

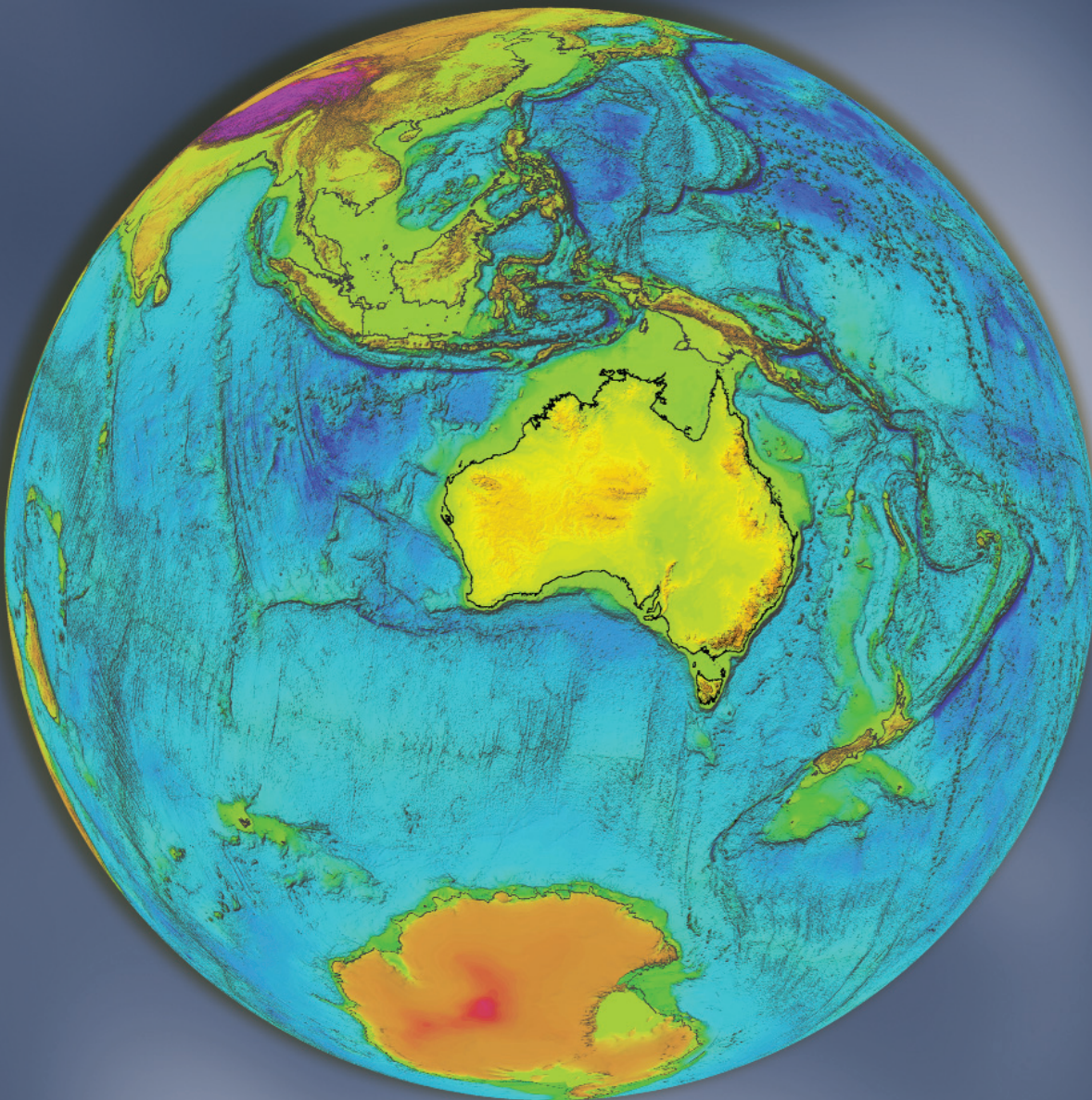


AUSTRALIA

Continental Shelf Submission of Australia

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AUS-DOC-ES



The following departments and agencies of the Australian Government contributed to this submission:

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Geoscience Australia (Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources)
Attorney-General's Department
Department of the Environment and Heritage
Department of Finance and Administration
Australian Hydrographic Service (Department of Defence)

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AUSTRALIA

**United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea: Submission
to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf on
the Outer Limits of Australia's Continental Shelf Extending
Beyond 200 Nautical Miles from the Territorial Sea Baseline**

Executive Summary

AUS-DOC-ES

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A INTRODUCTION

Australia is a strong supporter of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and of the institutions it created. Australia signed UNCLOS on the day it was opened for signature and ratified it on 5 October 1994, becoming an original party to UNCLOS when it entered into force on 16 November 1994.

Australia intends to establish, in accordance with article 76 of UNCLOS, the outer limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles (M) from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured (referred to in this submission as the “territorial sea baseline” of Australia). Under article 4 of Annex II to UNCLOS, Australia is obliged to submit particulars of such outer limits to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission), as established by UNCLOS, along with supporting scientific and technical data as soon as possible but in any case within ten years of the entry into force of UNCLOS for Australia. (The subsequent decision of the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to UNCLOS regarding the ten-year period established by article 4 of Annex II to UNCLOS (SPLOS/72) and its application, was accompanied by a statement (SPLOS/73, paragraph 82) emphasising that States that are in a position to do so should make every effort to make submissions within the time period established by UNCLOS.) This submission fulfils that obligation.

The continental shelf was the first maritime zone expressly claimed by Australia, in 1953 (*Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*, No. 56, 11 September 1953). Australia proclaimed a 200 M exclusive fishing zone (the Australian Fishing Zone) with effect from 1 November 1979 (*Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* No. S189, 26 September 1979), extended its territorial sea to 12 M with effect from 20 November 1990 (*Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*, No. S297, 13 November 1990), proclaimed a 200 M exclusive economic zone with effect from 1 August 1994 (*Commonwealth of Australia Gazette*, No. S290, 29 July 1994), and proclaimed a 24 M contiguous zone with effect from 7 April 1999 (*Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* No. S148, 7 April 1999). In 1994, Australia also amended its legislation defining the outer limit of its continental shelf – the *Seas and Submerged Lands Act 1973* (Cth) – from a formula that reflected the 1958 Convention on the Continental Shelf to that contained in UNCLOS. The Australian Government intends to proclaim the outer limits of Australia’s continental shelf under the amended provision following the making of recommendations by the Commission pursuant to paragraph 8 of article 76. The proclaimed outer limits will be established on the basis of those recommendations.

