

TRANSLATION-----

MARINE AREA

Law No. 26,875

Creation of Namuncurá - Burdwood Bank Marine Protected Area. Objectives.

Enacted: 3 July 2013

Promulgated: 1 August 2013

The Senate and the House of Representatives of the Argentine Republic, in Congress assembled, have enacted the following provisions with the force of law:

CHAPTER I

Creation of Marine Protected Area

SECTION 1 — *Object.* The Namuncurá - Burdwood Bank Marine Protected Area is hereby created.

SECTION 2 — *Scope of Application.* The outer limit of the Protected Marine Area will be the 200-m-depth contour line that matches the Official Map, in the area identified as Burdwood Bank, within Argentina's Exclusive Economic Zone, in accordance with the provisions in Articles 56 (1)(a) and 1(b) (ii) and (iii) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, approved by Law No. 24,543.

SECTION 3 — *Purpose.* The purpose of this law is:

- a) To preserve a highly environmentally-sensitive zone important for the protection and sustainable management of seabed biodiversity;
- b) To promote sustainable, environmental and economic management of marine benthic ecosystems in the Argentine shelf throughout a sample area;
- c) To facilitate scientific research aimed at adopting the ecosystemic approach to fisheries and mitigating the effects of global climate change.

SECTION 4 — *Zoning.* The Namuncurá - Burdwood Bank Marine Protected Area shall consist of three zones:

- a) "Core Zone" delimited by the following coordinates: 54° 30' S, 60° 30' W; 54° 30' S, 59° 30' W; 54° 15' S, 60° 30' W, 54° 15' S, 59° 30' W;
- b) "Buffer Zone" delimited by the limits of the Core Zone and the following coordinates: 54° 00' S, 59° 00' W; 54° 00' S, 61° 00' W; 54° 35' S, 59° 00' W; 54° 35' S, 61° 00' W, and

c) “Transition Zone” delimited by the outer limits of the Buffer Zone and the 200-m-depth contour line set in the Official Map.

SECTION 5 — *Definitions*. For the purposes of this law, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

“*Core Zone*”: the area containing a representative portion of the seabed at the Burdwood Bank which, due to its ecological characteristics and environmental vulnerability, requires strict protection measures. The only activities allowed within the "Core Zone" shall be those necessary for control and monitoring thereof.

“*Buffer Zone*”: the delimited area surrounding the core zone, where scientific research and exploration activities may be conducted in connection with natural resources in order to gather information on marine biodiversity, experiences concerning sustainable management of such resources, restoration of degraded areas, and monitoring of the effects of global climate change on marine structures.

Such activities shall be provided for in the Management Plan and shall be required to be authorized by the application authority, except for activities governed by Law No. 24,922 (Federal Fishery Regime).

“*Transition Zone*”: the outer zone of the Protected Area where productive and extractive activities provided for in the management plan and authorized by the application authority (except for activities governed by Law No. 24,922 -Federal Fishery Regime-) may be conducted.

CHAPTER II

Authorities

SECTION 6 — *Application Authority*. The Executive shall designate the application authority for this law.

SECTION 7 — *Management Board* The Namuncurá - Burdwood Bank Marine Protected Area Management Board is hereby created.

SECTION 8 — *Management Board* The Management Board shall be presided over by the application authority and shall be made up of one representative of the Secretariat for Environment and Sustainable Development of the Office of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers; one representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship; one representative of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Productive Innovation; one representative of the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET); one representative of the National Park Administration, a decentralized agency within the framework of the Argentine Ministry of Tourism; one representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food; one representative of the Ministry of Defence; one representative of the Ministry of Security; and one representative of the Province of

Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica and South Atlantic Islands, if such Province accepts the invitation to join the Board, in accordance with section 15 hereof.

The Board shall issue internal operational regulations and shall be assisted by a Technical Secretariat

SECTION 9 — *Functions of the Management Board.* The Management Board, as assistant to the application authority, shall have the following functions:

- a) To draft, enforce and monitor the Management Plan for the Marine Protected Area;
- b) To identify sources of financing in order to ensure fulfilment of the objectives set forth herein;
- c) To prepare technical reports and monitor environmental impact assessments for any suggested productive or extractive activities before they are carried out;
- d) To prepare an Annual Report on any progress made on the fulfilment of the Management Plan goals for submission by the application authority to the Argentine Congress.

SECTION 10. — *Technical Secretariat.* The Management Board will choose from among its members the agency that will serve as Technical Secretariat.

CHAPTER III

Namuncurá - Burdwood Bank Marine Protected Area Management Plan

SECTION 11. — *Management Plan.* The term "Management Plan" refers to a set of measures, instruments and sanctions aimed at ensuring fulfilment of the objectives for the Protected Area, such as physical, biological, geological and oceanographic characterization and the fields for research and monitoring.

CHAPTER IV

Non-compliance and sanctions

SECTION 12. — *Non-compliance and sanctions.* In the event of non-compliance with the rules set forth in the Management Plan, the application authority shall notify the competent authorities.

CHAPTER V

Financing

SECTION 13. — *Financial Resources.* The Executive shall make the required budget allocations to carry out the actions planned under the Management Plan for the Area.

SECTION 14. — *Cartograph.* The Executive shall prepare the required map for application of this law.

SECTION 15. — *Invitation.* The Federal Executive shall invite the Province of Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica and South Atlantic Islands to appoint a representative to the Management Board created pursuant to section 7 hereof.

SECTION 16. — Be this notified to the Argentine Executive.

TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH. Buenos Aires, 16 September 2019.