



MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Protecting our natural heritage

150 different marine ecoregions found in South Africa's waters

Over 3800 marine species living in South African waters are found no-where else in the world.

South Africa has **10%** of the world's coral species

261 endemic fish species in South African waters

3 oceans around South Africa – Indian, Atlantic and Southern

290 estuaries along the South African coast



Photo: Peter Timm

MPAs help protect rare and endangered species. The submarine canyons of iSimangaliso MPA protect Coelacanths.

Our MPAs help protect different habitats such as coral and rocky reefs, kelp forests, rocky and sandy shores, estuaries and underwater canyons.



Photo: Eve Marshall



Photo: Dennis King

Seventy four, once a popular dining fish, was heavily overfished by the 1960's. Now it is protected and numbers are increasing, especially in MPAs.

16% of the world's shark, skate and ray species are found in SA waters, many of which are threatened. MPAs protect many species of sharks and rays



Photo: Morne Hardenberg

<https://www.marineprotectedareas.org.za/ecosystems>



INCORPORATING



70 years of helping people to care for our ocean