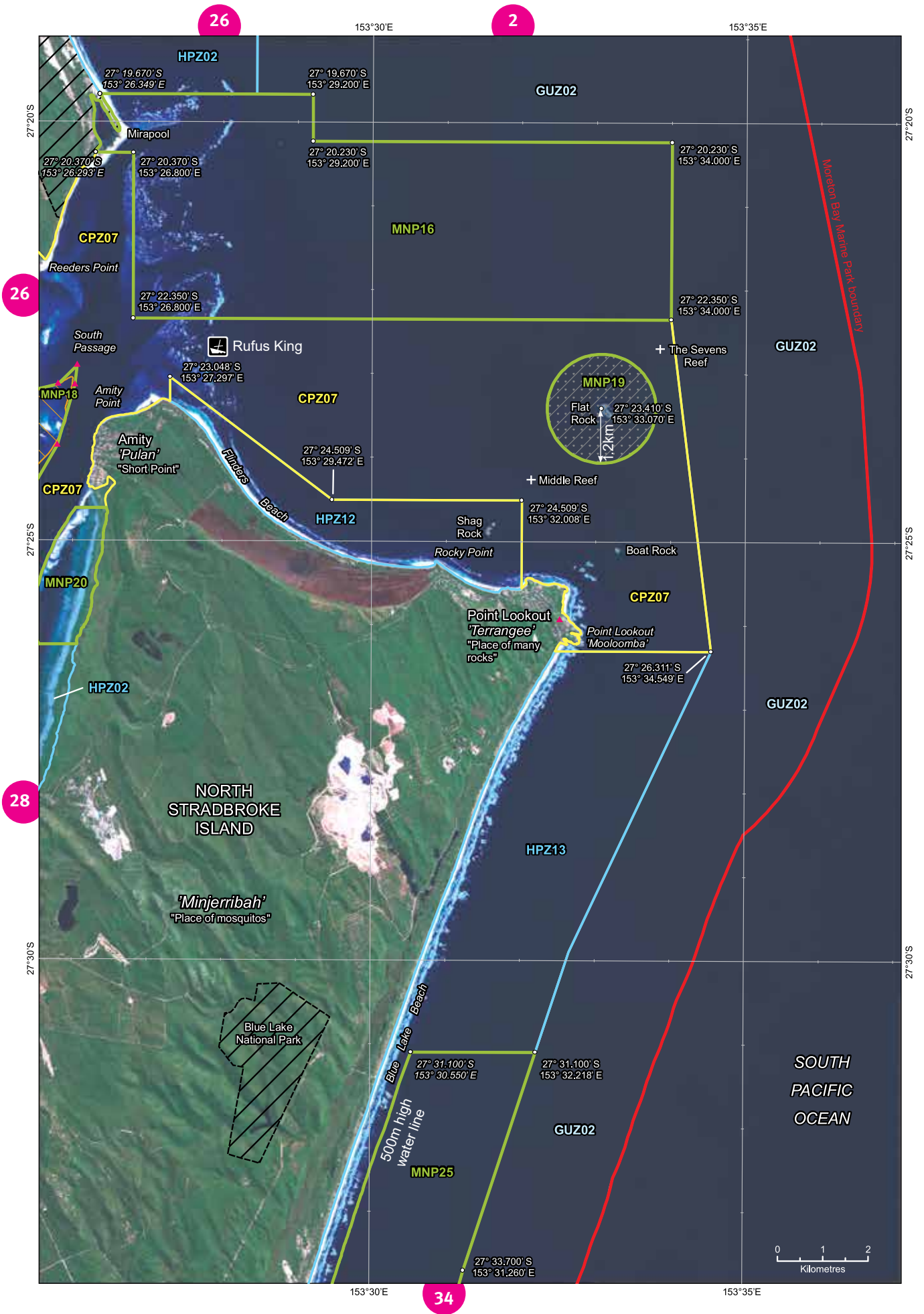
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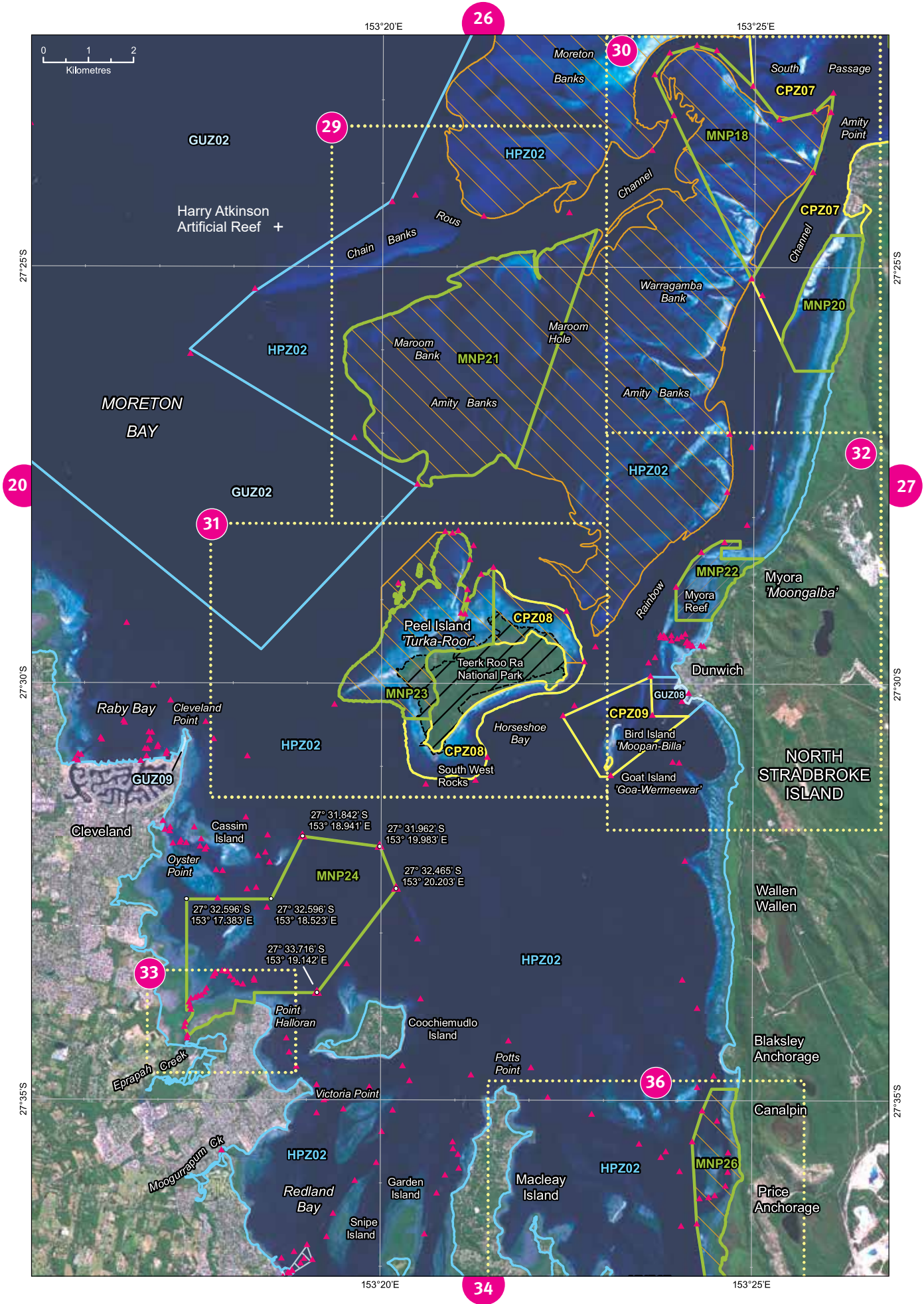