As provided for in paragraph 1 of article 76, Australia has a continental shelf comprising the seabed and subsoil of the submarine areas that extend beyond its territorial sea throughout the natural prolongation of its land territory to the outer edge of the continental margin, up to the limits provided for in paragraphs 4 to 6, or to a distance of 200 M from the territorial sea baseline where the outer edge of the continental margin does not extend up to that distance.

Paragraphs 4 to 6 of article 76 set out a number of provisions by which the coastal State is to establish the outer edge of its continental margin, and thus its legal continental shelf, wherever that margin extends beyond 200 M from its territorial sea

baselines. As set out in paragraph 7 of article 76, the coastal State is to delineate the outer limits of those portions of its continental shelf that extend beyond 200 M from its territorial sea baselines by straight lines not exceeding 60 M in length, connecting fixed points defined by coordinates of latitude and longitude.

The data submitted by Australia in support of this submission establish that the outer edge of Australia's continental margin extends beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline in ten discrete marine regions. In alphabetical order, these are:

1. Argo
2. Australian Antarctic Territory
3. Great Australian Bight
4. Kerguelen Plateau
5. Lord Howe Rise
6. Macquarie Ridge
7. Naturaliste Plateau
8. South Tasman Rise
9. Three Kings Ridge
10. Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus

A separate section of this Executive Summary is devoted to each of these regions, including a depiction of the outer limit of Australia's continental shelf in each. A map of the combined outer limit is shown in Figure 1 and AUS-MAP-ES-1.

The part of the continental shelf lying more than 200 M from the territorial sea baselines is referred to hereinafter as "extended continental shelf".

B MAPS AND COORDINATES

Twenty-one maps at an appropriate scale are included in this executive summary in two forms: as Figures 1 to 21 within this document, and as separate A0-size maps (see list of maps and figures on pages 2 and 3). The first map provides an overview of the areas of extended continental shelf submitted by Australia to the Commission. In addition, two maps are presented for each of the ten regions – one depicting the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf submitted to the Commission and the other depicting the location of the fixed points that define the outer limit of the relevant area and the provisions of article 76 invoked.

Lists of co-ordinates of the fixed points that define the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in its submission to the Commission are supplied in two annexes. The first (AUS-DOC-ES-ANNEX1) lists the fixed points defining the outer limit of Australia's continental shelf in degrees, minutes and seconds, and the second (AUS-DOC-ES-ANNEX2) lists the same fixed points in decimal degrees. The provision of article 76 used to define each fixed point, as well as the distance between adjacent points, is indicated in both annexes. In the event of any discrepancy between the two formats of the coordinates for a particular fixed point, Australia relies on the coordinates farther seaward from its territorial sea baselines, subject to their meeting the requirements of UNCLOS article 76.

C PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 76 INVOKED

In each of the ten regions where Australia has an extended continental shelf, Australia invokes paragraphs 4(b) and 7 of article 76 to support its submission delineating the outer limit of the continental shelf beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baselines. Paragraphs 4(a)(i), 4(a)(ii) and 5 of article 76 are invoked in particular regions, as specified in section G of this Executive Summary.

D COMMISSION MEMBERS WHO PROVIDED ADVICE ON THE SUBMISSION

Australia was assisted in the preparation of this submission by one member of the Commission, Mr Philip Alexander Symonds.

E OUTSTANDING MARITIME DELIMITATIONS

Three of the ten regions are affected by outstanding delimitations of the continental shelf between Australia and another State with an opposite or adjacent coast. These are identified region by region in section G below. Where delimitation is not mentioned with respect to a particular region, this indicates that there is no outstanding delimitation affecting that region. It should be noted, however, that Australia's entire submission is made without prejudice to outstanding delimitations, consistent with article 76, paragraph 10 and Annex II, article 9 of UNCLOS.

F NOTE OF AUTHENTICATION

All maps, charts and databases forming part of Australia's submission were prepared by either Geoscience Australia or the Australian Hydrographic Service. Those agencies have responsibility within Australia both for preparing such material and for certifying its quality and reliability.

