



# **West Coast National Park**

**Revised  
sections 6, 7  
and 9  
of the  
current  
Park  
Management  
Plan**



## Section 1: Authorisation

The revised sections 6, 7, 9 as well as the infrastructure and zonation maps is hereby internally accepted and authorised as required for managing the West Coast National Park in terms of Section 41 (2) of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act No 57 of 2003 (NEM: PAA). These sections replace the corresponding sections in the current management plan approved in 2013.



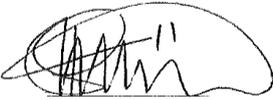
Ms N.P. Bopape  
Park Manager: West Coast National Park

Date: 30 March 2018



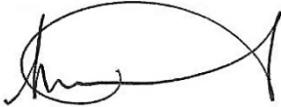
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Date: 30 March 2018



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Date: 04 May 2018

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Date: 05 May 2018

**Approved by the Minister of Environmental Affairs**



Mr D.A. Hanekom, MP  
Minister of Environmental Affairs (Acting)

Date: 20 September 2018

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## Section 6: Zoning

### 6.1 Introduction

The primary objective of a park zonation plan is to establish a coherent spatial framework in and around a park to guide and co-ordinate conservation, tourism and visitor experience initiatives, and minimise conflict between these sometimes, differing activities. A zoning plan is also a legislated requirement of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act No 57 of 2003 (NEM: PAA), which stipulates that the management plan, which is to be approved by the Minister, must contain “a zoning of the area indicating what activities may take place in different sections of the park and the conservation objectives of those sections”.

The zoning of the park was based on an analysis and mapping of the sensitivity and value of the park’s biophysical, heritage and scenic resources (SANParks, 2005a); an assessment of the regional context; and an assessment of the park’s current and planned infrastructure and tourist routes / products – all interpreted in the context of the park objectives. This was undertaken in an iterative and consultative process. This section – which is guided by the Conservation Development Framework (CDF) planning manual (SANParks, 2005b) – sets out the rationale for use zones, describes the zones, and provides management guidelines for each of the zones. The use zoning of the park is shown in Appendix 1: Map 1, and summarised in Table 1 below.

### 6.2 Synopsis of updates to the 2013 zonation

In general, very few changes were required to the previous zonation scheme. The five “use zone” classification scheme, (1) Remote, (2) Primitive, (3) Quiet, (4) Low Intensity Leisure (LIL) and (5) High Intensity Leisure (HIL) were divided into marine and terrestrial use zones. This was to provide the user with a clearer understanding of the characteristics and activities taking place within the different use zone. The current Geelbek High Intensity Leisure zone was expanded to include the Duinepos Chalets. The Langebaan Gate was rezoned as High Intensity Leisure to accommodate future development. On the eastern edge of the lagoon, a small section of the Quiet zone was rezoned to primitive. The Mooimaak area’s Low Intensity Leisure footprint was slightly expanded and the R27 Gate upgrade, either in current location or possibly ±1km in from existing gate, is incorporated.

### 6.3 Guiding principles underpinning the zonation

The principles underpinning park zonation, as listed below, were informed by the SANParks CDF planning manual, the Guidelines for Strategic Environmental Assessment in South Africa, Integrated Environmental Management and the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA). Accordingly the zonation:

- Is the foundation of all planning and development within a park, with the aim of ensuring its long term sustainability;
- Accommodates strategic, flexible and iterative planning procedures;
- Is a “framework for planning” not a “plan for implementation” (i.e. implementation is dealt with through lower level plans and programmes);
- Is risk-averse and promotes a cautious approach, which takes into account the limits of current knowledge about the consequences of decisions and actions;
- Recognises that the mandate of SANParks is to conserve biodiversity and heritage resources of national and international significance, in terms of both the NEM:PAA and the National Heritage Resources Act;
- Ensures the integrity of the park’s scenic quality by limiting human intrusions into the landscape;
- Accommodates a wide range of unique opportunities for experiences of solitude and nature based recreation which do not conflict with the desired social and environmental states;
- Confines development within the park to areas that are robust enough to tolerate transformation and without detracting from the “sense of place”;
- Incorporates and gives effect to the demarcated Coastal Management Line;
- Rationalises and channels access into the park and internal movement through it;
- Sets the limits of acceptable change; to minimise the loss of biodiversity and to reduce conflict between different park uses;
- Recognises that park boundaries are not static in time and that there are factors beyond the current or future boundaries that can positively or negatively influence the park; and

- Recognises that the park cannot exist in isolation and that planning needs to ensure that the park is integrated with the surrounding landscapes as well as the economic and social structures at local and regional scales.

#### **6.4 Rationale for use zones**

The primary function of a protected area is to conserve biodiversity. Other functions such as the need to ensure that visitors have access to the park, and that adjoining communities and local economies derive benefits from the park, could potentially conflict with and compromise this primary function. Use zoning is the primary tool to ensure that visitors have a wide range of quality experiences without comprising the integrity of the environment.

Furthermore, the expectations and recreational objectives of individuals that visit the park may differ. Some individuals visit the park purely to see the wildlife and natural landscapes. Other individuals wish to experience the intangible attributes such as and not limited to solitude, remoteness, wildness and serenity (which can be grouped as wilderness qualities), whilst some visit to engage in a range of nature-based recreational activities, or to socialise in a rest camp. Different people have different accommodation requirements ranging from basic self-catering to luxury catered accommodation. There is often conflict between the requirements of different users and different activities. Appropriate use zoning serves to minimise conflicts between different users of a park by separating potentially conflicting activities – such as game viewing and day-visitor picnic areas – whilst ensuring that activities which do not negatively impact on the park's vital attributes and objectives (especially the conservation of the protected area's natural systems and its biodiversity) can continue in appropriate areas. Use zones serve to ensure that high intensity facilities and activities are placed in areas that are robust enough to tolerate intensive use, as well as to protect more sensitive areas of the park from over-utilisation.

#### **6.5 The zoning system**

SANParks has adopted a multiple zoning system for its parks. The system comprises of:

- Visitor use zones covering the entire park;
- Special Management Overlays; and
- A buffer zone surrounding the park.

##### **6.5.1 The zoning process and its linkage to the underlying environmental analysis**

The zoning for the park was underpinned by an analysis and mapping of the sensitivity and value of a park's biophysical, heritage and scenic resources. This analysis examined the parks' biophysical characteristics including: habitat value (in particular the contribution to national conservation objectives) and vegetation vulnerability to physical disturbance; special habitat value (the value of the area based on rare and endangered species); hydrological sensitivity (areas vulnerable to disruption of hydrological processes such as floodplains and wetlands); topographic sensitivity (steep slopes) and soil sensitivity (soils that are vulnerable to erosion). In addition, the heritage value and sensitivity of the sites were examined (mostly archaeological and cultural aspects). The visual sensitivity of the landscape was also surveyed in order to identify sites where infrastructure development could have a strong aesthetic impact. This analysis was used to inform users of the appropriate use of the different areas of the park as well as assisted in defining the boundaries between zones. The zoning was also informed by the park's current infrastructure and tourism products as well as the regional context (especially linkages to neighbouring areas and impacts from activities outside the park). Planned infrastructure and tourism products were also accommodated where these were compatible with the environmental informants. These were all interpreted in the context of the park's objectives and undertaken in an iterative and consultative process.

Table 1. Use zones and use zone characteristics for park.

