



Australian Government
Director of National Parks



Director of National Parks

Annual Report 2013–14

Managing the Australian Government's protected places

© Director of National Parks 2014

ISSN: 1443-1238 (Print)

ISSN: 2204-0013 (Online)



The Director of National Parks Annual Report 2013-14 by the Director of National Parks is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia with the exception of the Coat of Arms of the Commonwealth of Australia, government agency logos, content supplied by third party, and all images depicting people. For licence conditions see: creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au/. All reasonable efforts has been used to identify third party content using *©organisation*.

This work should be attributed in the following way (use "Source:" if the work is reproduced without any changes; use "Based on" if the work is adapted or altered):

Source/Based on: Director of National Parks Annual Report 2013–14 by the Director of National Parks [2014] licensed under CC-BY 3.0 AU. Original available at www.environment.gov.au/topics/national-parks/parks-australia/publications

Director of National Parks Australian business number: 13 051 694 963

Credits

Front cover

Cover and featured image: Red sea star, Jervis Bay – Parks Australia

Anemones off Christmas Island: Justin Gilligan

Cliffs at seal colony near Steamers Head, Booderee National Park:
Parks Australia

Red crab, Christmas Island National Park: Parks Australia

Masked booby, Christmas Island National Park: Parks Australia

Nourlangie Sunset, Kakadu National Park: Parks Australia

Maps: Environmental Resources Information Network

Designer: Paper Monkey

Editor: Byron Smith for Embellish Creative

Indexer: Byron Smith for Embellish Creative

Printed by: New Millenium Print Pty Ltd

Map data sources

Department of the Environment (2012): Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database (CAPAD)

Department of the Environment (2014): Australia's network of Commonwealth Marine Reserves

Geoscience Australia (2006): Australian Maritime Boundaries (AMB) v2.0



Australian Government
Director of National Parks



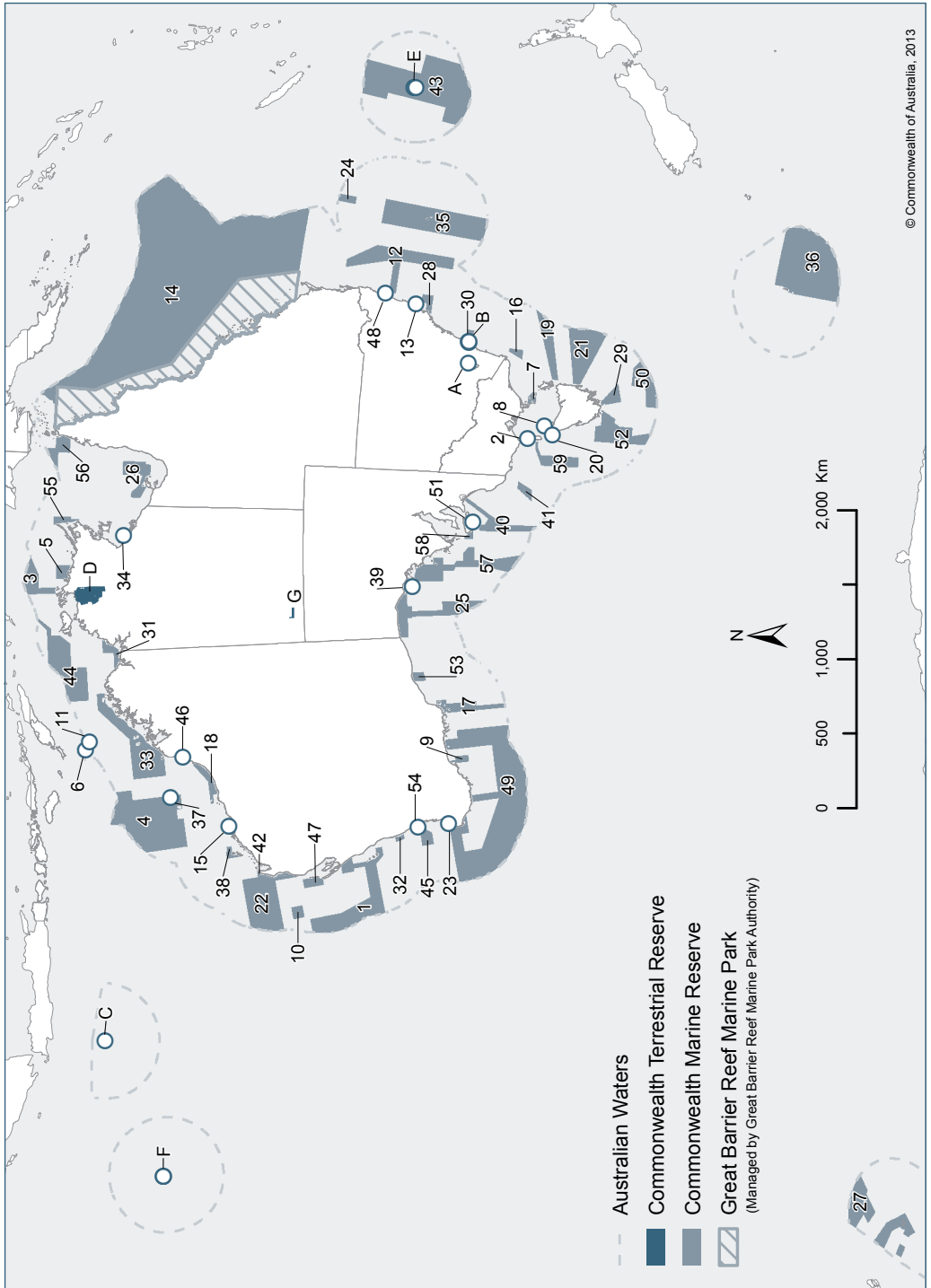
Director of National Parks

Annual Report 2013–14



Managing the Australian Government's protected places

Figure 1: Locations of Commonwealth parks and reserves which are the responsibility of the Director of National Parks in 2013–14.



