

Solitary Islands Marine Park

PROJECTS

Beach and Buster

Shipwrecks.

The 'Buster' is just one of around 10 historic shipwrecks in the Solitary Islands Marine Park region. Read the Maritime Heritage sign and fill in the blank spaces;

"Safely arriving at Woolgoolga, the Buster put down two anchors and ran a hawser (a small _____ or large rope) to the government 'outer buoy' mooring near to the jetty"

"Another huge sea struck the Buster at _____ appearing like 'a wall' and carrying away the remaining _____"

"Exposed wreckage of the Buster is composed of _____ and ' _____ ' (large brackets positioned on the lower hull)."

Name three other known ship wrecks in the SIMP, the year they were wrecked and where;

1. _____ year _____ where _____
2. _____ year _____ where _____
3. _____ year _____ where _____

Were any lives lost on any wrecks in the SIMP? _____ How many? _____

Which ship/s? _____



← Buster was designed in the barquentine class of ship

The remains that we see are the back ribs of the wreck →



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The Solitary Islands Marine Park.

The SIMP stretches for 75km from Muttonbird Island up to the Sandon River and is the home to many special plants and animals. The zoning plan aims to protect a range of habitat types including estuaries, beaches, rocky shores, inshore reefs, deep offshore reefs, islands, fringing reefs, sand and open ocean. Study the Zoning sign and complete the following questions;

How many zones can be applied in a NSW Marine Park? _____

List 4 habitat types protected in sanctuary zones;

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Circle what activities you CAN do in each zone?

Sanctuary Zone	research	swim	fish trap (commercial)
		line fish (recreational)	surf
	collect shells		dive
		prawn trawl (commercial)	snorkel
Habitat Protection Zone	research	swim	fish trap (commercial)
		line fish (recreational)	surf
	collect shells		dive
		prawn trawl (commercial)	snorkel
General Use Zone	research	swim	fish trap (commercial)
		line fish (recreational)	surf
	collect shells		dive
		prawn trawl (commercial)	snorkel

What special features do you think the sanctuary zones are protecting?

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Dune Systems.

Sand dunes act as a buffer between the sea and the land providing protection from direct waves, tides and salty wind. Fore dunes protect hind dunes allowing them to have a more stable and diverse plant system. Coastal plants play an important role maintaining dunes systems. The plants are highly adapted to be able to cope with little water, strong winds and salt from the sea. The plants also help to keep the sand dunes from being washed and blown away.

As we walk up the beach keep your eyes on the dunes and the type of plants that are living there. Below are some examples of plants that live on sand dunes;



Spinifex
(*Spinifex sericeus*)
Grey-green grass



Pigface
(*Carpobrotus glaucescens*)
Ground plant

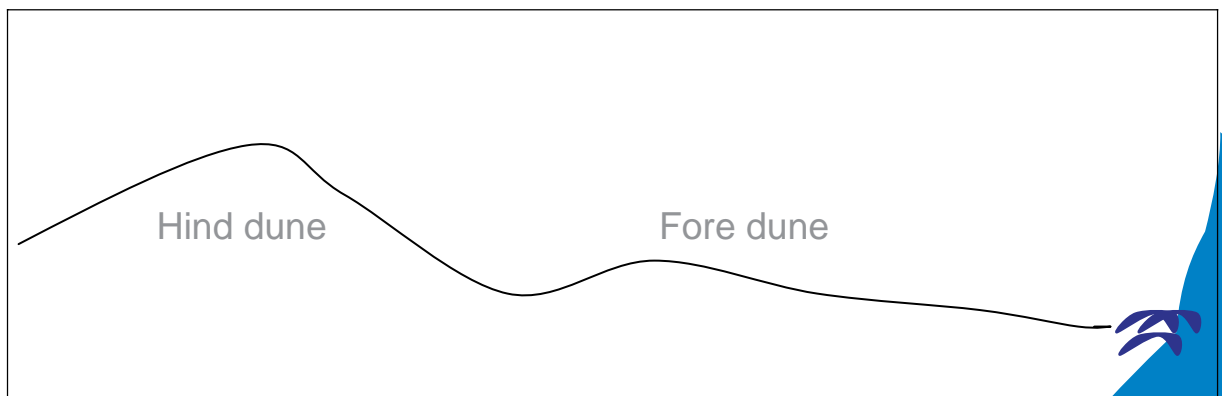


She-oak
(*Casuarina equisetifolia*)
Tree



Wattle
(*Acacia spp*)
Shrub

Draw where you would expect to find these plants on the profile below;






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Marine Parks zoning activity.


A map of a coastal area will be given to each group. The map will show several habitat types and features (see numbers below) as well as the range of activities enjoyed by the community. Design a zoning scheme to both protect the biologically important areas yet still allow for ongoing use in popular areas.

Use 3 coloured pens to design your zone scheme.

-  Sanctuary
-  Habitat Protection Zone
-  General Use Zone

1. Shipwreck – The “Benthic Beauty” went down in a storm 77 years ago, now home to over 50 different reef fishes. This site attracts many divers.
2. Nudibranch Bay – Is the home to the very rare purple-banded nudibranch. Anchor damage is becoming a problem.
3. Harries Headland – the only known aggregation and breeding site of the red devil fish.
4. Surf City – popular surf break.
5. Possum Creek – all 7 species of mangroves found in NSW occur in upper reaches of this estuary.
6. Back Beach – one of 4 sites in NSW where the endangered little tern nest, breed and feed. Many other shore birds occur here too.
7. Deep Reef – greatest coverage of delicate plate coral in SIMP.
8. Rocky Island – greatest number of different types of reef fish identified in one location through SIMP.
9. Burnout Beach – a popular beach where people drive their 4WDs to access a top fishing spot.

 = low use of the area.

 = high use of the area.