



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment**

Technical Specifications for the Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database Marine CAPAD 2020

The Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database (CAPAD) 2020 provides both spatial and textual information about government, Indigenous and privately protected areas for Australia, in both the marine and terrestrial environments.

Data is current up to **30 June 2020** as supplied by contributing agencies. See [Appendix 3](#) for details.

This is the tenth version of the marine database, with previous versions released in 1997, 2002, 2004, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018.

CAPAD provides a snapshot of protected areas that meet the IUCN definition of a protected area:

"A protected area is a clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values."
(IUCN Definition 2008)

CAPAD information on protected areas is made available on the Agriculture, Water and the Environment's website as maps, in mapping applications, as summary area statistics (spreadsheets), and as spatial data and web map services that are openly available under CC-BY 4.0 licence.

A summary of the CAPAD data is published biennially at:
<http://www.environment.gov.au/land/nrs/science/capad>

All spatial data is available for download from the Find Environmental Data (FED) website:
<http://www.environment.gov.au/fed/>

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1. Data specifications

To enable effective integration, data should be supplied with the following specifications:

- Data Format** ArcGIS file geodatabase or shapefile format with table definitions as set out in point 2 of this document.
- Dataset projection** Supplied in the Geographic Coordinate System (unprojected) based on the GDA94 datum.
- Licence** Data available for distribution under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) licence model.

2. GIS dataset items specifications and corresponding definitions

See ArcGIS file geodatabase template supplied with data request.

ITEM NAME	WIDTH	TYPE	No. dec
PA_ID #	20	Text	0
PA_PID #	20	Text	0
NAME	255	Text	0
TYPE	60	Text	0
TYPE_ABBR	10	Text	0
IUCN	5	Text	0
NRS_MPA	5	Text	0
GAZ_AREA	38	Number	2
GIS_AREA #	38	Number	6
GAZ_DATE	10	Date	0
LATEST_GAZ	10	Date	0
STATE	4	Text	0
AUTHORITY	15	Text	0
DATASOURCE	20	Text	0
GOVERNANCE	3	Text	0
COMMENTS	120	Text	0
ENVIRON	3	Text	0
OVERLAP #	3	Text	0
MGT_PLAN	3	Text	0
RES_NUMBER	15	Text	0
ZONE_TYPE	150	Text	0
EPBC #	15	Text	0
LONGITUDE #	38	Number	6
LATITUDE #	38	Number	6

generated by Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment after supply

Item Name: PA_ID

Field Type: Alphanumeric (Upper – Lower case) (maximum 20 characters)

Definition: A unique code for a protected area that should persist between versions of CAPAD. It is the first three digits of the PA_PID.

Note: This number is generated by DAWE.

Item Name: PA_PID

Field Type: Alphanumeric (Upper – Lower case) (maximum 20 characters)

Definition: A unique code for a parcel or zone within a protected area that should persist between versions of CAPAD. The first three digits of the PA_PID code (the PA_ID) are common to all component polygons of a single protected area.

Note: This number is generated by DAWE.

Item Name: NAME

Field Type: Alphanumeric (Upper – Lower case) (maximum 255 characters)

Definition: The official (gazetted) name of a protected area. Not all gazetted protected areas have a name; in which case they are titled “Unnamed” with a reserve number e.g. Unnamed HA1207.

Note: Text is presented in proper text format (e.g. Bernier and Dorre Islands). The Protected Area name should not include the type name unless it does not reflect its legal status. E.g. ‘Stray Creek Conservation Area’ has TYPE = Natural Catchment Area.

Item Name: TYPE

Field Type: Alphanumeric (Upper-Lower Case) (maximum 60 characters)

Definition: The type of protected area according to the establishment mechanism. E.g. Marine Sanctuary, Aquatic Reserve, Australian Marine Park

Note: Some State agencies for their own reasons may provide a TYPE category for an area that is not allocated an IUCN category (that is, it is not an area gazetted for biodiversity conservation). In such cases, the IUCN category will be listed as NA.

Note: See [Appendix 1](#) for current protected area types and abbreviations for types.

Item Name: TYPE_ABBR

Field Type: Alphanumeric (AAAA) (UPPERCASE) (maximum 10 characters)

Definition: Abbreviation of **TYPE** (e.g. ‘MP’ = ‘Marine Park’).

Note: See [Appendix 1](#) for current type abbreviations.

Item Name: IUCN

Field Type: Alphanumeric (AAAA) (UPPERCASE) (maximum 3 characters)
 Values: IA to VI, Not Reported, Not Applicable, Not Assigned
 Definition: The IUCN protected area category ascribed by the managing authority.