Zone	General characteristics	Experiential qualities	Interaction between users	Type of access	Type of activities	Type of facilities	Limits of acceptable change: Biophysical	Limits of acceptable change: Aesthetics and recreational	Guidelines for operational infrastructure
<b>REMOTE</b>	Conservation orientated zone. - Preserve an intrinsically wild appearance and character (essentially no infrastructural) or capable of being restored to such.	Softside and awe inspiring natural characteristics.	None to very low	Marine Zone C of Lagoon: Exclusion zone of lagoon. Access is strictly prohibited.	Marine Zone C of Lagoon: No recreational activities allowed. Catching or any disturbance of fish prohibited.	Marine Zone C of Lagoon: No infrastructure apart from buoys in marine area which demarcate the marine zone boundary in Lagoon/Lagoon and two existing bird blinds.	Deviation from a natural/pristine state should be minimised and existing impacts should be reduced.	Activities which impact on the intrinsically wild appearance and character of the area will not be tolerated.	Ideally there should be no management infrastructure, but temporary infrastructure may be present only to limit biodiversity loss.
<b>HE MOTTE Terrestrial</b>	Provide an intrinsically wild (essentially no infrastructural) or capable of being restored to such.	Softside and awe inspiring natural characteristics.	None to very low	Controlled access, non-motorized.	Hiking in small groups. Possibly mountain biking or horse riding.	Established footpaths where erosion may be a problem. Essentially undeveloped and roadless.	Deviation from a natural/pristine state should be minimised and existing impacts should be reduced.	Activities which impact on the intrinsically wild appearance and character of the area will not be tolerated.	Ideally there should be no management infrastructure, but temporary infrastructure may be present only to limit biodiversity loss.
<b>PRIMITIVE</b>	Generally retains wilderness qualities, but with basic self-catering facilities. Access is controlled or limited to 4x4 vehicles. Provide access to the remote zone, and can serve as a buffer.	Experience wilderness qualities.	Low	Controlled access. Accompanied or Unaccompanied. Foot, 4x4 vehicles.	Hiking 4x4 drives, game viewing. Possibly horse riding.	Small, basic, self-catering, distributed to avoid contact between users; or limited concessions with limited numbers; 4x4 trails; hiking trails.	Deviation from a natural/pristine state should be small and limited to restricted impact footprints. Existing impacts should be reduced.	Activities which impact on the intrinsically wild appearance and character of the area should be restricted and impacts limited to the site of the facility.	Small, isolated permanent but low spec (usually dirt road) infrastructure may be present. This may be to help manage biodiversity, or service tourist facilities.
<b>QUIET Marine</b>	This zone allows unaccompanied non-motorized access to areas which generally retain a natural appearance and character. Access is not specifically controlled.	Marine activities limited; relaxation in a natural environment.	Infrequent	Marine Zone B of Lagoon: Access permitted by non-motorized/sailing vessels/boats only. No anchoring or overnighting is permitted by sailing vessels/boats.	Marine Zone B of Lagoon: Only non-motorized activities (canoeing, sailing etc.) is permitted. The catching of fish/in fish in terms of a recreational permit is permitted.	No infrastructure in the marine area, only zone demarcation in Lagoon/Lagoon.	Some deviation from a natural/pristine state is allowed, but care should be taken to restrict impacts on the environment by managing non-motorized users and vessel numbers, etc.	Activities which impact on the natural appearance and character of the area should be restricted, though the presence of larger numbers of visitors and the facilities they require, may impact on the feeling of wilderness and tranquility found in this zone.	Management infrastructure might be more sophisticated and abundant here, to service tourist infrastructure. Care should be taken that management activities do not impact on tourism products.
<b>QUIET Terrestrial</b>	This zone allows unaccompanied non-motorized access to areas which generally retain a natural appearance and character. Access is not specifically controlled.	Wide range of activities; relaxation in a natural environment.	Frequent	Unaccompanied non-motorized access. Mainly on foot, non-motorized access to specific facilities.	Hiking, walking, bird watching, mountain biking possibly horse riding and non-motorized water based activities.	Hiking trails; footpaths; management tracks; bird hides. Abandonment facilities may be provided in high use areas. Heritage structures may be used for recreation. No accommodation, and no tourist access by vehicle.	Some deviation from a natural/pristine state is allowed, but care should be taken to restrict the development footprint. Infrastructure, especially paths and viewpoints should be designed to limit the impacts of large numbers of visitors on the biophysical environment.	Activities which impact on the relatively natural appearance and character of the area should be restricted, though the presence of larger numbers of visitors and the facilities they require, may impact on the feeling of wilderness found in this zone.	To limit impacts, management infrastructure should be placed above the high water mark of the lagoon where possible.
<b>LOW INTENSITY LEISURE Marine</b>	This zone allows unaccompanied motorized and non-motorized access. Visitor numbers are generally higher than in the Quiet zone.	A range of marine activities permitted per area.	Moderate to high	Marine Zone A of Lagoon: Motorized and non-motorized vessel access. Access via designated launch sites or via the beach. To Mile Beach MPA, Jertan Island MPA, Malaga Island MPA and Marcus Island MPA. - Motorized and non-motorized access by vessel/boats is permitted.	Marine Zone A of Lagoon: Recreational activities and use swimming, canoeing, sailing allowed in designated areas. The catching of fish/in fish in terms of a recreational fishing permit or recreational permit is permitted. To Mile Beach MPA: The catching of fish/in fish from a vessel and the catching of West Coast rock lobster in terms of recreational and commercial fishing permits is permitted. Jertan Island MPA, Malaga Island MPA and Marcus Island MPA: The catching of fish/in fish from a vessel in terms of recreational and commercial fishing permits is permitted.	Water-based accommodation facilities in designated area of Marine Zone A of Lagoon. Zone demarcation and activities boundary demarcation. Shipping infrastructure and jetties in Marine zone A of Lagoon/Lagoon and on islands.	Deviation from a natural/pristine state should be minimised and limited to restricted impact footprints as far as possible. However, it is accepted that some damage to the biophysical environment associated with tourist activities and facilities will be inevitable.	Although it is inevitable that activities and facilities will impact on the wild appearance and reduce the wilderness characteristics of the area, these should be managed and limited to ensure that the area still provides a relatively natural outdoor experience.	Where this is the highest usage zone anticipated in a park, management infrastructure should be concentrated here as far as is feasible, allowing management to efficiently make use of existing high volume infrastructure. To limit impacts, management infrastructure should be placed close to the park boundary.
<b>LOW INTENSITY LEISURE Terrestrial</b>	The underlying characteristic of this zone is motorized self-drive access with basic self-catering facilities. The numbers of visitors are higher than in the remote and primitive zones. Camps are without large commercial facilities such as shops and restaurants.	Comfortable facilities in a relatively natural environment.	Moderate to high	Motorized self-drive access.	Motorized self-drive game viewing, picnicking, walking, biking, cycling, adventure activities.	Facilities limited to basic self-catering picnic sites; abatement facilities; information/education centres; parking areas. Small self-catering (fuel, camping) rest camps with abatement facilities. They contain small or seasonal convenience stores or tea gardens. Low spec access roads to provide a more wild experience.	Deviation from a natural/pristine state should be minimised and limited to restricted impact footprints as far as possible. However, it is accepted that some damage to the biophysical environment associated with tourist activities and facilities will be inevitable.	Although it is inevitable that activities and facilities will impact on the wild appearance and reduce the wilderness characteristics of the area, these should be managed and limited to ensure that the area still provides a relatively natural outdoor experience.	Where this is the highest usage zone in a park, management infrastructure should be concentrated here as far as is feasible, allowing management to efficiently make use of existing high volume infrastructure. To limit impacts, management infrastructure should be placed close to the park boundary.
<b>HIGH INTENSITY LEISURE</b>	The main characteristic is that of a high density tourist development node, with commercial amenities, where more concentrated human activities are allowed.	Comfortable and sophisticated facilities while retaining a natural ambience.	High	Accessible by motorized transport (car/bus) on high volume transport routes, including delivery vehicles.	As above. Additional sophisticated infrastructure. Large, organised adventure activities. Dining at restaurants.	High density tourist camp with commercial amenities. Footpaths, transport systems, accommodation, restaurants, cafe and refreshment stalls; information/education centres. High volume roads.	The greatest level of deviation from a natural/pristine state is allowed in this zone, and it is accepted that damage to the biophysical environment associated with tourist activities and facilities will be inevitable.	Although it is inevitable that the high visitor numbers, activities and facilities will impact on the wild appearance and reduce the wilderness characteristics of the area, these should be managed and limited to ensure that the area generally still provides a relatively natural outdoor experience appropriate for a national park.	Impacts; management infrastructure should be placed close to the park boundary.

