

# Moreton Bay



*A world leading  
maritime precinct*

With a stunning wide expanse of sheltered blue waters, Moreton Bay is South East Queensland's aquatic playground and a globally significant marine sanctuary.



**Moreton**  
Maritime Alliance



# About the *Maritime Alliance*

The Moreton Maritime Alliance is a place-based industry association representing Moreton Bay's maritime businesses. Our vision for a world-leading maritime precinct in Moreton Bay is supported by the Alliance's mission to:



1

Drive sustainable economic growth and employment in the maritime industry;



2

To engage more people with the ocean; and to



3

Ensure a positive and healthy future for the bay and its communities.



**Marine industries employ almost 400,000 people in Australia**



**Marine Industries contribute approximately \$74B to the Australian Economy**



**The "Blue Economy" is growing faster than the Australian economy and has increased in value by 126% since 2001.**

The Alliance is committed to eight important objectives that are designed to positively impact Moreton Bay:

1. Promote sustainable maritime industry growth and employment
2. Facilitate well considered and positive maritime & related infrastructure investment
3. Promote the region and the industry locally and internationally
4. Connect entrepreneurs, businesses, investors, researchers, educators, innovators, government agencies and other key players in the maritime industry
5. Engage the local community with maritime activities in Moreton Bay
6. Disseminate new knowledge of the Moreton Bay ecosystems and the maritime industries its upports
7. Advocate for and collaborate on policy change on behalf



# About Moreton Bay

With a stunning wide expanse of sheltered blue waters, Moreton Bay is South East Queensland's aquatic playground and a globally significant marine sanctuary.

Moreton Bay is not only an incredibly beautiful and diverse aquatic and marine environment, but offers a range of amazing lifestyle and business opportunities that are afforded by the diverse range of bayside living locations; the proximity of major national and international air and sea ports; and ready access to major highway infrastructure.

Moreton Bay is one of the largest protected waterways in the world and is recognised as a globally significant and unique aquatic environment that supports a rich variety of aquatic habitats and species, from seagrass meadows, coral beds, fish and crustaceans, to turtles, sharks, dolphins and dugongs. The bay is the only place in Australia where dugong gather into herds and the loggerhead turtle population in the bay is the most significant in the country.

The bay contains around 360 islands, which means it would take a whole year to visit every one of them!

Sitting at the confluence of the warm tropical waters and cooler temperate waters, Moreton Bay attracts a wide variety of aquatic life, with Flinders reef hosting more coral species than the whole of the Caribbean and Hawaii combined and more fish species than any other single location in Australia.

The bay's heritage protected wetlands, mudflats, and waterways are some of the healthiest in the region, supporting seasonally up to 25% of Australia's bird species. The combination of muddy habitats on the western side of the bay and sandy habitats on the eastern side of the

bay together with coral and seagrass beds support more than 43 species of shorebird.

Moreton Bay only exists in its current form for a few thousand years out of every 100,000.

Moreton Bay is home to a number of indigenous communities, including the Quandamooka and Kabbi Kabbi people, who have inhabited the area for many thousands of years and continue to practice their traditions and care for country. These people see land and sea as one, having inhabited the Bay when it was a river valley flowing out to an ocean that lay several kilometres west of the current shoreline, and also when it was a wide, open deep-water bay similar to Hervey Bay.

In 1823, three ticket-of-leave convicts left Sydney to fell timber at Illawarra but were caught in a storm and blown north. After 21 days at sea with very little water, desperate and near death, the trio managed to beach their boat on Moorgumpin (Moreton) Island. When they had recovered sufficiently with the help of the Indigenous people of the island they made their way to Minjerribah (Stradbroke) Island in a canoe. They were discovered the following year and rescued by John Oxley.

The first European settlement in Moreton Bay was established at Redcliffe in 1824, after exploration the previous year by John Oxley. Called Moreton Bay settlement, it was later moved to its present site of Brisbane.

A number of regular ferry services were established across the bay as the city of Brisbane grew up, servicing Redcliffe and other bayside suburbs that came to be regarded as seaside holiday destinations for the city folk. These included the Koopa, which could run from 1912 to 1953 and could accommodate over 500 passengers.

Moreton Bay was extensively mined for oyster shells that were used to manufacture concrete, and was also the site for the largest land based whaling station in the southern hemisphere. In the 10 years of operation 6,277 humpback whales and one blue whale were killed and processed. The operation seriously decimated the east coast's population of humpback whales from an estimated 15,000 to be less than 500.

# 360 islands



# Opportunities

1



## Tourism

Moreton Bay provided about \$7.56 billion of value to the south-east Queensland economy every year. More than 3.6 million people visited Moreton Bay in 2017, only slightly less than the combined 3.8 million who visited the Southern Great Barrier Reef, Whitsundays and Mackay in 2017. This value is only set to grow, with tourism alone representing a \$1bn opportunity due to its incredible wildlife, natural beauty, culture and heritage. The new cruise terminal at Luggage Point, the second runway at Brisbane Airport, and new CBD destinations such as Howard Smith Wharves and Kings Wharf are expected to drive visitor numbers to South East Queensland - the challenge is to get visitors to stay overnight and to visit key destinations outside of the CBD.



2

## Industry

Moreton Bay has a number of excellent boatyards that are recognised internationally for their quality craftsmanship, and this industry should be supported and encouraged to grow and innovate. Other fledgling industries, such as aquaculture, bluetech and film should be acknowledged, promoted and supported in order to diversify the industry base, create jobs and economic growth for the region, and to capitalise on the momentum and interest in the world's oceans that are so readily accessible from Moreton Bay.



3

## Research & Education

Australia has very few comprehensive tertiary maritime and marine training centres, with the major Maritime training centre located in Tasmania and the primary marine education and research centre AIMS located in Townsville. The lack of a significant local education and research centre represents a significant opportunity to invest in new training facilities and research centres that focus on maritime engineering, piloting and marine sciences. TAFE and other technical schools need to address the skills shortages in the boatbuilding industry, and can capitalise on the strong growth in this sector. Additionally, there are exciting opportunities to develop STEM based school programs that incorporate robotics and other high school research programs to develop Queensland's high-tech and knowledge-based industries.



Moreton  
Maritime Alliance



# Opportunities

4



## Transport & Maritime Infrastructure

The 60's and 70's saw the last major investment in public boat harbours in Moreton Bay, with the construction of three public boat harbours - namely Scarborough Harbour, Cabbage Tree Creek Harbour, and Manly Harbour. Since that period, these public assets have changed 'ownership' several times and suffer from a serious lack of under-development and poor maintenance - evidenced by the dilapidated infrastructure and underdeveloped adjacent land. Some privately funded marinas and harbours have been built or are proposed, but environmental approvals inevitably mean that projects can take decades to reach fruition.

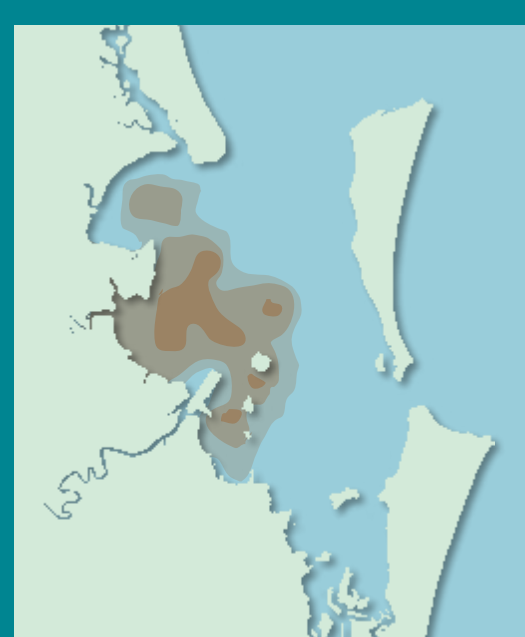
Additionally, smaller jetties and pontoons have seen only minor upgrades or revamps - funded primarily by local councils - that are not designed to accommodate the variety of small, medium and large craft that now occupy our waterways. Major investment from all levels of government is required to realise the opportunity inherent in Moreton Bay, and State funding needs to increase from the current level for \$100M, as this represents only a few ferry terminal upgrades across the state and is less than half a percent of the State Transport and Main Roads Budget.