IUCN category	Definition	IUCN code
la	Strict Nature Reserve	la
lb	Wilderness Area	lb
II	National Park	II
III	Natural Monument or Feature	III
IV	Habitat/Species Management Area	IV
V	Protected Landscape/Seascape	V
VI	Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources	VI
Not Reported	For protected areas where an IUCN category is unknown and/or the data provider has not provided any related information.	NR
Not Applicable	Denotes an area that does not meet the NRS criteria or the IUCN definition of a protected area but has management complimentary to the NRS.	NA
Not Assigned	The protected area meets the standard definition of protected areas but the data provider has chosen not to use the IUCN Protected Area Management Categories.	NAS

Item Name: NRS_MPA

Field Type: Text (AA) (UPPERCASE) (maximum 2 characters)
 Definition: Indicates the status of the protected area in terms of meeting the standard for inclusion in the NRSMPA or is managed for nature conservation without meeting the NRSMPA standard. For marine reserves refer to the document [“Guidelines for Establishing the National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas \(NRSMPA\)”](#)

NRS status	Description	NRS_MPA code
Yes	The protected area has been assessed as a protected area that meets the standard for inclusion in the NRSMPA.	Y
No	The protected area has been assessed as not meeting the standard for inclusion in the NRSMPA. It is managed for nature conservation without meeting the NRSMPA standard.	N
Not determined	The protected area is managed for nature conservation although it has not been assessed to determine if it meets the standard for inclusion in the NRSMPA.	ND

Item Name: GAZ_AREA

Field Type: Number to 2 decimal places
 Definition: The area (to the nearest hectare) as described in the nomination document (e.g. parliamentary gazettal). Some protected areas do not have a specific area in the gazettal. Where a protected area has multiple internal zones the gazettal area can be reported as the total for the whole protected area.
 Units: hectares to 2 decimal places

Item Name: GIS_AREA

Field Type: Number to 6 decimal places
 Definition: The area of a protected area based on current spatial data in the Albers Equal Area projection calculated by DAWE using ArcGIS software.
 Units: hectares to 6 decimal places
 Note: Both terrestrial and marine versions of CAPAD use this field when calculating area statistics for reporting purposes.

Item Name: GAZ_DATE

Field Type: Date format (DD/MM/YYYY)
 Definition: Gazettal date of the original proclamation that established any form of protected area.

Item Name: LATEST_GAZ

Field Type: Date format (DD/MM/YYYY)
 Definition: The date of the most recent gazettal or proclamation by the relevant State/Commonwealth authority to amend the protected area. It can be the same dates as the GAZ_DATE if there have been no changes or additions to the protected area.
 Note: Default is the GAZ_DATE.

Item Name: STATE

Field Type: Text (AAA) (UPPERCASE) (maximum 3 characters)
 Definition: The CODE for the State or Territory in which the Protected Area is located.
 Note: Marine Commonwealth managed protected areas are attributed with the name of 'COM' as they are generally within Commonwealth waters.

State/Territory name	STATE code
Commonwealth waters	COM
External	EXT
Jervis Bay Territory	JBT
New South Wales	NSW
Northern Territory	NT
Queensland	QLD
South Australia	SA
Tasmania	TAS
Victoria	VIC
Western Australia	WA

Item Name: AUTHORITY

Field Type: Text (UPPERCASE) (maximum 15 characters)
 Definition: The CODE for the authority that manages the Protected Area.
 Note: See [Appendix 2](#) for current AUTHORITY codes. New authority names can be added to this list.

Item Name: DATASOURCE

Field Type: Text (UPPERCASE) (maximum 20 characters)
 Definition: The CODE for the agency which supplied the Protected Area data.
 Note: See [Appendix 3](#) for current DATASOURCE codes. New data source names can be added to this list.

Item Name: GOVERNANCE

Field Type: Text (A) (UPPERCASE) (maximum 1 character)

Definition: The CODE for the type of governance which has management and decision making responsibility.

Governance type	Description	GOVERNANCE code
Community	Community conserved areas where indigenous peoples or local communities (settled or mobile) hold decision-making authority, responsibility and accountability.	C
Joint	Jointly managed protected areas where several social actors from different governance types share decision-making authority, responsibility and accountability. Joint management arrangements are recognised by a management board, agreement (e.g. ILUA) or other formal arrangement.	J
Government	Protected areas with decision-making authority, responsibility and accountability in the hands of national, state or local government	G

Item Name: COMMENTS

Field Type: Alphanumeric (Upper – Lower case) (maximum 120 characters)

Definition: Extra information jurisdictions elect to supply.

Item Name: ENVIRON

Field Type: Text (A) (UPPERCASE) (maximum 1 character)

Definition: The code describes the range of environments conserved in the protected area.

Note: If a protected area is coded as 'B' by the data provider, DAWE calculates the proportional representation of marine and terrestrial areas within the protected area (all component polygons combined). If 70% or more of the protected area is marine then the whole protected area is included in the marine CAPAD dataset. If less than 70% protected area is marine then the whole protected area is included in the terrestrial CAPAD dataset.