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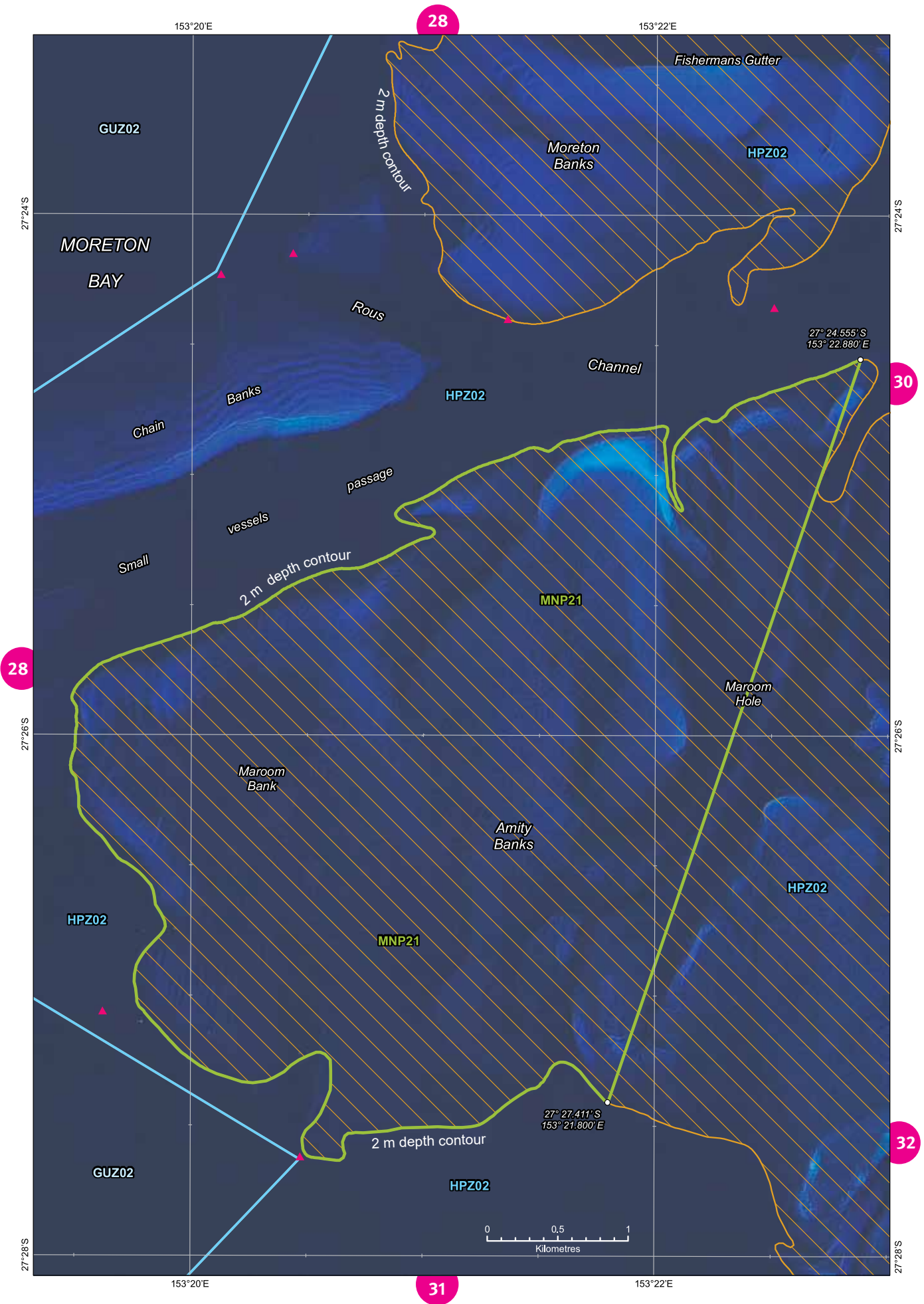