5

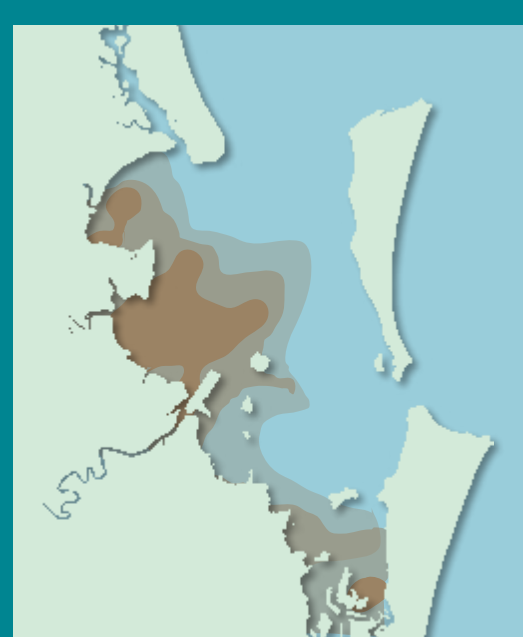
## Environmental Protection & Restoration

Protecting and restoring the natural environment has become a major industry and a profitable business, and there are many industries - both new and old - that are thriving whilst delivering significant environmental improvements. Seaweed farming and oyster reef recreation are two examples where there is mutual benefit for the environment and a healthy profit available to the operating company.

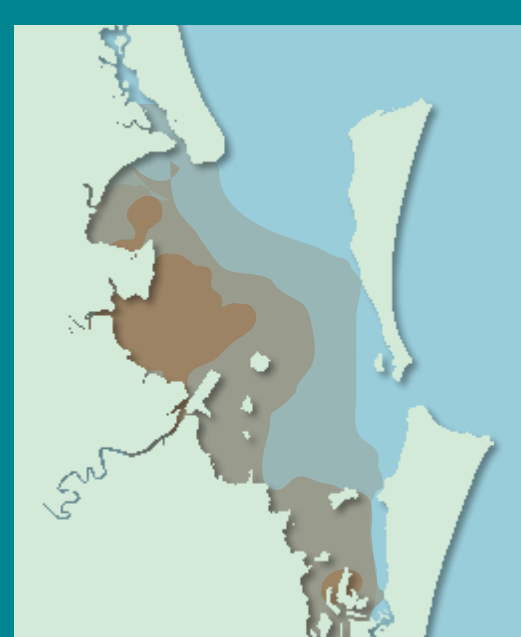
Another example is the creek-bed restoration along severely eroded banks further up the catchment area, which has increased top-soil retention and improved yields on the farm as well as preventing run-off of mud into the Bay, which threatens to suffocate marine ecosystems.



1997



2011



2015

# Threats

### Environmental degradation due to:

- Dredging disruptions to the seabed and water quality
- Sediment and nutrient overload from upstream development and farming activities
- Loss of habitat to inappropriate development

### Declining fauna populations

species loss and food-chain collapse due to:

- changing local climate and rising water temperatures
- environmental degradation
- overfishing
- collision of marine animals with boats and propellers
- introduced disease and pests, such as whitespot

### Over-tourism

leading to conflicts of use between locals and tourists.

Loss of competitive edge and skill base in key industries to southern states and international locations.

Public apathy and a lack of care or concern for the Bay and local waterways - only 30 per cent of the Brisbane community feel they could be bothered doing anything positive about their local creek.



**Moreton**  
Maritime Alliance



# Strategic Plan for Moreton Bay

Moreton Bay deserves more attention from each one of us - from the authorities that manage it, the scientists that study it, the locals that enjoy it, to the tourists that visit our region.

The Moreton Maritime Alliance proposes that all levels of government come together with the private sector and local communities

to deliver a clear and concise Strategic Plan for Moreton Bay to guide the protection, enhancement and enjoyment of this wonderful place.

A strategic plan would address the following areas and likely contain the following action items:



## Management

- Create an institution, vehicle or authority to facilitate positive change, collaboration and communication between the community, traditional owners, industry and all levels of government.
- Support the newly formed Moreton Bay Foundation to undertake research and environmental protection of the Bay



## Tourism

- Map out, Facilitate and Promote the Great Sand Island Trek
- Develop a number of unique and themed Moreton Bay tours
- Develop new eco-tourism destinations and experiences
- Enhance and promote the essential character of existing tourist destinations, such as historical destinations, indigenous experiences, and environmental attractions.
- Market the Bay using the "Play Moreton Bay" brand
- Reinvigorate the scuba diving industry by creating new artificial reefs



## Research & Education

- Build a new research and education facility that there is good access to the Bay and open water and close proximity to a large residential population and an established transport network (Scarborough Harbour).
- Develop high school training and education in the maritime industry
- Improve Tafe offerings for maritime trades such as aluminium welding
- Provide tertiary education in nautical engineering and ship piloting, breaking the Tasmanian monopoly and capitalising on the local opportunity in Moreton Bay.



## Industry

- Develop a new seaweed industry for the Bay
- Review oyster lease management and encourage more active farming and lease renewal
- Market Moreton Bay's ship building and superyacht refit businesses and marinas as world-leading and high quality
- Facilitate the growth of the Port of Brisbane and relieve pressure on the road network by connecting a freight line to the national inland freight grid
- Promote film opportunities in and around Moreton Bay, particularly in relation to the new Screen Queensland Studios that have easy access to the Bay from their location in Hemmant
- Develop new BlueTech industries through the startup ecosystem in South East Queensland
- Attract new manufacturers of small, medium and large boats to appropriate marina or industrial locations
- Support the implementation of the QLD Superyacht Strategy



## Environmental Protection & Restoration

- Catchment restoration to improve water quality and reduce sediment
- Seaweed farming to remove nutrients and improve water quality
- Creation of new artificial reefs
- Enforcement of no-take and catch limits
- Oyster reef restoration to provide habitat and improve water quality
- Implement seabins and stormwater drain socks to remove waste in all marina and urban locations
- Develop a transition strategy towards electric water craft
- Enforce the use of more environmentally friendly anti-fouling materials



## Transport & Maritime Infrastructure

- Develop a connected network of commuter and tourist ferries that operate across the bay
- Upgrade existing jetties and pontoons to accommodate larger boats and a variety of smaller craft
- Attract public and private investment to upgrade existing boat harbours and create new vibrant, active and environmentally friendly harbours that can play an active role in habitat restoration.
- Investigate aerial transport vehicles, routes and infrastructure
- Reinstate the Scarborough customs point for smaller vessels entering Moreton Bay
- Construct new superyacht berths to accommodate growing international visitation



Moreton  
Maritime Alliance





## Bribie Is

Island village, pubs, beaches, bush tracks, wetlands, kayaking.