© Commonwealth of Australia, 2013

Reserve Name	Map Label
Terrestrial Reserve	
Australian National Botanic Gardens	A
Booderee National Park and Botanic Gardens	B
Christmas Island National Park	C
Kakadu National Park	D
Norfolk Island National Park and Botanic Garden	E
Pulu Keeling National Park	F
Uluru–Kata Tjuṯa National Park	G
Marine Reserve	
Abolhos	1
Apollo	2
Arafura	3
Argo-Rowley Terrace	4
Arnhem	5
Ashmore Reef	6
Beagle	7
Boags	8
Bremer	9
Carnarvon Canyon	10
Cartier Island	11
Central Eastern	12
Cod Grounds	13
Coral Sea	14
Dampier	15
East Gippsland	16
Eastern Recherche	17
Eighty Mile Beach	18
Flinders	19
Franklin	20
Freycinet	21
Gascoyne	22
Geographe	23
Gifford	24
Great Australian Bight	25
Gulf of Carpentaria	26
Heard Island and McDonald Islands	27
Hunter	28
Huon	29

Reserve Name	Map Label
Jervis	30
Joseph Bonaparte Gulf	31
Jurien	32
Kimberley	33
Limmen	34
Lord Howe	35
Macquarie Island	36
Mermaid Reef	37
Montebello	38
Murat	39
Murray	40
Nelson	41
Ningaloo	42
Norfolk	43
Oceanic Shoals	44
Perth Canyon	45
Roebuck	46
Shark Bay	47
Solitary Islands	48
South-west Corner	49
South Tasman Rise	50
Southern Kangaroo Island	51
Tasman Fracture	52
Twilight	53
Two Rocks	54
Wessel	55
West Cape York	56
Western Eyre	57
Western Kangaroo Island	58
Zeehan	59

Our vision

Healthy and resilient parks, gardens and marine reserves that protect nature and culture and are valued and enjoyed by the community now and into the future.

Our values and approaches

As part of the Environment portfolio, Parks Australia is committed to serving the Australian Government and Minister in accordance with the values of the Australian Public Service and our specific department, in:

- caring for the environment
- respecting and responding to the values of Indigenous landowners and other partners
- engaging with and responding to stakeholders
- providing leadership and being active team contributors
- committing to learning and development
- committing to excellence in operations
- accepting responsibility and being accountable
- acting with integrity and achieving results.

We achieve our objectives by:

- basing our work on the best available information and analysis
- working in partnerships to improve environmental, cultural and heritage outcomes
- communicating and influencing effectively
- valuing and investing in our people to develop their capabilities
- effectively managing risks
- developing and delivering high-quality policies and programs
- managing change in a strategic and flexible manner
- monitoring and managing performance to ensure cost-effective outcomes.

Managing the Australian Government's protected areas

An organisational snapshot

The Director of National Parks is the statutory agency responsible for the Australian Government's terrestrial and marine protected-area estates. The Director is assisted by Parks Australia, a division of the Department of the Environment, in managing terrestrial and marine reserves. The department's Australian Antarctic Division is responsible for one marine reserve.

As at 30 June 2014 the Director of National Parks:

- managed seven terrestrial reserves comprising six national parks and the Australian National Botanic Gardens
- managed 59 marine reserves
- employed 315.2 full-time equivalent staff around Australia
- recorded a total price output of \$89 million.

Major highlights for 2013–14

- The sub-Antarctic Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve known as one of the most biologically pristine areas in the world was extended by 6200 square kilometres via Proclamation by the Governor-General on 25 March 2014. With a total area of 71 200 square kilometres, the reserve is now Australia's largest International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 1a Strict Nature Reserve, offering the highest level of protection to habitats, ecosystems and native species. A draft management plan prepared by the Australian Antarctic Division was released for public comment on 30 June 2014.
- The Red Centre Garden at the Australian National Botanic Gardens was completed and formally opened by Senator the Hon. Simon Birmingham, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for the Environment, in October 2013 as part of the Centenary of Canberra celebrations. This development and new visitor experiences such as afterDARK and the Flora Explorer tours contributed to the Gardens winning the ecotourism category at the annual Canberra and Capital Region Tourism Awards.
- Uluru–Kata Tjuta National Park hosted two major events: a visit by the Governor-General; and one from their Royal Highnesses, the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, with the latter event attracting worldwide media coverage.

- The first network-wide management plan for the South-east Commonwealth Marine Reserves Network came into effect on 1 July 2013. Compliance with this plan will be assisted by the new Commonwealth Marine Reserve alert system introduced to warn commercial fishers when their vessel enters a Commonwealth marine reserve. The system is expected to significantly increase voluntary compliance with marine reserves zoning regulations.
- In Kakadu, a new model for visitor interpretation was introduced, with the park contracting the Djabulukgu Association to provide tourism services on their own country. Under the contract, the association will manage campgrounds and deliver free guided walks and talks at Ubirr and in the surrounding region over the next two years. Kakadu also entered into 32 five-year commercial tourism licences with tour operators, covering a range of experiences from safari camping to fishing and bushwalking.

Contents

1 Director's review	1
2 Corporate overview and financial summary	5
3 Organisational structure	15
4 Planning, reporting and performance	25
5 Management and accountability	61
6 Financial Statements	73
7 Appendices	109