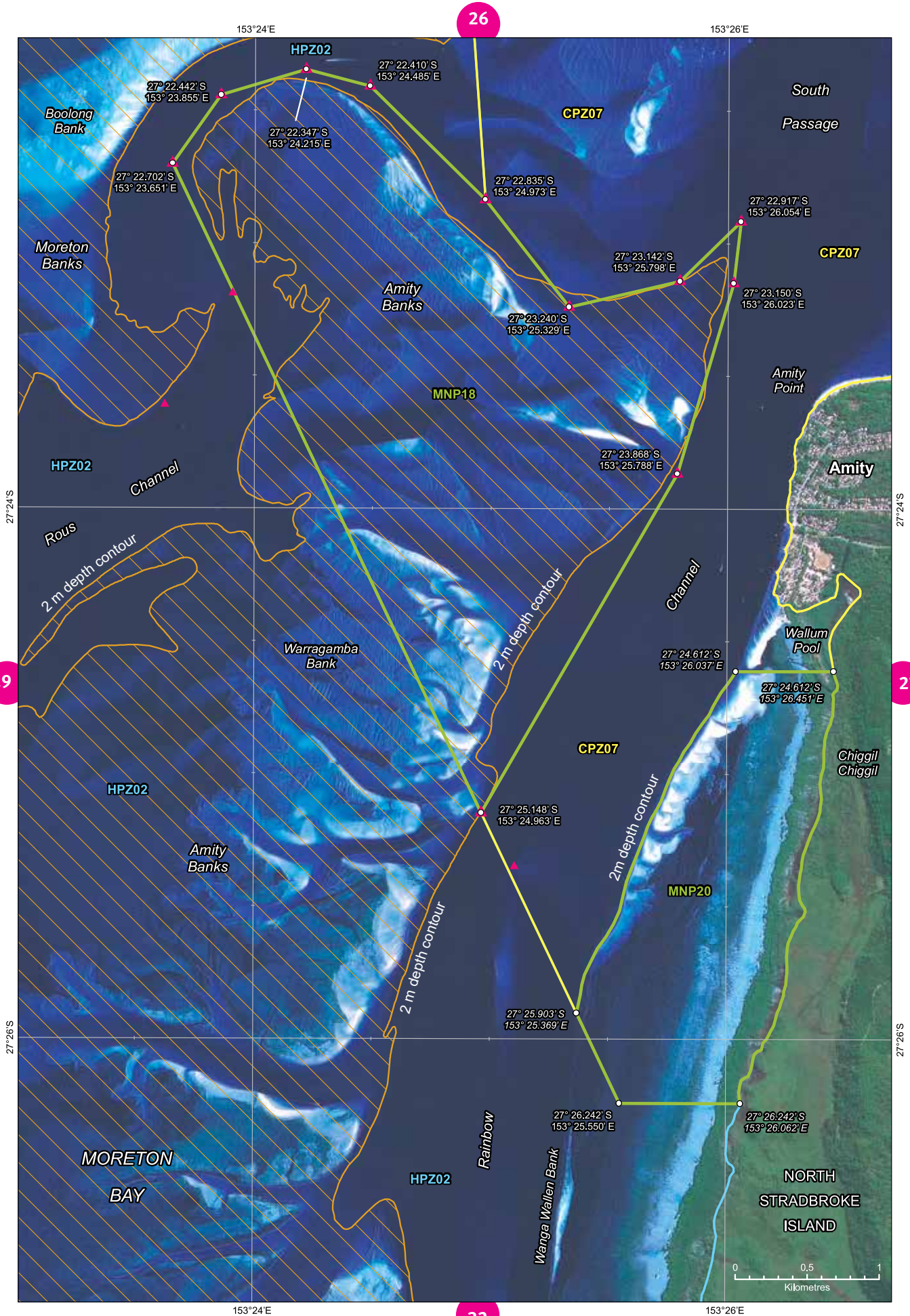


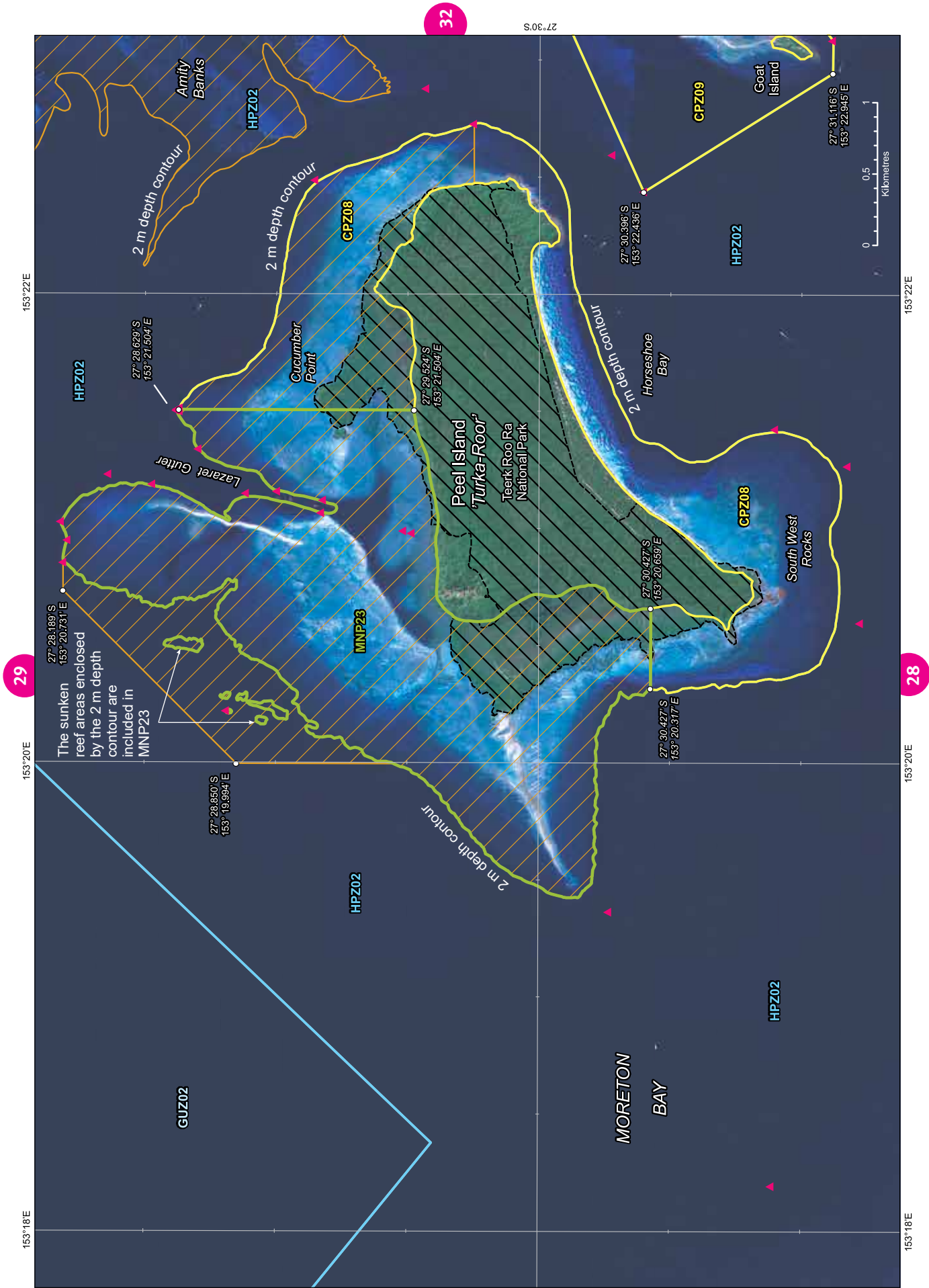