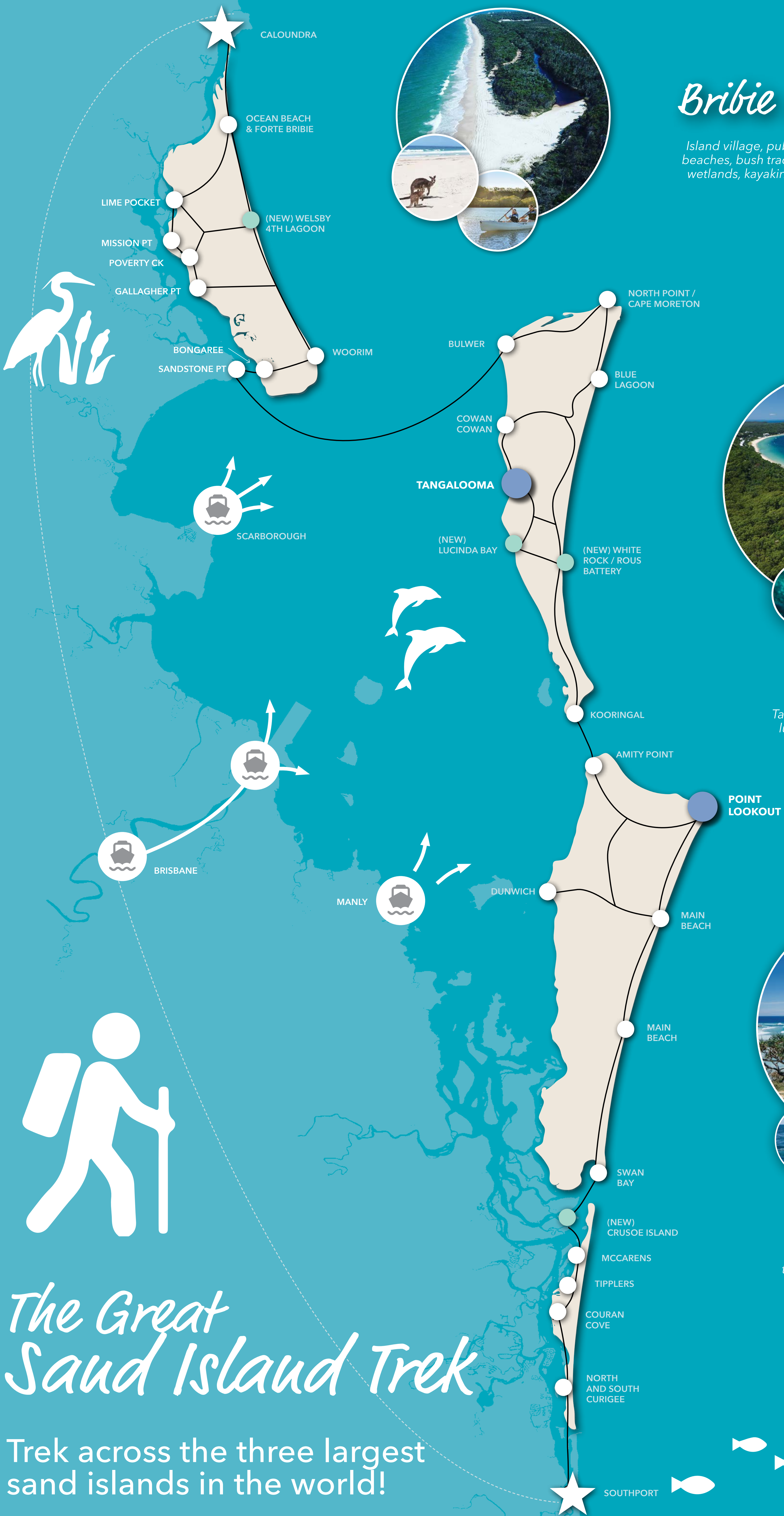
## Moreton Is

Tangalooma wrecks, sand dunes, lush bush, beaches, snorkelling, kayaking, dolphins, turtles.



## Stradbroke Is

Island village, pubs, beaches, turquoise water, snorkelling, diving, dolphins, turtles, sand dunes



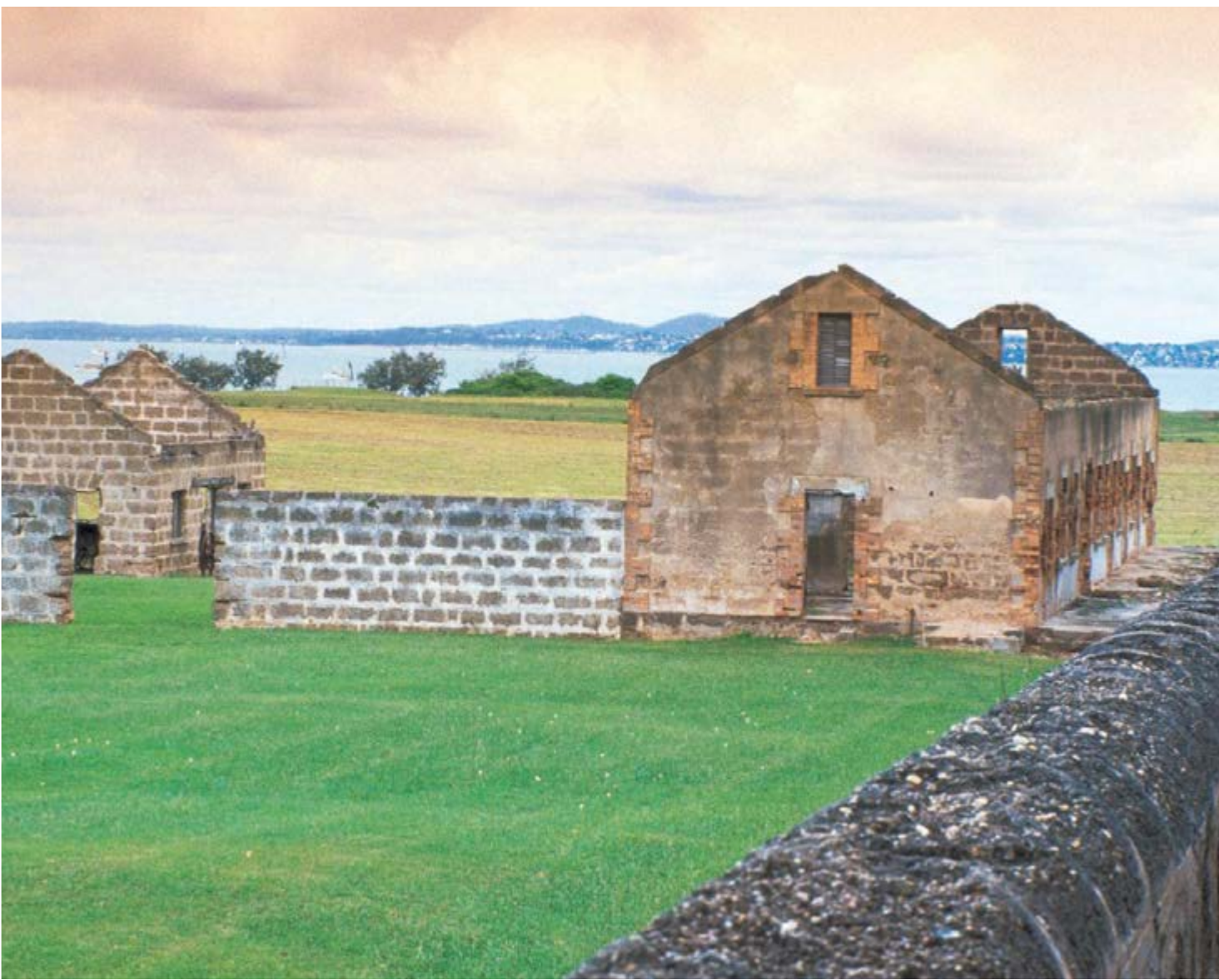
# The Great Sand Island Trek

Trek across the three largest sand islands in the world!



