

Activities restricted in WA submarine cable protection zone

The protection zone over a submarine telecommunications cable of national significance off Perth, Western Australia, comes into effect on 1 February 2008. The SEA-ME-WE3 cable links Australia to global communications systems and is vital to the national interest.

The Perth Protection Zone starts at the low water mark at City Beach and extends to 2,000 metres water depth (51 nautical miles from shore) and up to one nautical mile either side of the SEA-ME-WE3 cable. Marmion Marine Park is not part of the zone.

Activities that could damage the cable are restricted or prohibited within the protection zone and significant criminal penalties apply for breaches of the legislation. Activities posing the greatest threat to undersea cables are sea-bottom trawl fishing, anchoring, sand-dredging and dumping.

More information about the Perth Protection Zone, including maps and prohibited or restricted activities, is on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au or email subcablesenquiries@acma.gov.au.



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