In general it was possible to include most of the environmentally sensitive and valuable areas into zones that are strongly orientated towards conservation rather than tourist use. Also, in numerous cases the boundaries between zones are based on changes in environmental sensitivity. Table 2 summarises the percentage area of the park covered by each zone, as well as the percentage of the highly environmentally sensitive and valuable areas (defined as areas with values in the top quartile of the sensitivity-value analysis) that are within each zone. This indicates that nearly 68.1 % of the park is covered by zones that are strongly conservation orientated in terms of their objectives (i.e. Remote and Primitive). The table demonstrates a good correlation between the spatial distribution of environmentally sensitive areas and conservation orientated zones, with 82 % of highly sensitive areas in the conservation orientated zones. More so, the most conservation orientated remote zone only covers about 42.9 % of the park yet it contains 48.4 % of the highly valuable and sensitive areas. Conversely, the tourism orientated zones covers nearly 31.7 % of the park yet contains approximately 18 % of sensitive areas.

Table 2. Summary of percentage area of the park covered by each zone, as well as the percentages of the highly environmentally sensitive and valuable areas (defined as areas with values in the top quartile of the sensitivity value-analysis) that are within each zone.

Zone emphasis	Use zone	Zone as a % of park area	% of highly sensitive areas that are in a zone
Conservation orientated	Remote	42.9	48.4
	Primitive	25.2	33.6
Tourism orientated	Quiet	4.3	5.3
	Low intensity leisure	26.9	12.0
	High intensity leisure	0.5	0.7

### 6.5.2 Remote zone

#### Objective

The objective of this conservation-orientated zone, which comprises of both remote marine and terrestrial components, is to protect sensitive environments from almost all development impacts and tourism pressures.

#### Characteristics

This is an area retaining an intrinsically wild appearance and character, or capable of being restored to such and which is essentially undeveloped and roadless. There are no permanent improvements or any form of human habitation. Remote zone provides outstanding opportunities for solitude with awe inspiring natural characteristics. Sight and sound of human habitation and activities are barely discernible and at a far distance.

#### Marine visitor activities and experience

Activities: No access and no activities allowed in Marine Zone C of Lagoon.

#### Terrestrial visitor activities and experience

Activities: Access is strictly controlled and non-motorised. Groups must be small, and can either be accompanied by a guide or unaccompanied, depending on the presence of dangerous animals. Several groups may be in an area at the same time, but if necessary densities and routes must be defined so that groups are unaware of each other. The principle of "Pack it in Pack it out" must be applied. Specially arranged once-off events such as an adventure race may involve higher visitor numbers for a brief limited period, but these events are not the norm. Activities such as hiking in small groups and possibly mountain biking or horse riding can take place within this zone.

Interaction with other users: There is no interaction between groups. The number of groups within the area will be determined by the ability to ensure that there is no interaction between groups.

## **Limits of acceptable change**

Biophysical environment: Deviation from a natural / pristine state should be avoided, else minimised and where unavoidable, existing impacts must be reduced.

Aesthetics and recreational environment: Activities which impact on the intrinsically wild appearance and character of the area, or which impact on the wilderness characteristics of the area (solitude, remoteness, wildness, serenity, peace, etc.) is not allowed.

## **Marine facilities**

Type and size: There are no facilities provided at Marine Zone C of the Lagoon, apart from beacons in the marine area which demarcate the marine zone boundaries in Langebaan Lagoon. Should overnight facilities be required to serve this zone, these must be placed in the adjoining zones.

Sophistication of facilities: None

Audible equipment and communication structures: None.

Access: The Marine Zone C is the exclusion zone of the lagoon. Access is strictly prohibited.

## **Terrestrial facilities**

Type and size: No facilities are provided. Should overnight facilities be required to serve this zone, these must be placed in the adjoining zones.

Sophistication of facilities: Except for self-carried portable tents, no other facilities are permitted. Guidelines for washing, ablution and cooking must be defined according to the "Pack it in Pack it out" principles. Camping is allowed only at designated sites.

Audible equipment and communication structures: None.

Access and roads: Public access is non-motorised. Vehicular access and parking is provided in the adjoining zones. Established footpaths may be provided where erosion risks occur. Limited low specification management tracks (i.e. not built up roads) are acceptable within this zone, though these tracks should be rationalised, and eventually removed. This zone is essentially undeveloped, controlled access, non-motorised and roadless.

## **Location in park**

Both the Remote marine and terrestrial areas were designated in coastal, wetland and dune areas of the park. These areas include the Marine C exclusion zone of the lagoon where entry, use of vessels and catching or disturbance of fish being strictly prohibited; as well as inshore areas of 16 Mile Beach Marine Protected Area (MPA) section where vessels are permitted. In the park's terrestrial areas, the Remote areas include coastal dune cordon (linking with the adjacent marine remote zone), area east of the R27, as well as the major dune belt south of the park.

## **Guidelines on management infrastructure and utilisation**

Ideally there should be no management infrastructure, and natural processes must be allowed to function without management intervention. However, in reality, most parks are too small to allow ecological processes (fire, fecundity – particularly of large predators) to continue without management intervention, which would eventually impact biodiversity negatively. Furthermore, in young or expanding parks, farm management infrastructure might still be apparent. For this reason, concessions are made on management infrastructure in this zone, principally to prevent loss of biodiversity or restoration. Infrastructure might include footpaths where erosion might be a problem, or identified (barely) traversable management 4x4 routes for fire management or ensuring area integrity. Temporary management infrastructure, as might be used for game capture or anti-poaching activities, such as temporary bomas or helicopter landing sites would be permissible, as would vehicular access by staff for specific management interventions, although this must be exercised circumspectly.

### 6.5.3 Primitive zone

#### Objective

The objective of this conservation-orientated zone is to protect sensitive environments from development impacts by limiting the size, number and sophistication of infrastructure, and by reducing tourism pressure through controlled access and visitor numbers.

#### Characteristics

The primary characteristic of this zone is the experience of wilderness qualities with the emphasis on controlled access. Access is controlled in terms of numbers, frequency and group sizes. The zone shares the wilderness qualities of wilderness areas and the Remote zone, but with the provision of small basic self-catering facilities with controlled access. It also provides access to areas zoned as Remote or Wilderness. Views of human activities and development outside of the park may be visible from this zone.

This zone serves to protect sensitive environments from high levels of development, and acts as a buffer between conservation-orientated and tourist-orientated zones, e.g. Remote (or wilderness areas) and Low Intensity Leisure respectively. The Primitive zone may contain concession sites and other facilities where impacts are managed through strict control of the movement and numbers of tourists, for example if all tourists are in concession safari vehicles.