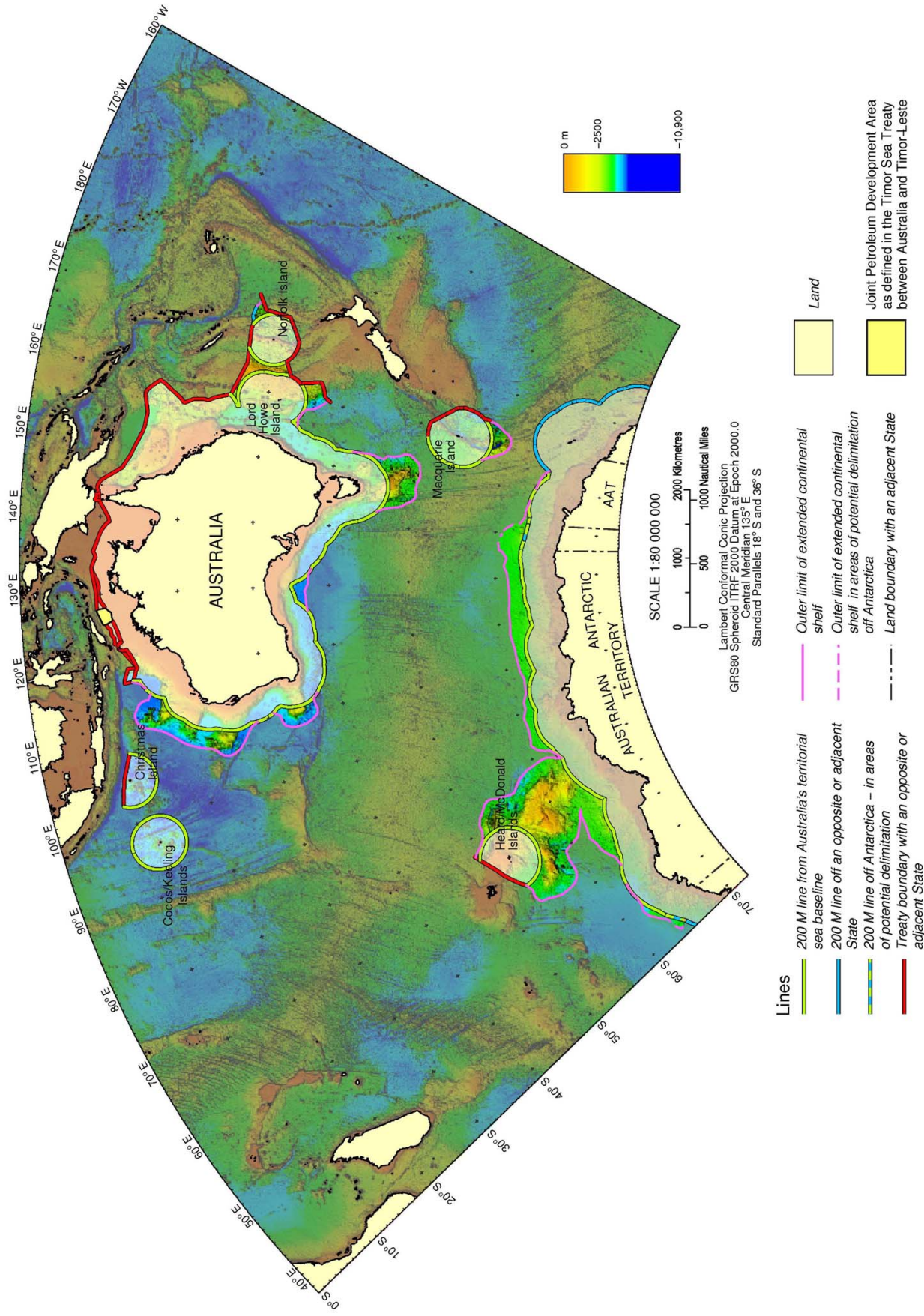


Figure 1. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf. (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

G REGION-BY-REGION OVERVIEW

1. Argo

The Argo region encompasses that part of the northwestern Australian continental margin that abuts the Argo Abyssal Plain, including the Rowley Terrace and Scott Plateau. This margin, which formed during extension and magmatic continental break-up of Gondwana in the Mid/Late Jurassic, is the submerged prolongation of the landmass of northwestern Australia.

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Argo region encloses an area of 4,736 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined by 3 fixed points, of which:

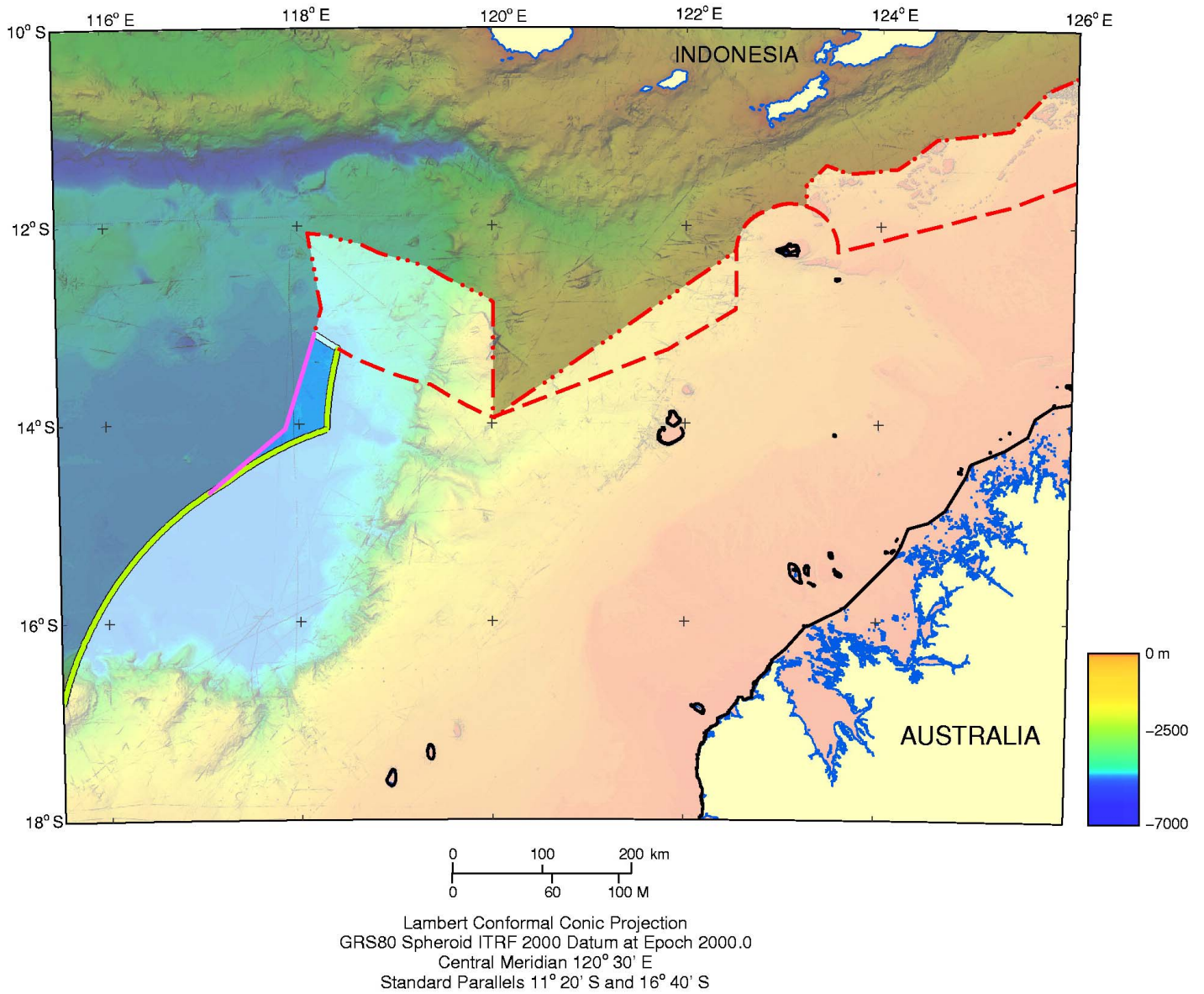
- The first marks the last point (A82) of the seabed boundary established by the 1997 Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia Establishing an Exclusive Economic Zone Boundary and Certain Seabed Boundaries delimiting the continental shelf. This point lies less than 60 M from the foot of the Australian continental slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii)) and on the line 200 M from Indonesia's archipelagic baseline;
- The second is defined by an arc 60 M from the foot of the continental slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii)); and
- The third is a point where the outer limit of the extended continental shelf joins to the line 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline forming the relevant part of the outer limit of Australia's continental shelf to the south of the region (article 76, paragraph 1).