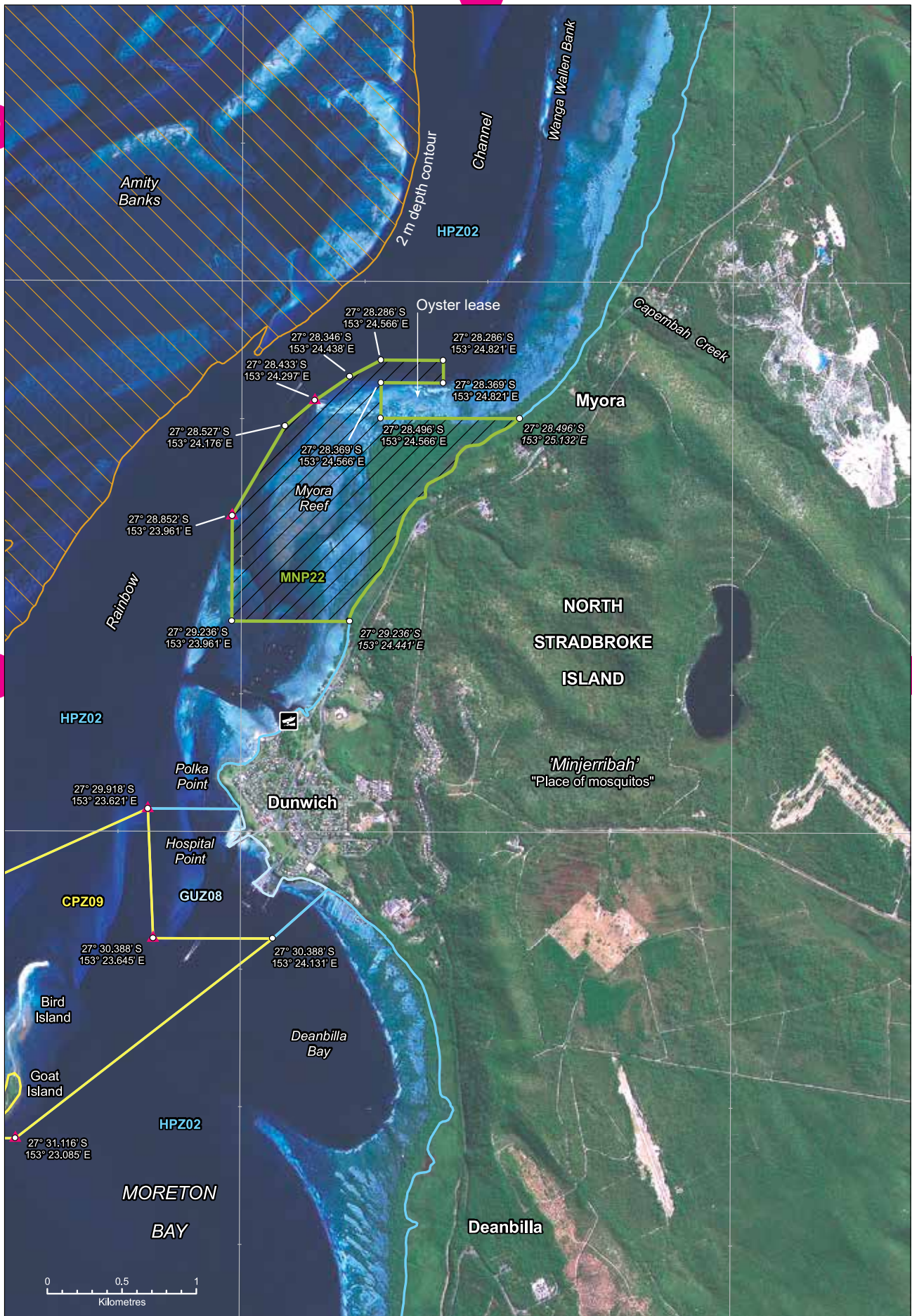




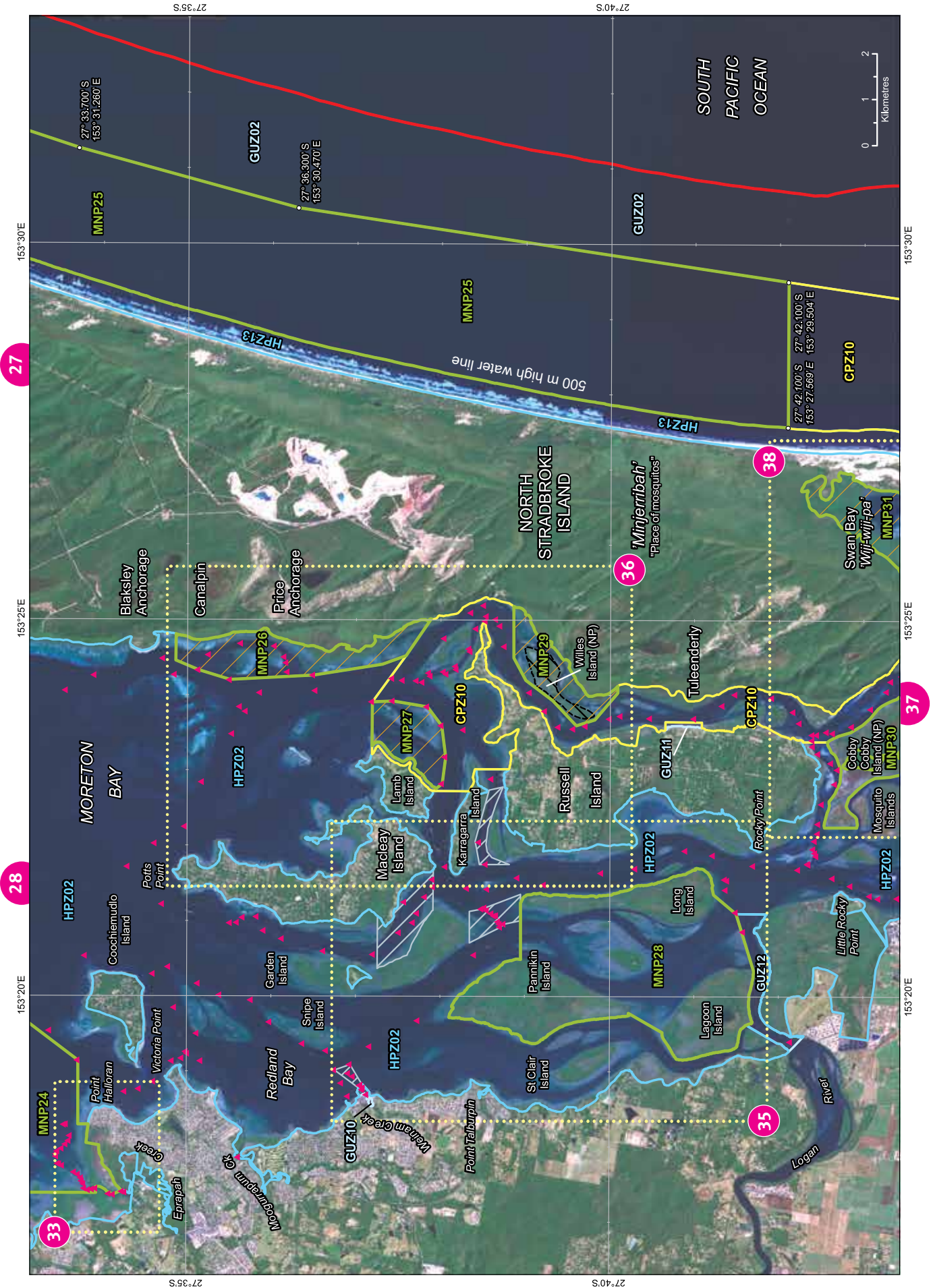