#### Visitor activities and experience

Activities: Access is controlled in terms of the number, frequency and group sizes. Activities could include hiking, 4x4 drives and game viewing. In the park, access control is mostly passive, with 4x4 trails marked as restricted to 4x4 vehicles only, thus limiting visitor numbers on these routes. Access may also be controlled either through only allowing access to those with bookings for specific facilities, or alternatively through a specific booking or permit for a particular hiking trail or 4x4 route in more sensitive areas. Several groups may be in the area at the same time, but access should be managed to minimise interaction between groups if necessary.

Interaction with other users: Interaction between groups of users is low, and care must be taken in determining the number and nature of facilities located in the area in order to minimise these interactions.

#### Limits of acceptable change

Biophysical environment: Deviation from a natural / pristine state must be small and limited to restricted impact footprints. Existing impacts must be reduced. Any facilities constructed in these areas, and activities undertaken here, should be done in a way that limits environmental impacts. Road and infrastructure specifications must be designed to limit impacts.

Aesthetics and recreational environment: Activities which impact on the intrinsically wild appearance and character of the area, or which impact on the wilderness characteristics of the area (solitude, remoteness, wildness, serenity, peace, etc.) must be restricted and impacts limited to the site of the facility. Ideally visitors must only be aware of the facility or infrastructure that they are utilising, and this infrastructure / facility must be designed to fit in with the environment within which it is located in order to avoid aesthetic impacts.

#### Facilities

Type and size: Facilities are small, often very basic and are distributed to avoid contact between users. To achieve this, camp development must be limited to 15 beds, alternatively facilities can be designed for high levels of luxury, but with limited visitor numbers (e.g. controlled access camps or concession sites).

Sophistication of facilities: Generally facilities are small, basic and self-catering, though concession facilities may be significantly more sophisticated.

Audible equipment and communication structures: None.

Access and roads: Vehicular accesses to facilities are mostly limited to low-spec roads, often 4x4 only. Tourist and game viewing roads are usually 4x4. Established footpaths are provided to avoid erosion and braiding.

## **Location in park**

Large portions of the park are designated as primitive areas to protect most of the remaining sensitive areas from high levels of tourist activity. The areas designated as primitive include much of the Postberg and other controlled access contractual areas of the park, islands (Jutten, Malgas and Marcus Islands), lowland areas adjacent to the Langebaan Lagoon, and most of the southern sections of the park away from present infrastructure.

## **Guidelines on management infrastructure and utilisation**

Permanent management infrastructure is permissible in this zone, but these should be relatively small and isolated. Park operations staff may need to service tourist facilities in this zone. Examples may include “twee spoor” management tracks, permanent bomas for wildlife, ranger camps and outposts, and possibly even permanent helipads. The responsibility is on park management to coordinate the tourist road network usage in such a way that tourists do not encounter management infrastructure in this zone, such as by using of no entry signs. Low volume access gates or entrances to access 4x4 routes could be accommodated in this zone.

### **6.5.4 Quiet zone**

#### **Objective**

The main objective of the tourist-orientated zone which comprises of both Quiet marine and terrestrial components is to provide non-motorised medium to high volume visitor access to areas whilst limiting impacts by not providing both infrastructure for motorised access and accommodation facilities.

#### **Characteristics**

This zone is characterised by unaccompanied non-motorised access without specific access control and permits. Visitors are allowed accompanied or unaccompanied access, mainly on foot, for a wide range of experiences. A larger number of visitors are allowed within the Quiet zone, permitting more frequent visitor contact as compared to the Primitive zone. For the Quiet Marine zone, unaccompanied, non-motorised/sailing access is allowed in the area but only for sailing or non-motorised vessels/boats. Anchoring and/or overnighing by sailing vessels/boats is not allowed. Within this zone, more sensitive areas must be protected by precinct level planning, which should direct development and utilisation to more robust areas. This zone can also provide non-motorised access within LIL and HIL zones away from vehicular access roads.

#### **Marine visitor activities and experience**

Marine activities limited; relaxation in a natural environment. Within Marine Zone B of lagoon: Only non-motorised activities (canoeing, sailing, etc.) is permitted. Only the catching of line fish in terms of a valid netfishing permit is permitted.

Interaction with other users: Infrequent interaction between user groups.

#### **Terrestrial visitor activities and experience**

Wide range of activities; relaxation in a natural environment. Activities: Hiking; walking; bird watching, mountain biking; possibly horse riding and non-motorised water based activities.

Interaction with other users: Frequent interaction between user groups.

#### **Marine limits of acceptable change**

Biophysical environment: Some deviation from a natural / pristine state is allowed, but care should be taken to restrict impacts on the environment by managing vessel numbers, areas of operation, engine size allowed, etc.

Aesthetics and recreational environment: Activities which impact on the relatively natural appearance and character of the area must be restricted as the presence of larger visitor numbers and the facilities required may impact on the feeling of “wildness” experienced within this zone.

### **Terrestrial limits of acceptable change**

Biophysical environment: Some deviation from a natural / pristine state is allowed, but care must be taken to restrict the development footprint. Infrastructure, especially paths and viewpoints must be designed to limit the impacts of large visitor numbers on the biophysical environment.

Aesthetics and recreational environment: Activities, which impact on the relatively natural appearance and character of the area must be restricted, though the presence of larger visitor numbers and facilities required may impact on the feeling of “wildness” experienced within this zone.

### **Marine facilities**

Type and size: Marine Zone B of the Lagoon.

Sophistication of facilities: None.

Audible equipment and communication structures: None.

Access: Access by non-motorised/sailing vessels/boats are allowed. No anchoring or overnighting is permitted.

### **Terrestrial facilities**

Type and size: Unaccompanied non-motorised access. Mainly on foot, non-motorised access to specific facilities. Hiking trails; footpaths; management tracks; bird hides. Ablution facilities may be provided in high use areas. Heritage structures may be used for recreation. No accommodation; and no tourist access by vehicle.

Sophistication of facilities: Where provided these must be basic.

Audible equipment and communication structures: Allowed, but must be managed to retain a relative level of solitude.

Access and roads: Unaccompanied non-motorised access. Mainly on foot, non-motorised access to specific facilities.

### **Location in park**

Quiet areas include bird hides and trails around Geelbek as well as Marine Zone B of the Lagoon.

### **Guidelines on management infrastructure and utilisation**

Permanent management infrastructure is permissible in this zone, but operational vehicular access must be minimised as far as possible in keeping with the pedestrian nature of the zone. Given the potentially high volume tourist usage of the zone, park operations staff may need to service tourist facilities in this zone. Infrastructure in terrestrial areas may include hard surfaces (paved or tarred roads) as long as vehicle usage is restricted to operational staff. If possible, efforts must be made to reduce noise and air pollution from operational vehicles in this zone during tourist usage, so as not to impact too negatively on visitor experiences. Measures can include restricting operational usage to off-peak periods, or using electric vehicles.

### **6.5.5 Low Intensity Leisure zone**

#### **Objective**

The objective of the tourist-orientated zone, which comprises of both remote (marine and terrestrial components) is to provide infrastructure for day and overnight visitors in a natural environment. While game viewing areas may be zoned LIL to allow for flexibility of the game viewing road network, in reality, development footprints must be localised, with some areas having more of a Primitive or even Remote zone “feel.” Impacts must be mitigated by using infrastructure to direct and manage the movement of park visitors away from the more sensitive areas that may occur within this zone.