Each successive pair of points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Argo region is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provision of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, is invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the Argo region:

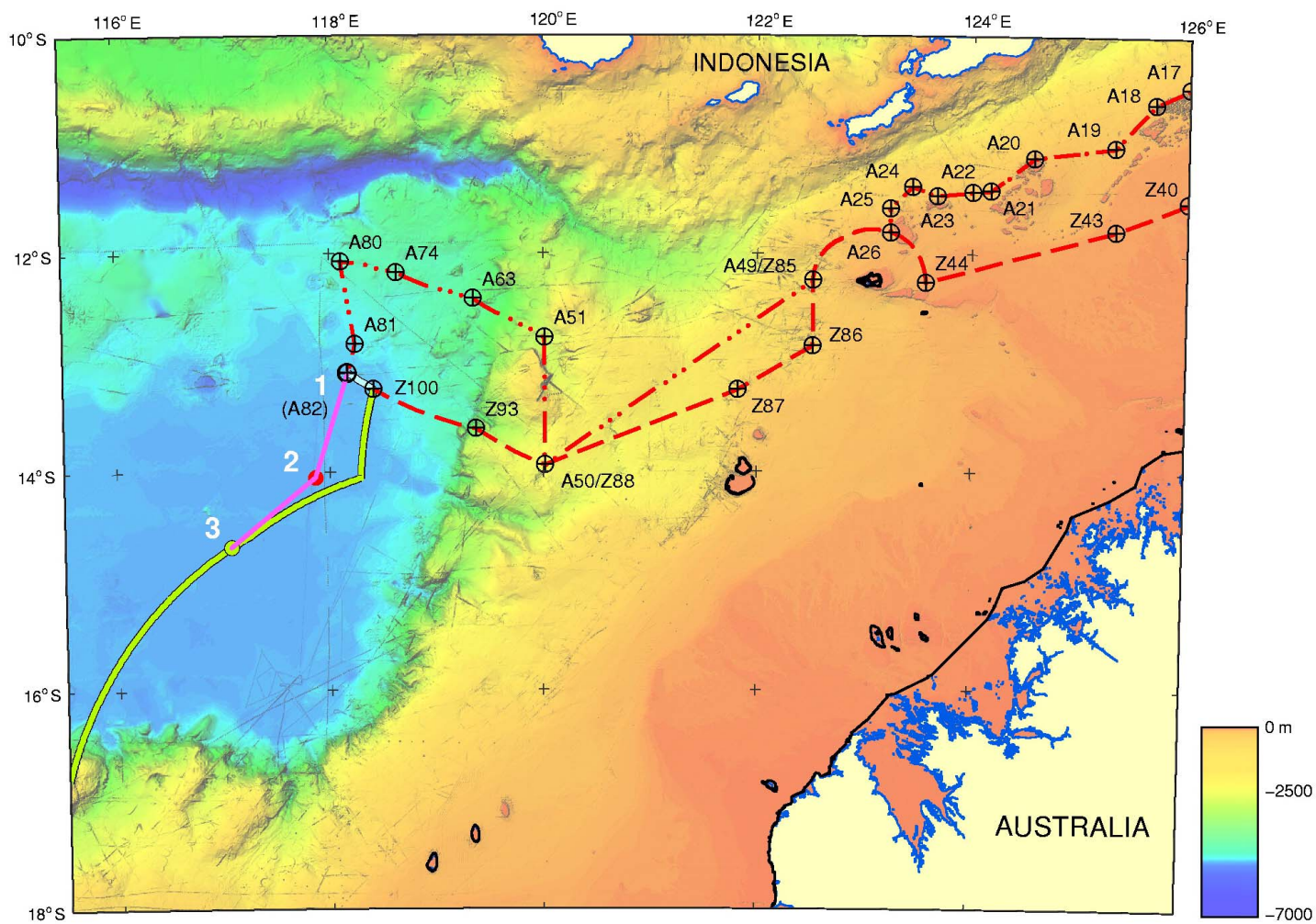
- subparagraph 4(a)(ii).



- Lines**
- Australia's territorial sea baseline
 - 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline
 - 200 M line from Indonesia's archipelagic baseline
 - - - 1997 treaty with Indonesia –exclusive economic zone boundary
 - · · 1997 treaty with Indonesia –seabed boundary
 - · - 1972 seabed treaty boundary with Indonesia
 - Outer limit of extended continental shelf

Figure 2. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Argo region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf.
(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-2



Lambert Conformal Conic Projection
 GRS80 Spheroid ITRF 2000 Datum at Epoch 2000.0
 Central Meridian 120° 30' E
 Standard Parallels 11° 20' S and 16° 40' S

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Article 76 fixed points (outer limit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point on Australia's 200 M line (UNCLOS article 76 para. 1) ●● 60 M formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(iii)) <p>Other points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Point defined in a maritime boundary treaty between Australia and another State | <p>Lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from Indonesia's archipelagic baseline - - - 1997 treaty with Indonesia – exclusive economic zone boundary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - - 1997 treaty with Indonesia – seabed boundary - - - 1972 seabed treaty boundary with Indonesia — Outer limit of extended continental shelf (UNCLOS article 76 para. 7) |
|---|---|--|

Figure 3. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Argo region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.
 (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-3

2. Australian Antarctic Territory

The Australian Antarctic Territory comprises the part of the Antarctic continent and off-lying islands lying between 45° E and 136° E, and between 142° E and 160° E. The continental margin in this region, which formed during the break-up of Antarctica, Greater India and Australia in the Cretaceous, is the submerged prolongation of the landmass of the Australian Antarctic Territory.

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the region of the Australian Antarctic Territory encloses an area of up to 686,821 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined by 157 fixed points, of which:

- 60 are defined by the sediment thickness formula (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(i));
- 69 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of the continental slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii));
- 19 are defined by the constraint line 350 M from the territorial sea baseline (article 76, paragraph 5); and
- 9 are points where the outer limit of the extended continental shelf joins to the line 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline (article 76, paragraph 1).

Each successive pair of points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the region of the Australian Antarctic Territory is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provisions of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, are invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the region:

- subparagraph 4(a)(i) and (ii),
- paragraph 5.

This region is affected by outstanding delimitations with France and Norway of the overlap between the area of continental shelf of Australia, the subject of this part of the submission, and any such area appurtenant to France or Norway that may be included in a French or Norwegian submission to the Commission. France and Norway have both indicated to Australia that they have no objection to such areas being included in this part of Australia's submission, without prejudice to the eventual delimitations between Australia and each of the two States.