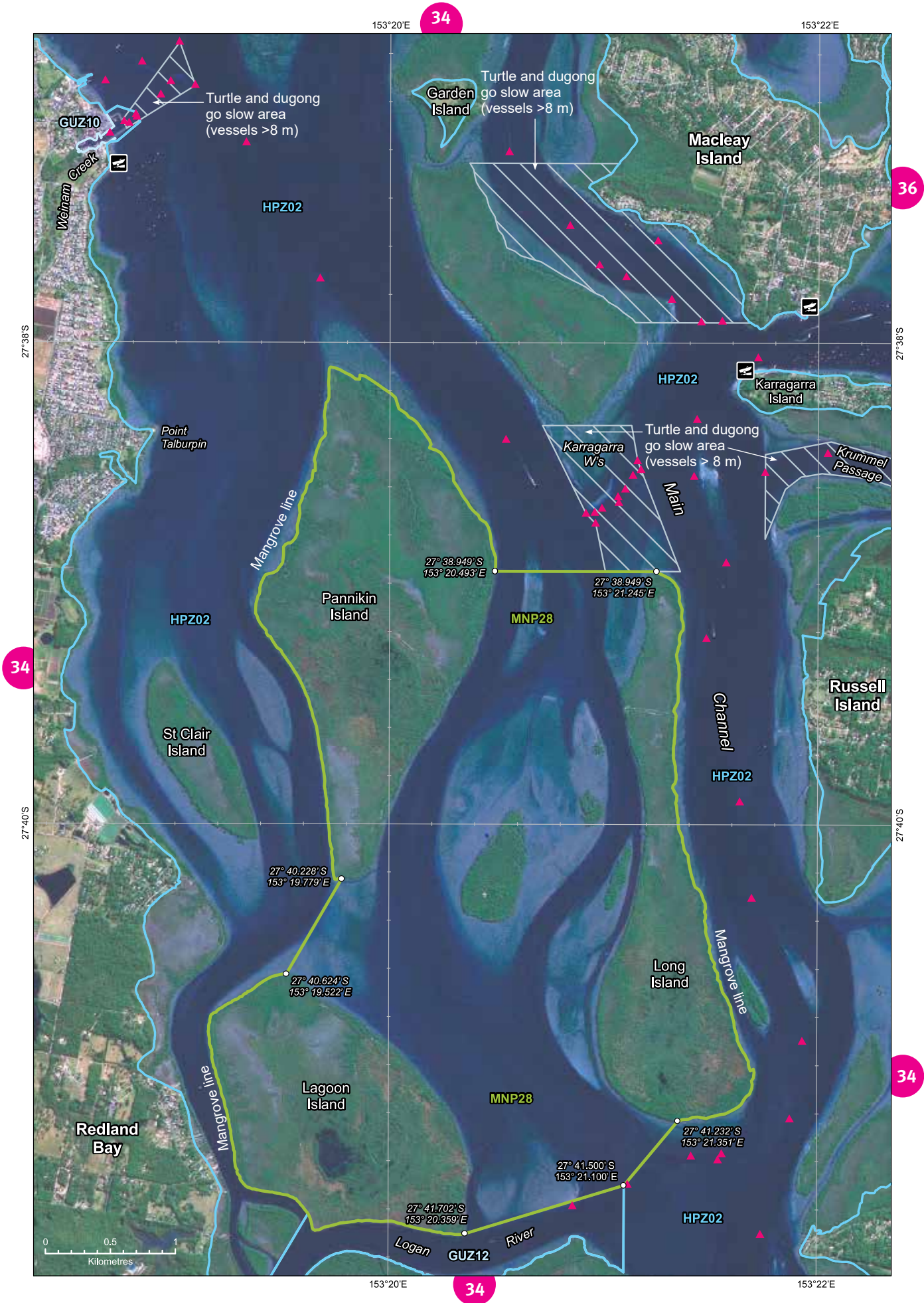


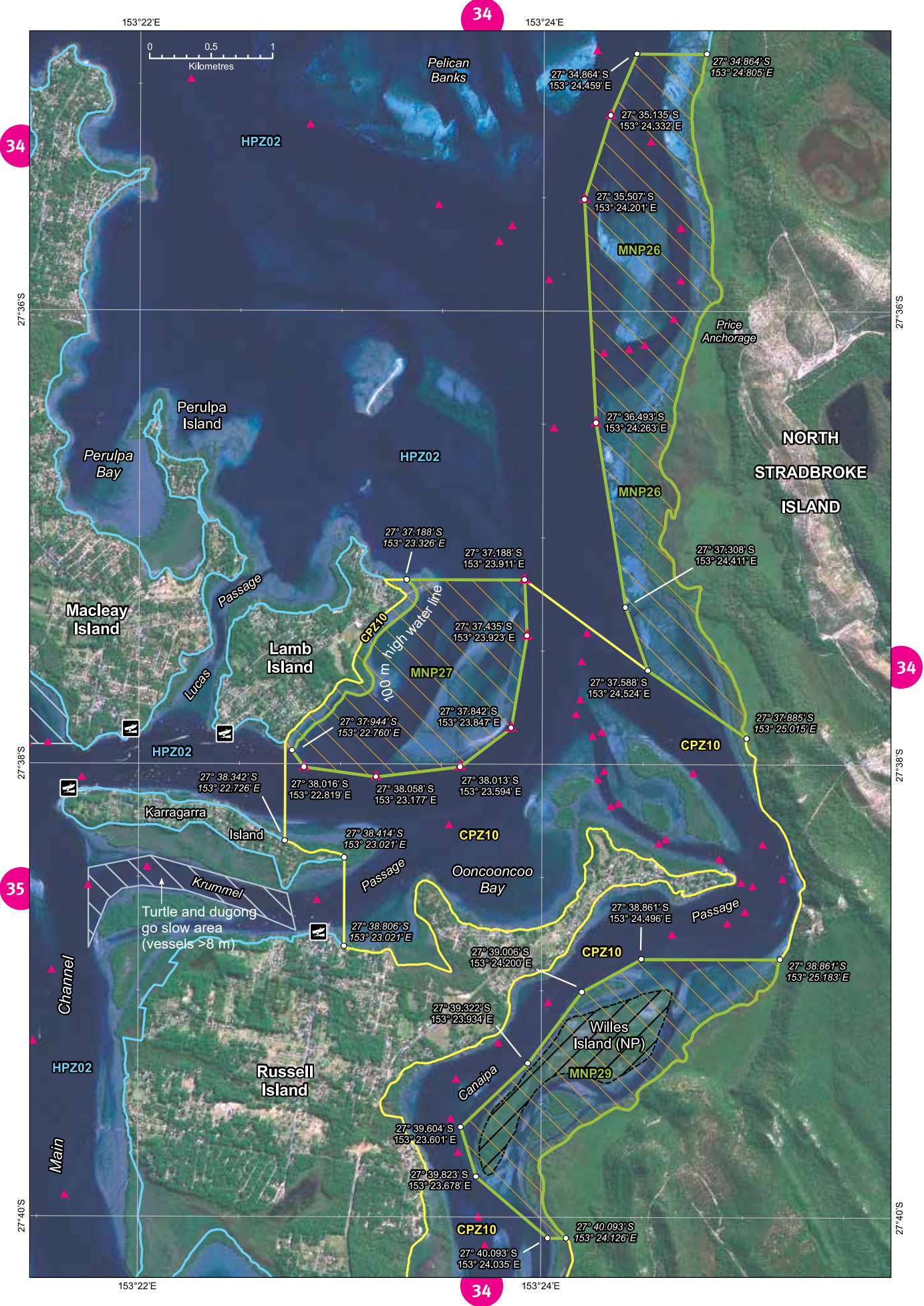