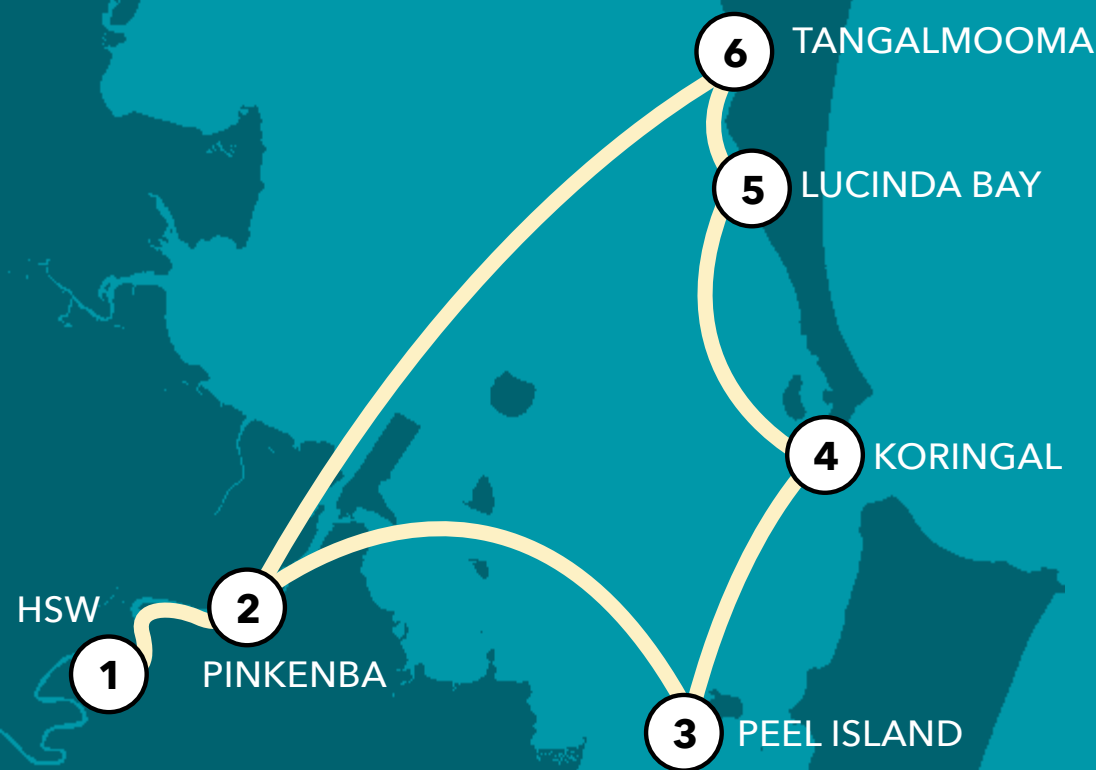
# Historic Tour

8:00am Tour departs Howard Smith Wharves  
8:30am Pinkenba  
9:30am Sandgate (Breakfast)  
12:00pm Redcliffe (lunch)  
4:00pm Bulwer  
5:00pm Lighthouse (sunset)  
6:30pm St Helena (moonlight)



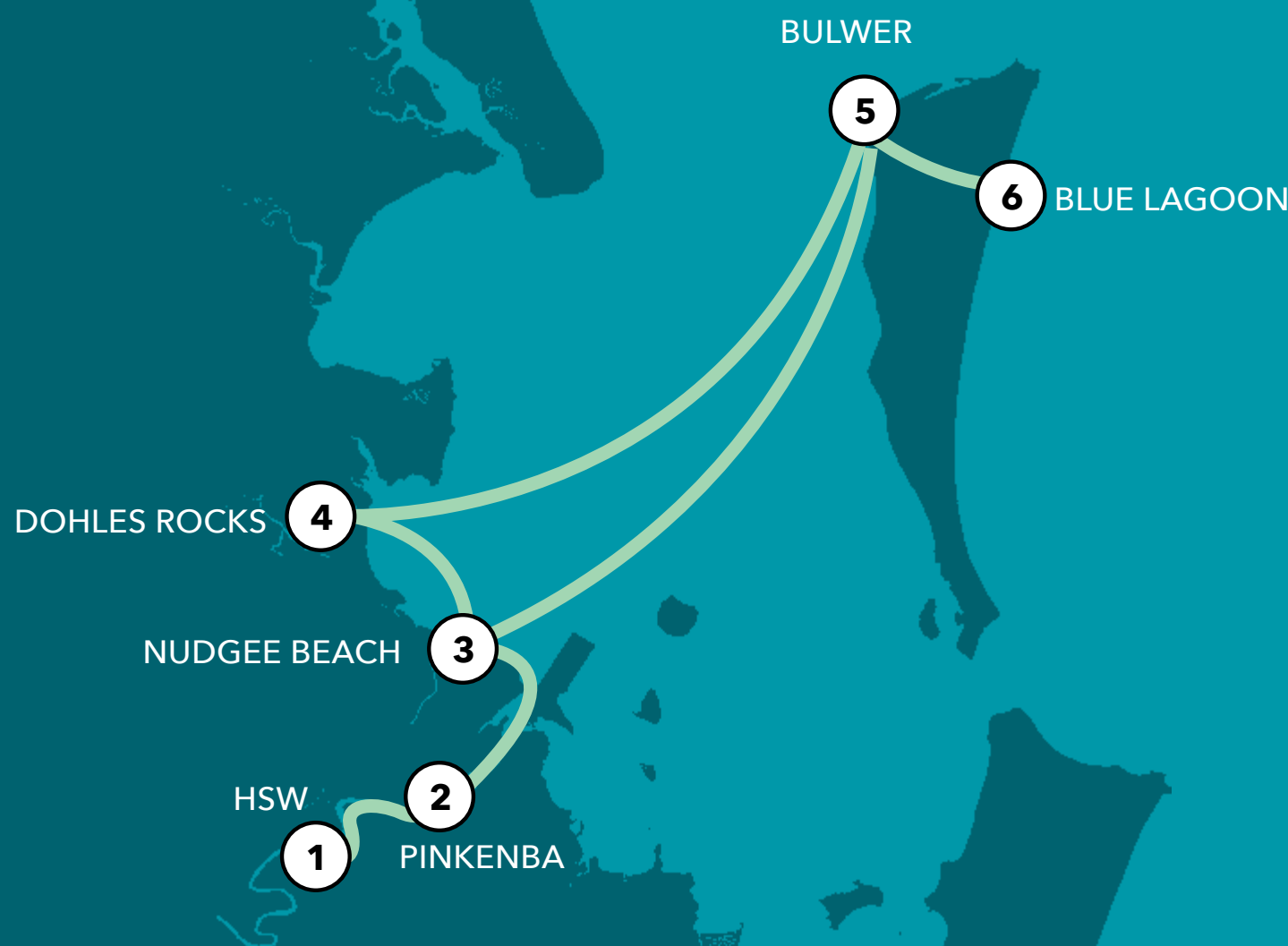
# Beach & bay Tour

8:00am Tour departs Howard Smith Wharves  
8:30am Pinkenba  
10:00am Peel Island (swim)  
1:00pm Koringal (swim & dugongs)  
3:00pm Lucinda Bay (snorkel)  
5:00pm Tangalooma (Dolphins & wrecks)



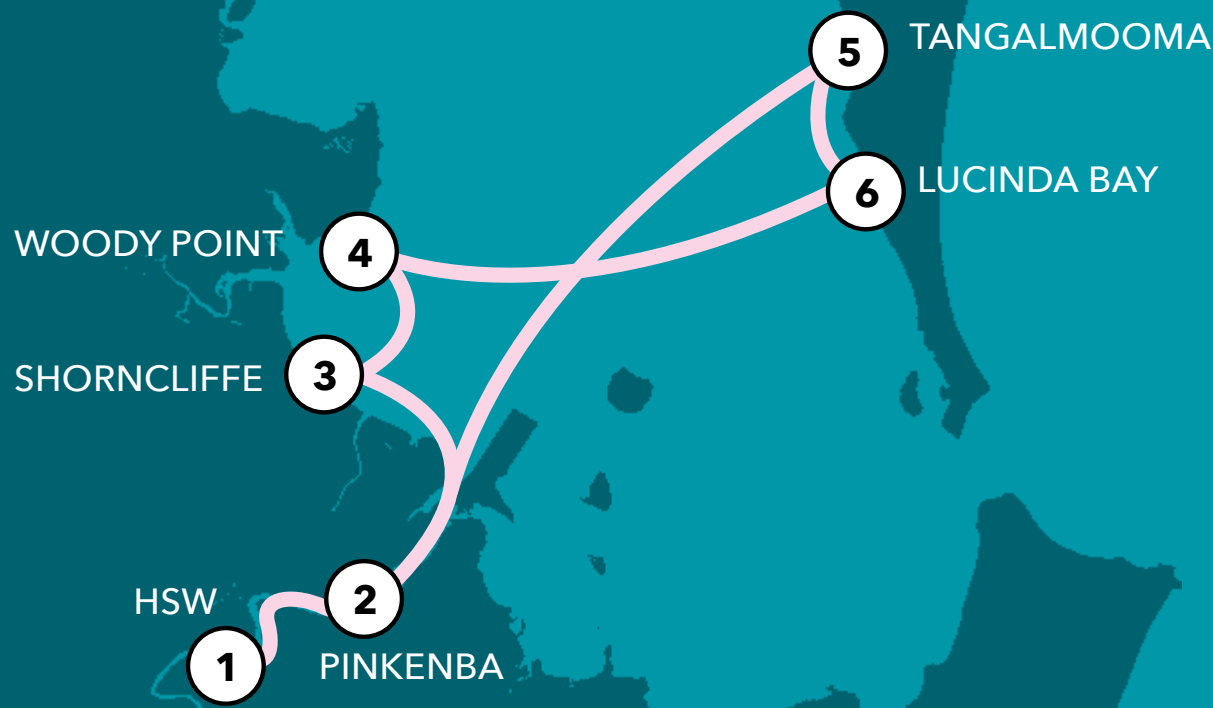
# Nature Tour

8:00am Tour departs Howard Smith Wharves  
8:30am Pinkenba  
10:00am Nudgee Beach (wetlands)  
1:00pm Dohles Rocks (Osprey House & wetlands)  
3:00pm Bulwer  
4:00pm Blue Lagoon



