

# Anguilla's Marine Parks

## Marine Parks: the facts

- Marine Parks are sites “of the intertidal and the subtidal, together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which has been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part or all of the enclosed environment.” (World Conservation Union)
- Marine Parks can have many different purposes:  
 Ecological purposes: to conserve representative examples of biogeographic regions and ecosystems; to protect critical habitats and biodiversity hotspots; to maintain genetic diversity; to protect rare or threatened species or habitats.

Social and economic purposes: To manage and enhance fisheries; to conserve and manage areas that are important for recreation/tourism, education, and/or research.

Cultural purposes: To protect sites for traditional use; to conserve important cultural features.

Other purposes: To protect aesthetic values and pristine “wilderness areas; to conserve marine environments for the future.

For more information about Anguilla's marine parks, contact:

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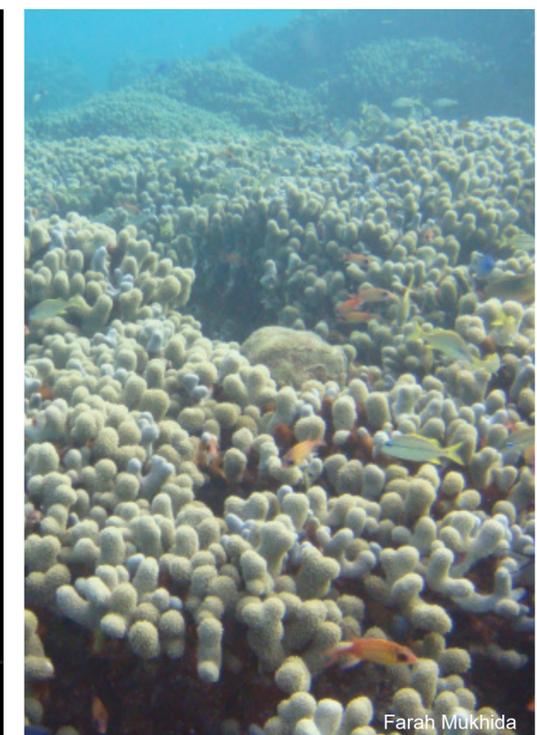
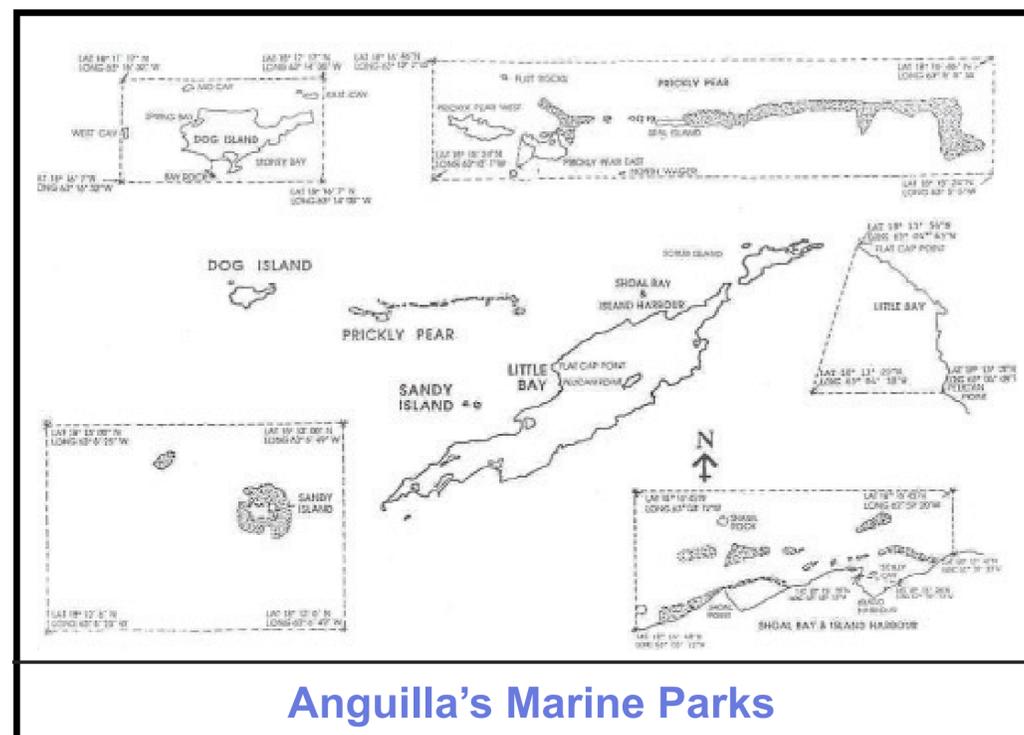
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## Protecting Anguilla's Underwater World

- Similar to most tropical islands, Anguilla is highly dependent on its marine and coastal ecosystems - especially on the coral reefs and seagrass beds that line its shores.
- Between 1993 and 2007, the Government of Anguilla established a network of seven marine parks in an effort to protect sensitive and important coastal habitats and the species that use them, to preserve and enhance the areas' natural beauty, to promote opportunities for public enjoyment, and to promote scientific study and reasearch.
- Anguilla's Marine Park network includes Sombrero Island (~10.5km<sup>2</sup>), Dog Island (~10km<sup>2</sup>), Prickly Pear (~3.3km<sup>2</sup>), Little Bay (~1km<sup>2</sup>), Shoal Bay-Island Harbour (~19km<sup>2</sup>), and Sandy Island (~5km<sup>2</sup>).



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