Environment type	Description	ENVIRON code
Marine	Generally includes land and or water below high water mark and may include islands and reefs above high water mark.	M
Both	Includes land and water both above and below the high water mark.	B

Item Name: MGT_PLAN

Field Type: Alphanumeric (A) (UPPERCASE) (maximum 2 characters)

Definition: The CODE for the status of the management plan for the protected area as of 30 June 2020.

Management plan status	Description	MGT_PLAN code
In Preparation	Some form of management document was being prepared.	P
Draft	A draft management document was released for comment by the public, management board or equivalent.	D
Statutory	Enabling legislation establishes the management of a protected area and a separate management document is not required	S
Management Intent	A formal statement of management intent has been prepared that clearly sets out the management objectives for the protected area but includes little else.	I
Management Plan	A formally adopted management plan that has been through consultation and contains strategies and actions for implementation for this protected area. A management plan may be for a group of protected areas with specific actions for each protected area in the plan.	M
Regional Plan	A formally adopted management plan has been through consultation and contains general strategies and actions for implementation over a group of protected areas.	R
Unknown	No form of management document could be found.	N
Under Review	The management plan is under review.	UR

Item Name: RES_NUMBER

Field Type: Alphanumeric (Upper – Lower case) (maximum 15 characters)

Definition: The reserve number (if declared) as used by the controlling authority.

Note: IPA Reserve numbers are allocated by DAWE.

Item Name: ZONE_TYPE

Field Type: Text (Upper – Lower case) (maximum 150 characters)

Definition: This is a concatenation of the ZONE (usually found in the COMMENTS field) and IUCN categories – for use when mapping the reserves.

Note: For example – ‘Habitat Protection (IUCN VI)’. Reserves that do not contain zones have been coded as “Unassigned (IUCN xx)”

Item Name: EPBC

Field Type: Text (Upper – Lower case) (maximum 15 characters)

Definition: This identifies if the reserve can be considered under the Commonwealth [Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999](#) (EPBC Act).

Description	Code
Commonwealth reserve (either a Commonwealth Marine Reserve, Marine Park, Marine Sanctuary, National Park (Commonwealth)) – as outlined in Section 342 of the Act.	Commonwealth
State managed reserve – as supplied by State/Territory authority	State

Item Name: LONGITUDE

Field Type: Number (999.999999) to six decimal places

Definition: Longitude coordinate of polygon centroid in decimal degrees, derived by DAWE from Geographics projected dataset. Centroid position is forced to sit within the feature.

Item Name: LATITUDE

Field Type: Number (-99.999999) to six decimal places

Definition: Latitude coordinate of polygon centroid in decimal degrees, derived by DAWE from Geographics projected dataset. Centroid position is forced to sit within the feature.

3. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Current protected area types and abbreviations

Type Abbr	Type
AMP	Australian Marine Park
AQR	Aquatic Reserve
CA	Conservation Area
CMR	Commonwealth Marine Reserve
CP	Conservation Park
DPAA	Dugong Protection Area (A)
DPAB	Dugong Protection Area (B)
DS	Dolphin Sanctuary
FHAA	Fish Habitat Area (A)
FHAB	Fish Habitat Area (B)
FHPA	Fish Habitat Protection Area
GR	Game Reserve
IPA	Indigenous Protected Area
LS	Rock Lobster Sanctuary
MCA	Marine Conservation Area
MMA	Marine Management Area
MNP	Marine National Park
MNR	Marine Nature Reserve
MP	Marine Park
MS	Marine Sanctuary
NP	National Park
NPC	National Park (Commonwealth)
NPS4	National Parks Act - Schedule 4 park or reserve
NR	Nature Reserve
SH	Shipwreck Reserve
S5G	5(1)(g) Reserve
S5H	5(1)(h) Reserve

Appendix 2 - Authority Code

Authority code	Authority name
DAWE	Australian Government, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
GBRMPA	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
IMG	Indigenous Management Group
LILC	Local Indigenous Land Council
NSW_DPI	NSW Department of Primary Industries
NT_PWCNT	Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT
PIRSA	Primary Industries and Regions South Australia
QLD_DAF	Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
QLD_DES	Queensland Department of Environment and Science
SA_DEW	South Australian Department for Environment and Water
TAS_DPIPWE	Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
TSRA	Torres Strait Regional Authority
VIC_DELWP	Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
WA_DBCA	Western Australian Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
WA_DPIRD	Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Appendix 3 – Data source Code

Data source code	Data source name
DAWE	Australian Government, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
GBRMPA	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
NSW_DPI	NSW Department of Primary Industries
NT_PWCNT	Parks and Wildlife Commission of the NT
PIRSA	Primary Industries and Regions – South Australia
QLD_DAF	Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
QLD_DES	Queensland Department of Environment and Science
SA_DEW	South Australian Department for Environment and Water
TAS_DPIPWE	Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
TSRA	Torres Strait Regional Authority
VIC_DELWP	Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
WA_DBCA	Western Australian Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
WA_DPIRD	Western Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development