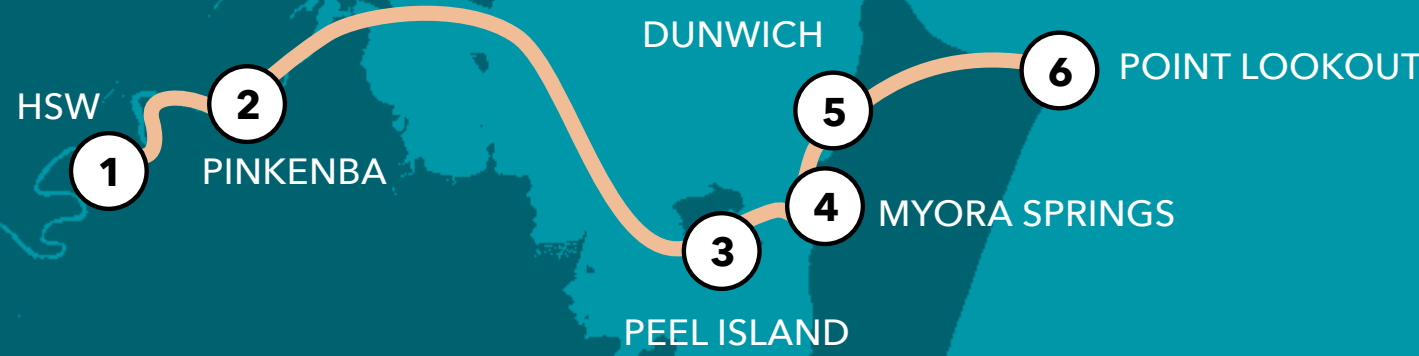
# Active Tour

8:00am Tour departs Howard Smith Wharves  
8:30am Pinkenba  
9:00am Shorncliffe (segways)  
1:00pm Woody Pt (aqua splash)  
3:00pm Lucinda Bay (snorkeling)  
5:00pm Tangalooma (wrecks & dolphins)



# Indigenous Tour

8:00am Tour departs Howard Smith Wharves  
8:30am Pinkenba  
9:30am Peel Island (swim & walk)  
12:00pm Dunwich (cultural centre)  
2:00pm Myora Springs (kayak)  
4:00pm Point lookout (whale centre)



Moreton  
Maritime Alliance





CAPE MORETON



BULWER

WOORIM



BONGAREE



SANDSTONE POINT



BEACHMERE



NORTH HARBOUR



COWAN COWAN



TANGALOOMA



LUCINDA BAY



SCARBOROUGH HARBOUR



REDCLIFFE



WOODY POINT



HAYS INLET



SANDGATE



CABBAGE TREE CREEK



NUDGEE BEACH



MUD ISLAND



ST HELENA ISLAND



KOORINGAL



AMITY POINT



POINT LOOKOUT



BRISBANE



PINKENBA / LUGGAGE POINT



MANLY HARBOUR



TOONAH HARBOUR



POINT HALLORAN



WEINAM CREEK

# Vibrant Network

of TOURISM  
DESTINATIONS



Vibrant  
Harbour



Beach  
Town



Seaside  
Village



Diving /  
Snorkelling



Eco  
lodge



Wetlands,  
birding



Historic



Moreton  
Maritime Alliance



# Diving Mecca

with NEW DIVE SITES (🚫)  
TO ATTRACT VISITORS &  
AVOID BAD WEATHER  
DISRUPTION

**THE CARRIAGES**  
*Old train carriages  
south of Bribie Island*

**HMAS SUCCESS**  
*Secure decommissioned  
naval ship*

THE PINES

CURTAIN  
ARTIFICIAL REEF

TANGALOOMA WRECKS

**THE GALLERY / BANKSY REEF**

*Local and international underwater  
art gallery at Lucinda Bay*

**THE SINKHOLE**

*Investigate the sinkhole*

THE WALL

RUFUS KING WRECK

FLAT ROCK  
SHAG ROCK

PACK'S PLACE

THE 'PIN'