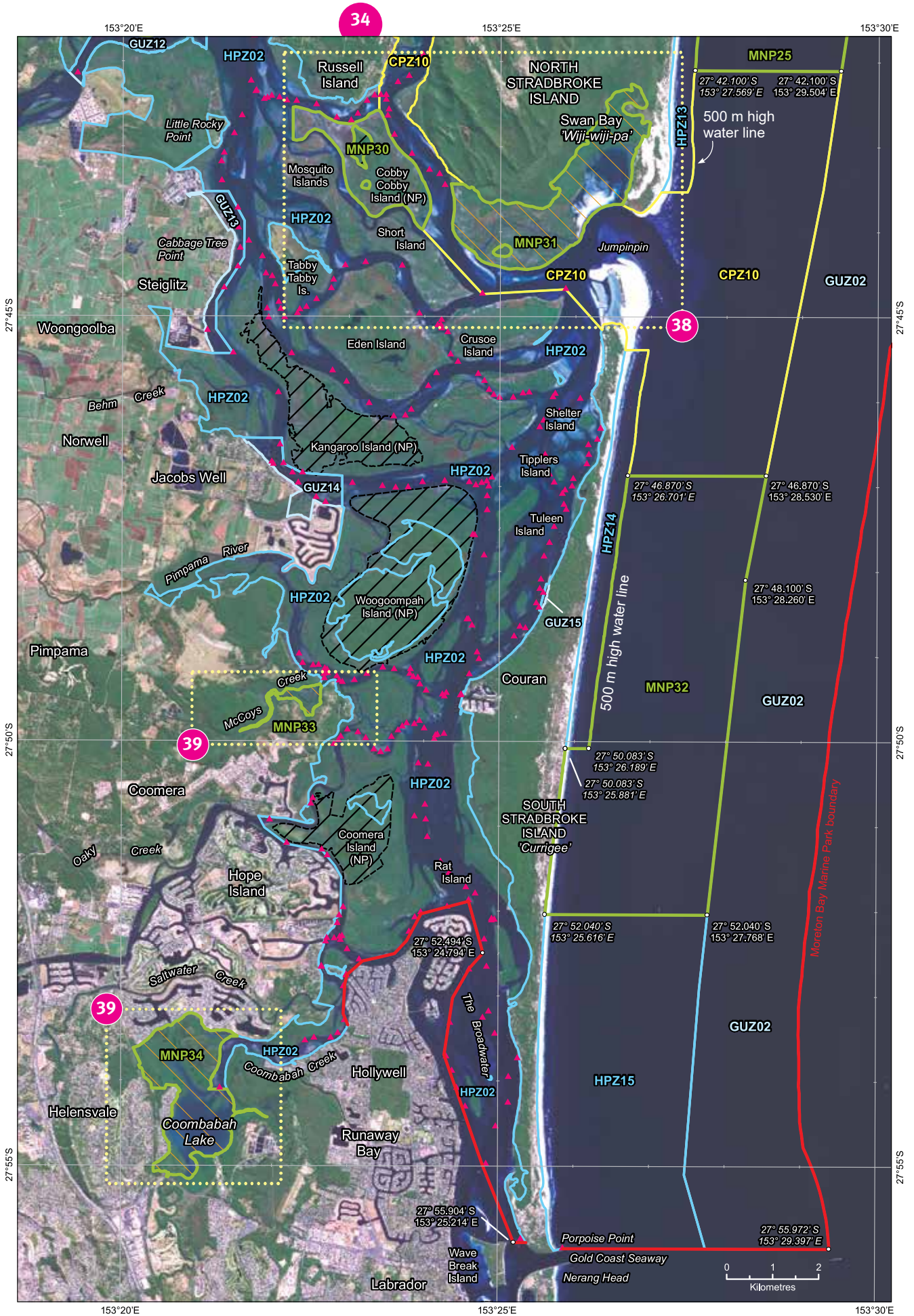


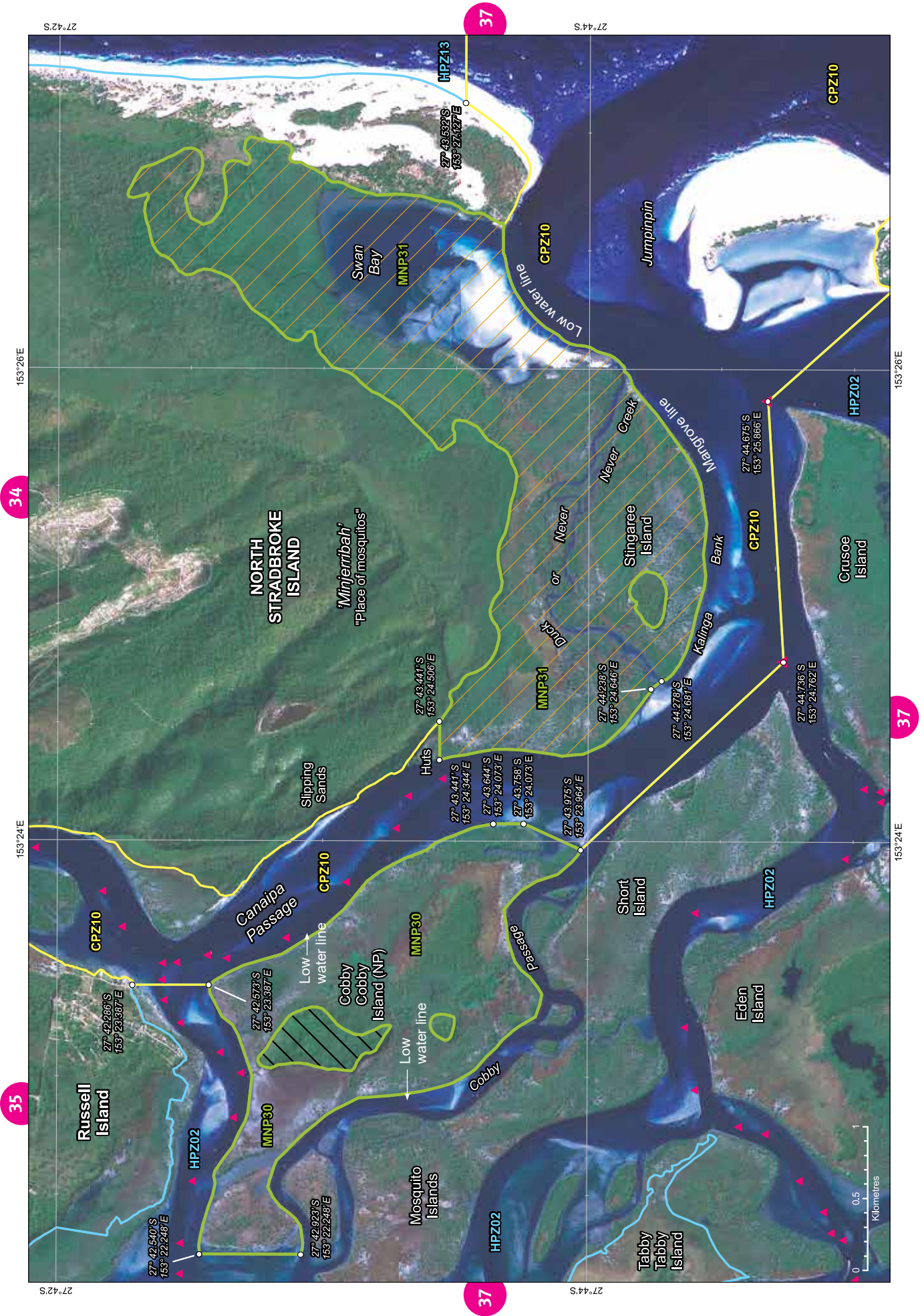