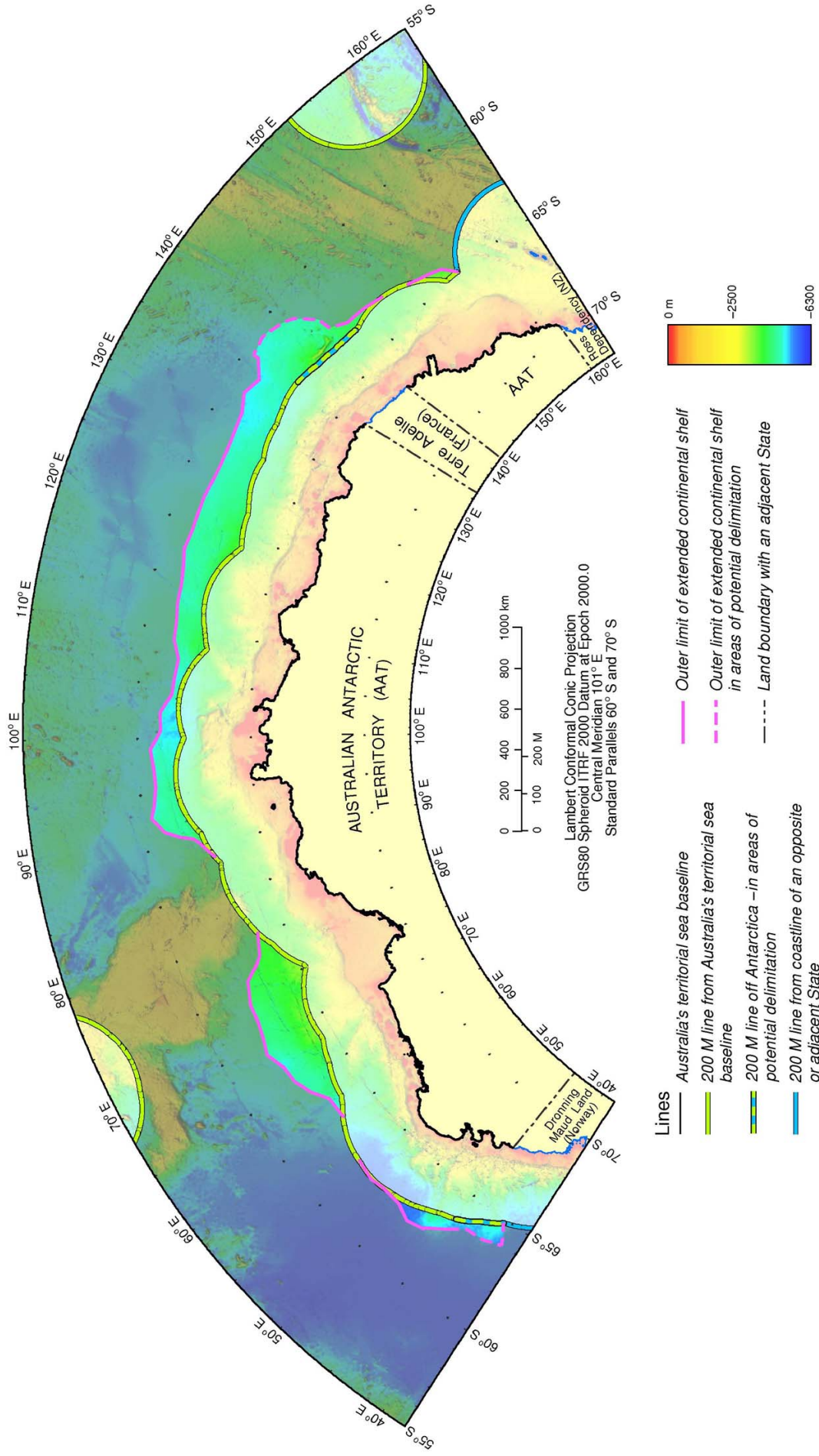


Figure 4. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the region of the Australian Antarctic Territory showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf.

(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-4

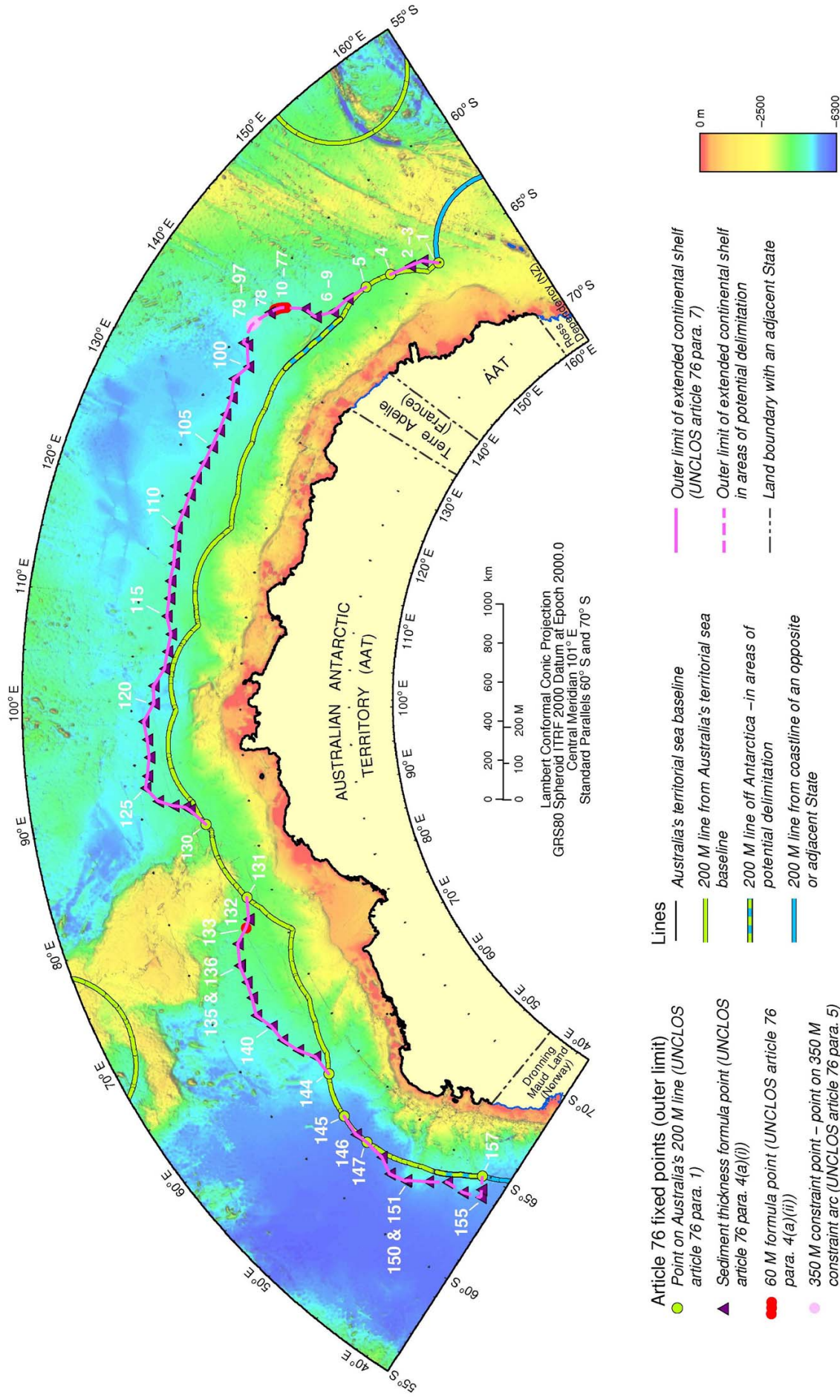


Figure 5. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the region of the Australian Antarctic Territory showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.