## **Characteristics**

The underlying characteristic of this zone is motorised self-drive access, with basic self-catering facilities. The numbers of visitors are higher than in the remote and primitive zones. Camps are without large commercial facilities such as shops and restaurants. Small or seasonal commercial or catered facilities can be accommodated; however, these facilities must be small and aligned to the general ambiance of the zone. Numbers of visitors are higher in the low intensity leisure zone as compared to the remote and primitive zones. Relatively comfortable facilities are positioned in the landscape retaining an inherent natural and visual quality, which enhances the visitor experience of a more natural and mostly self-providing experience. Access roads are low key, preferably gravel roads and / or tracks to provide a more natural experience, however higher volume roads may be tarred. Facilities along roads are generally limited to basic self-catering picnic sites with toilet facilities. Large busses and open safari vehicles may be permitted subject to certain conditions.

### **Marine visitor activities and experience**

Activities: Marine Zone A of Lagoon: A wide range of activities are permitted. Recreational activities such as swimming, canoeing and sailing are allowed in designated areas and the catching of line fish is permitted in terms of a valid recreational fishing permit or net fishing permit. 16 Mile Beach MPA section: Catching of line fish from a vessel and the removal of rock lobster, in season only, with relevant, valid permits are allowed. Jutten Island MPA, Malgas Island MPA and Marcus Island MPA: Catching of line fish from a vessel with a valid permit is permitted.

### **Terrestrial visitor activities and experience**

Activities: Motorised self-drive game viewing, picnicking, walking, hiking, cycling; adventure activities.  
Marine and terrestrial interaction with other users: Moderate to high.

### **Limits of acceptable change**

Biophysical environment: Deviation from a natural / pristine state must be minimised and limited to restricted impact footprints as far as possible. However, it is accepted that some damage to the biophysical environment associated with tourist activities and facilities will be inevitable.

Aesthetics and recreational environment: Although it is inevitable that the activities and facilities will impact on wild appearance and reduce wilderness characteristics of the area (solitude, remoteness, wildness, etc.), these activities and facilities must be managed and limited to ensure that the area still provides a relatively natural outdoor experience.

### **Marine facilities**

Type and size: Water-based accommodation facilities in designated area of Marine Zone A. Zone demarcation and activities' boundary demarcations. Slipways and jetties in Marine Zone A and at various islands.

Sophistication of facilities: Higher-end, low-volume water-based accommodation. Basic level of marine access infrastructure (jetties and slipways).

Audible equipment and communication structures: No equipment and structures allowed. Limited cell phone coverage in the zone. Code of use for cell phones and radios required to retain relative level of solitude.

Access: Marine Zone A of lagoon: Motorised and non-motorised vessel access. Access via designated launch sites or via the beach. 16 Mile Beach MPA, Jutten Island MPA, Malgas Island MPA and Marcus Island MPA: Motorised and non-motorised access by vessels/boats is permitted.

### **Terrestrial facilities**

Type and size: High density tourist camps with commercial amenities. Footpaths, transport systems, accommodation, restaurants, curio and refreshment stalls; information/education centres. High volume roads. Picnic sites, view sites, information centres, ablution facilities, parking areas, education centres, etc. Small self-catering camps (including camping and caravanning) of low to medium density (up to 50 beds). Additional facilities can include swimming pools. Trails for 4x4 vehicles can also be provided. Small or

seasonal (facilities are only open as required or during peak season) commercial facilities can be provided; such as kiosks, small tourist convenience stores, or tea gardens. However, these facilities must still fall within the general ambiance of the zone— and as such may make use of converted or restored farm houses.

Larger commercial facilities and larger concessional operators (e.g. Cattle Barons and Mug & Bean), must be placed in the high intensity leisure (HIL) zone. Day visitor sites are not placed within the camps, and must be compliant with the general self-catering or smaller-scale catered characteristics of the zone.

Sophistication of facilities: Mostly self-contained self-catering accommodation units with bathroom facilities. Camp sites mostly include ablution and kitchen facilities. Tourist facilities may include modern commercial facilities such as shops, kiosks, tea gardens and small tourist convenience stores, as long as these are small.

Audible equipment and communication structures: Cell phone coverage in vicinity of camps. Code of use for cell phones and radios required to retain relative level of solitude.

Access and roads: Accessible by motorised transport (car/bus) on high volume transport routes, including delivery vehicles. Motorised self-drive sedan car access (traditional game viewing) on designated routes, which are preferably gravel roads. Roads may be tarred, secondary gravel tourist roads, or minor game viewing roads.

### **Location in park**

The LIL areas were designated in the current game, flower, landscape viewing areas, and along current access routes from the south. The offshore areas accessible to motorised vessels of the 16 Mile Beach MPA section of the park are included in the LIL zone, as is the Marine A area of the lagoon (approximately opposite Langebaan town) where fishing and motorised vessels are permitted. Langebaan Lagoon northern shores are designated LIL to accommodate the proposed Klein Mooimaak rest camp, visitor sites such as Mooimaak, Tsaarsbank, Postberg picnic sites, and associated activities and infrastructure.

### **Guidelines on management infrastructure and utilisation**

The placement of permanent management infrastructure is encouraged in this zone, particularly when it is the highest level use zone within the park. Where HIL already exists, attempts must be made to concentrate the development of park management and operational infrastructure in the highest usage zone of the park, where feasible, and especially when this is situated close to the boundary of the park. Where it may be preferable to include non-industrial components of management infrastructure on the periphery of the park, these can be accommodated in LIL. Examples may include moderate to high volume access or main entrance gates, park reception, or park management / administration offices (which may wish to be close to park reception facilities). This will allow management and operations to make use of high volume access routes, which will be built to accommodate high traffic volume, and if positioned close to the boundary of the park, will involve shorter commuting distances, limiting disturbance to both wildlife and tourists, and limiting wear and tear to roads.

### **6.5.6 High Intensity Leisure zone**

#### **Objective**

The main objective of this tourist-orientated zone is the concentration and containment of commercial, tourism, managerial, operational and industrial park activities within a restricted and designated area, which is robust enough to tolerate development, and where these diverse activities can share multi-use infrastructure (roads, plumbing, power), thus reducing their overall footprint. As impacts and particularly cumulative impacts are higher, where possible the HIL zone must be placed in areas that have low sensitivity values and are sufficiently robust to tolerate development, and ideally be close to the periphery of the park. Staff not directly associated with tourism facilities must be accommodated outside of the park if and where possible. When inside a park, all industrial type facilities such as laundries, abattoirs, maintenance depots and workshops, must be ideally located nearby to the park boundary or, if and where possible, outside of the park but within municipally suitably zoned adjoining urban or rural areas.

#### **Characteristics**

The main characteristic is that of a high density tourist development node with modern commercial amenities such as restaurants and shops. This is the zone where more concentrated human activities are allowed.

High Intensity Leisure is accessible by motorised transport (car / bus) on high volume transport routes. More concentrated and commercialised (including concessional) activities occur here than in than LIL areas.

### **Visitor activities and experience**

Activities: Traditional game viewing routes with associated more sophisticated infrastructure, sightseeing at tourist destinations, picnicking, walking, cycling, rock climbing, hiking and activities associated with higher volume, multi-use facilities, restaurants and accommodation."

Interaction with other users: High

### **Limits of acceptable change**

Biophysical environment: The greatest level of deviation from a natural / pristine state is allowed in this zone, and it is accepted that damage to the biophysical environment associated with tourist activities and facilities will be inevitable. However, care must be taken to ensure that the zone still retains a level of ecological integrity consistent with a protected area.

Aesthetics and recreational environment: Although it is inevitable that high visitor numbers, activities and facilities will impact on wild appearance and reduce wilderness characteristics of the area (solitude, remoteness, wildness, etc.), these must be managed and limited to ensure that the area generally still provides a relatively natural outdoor experience.