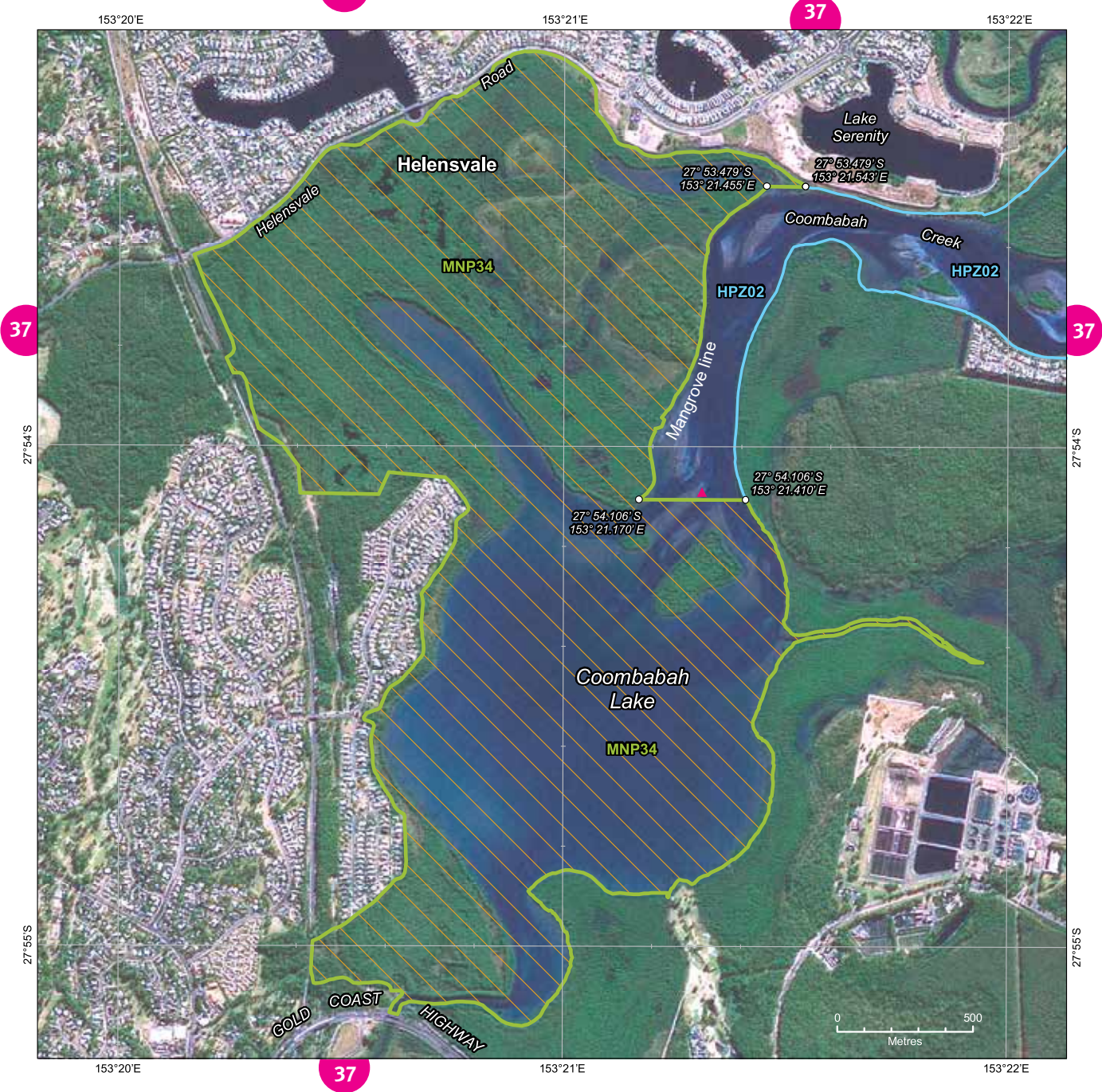
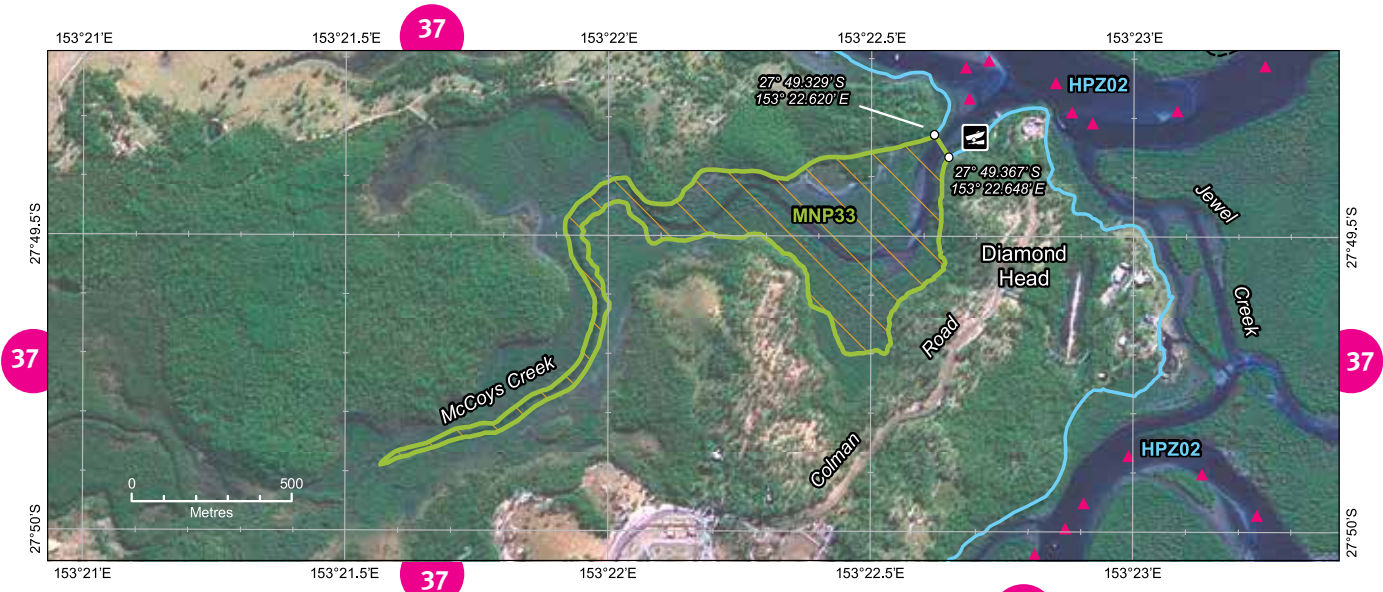