(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

3. Great Australian Bight

The Great Australian Bight region encompasses the part of the southern margin of the Australian continent that lies adjacent to the broad embayment in the coastline known as the Great Australian Bight, including the Eyre and Ceduna Terraces. This margin, which developed by the extension and amagmatic break-up of Australia and Antarctica commencing in the Late Cretaceous, is the submerged prolongation of the landmass of southern Australia.

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Great Australian Bight region encloses an area of 68,837 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined by 89 fixed points, of which:

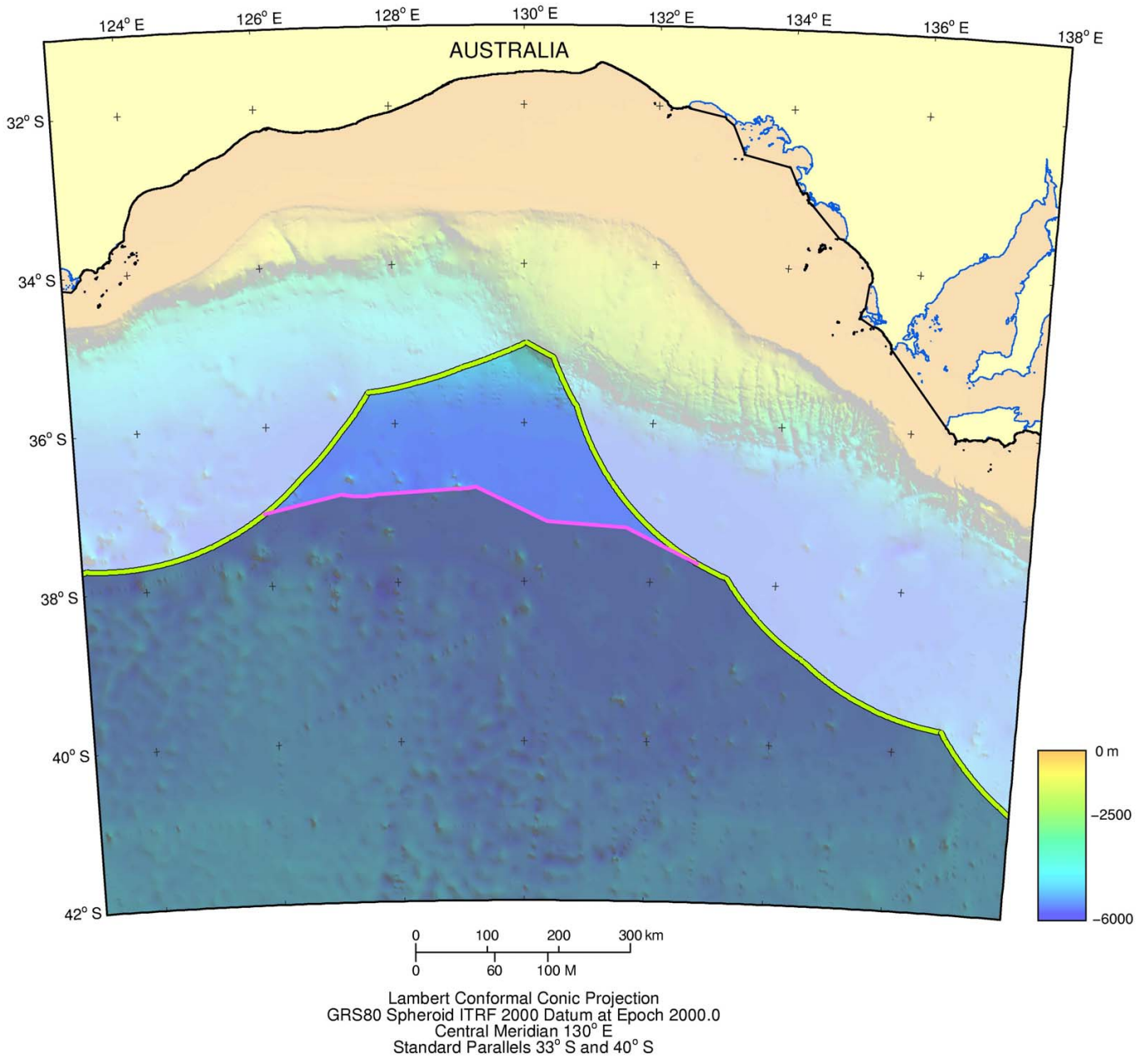
- 1 is defined by the sediment thickness formula (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(i));
- 86 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of the continental slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii)); and
- 2 are points where the outer limit of the extended continental shelf joins to the line 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline forming the relevant part of the outer limit of Australia's continental shelf to the west and east of the region (article 76, paragraph 1).

Each successive pair of points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Great Australian Bight region is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provision of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, is invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the Great Australian Bight region:

