

Kapiti Marine Reserve

Information for boat skippers



DECEMBER 2007

Marine reserves are areas of sea in which all marine life is protected. Kapiti Marine Reserve was established in 1992 under the Marine Reserves Act 1971. The reserve is administered by the Department of Conservation with the support of the local community working through the Kapiti Marine Reserve Committee.

When Kapiti Marine Reserve was established, an extensive scientific survey of the environment was undertaken. NIWA conducted further surveys in 1999/2000 which indicate a clear increase in the numbers and sizes of some species. With further recovery time we will see even greater changes in the ecology of the area.

When you visit the reserve, please do not disturb or endanger any plant or animal life, or remove any material. Fishing and shellfish gathering is not permitted, nor is the disposal of any harmful substance or refuse. Removal of any rock, sand, shell or marine life is also prohibited.

Full-time and honorary rangers patrol the reserve. Penalties for offences committed within the reserve can be severe. Imprisonment of up to 3 months, a fine of up to \$250,000 and forfeiture of any equipment used in committing an offence may be imposed.



Right: sea perch.
Far right: a diver surveys the reserve.



Finger sponge.
Photos: Malcolm Francis, NIWA.

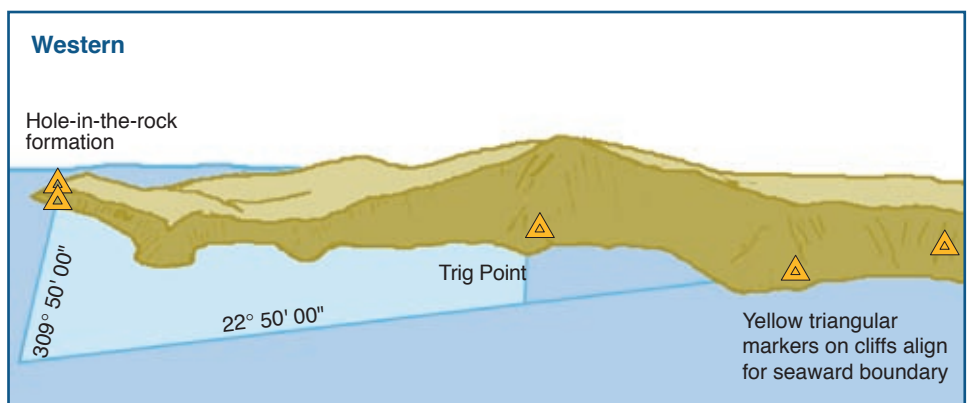
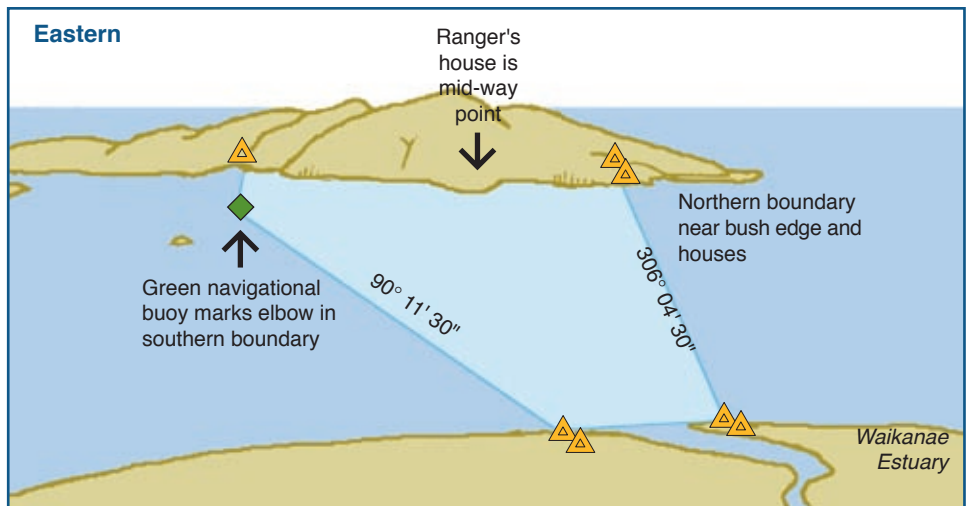
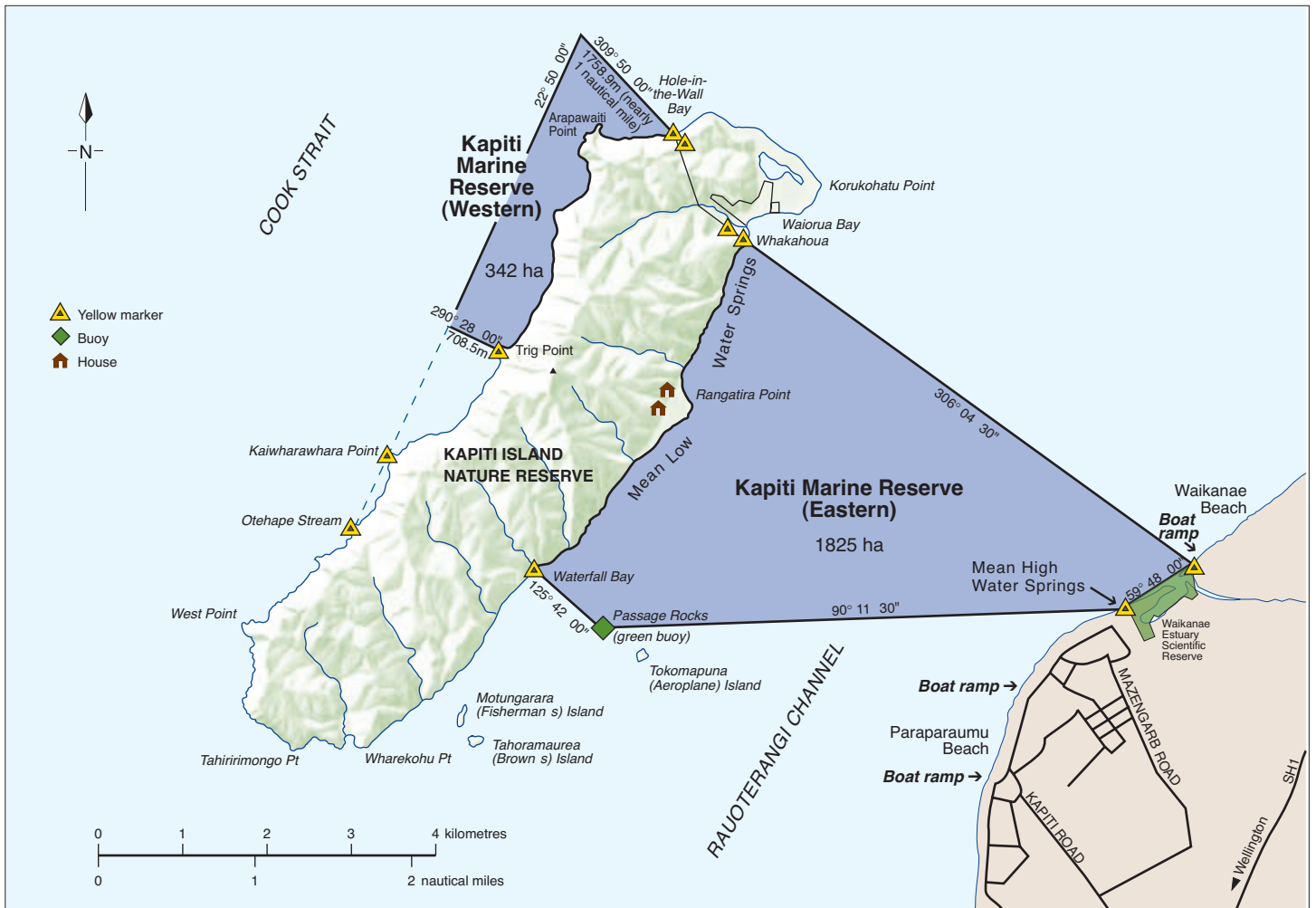
More Information

Department of Conservation

- Kapiti Area Office
P.O. Box 141,
WAIKANAE.
Ph 04 296 1112

See overleaf for a map and diagrams of reserve boundaries.





Beach boundaries are Mean Low Water Spring on Kapiti Island and a straight line between Mean High Water Spring points each side of Waikanae Estuary.

All marine life, habitat, objects and structures are protected

You can look and enjoy but please do not take

The Marine Reserves Act 1971 will be enforced