BOAT ROCK

MANTA ROCK

GOTHAM CITY

CEMENT CO

FLINDERS REEF

SMITH ROCK

BRENNAN SHOAL

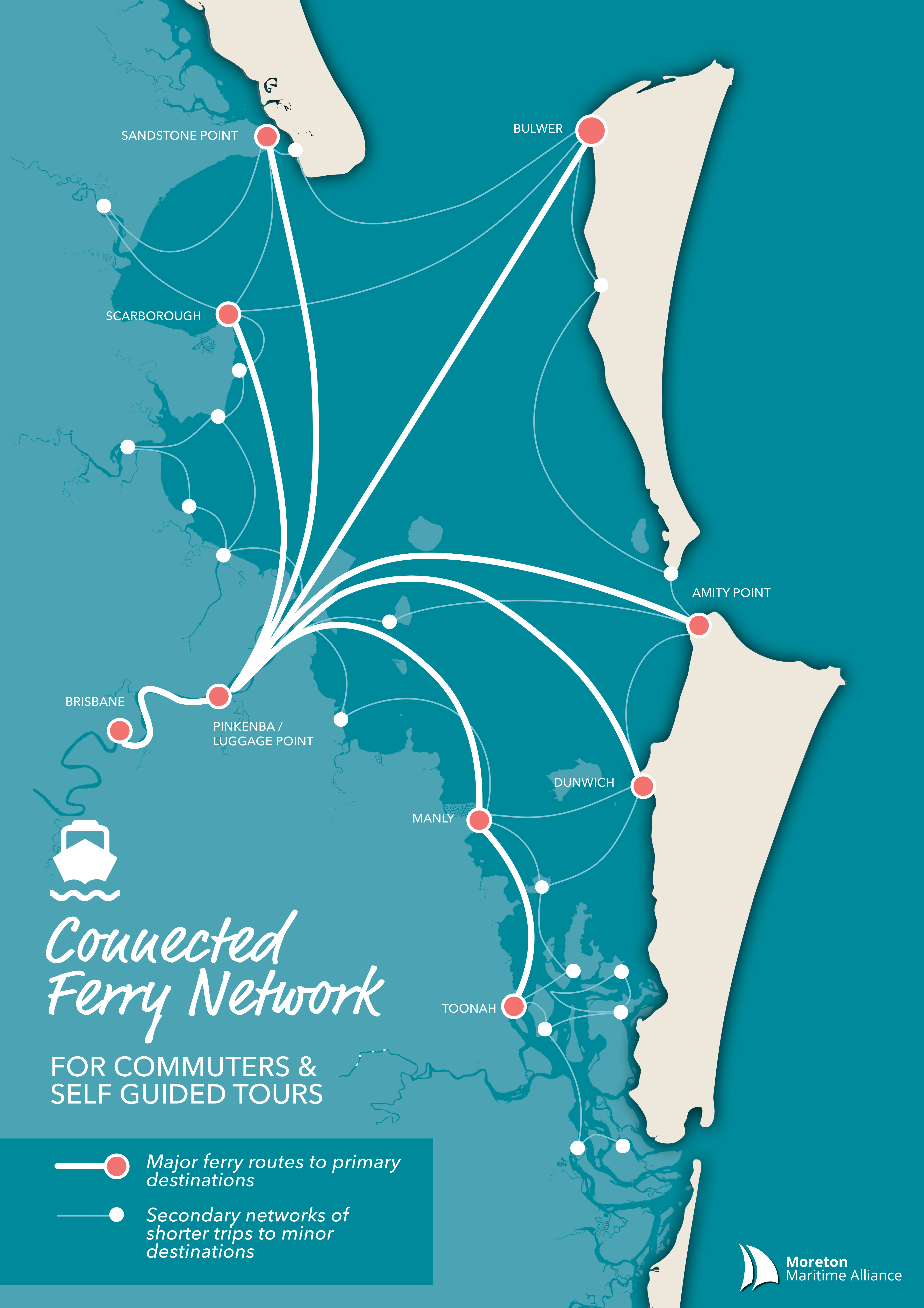
ROBERIS SHOAL

CHINA WALL

CHERUB'S CAVE

HENDERSON ROCK





SANDSTONE POINT

BULWER

SCARBOROUGH

AMITY POINT

BRISBANE

PINKENBA /  
LUGGAGE POINT

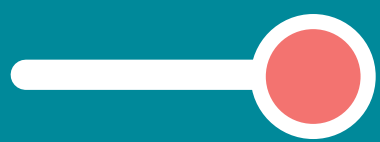
DUNWICH

MANLY

TOONAH

# Connected Ferry Network

FOR COMMUTERS &  
SELF GUIDED TOURS



Major ferry routes to primary destinations



Secondary networks of  
shorter trips to minor  
destinations



Moreton  
Maritime Alliance



# Maritime Industry

	OCEAN FILM PRODUCTION		RESEARCH & EDUCATION CENTRES
	MIXED USE HARBOUR		PRAWN FARMING
	CRUISE TERMINALS		SEAFOOD HARVESTING
	PORT OPERATIONS		OYSTERS
	LARGE BOAT BUILDING		SEAWEED LEASES
	SMALL BOAT BUILDING		SNORKEL & DIVE TOURS
	TOURISM DESTINATION		WHALE TOURS
	FLOATING HOTEL		DOLPHIN FEEDING
	RECREATIONAL & CHARTER BOATS		DUGONG TOURS



# Infrastructure upgrades

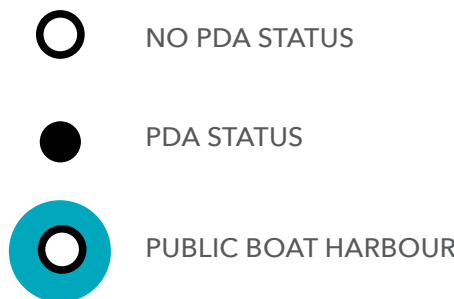
## Maritime infrastructure upgrades to accommodate ferry & tourist boats

- **Sandstone Point / Bribie** - dredging/jetty expansion
- **Redcliffe** - Rock wall expansion for small marina & all-craft pontoons
- **Woody Point** - Floating pontoon to jetty and small marina at sailing club
- **Sandgate** - Floating pontoon to accept fast ferry
- **Bulwer** - Jetty & floating pontoon for safer landing
- **Koorinal** - Jetty for safer boat landing.
- **St Helena** - Wider Jetty
- **Peel Island** - BBQ and toilet facilities
- **Nudgee Beach** - Jetty and pontoon facility
- **Hays Inlet / Osprey House** - New Jetty & pontoon
- **Howard Smith Wharves** - All craft pontoon, ferry jetty.
- **New Cruise Terminal** - Jetty & pontoon.



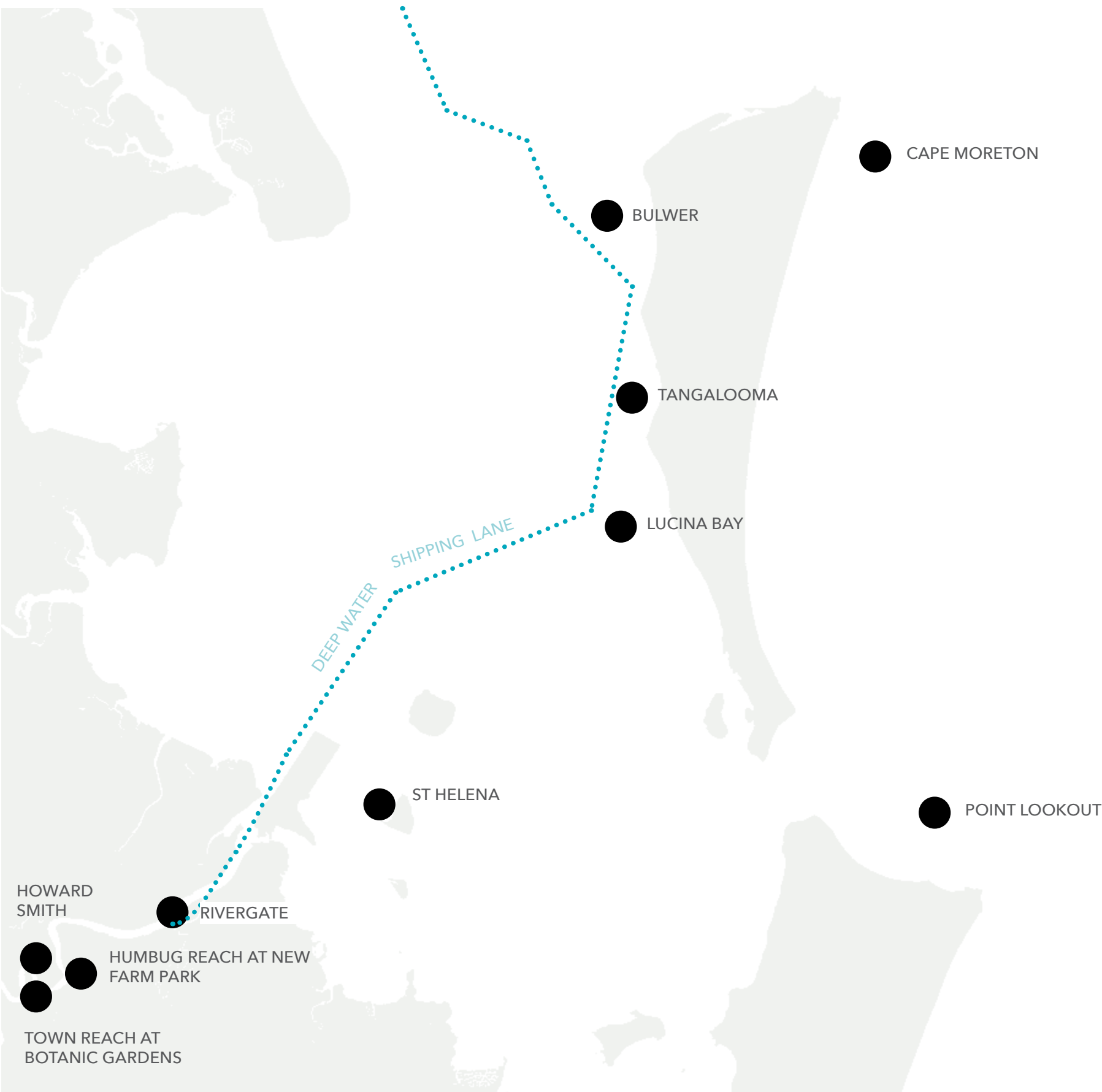
## Approval of existing harbour proposals\* and public/private investment in public harbours with strict environmental controls

- Toondah Harbour
- Meeandah Marina by Tangalooma
- Weinam Creek
- North Harbour
- Scarborough Harbour
- Cabbage Tree Creek
- Manly Harbour