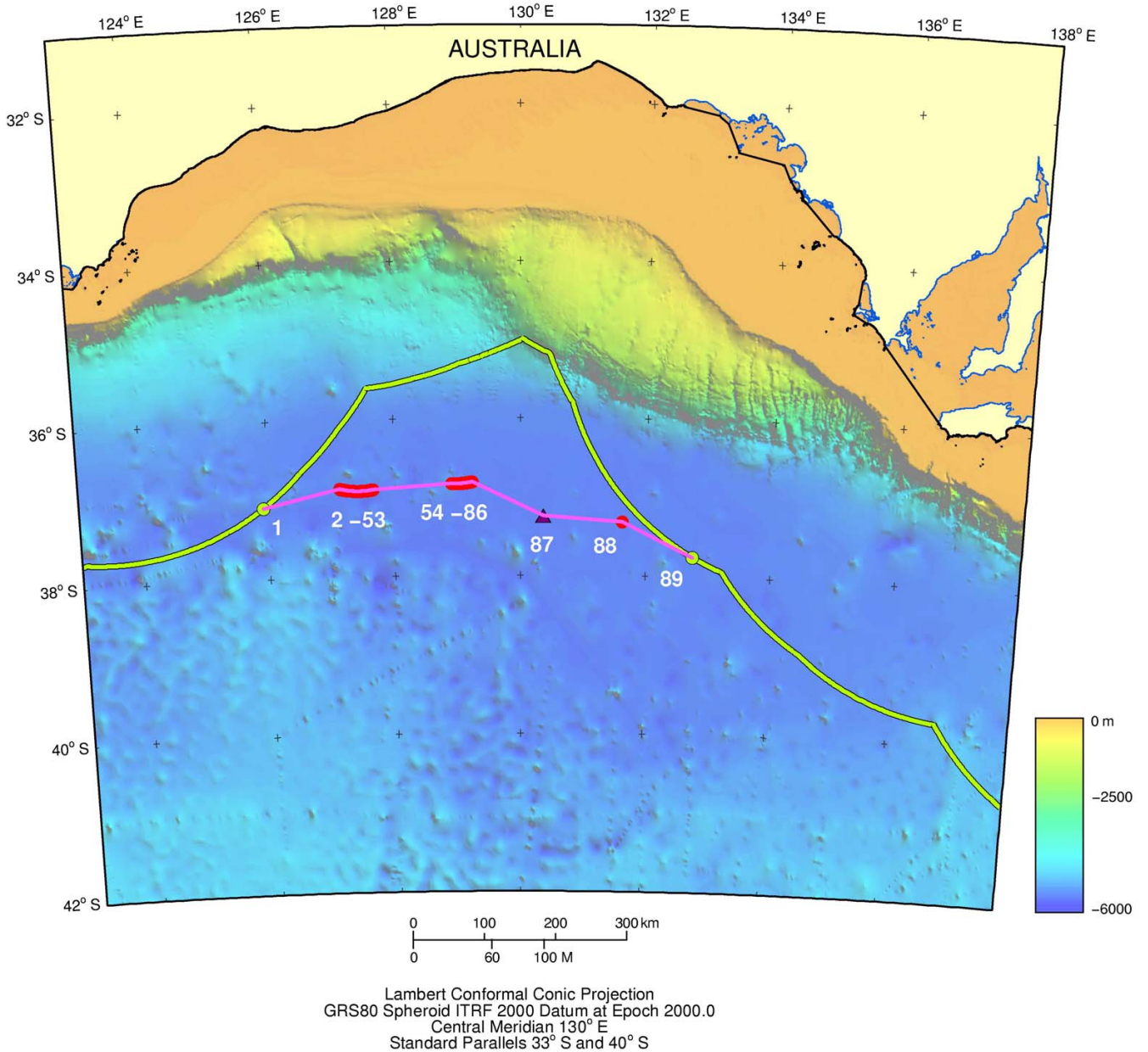
- subparagraph 4(a)(i) and (ii).



- Lines**
- *Australia's territorial sea baseline*
 - *Outer limit of extended continental shelf*
 - *200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline*

Figure 6. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Great Australian Bight region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf. (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-6



- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Article 76 fixed points (outer limit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point on Australia's 200 M line (UNCLOS article 76 para. 1) ▲ Sediment thickness formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(i)) ●● 60 M formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(ii)) | <p>Lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australia's territorial sea baseline 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline Outer limit of extended continental shelf (UNCLOS article 76 para. 7) |
|---|---|

Figure 7. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Great Australian Bight region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.
(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-7

4. Kerguelen Plateau

The Kerguelen Plateau region is dominated by the Kerguelen Plateau, a large, composite, mid-ocean, submarine plateau that developed during the extensional and magmatic break-up of Greater India, Australia and Antarctica. The plateau forms the submerged prolongation of the landmasses of the Australian Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands, and Îles Kerguelen (France).

Australia and France both have continental shelf entitlements on the Kerguelen Plateau by virtue of Heard Island and the McDonald Islands, and the Îles Kerguelen, respectively. The continental shelves have been delimited (possibly incompletely, see below), between Australia and France by the 1982 *Agreement on Maritime Delimitation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the French Republic* (the Australia-France Delimitation Treaty).

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Kerguelen Plateau region encloses an area of 1,185,038 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined in small part by a line associated with the Australia-France Delimitation Treaty, and in large part by 1396 article 76 fixed points, of which:

- 1 is a point not more than 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline as defined in the Australia-France Delimitation Treaty;
- 555 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of the continental slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii));
- 837 are defined by the constraint line 100 M from the 2500-metre isobath (article 76, paragraph 5);
- 2 points are where the outer limit of the continental shelf in the Kerguelen Plateau region intersects the 200 M line from the baseline drawn from the Australian Antarctic Territory; and
- 1 is a point where the Australia-France Delimitation Treaty boundary delimiting the continental shelf intersects an arc 60 M from the foot of the continental slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii)).

Each successive pair of points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Kerguelen Plateau region is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provisions of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7 are invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the Kerguelen Plateau region:

- subparagraph 4(a)(i) and (ii),
- paragraph 5.

There is a potential outstanding delimitation with France involving an extension of the Australia-France Delimitation Treaty boundary at its western end should there be any overlap between the area of extended continental shelf of Australia, the

subject of this part of the submission, and any such area appurtenant to France that may be included in a French submission to the Commission. France has, however, indicated to Australia that it has no objection to the Commission considering and making recommendations on this part of Australia's submission, without prejudice to the eventual delimitation between the two States.

