

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 117  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Director of National Parks (DNP)  
**Topic:** Marine Reserves Review - recreational fishing  
**Hansard Page:** 56  
**Question Date:** 23 February 2015  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Singh asked:**

Senator SINGH: The minister has complained about fishers being locked out of key coastal areas by the previous management plans, which he dissolved. What key coastal areas are they, specifically?

Mr Clark: The previous management arrangements put in place not only declared the national network of marine reserves; it also then set in place the management zones that would apply in each of those reserves. Each of those reserves has different conditions attached to them, depending on the IUCN category that applies to those zones—from highly protected areas to IUCN category II, IUCN category IV, habitat protection zones and multiple use areas. Two-thirds of that network allowed various forms of commercial fishing to exist, depending on the type of the activity, and it is the nature and relationship of that activity to the values of the reserve.

Senator SINGH: But I am asking which key coastal areas specifically the minister complained fishers were being locked out of? What were the key coastal areas

Mr Clark: I am not sure what statement you are referring to.

Senator SINGH: It is a press release by Greg Hunt and Richard Colbeck from December 2013. It specifically relates to the government not supporting locking out large areas of oceans to prevent fishers from taking out a boat and casting a line et cetera. I would like to know which are these key coastal areas specifically that the minister is referring to.

Mr Clark: The review that has been put in place is the process by which the government is currently looking at the management arrangements for the future marine reserve estate. At the moment, only those reserves declared and that were in place prior to 2012 have an impact on either commercial or recreational fishers. All of the reserves that were declared in 2012 currently have no management arrangements in place and are subject to the current review.

Senator SINGH: I am aware of that, but that does not answer my question. If you are not going to give me the key coastal areas, can you take that on notice, perhaps.

Mr Clark: I am happy to provide a map of the locations of the reserves that were proposed and declared in 2012.

**Answer:**

Please refer to map image at **Attachment A** identifying the locations of Commonwealth marine reserves that were declared in 2012 and as a result are being considered by the Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review. Commonwealth marine reserves are situated in Commonwealth waters. These waters generally extend from three nautical miles off the coast to the outer limit of Australia's Exclusive Economic Zone (200 nautical miles).