### **Facilities**

Type and size: High density camps providing tourist accommodation with diverse modern amenities. Restaurants, shops, education / information centres, view sights, ablution facilities, parking areas and botanical gardens. Day visitor sites are provided outside of rest camps. Day visitor sites or picnic sites may provide catered facilities and kiosks. Where it may be necessary to provide high density recreational sites with a wide range of intensive activities, an attempt must be made to concentrate these sites close to the periphery of the park. Staff villages and administrative centres must be restricted to core staff. Non-essential staff housing, administration and industrial infrastructure must be positioned outside of or close to the periphery of the park were possible.

Sophistication of facilities: Moderate to high density facilities. Self-catering and catered. Camps often have diverse modern facilities such as shops and restaurants, which may be concessional.

Audible equipment and communication structures: Cell phone coverage in vicinity of camps. Code of use for cell phones and radios required to retain relative level of solitude.

Access and roads: The zone is highly motorised, including busses and delivery vehicles on designated routes, which are often tarred. Care must be taken to distinguish between roads that serve as high access delivery routes to camps, link roads between camps, and game viewing roads, to minimise conflict between users.

### **Location in park**

High Intensity Leisure areas were designated in existing high usage areas such as Geelbek / Duinepos node, the Langebaan Lodge site and existing administrative complex in Langebaan, the Langebaan gate, Kraalbaai and Preekstoel areas and Langefontein access road and development which will accommodate future infrastructure proposed for the Langefontein area.

### **Guidelines on management infrastructure and utilisation**

Management guidelines that apply to LIL apply to HIL zone as well. Generally, the presence of HIL in a park indicates higher or more intense utilisation or development, with a higher diversity and concentration of facilities, and thus may require additional management or operational facilities. As HIL is by definition a high use area, and must be located in an area of low sensitivity, the development of management and operations infrastructure in this zone must be favoured. In the park, most operations and administration infrastructure are situated in existing and well established HIL zones.

## 6.6 Overview of the Special Management Overlays

Three special management overlays, which designate specific areas of the park that require special management interventions, were identified (Appendix 1, Map 1):

**Special Conservation Areas - Dune Protection:** The sensitive mobile dune field system requires special protection, and will be managed to minimise impacts on sediment transport processes.

**Special Conservation Areas - Ramsar Site:** Encompasses 6000 hectares and includes the islands Schaapen (29 ha), Marcus (17 ha), Malgas (18 ha) and Jutten (43 ha); Langebaan lagoon (15 km long and 12.5 km wide, up to the high water mark, including the reedbeds, sand flats, saltmarshes and dwarf shrub land) and a section of the 16 Mile beach.

**Special Conservation Areas - Salt Marsh:** This sensitive habitat type was identified for special protection in order to reduce any potential loss and minimise any ongoing impacts within these areas.

In addition to the above Special Management Overlays, three marine zones were designated:

**Marine A:** This zone allows unaccompanied motorised and non-motorised access. A range of marine activities are allowed.

**Marine B:** This zone allows unaccompanied non-motorised access. Marine activities are limited in this zone.

**Marine C:** This is an exclusion zone. No access is allowed.

## 6.7 The park buffer zone

The buffer zone shows areas outside the park within which land use changes can affect the park. The buffer zone, in combination with guidelines, will serve as a basis for: (i) identifying focus areas in which park management and scientists must respond to Environmental Impacts Assessment's (EIAs), (ii) helping to identify types of impacts that will be important at a particular site, and most importantly (iii) integrating long term protection of the park into the Spatial Development Frameworks (SDFs) of municipalities and other local authorities. To this end, the park will interact on an ongoing basis to strengthen collaborative relationships with its neighbouring land owners, including (but not limited to) the towns of Langebaan, Saldanha and Hopefield located in the Saldanha Bay Local Municipality and Yzerfontein located in the Swartland Local Municipality. The park will interact with all spheres of government, whether local, provincial, or national, as required, to achieve a positive conservation outcome in the buffer zone, with special focus on the integration of the park in the IDP and SDF. The park is also represented on the Saldanha Bay Inter-Governmental Task Team that discuss planning and land development matters on a regular basis. In terms of EIA responses, the buffer zone serves largely to raise red-flags and does not remove the need for carefully considering the exact impact of a proposed development. In particular, it does not address activities with broad regional aesthetic or biodiversity impacts e.g. renewable energy development projects.

In the park's case, there are three categories within the park buffer zone, the priority natural area, catchment protection and the viewshed protection area.

### 6.7.1 Priority natural areas

This zone aims to ensure the long-term persistence of biodiversity, within and around the park, by identifying the key areas on which the long term survival of the park depends. This includes areas important to both biodiversity pattern (especially reasonably intact high priority natural habitats) and processes (ecological linkages, catchments, intact hydrological systems, etc.). This does not imply any loss of existing rights (e.g. current agricultural activities or legal extractive biodiversity use such as fishing), but rather aims to ensure the park's survival in a living landscape.

Priority natural areas include areas identified for future park expansion as well as reasonably natural areas of high biodiversity value, which are critical for the long-term persistence of biodiversity within the park. These include adjacent natural areas (especially high priority habitats), which function as an ecologically integrated unit with the park, as well as areas critical for maintaining ecological links and connectivity with the broader landscape.

Development guidelines: Inappropriate developments and negative land use changes (such as additional ploughing permits for natural veld, development beyond existing transformation footprints, urban expansion, intensification of land use through golf estates, etc.) must be opposed within this area. Developments with site specific impacts (e.g. a lodge on a game farm) must be favourably viewed if they contribute to ensuring conservation friendly land use within a broader area. Guidelines applicable for the Catchment Protection Section will also apply to these areas.

### **6.7.2 Catchment protection**

These are areas important for maintaining key hydrological processes (surface and groundwater) within the park.

Development guidelines: Within these areas inappropriate development such as dam construction, loss of riparian vegetation and excessive aquifer exploitation must be opposed. In addition, the control of alien vegetation, control of soil erosion, and appropriate land care (e.g. appropriate stocking rates) must be promoted.

### **6.7.3 Viewshed protection**

These are areas where developments can impact on the aesthetic quality of a visitor's experience in a park. This zone is particularly concerned with visual impacts (both day and night), but can also include sound pollution.

Development guidelines: Within these areas any development proposals must be carefully screened to ensure that they do not impact excessively on the aesthetics of the park. The areas identified are only broadly indicative of sensitive areas, as at a fine scale many areas within this zone will be perfectly suited for development. Further, very invasive developments outside this zone will also have to be considered.

## **6.8 Future improvements**

The current zonation is based on an underlying biophysical analysis combined with an assessment of the park's current and planned infrastructure. However, the zoning is not a full CDF as certain elements underlying the CDF such as an environmental sensitivity-value analysis and a tourism market analysis have not been incorporated into the park zonation. Detailed determination of the nature of development suitable for each node needs to take place (followed by precinct level planning where required). A full CDF could be developed for the park once key outstanding issues are settled, such as consolidation of the eastern section of the park and clarity on the continued contractual inclusion of Postberg. Additional special management overlays, which designate specific areas of a park that require special management interventions (e.g. areas requiring rehabilitation) can also be identified.

## Section 7: Access and facilities

### 7.1 Public access and control

The park can be accessed via the following points:

- **Langebaan Gate:** Situated just south of the town of Langebaan, is a 24 hour a day manned gate open to the public during 07h00-18h00 from April to August and during 07h00-19h00 from September to March. Private landowners and concessionaires can gain access 24 hours a day via a permit and electronic tag system.
- **R27 Gate:** Situated just off the R27 on the southeast side of the park, is a 24 hour a day manned gate with the same operating hours as described above for the Langebaan gate.