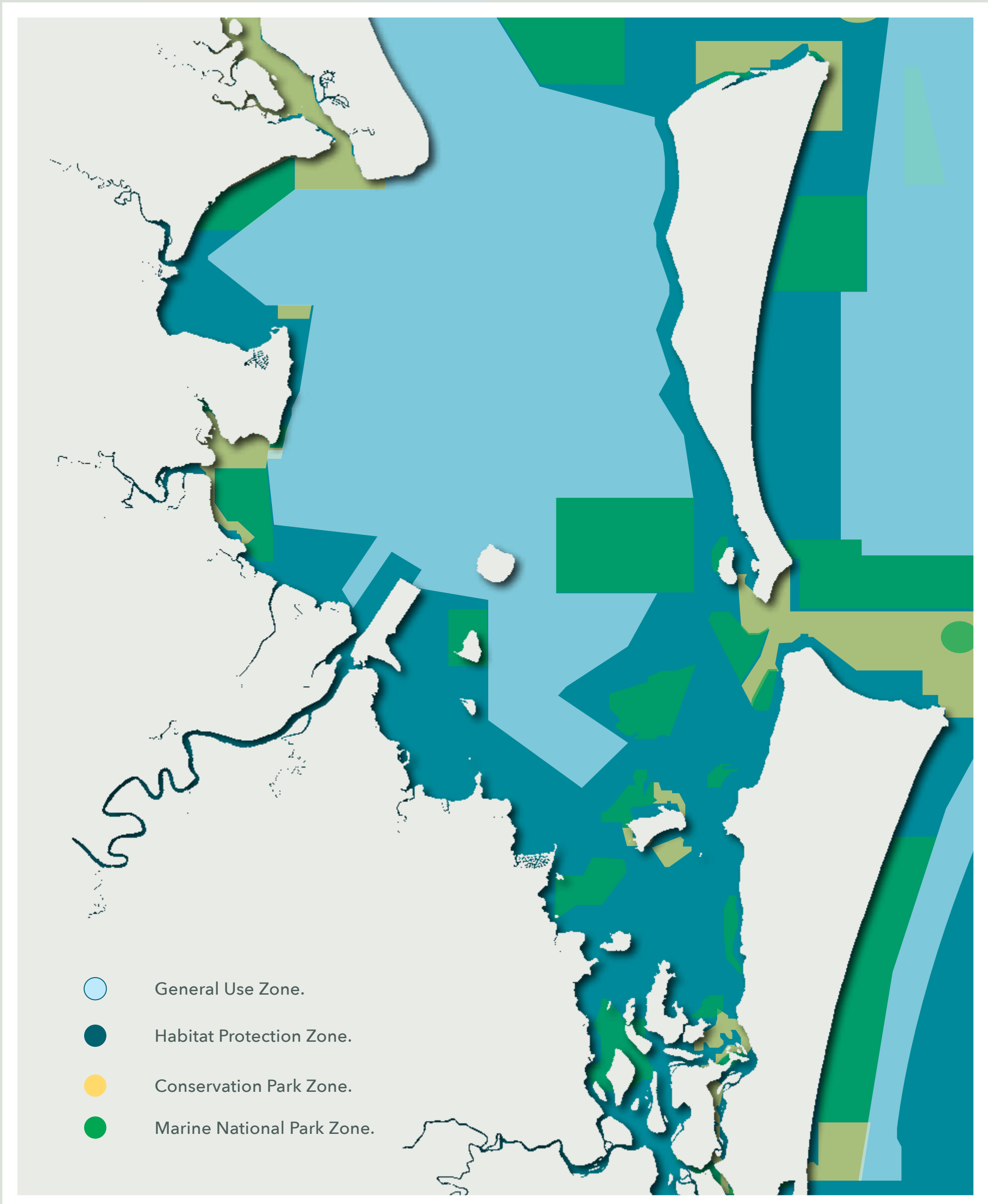
## New superyacht berths and mooring locations to capture NZ Americas Cup traffic 2020

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>EXISTING BERTHS</b>  | <b>POTENTIAL BERTHS</b>   | <b>SUPERYACHT BOATYARDS UNDER CONSTRUCTION / PLANNING</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rivergate</li><li>• The yard</li><li>• Tangalooma</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Howard Smith Wharves</li><li>• Town Reach at Botanic Gardens</li><li>• Humbug Reach at New Farm Park</li><li>• St Helena Island</li><li>• Lucinda Bay</li><li>• Bulwer</li><li>• Cape Moreton</li><li>• Point Lookout</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Boatworks North</li><li>• Southport Yacht Club</li><li>• Coomera River Marinas (x2)</li></ul> |

