

AUSTRALIA

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Feb 1983	Proclamation of 4 February 1983 of Outer Limits (Torres Strait)	Various	Proclamation of Outer Limits (Torres Strait) pursuant to section 7 of the Seas and Submerged Lands Act 1973. Limits of certain islands fixed in the Torres Strait Treaty.
	Nov 1990	Seas & Submerged Lands Act	12nm	Not applicable to islands cited above.
	Jul 1994	Maritime Legislation Amendment Act of 1994	12nm	Amends Seas and Submerged Lands Act of 1973; incorporates all of above by reference.
	Aug 2000	Proclamation		Extends territorial sea in southern area of Gulf of Carpentaria to include roadstead near Port of Karumba, in Queensland.
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Oct 1967	Ministerial Statement		Established closing lines for all bays up to 24nm in width. Claimed as historic bays, Shark Bay, St. Vincent Gulf and Spencer Gulf.
	Dec 1973	Seas and Submerged Lands Act		Enabling legislation for straight baselines.
	Feb 1983	Proclamation of 4 February 1983 of the Inner Limits (The Baseline)		Proclamation of the Inner Limits (The Baseline), pursuant to section 7 of the Seas and Submerged Lands Act 1973. Straight baselines established for the coasts of the mainland, Tasmania, and islands off the coasts of the states and Northern Territory; outer limits of territorial sea established for certain islands within Queensland. (Amended in 2006, below.)
	Feb 2006	Seas and Submerged Lands (Territorial Sea Baseline) Proclamation 2006		Revoked Section 7 of the 1983 Proclamation. Promulgates new baseline turning points for the mainland and islands off the states and the Northern Territory, using a different coordinate system (Geocentric Datum of Australia).
	Mar 1987	Proclamation of 19 March 1987, pursuant to section 8 of the Seas and Submerged Lands Act 1973		Established straight baselines and declared Anxious Bay, Encounter Bay, Lacedpede Bay and Rivoli Bay as historic bays. (Amended in 2006, below.) <i>The U.S. does not recognize these historic bay claims.</i> Diplomatic protest made in 1991.
	Feb 2006	Seas and Submerged Lands (Historic Bays) Proclamation 2006		Revoked Section 8 of the 1987 Proclamation. Re-declares Anxious Bay, Encounter Bay, Lacedpede Bay and Rivoli Bay as historic bays. Promulgates new straight baselines for these 4 historic bays using a different coordinate system (Geocentric Datum of Australia).

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Jul 1994	Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 1994	24nm	
CONTINENTAL SHELF	Apr 1970	Continental Shelf (Living Natural Resources) Act 1968		Regulated the taking of sedentary organisms on the continental shelf. (Amended in 1981.)
	Dec 1973	Seas and Submerged Lands Act	1958 DEF	Defined "as in 1958 Convention."
	Jun 1982	Off-shore Installations (Misc. Amendments Act 1982)		Applies customs, quarantine, immigration and certain other laws to off-shore installations.
	Jul 1994	Maritime Legislation Amendment Act of 1994	200nm/ CM	Defined as in the LOS Convention (amends Dec 1973 Act).
FISHING ZONE/EEZ	May 1960	Whaling Act		Regulated whaling in Australian waters.
	Nov 1967	Fisheries Act (1952-1975)	12nm	Fishing zone.
	Nov 1979	Fisheries Amendment Act (1978-81)	200nm	Expanded fishing zone.
	Oct 1981	Whale Protection Act 1980	200nm	Prohibited the taking of cetaceans in fishing zone except by permit.
	Oct 1983	Diplomatic Note		Regulations for conduct of scientific research in fishing zone and territorial sea and on continental shelf.
	Dec 1984	Environment Protection Regulations (Amendment)		Extends operation of the Environment Protection (Dumping) Act of 1981 throughout fishing zone.
	Jul 1994	Maritime Legislation Amendment Act 1994	200nm	EEZ established, defined "as in UNCLOS." Includes 200nm EEZ for claimed Antarctic territory. <i>This claim to Antarctic territory EEZ is not recognized by the U.S. The U.S. protested claim in 1994.</i>
ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION	Dec 1984	Environment Protection Regulations (Amendment)	200nm	Extends operation of the Environment Protection (Dumping) Act of 1981 throughout fishing zone.
	Nov 1991	IMO Resolution		Identified Great Barrier Reef (GBR) as a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA).

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION, Continued	Dec 1995	IMO Resolution		<p>Ship reporting system for Torres Strait region and the Inner Route of the Great Barrier Reef. EIF January 1, 1997.</p> <p>Ship reporting system between longitude 141°45'E and 143°45'E, centered on 10°S latitude, including the Endeavour Strait, and the waters of the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) between the Australian coast and the outer edge of the GBR, from the latitude of Cape York (10°40'S) southwards to 22°S.</p> <p>Compulsory pilotage rules in northern section of Inner Route (Cape York to Cairns) and in Hydrographers Passage.</p>
	Jul 2005	IMO Resolution		Designation of the Torres Strait as an Extension of the GBR PSSA.
	Aug 2006	Maritime Legislation Amendment Act of 2006 Marine Notice 8 / Marine Orders Part 54		<p>Compulsory Pilotage for Torres Strait and Great NE Channel. Per Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) 55/23 (Report of the MEPC on its 55th Session), the Committee agreed with the Chairman that this resolution is of a recommendatory nature.</p> <p><i>The U.S. protested this Marine Notice in 2006.</i></p> <p><i>The measures above do not apply to sovereign immune vessels.</i></p>
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	1971-74	Agreements (3) with Indonesia and Papua New Guinea		With Indonesia and Papua New Guinea, establishing maritime boundaries (territorial sea, seabed, fishery zone) and supplementary agreement in the area of Timor and Arafura Seas. (Go to State Department LIS page , scroll down and click on LIS No. 87 for U.S. analysis and texts of the Agreements.)
	Feb 1982	Agreement with Indonesia		Fisheries agreement with Indonesia EIF.
	Jan 1983	Agreement with France		Maritime boundary agreement with France (Coral Sea and Indian Ocean) .
	Feb 1985	Agreement with Papua New Guinea		Torres Strait treaty with Papua New Guinea EIF.
	Sep 1988	Agreement with Solomon Islands		Certain sea and seabed boundary agreement signed with Solomon Islands.
	Mar 1997	Agreement with Indonesia		Maritime boundary agreement (EEZ and continental shelf) with Indonesia signed.
	Jul 2004	Agreement with New Zealand		EEZ and continental shelf boundary agreement with New Zealand.

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 1982			Signed Convention.
	Jul 1994			Signed Part XI Agreement.
	Oct 1994			Ratified Convention and Part XI Agreement.