### 7.2 Areas with restricted access

Vehicular access control points to the park are as follows:

- **Abrahamskraal:** Public access up to the waterhole and bird hide, with further access to accommodation controlled by signage.
- **Bottelary:** Access for official use only with the road closed off by a gate, chain and padlock.
- **Langefontein gate:** Which is situated in the southeast of the park provides access to the Langefontein area east of the R27 and is used for official purposes.
- **Massenberg gate:** The gate is situated in the northeast of the park east of the R27 and is used for official purposes. The gate is kept locked and access is gained by key.
- **Mooimaak:** Access is mainly for official use only and mountain bike cyclists, the road is closed off by a gate and padlock.
- **Mooimeisiesfontein /southern area:** Access for official use only, access controlled by chain and padlock.
- **Postberg:** Access for official use, private landowners and SANDF except for a two-month period (August and September) when public access is allowed to view the spring flowers and use the picnic sites at Plankiesbaai and Uitkyk. Public access outside this two-month period controlled by a locked gate.
- **Schrywershoek:** Access for official use and private landowners with the road closed off by a boom and padlock.
- **Seeberg:** Access for official use only with the road closed off by a boom and padlock.
- **Stofbergfontein:** Access for official use, private landowners and guests staying at Joanne's Beach Cottage.
- **Ten boundary gates:** Eight gates are situated on the R27 and two to the south near Yzerfontein, all are used for official purposes only.

Areas where public access is not allowed at present are the southern part of the park, the whole portion of the park east of the R27 and the Mooimaak / Soutpan areas.

### 7.3 Airfields and flight corridors

The park has no designated landing fields or flight corridors. A municipal landing strip is situated 15 km north of the park between Saldanha and Vredenburg, and a military field is situated at Langebaanweg, 15 km northeast of the park. A number of private landing strips can also be found within a 20 km radius of the park.

### 7.4 Facilities for vessels

All vessels entering park waters are required to have a SANParks boat permit (annual or short term – 1 month). Small vessels can be launched at the western end of Alabama street at a SANParks managed slipway, while yachts and larger vessels can be launched at the Langebaan Yacht Club. The SANDF has a launching facility and concrete jetty located next to the current Langebaan park offices, and the park has a floating jetty in front of the current office building in Langebaan. A wooden jetty at Kraalbaai is only for use by the houseboat concessionaire and park.

There are also three slipways situated in Postberg on the western shore of the lagoon. These are used by private landowners and occasionally by park staff for official use. Two areas in the vicinity of Stofbergfontein and Churchhaven are used by private landowners and net fishing permit holders to launch sailing vessels and other non-motorised watercraft (Hobie Cats, kayaks, etc.). Jutten and Malgas Islands have old jetties and ladders where boats can load and unload passengers and cargo.

## 7.5 Administrative and other facilities

The facilities listed below in Table 3 are utilised for operational purposes enabling the park in fulfilling its legal mandate. Map 2 shows all the infrastructure in the park.

Table 3. Current administrative infrastructure in the park.

Infrastructure	Current status
Alabama street slipway	Operational
Park housing – three houses in Peterson close, six in Suikerkan Street (northern Langebaan), one in Bloemendal Street and five vacant erven	Operational
Building at Langebaan Lodge Site, Erf 304Langebaan (currently used as Park offices)	Operational
Geelbek tourism office	Operational
Geelbek Environmental Education centre	Operational
Kraalbaai ranger's office	Operational
Tsaarsbank office (for control of entrance to Postberg)	Operational
Mooimaak technical store / workshop	Operational
Langebaan marine rangers office and store	Operational
Langebaan and R27 access gates	Operational
Mooimaak offices and training facility	Operational
Bossieskraal	Operational
Bottelary	Unused
Elandsfontein homesteads	Operational
Groottefontein west homesteads	Unused
Jutten island	Operational
Malgas island	Operational
Marcus island	Operational
Kalklipfontein homesteads	Unused
Langefontein homesteads	Operational
Langefontein gate	Operational
Mooimeisiefontein	Operational
Salpetersvlei	Unused
Schrywershoek	Unused
Van Niekerkshoop homesteads	Unused

## 7.6 Visitor facilities

Visitor facilities including all non-commercial facilities and points of interest available to visitors, these are set out in Table 4 below.

Table 4. Visitor facilities and points of interest in the park.

Infrastructure	Current status
Park information centre at Geelbek	Operational

Infrastructure	Current status
Kraalbaai; Preekstoel, and Tsaarsbank day visitor sites	Operational
Atlantic, Postberg and Seeberg view points	Operational
Abrahamskraal, Geelbek and Seeberg bird hides	Operational
Plankiesbaai and Postberg (Uitkyk) picnic site	Operational

### 7.6.1 Accommodation

Accommodation facilities in the park are currently limited, with much potential for expansion. Existing facilities include those listed in Table 5, below.

Table 5. Accommodation facilities available in the park.

Infrastructure	No of units	Current status
Abrahamskraal – a six-bed unit	1	Operational
Geelbek – a two-bed unit (Steytler) and a six-bed unit (van Breda)	2	Operational
Joanne's beach cottage – an eight-bed unit (cottage A) and a four-bed unit (cottage B)	2	Operational
Duinepos chalets	11	Operational

### 7.6.2 Concessions

The following concessions are currently operational in the park:

- The historical Geelbek homestead is being managed as a restaurant and curio shop;
- The Duinepos rest camp; and
- The house boats at Kraalbaai.

### 7.6.3 Retail and other facilities

Other than the Geelbek restaurant, there are no retail facilities located in the park.

### 7.6.4 Activities

There are a number of non-income and income generating activities available in the park, and these are listed below:

- Limited self-guided hiking and mountain biking network;
- Open access, limited income generation (via boat permits) water based recreational activity on the lagoon;
- Self-drive sightseeing on park road network; and
- The Postberg contractual area which is currently open for wild flower viewing during August and September only.

## 7.7 Mining

No mining is currently taking place in the park. Mining applications in the buffer zone are evaluated in terms of the SANParks buffer zone policy.

## 7.8 Community use

The only biological resources currently legally used in the park are marine resources (fish and bait organisms) and the wood removed by the by the alien clearing programme.

Use of marine resources is legally controlled through the Marine Living Resources Act No. 18 of 1998. Resource use, monitoring and research were co-managed prior to 2010 by SANParks and the then Marine and Coastal Management (MCM) branch of the then Department of Environment and Tourism (DEAT) in terms of a Service Level Agreement. Since the change in departmental structures, the Oceans

and Coast branch, previously known as Marine and Coastal Management branch of the now Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). The branch: Fisheries was moved to a separate department, the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF). DAFF remains responsible for the issuing of fishing rights and fishing permits in the Langebaan Lagoon MPA, in terms of the MLRA.

In Marine Zone A of the Langebaan Lagoon, the catching of line fish is permitted in terms of a valid recreational fishing permit or net fishing permit. In the 16 Mile Beach MPA section catching of line fish from a vessel and the removal of rock lobster, in season only, with relevant, valid permits are allowed. In the Jutten Island MPA, Malgas Island MPA and Marcus Island MPA catching of line fish from a vessel with a valid permit is permitted.

In Zone B of the Langebaan Lagoon, catching of line fish in terms of a net fishing permit is permitted, with such permits being obtained from the legislative authority. Government authorities remain in discussion around permitting issues.

## **7.9 Servitudes**

Two servitudes are registered against the title deeds of eight properties included in the park namely; the buried Chevron crude oil pipeline running from Saldanha Bay to the refinery in Cape Town and the Eskom powerline traversing the properties east of the R27 road.