Entry and use guide	General use zone	Habitat protection zone	Conservation park zone*	Marine national park zone
Boating	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Line fishing	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹	No ²
Trolling	Yes	Yes	Yes ¹	No ²
Crabbing	Yes	Yes	Yes ³	No ²
Bait gathering	Yes	Yes	Yes	No ²
Bait netting	Yes	Yes	Yes ⁴	No ²
Netting (other than bait netting)	Yes	Yes	No ²	No ²
Limited spearfishing	Yes	Yes	Yes	No ²
Limited collecting	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁵	Yes ⁵	No ²
Trawling	Yes	No ²	No ²	No ²
Fisheries (fisheries legislation still applies)				
Harvest fishery (not including coral fishery)	Permit ⁶	Permit ⁶	Permit ⁷	No
Aquaculture (not involving addition of feed)	Permit ⁸	Permit ⁸	Permit ⁸	No
Traditional use				
Traditional use of marine resources	Permit ⁹	Permit ⁹	Permit ⁹	Permit ⁹
Research and education				
Research (limited impact research, non-extractive & extractive)	Permit ¹⁰	Permit ¹⁰	Permit ¹⁰	Permit ¹⁰
Limited educational program	Yes	Yes	Yes	Permit
Tourism and charter				
Tourism program	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit
Vessels				
Navigate a managed vessel e.g. hovercraft	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit
Aircraft				
Flying an aircraft below an altitude of 500ft	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit
Landing or taking off in the marine park	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit
Other activities				
Works	Permit ¹¹	Permit ¹¹	Permit ¹¹	Permit ¹¹
Operate a facility	Permit	Permit	Permit	Permit
Mineral, petroleum or geothermal exploration	Permit ¹²	No	No	No

NOTES:

- Up to two lines and a maximum of two hooks per angler.
 - All equipment must be stowed or secured.
 - Maximum of four pots per person.
 - Commercial bait netters are excluded from taking species of the genus *Acanthopagrus* or *Rhabdosargus* (bream), *Platycephalus* (flathead) or *Sillago* (whiting).
 - No coral. Limits apply to species and equipment used.
 - A permit is required unless the harvest fishery is accredited.
 - Limited to aquarium fish fishery and beach worm fishery. A permit is required unless the fishery is accredited.
 - A permit is required unless it is an accredited activity.
 - A permit is not required for activities undertaken under a traditional use of marine resources agreement (TUMRA).
 - A permit is required unless the institution conducting the research is accredited. Research in green zones is restricted to priority research that cannot reasonably be conducted elsewhere.
 - Works that are not consistent with the objects of the zone may be allowed in designated works areas. Private structures may only be allowed in a general use zone.
 - The person must hold a lease, license, permit or other authority under the appropriate legislation.
- * The Pumicestone Passage commercial fishing closure under *Fisheries Act 1994* remains.

This is a summary only. Refer to the Marine Parks (Moreton Bay) Zoning Plan 2008 for full details.

Restrictions also apply to activities at artificial reefs created through DES artificial reef program. Refer to the DES website www.des.qld.gov.au for further details.

Contact details

Department of Environment and Science
 Moreton Bay Office
 34 Trafalgar Street
 Manly QLD 4179

Phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68)
www.des.qld.gov.au

To report sick, injured or dead marine wildlife phone RSPCA Qld on 1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625).

To report any illegal activity phone 13 QGOV (13 74 68) or contact the police.





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