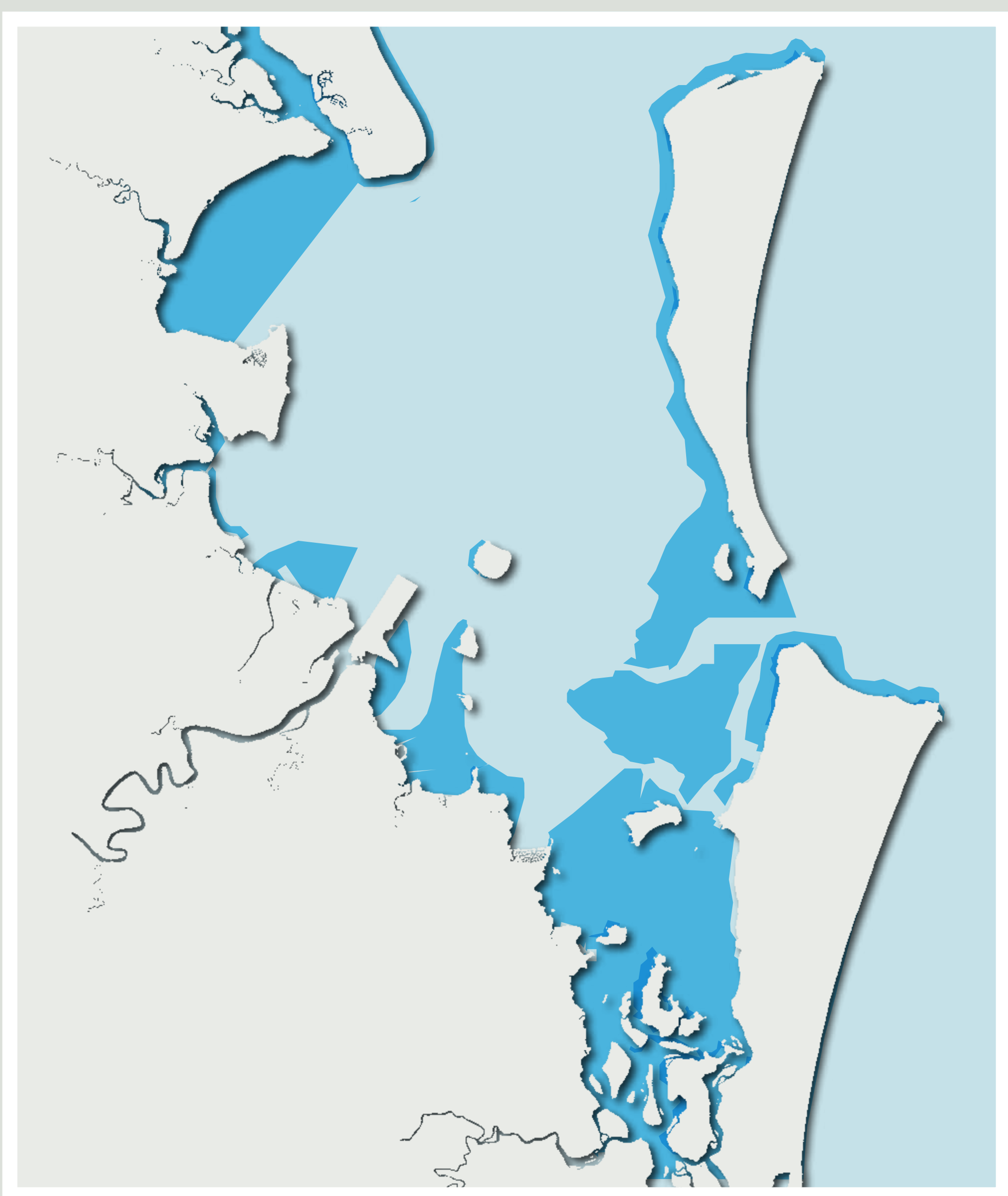




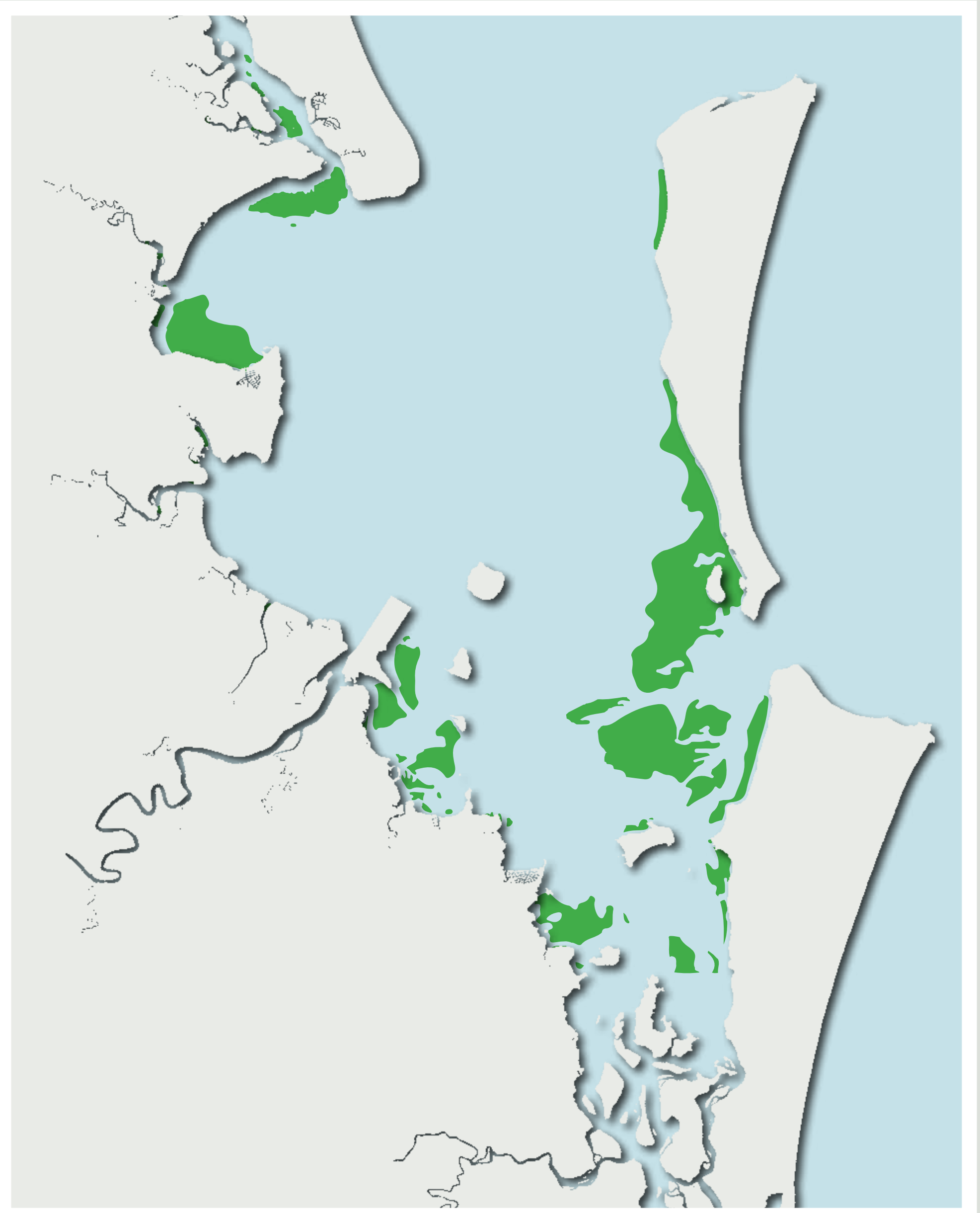
# Environnement



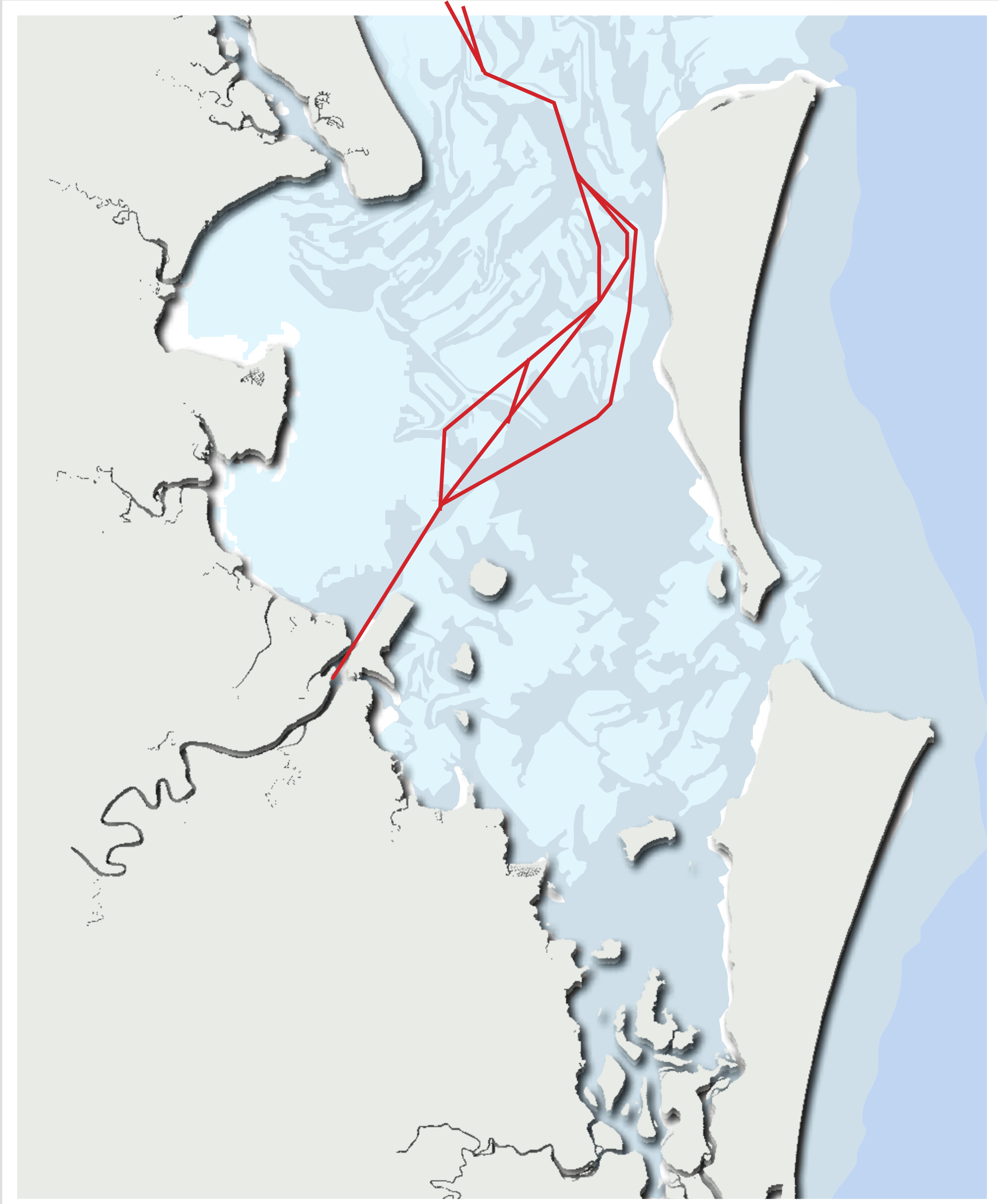
Marine Park Zoning



Ramsar Wetlands



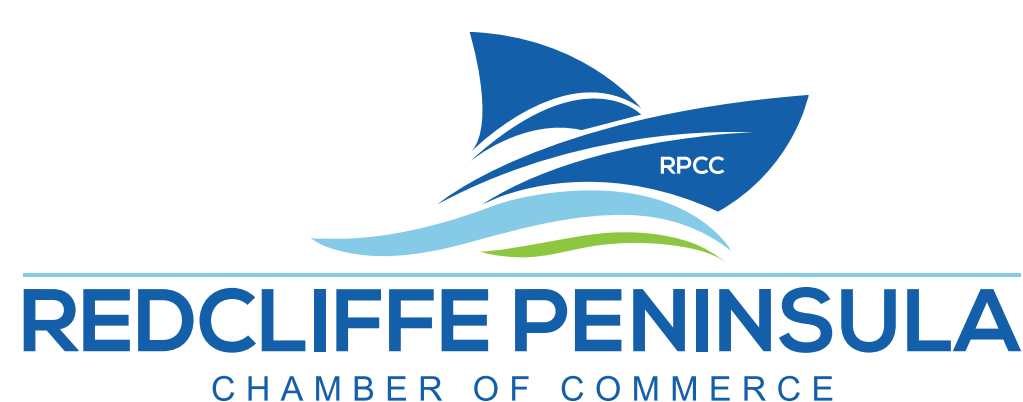
Seagrass



Shipping lanes and water depth



## Event Sponsors



## Alliance Sponsors