## Section 9: Concept development plan

### 9.1 Long term development plan

Two key tourism features of the park are the unique Langebaan lagoon, with its surrounding landscapes, and the seasonal spring wild flowers. The key tourism infrastructure focus of park management over the next planning cycle is firstly to unlock the tourism potential of the Langebaan Lodge site through a Public Private Partnership (PPP), and while detailed precinct planning is required, current options are for a nature-based commercial centre, park office and park gateway; and secondly the establishment of a rest camp within the park, where EIA processes were initiated to assess the feasibility of a rest camp at either Kraalbaai or Kleinmooimaak. The Kraalbaai EIA produced a no-go result, while the Kleinmooimaak EIA is still ongoing. The long term strategic plan calls for a move away from the seasonal spikes in tourism numbers (spring for flowers, summer for the lagoon) to offer year round attractions.

Within the park there are existing sites that currently are, or in the future will be, fulfilling a specific tourism and visitor role. These sites are all at locations with existing facilities and infrastructure that have traditionally provided a tourism or visitor service and / or access to the park. The type and nature of facilities provided for at these sites need not only meet visitor expectations, but also be compatible with the ethos of the area. There is a clear relationship between the role that a site fulfils and the underlying visitor use zone in which that site is situated in. Table 6 summarises the role of the site, what facilities are suitable and which park zones are applicable. In order to enhance the visitor experience of these tourism features, appropriate and sustainable infrastructure and facilities need to be provided.

A number of unused historical homesteads and farm buildings in the park are currently falling into disrepair. In order to preserve them an appropriate use must be found for them. Several of the buildings lend themselves to a mixed use of tourism accommodation and auxiliary functions, while Mooimaak farm has the potential to support environmental education programmes.

Infrastructure use and upgrading on the offshore islands poses several tourism challenges. The islands are extremely ecologically sensitive, particularly when birds are roosting and moulting, logistically difficult and unpleasant to access the island in rough weather, the climatic conditions on the islands are harsh for infrastructure and there is limited capacity on the islands to deal with waste (liquid and solid). However total exclusion of the public from these areas is undesirable due to the special interest that they hold to the birding community. As such, visits to the islands by the public should be strictly controlled via special permits and related to park management activities such as research and monitoring. The larger bulk of the infrastructure footprints should be reduced.

Caution should be exercised when considering any development. The zonation of the park will dictate the placement of any development. Any new development along the coast will be subject to the determined Coastal Management Line. It is important to note that the execution of the developments is dependent on the availability of funds.

### 9.2 Development nodes

No new development nodes for the park are currently envisaged.

### 9.3 Communication routes

The roads leading to the areas that are planned to be developed as listed in Table 6 will have to be upgraded when the development takes place. Access to all the islands (except Marcus) is by boat only.

### 9.4 Service supply routes

Where possible existing supply routes will be used, but some new routes will be developed when the developments referred to in Table 6 takes place.

### 9.5 Infrastructure development proposals

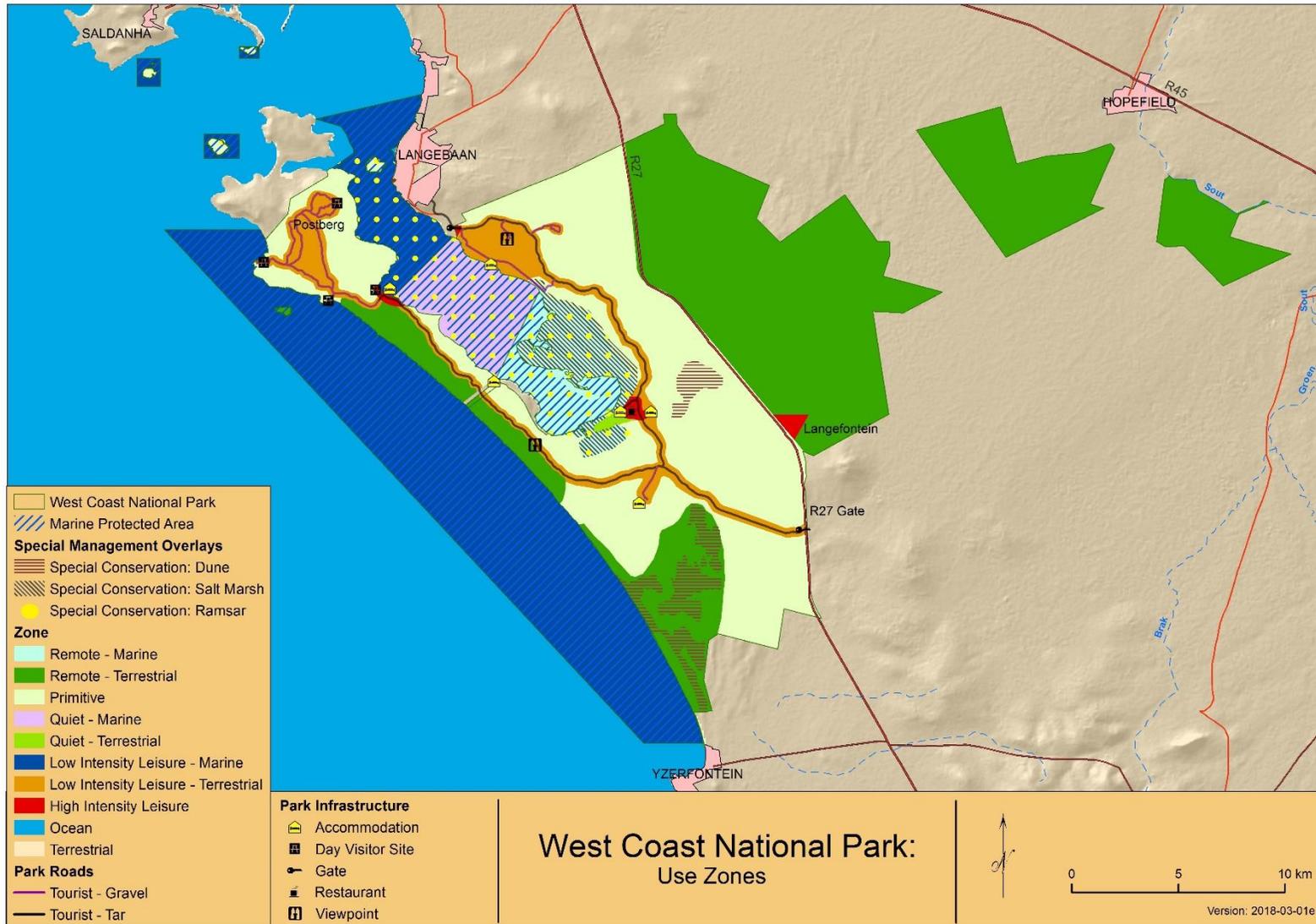
The only infrastructure development proposals currently planned are those listed in Table 6. Table 6. Priorities for development.

Infrastructure	Current status	Zone	Proposed role by 2023	Probability
Geelbek	Mixed use	HIL	Restaurant, curio sales, multi-use venue, additional ablution facilities, activity hub, environmental education, park accommodation, information	High
Langebaan Lodge site	Accommodation	HIL	Possible public private partnership and operational infrastructure	High
Langebaan gate	Park entry	HIL	New park office and other related infrastructure	High
Kraalbaai	Day visitor site, accommodation	HIL	Day visitor site, new ablution facilities, parking, park accommodation, conservation/staff office and retail facility	High
Kleinmooimaak	Unused	LIL	New park accommodation	High
Mooimaak area	Unused	LIL	Develop tourism route through this section	Medium
R27 entry gate	Park entry	LIL	Upgrade existing entrance gate	High

## Appendix 1: Maps

Map 1: Zoning

Map 2: Infrastructure and development



Map 1. Zoning



Map 2. Park infrastructure