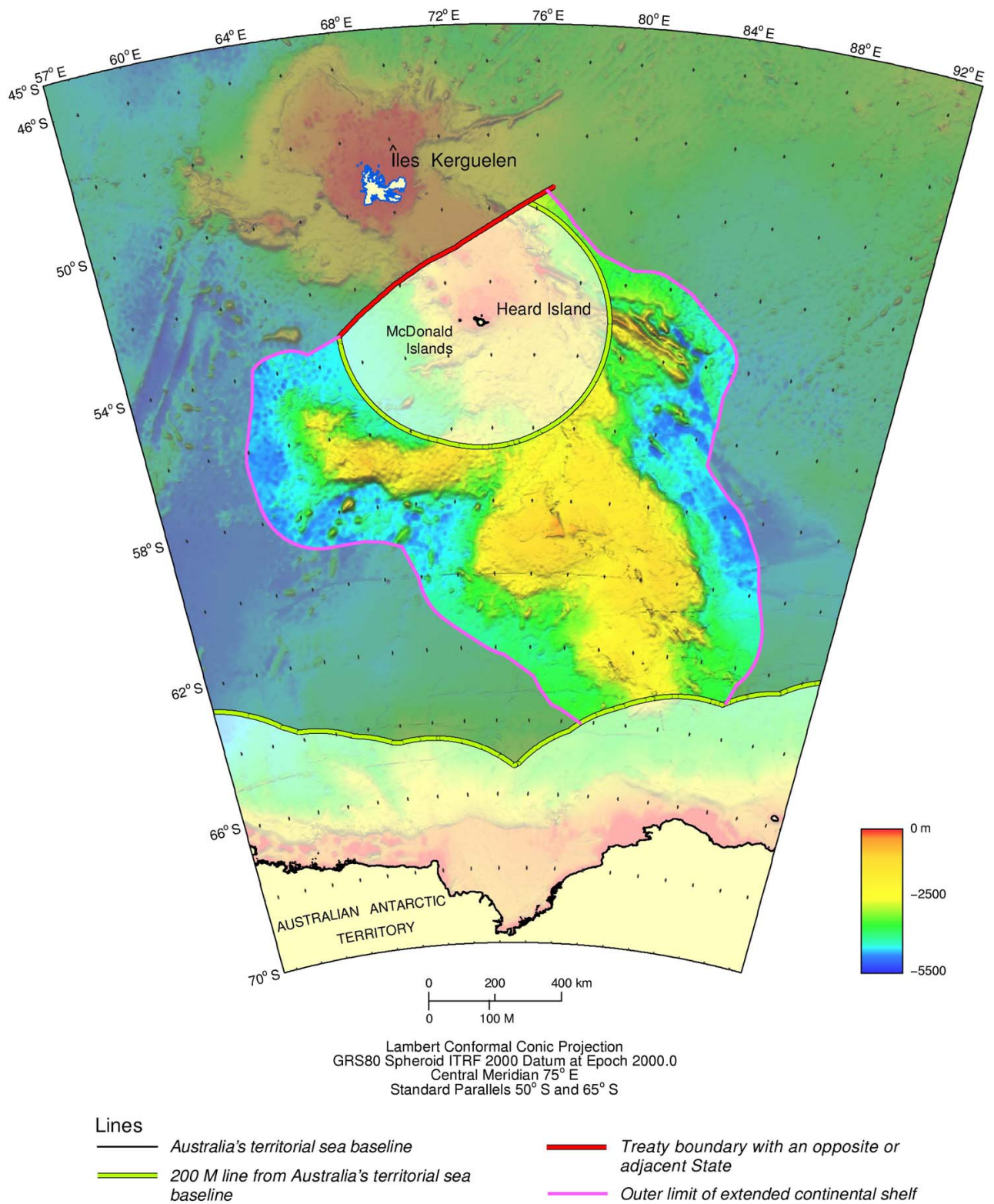
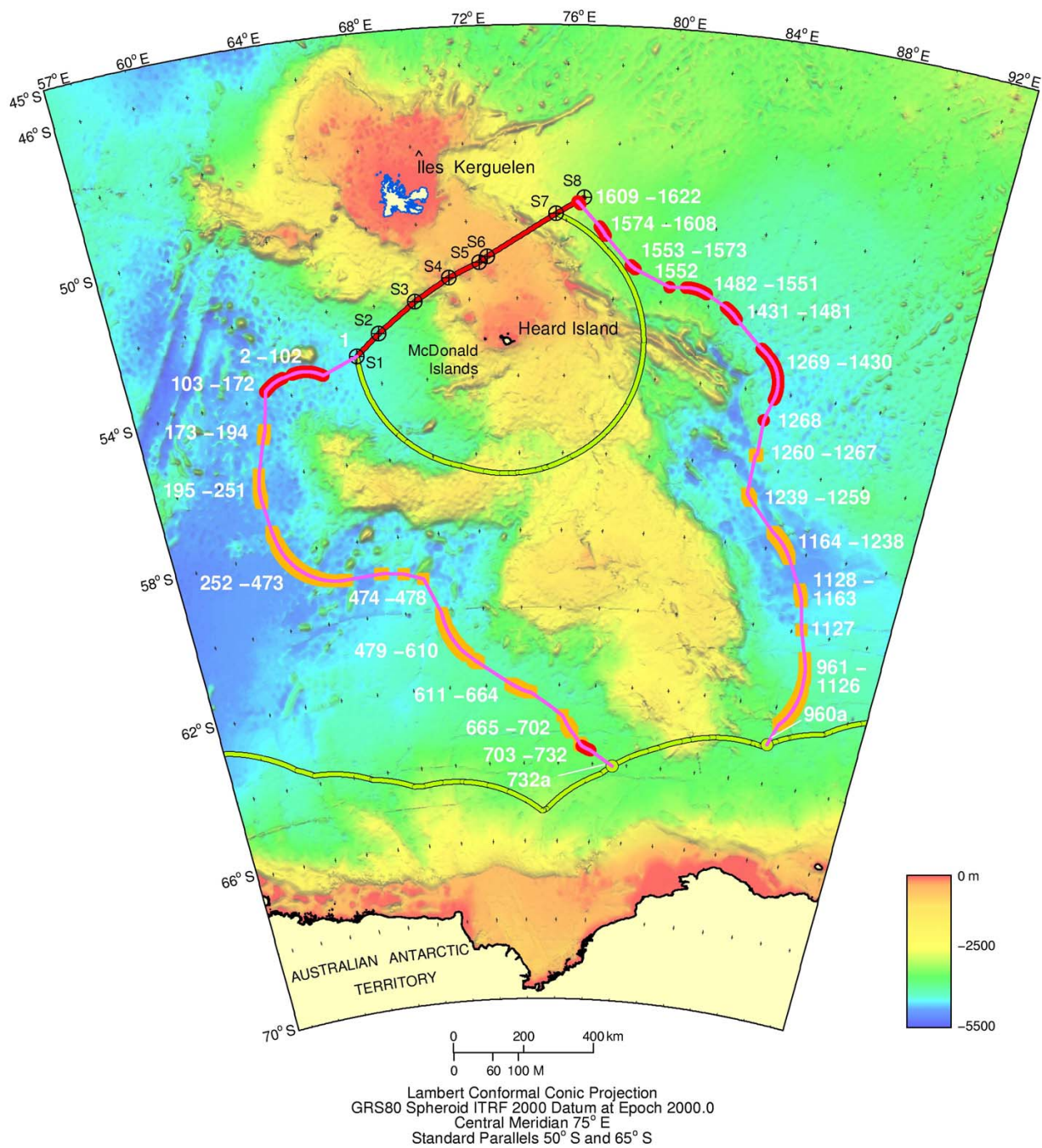


Figure 8. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Kerguelen Plateau region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf. (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-8



- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Article 76 fixed points (outer limit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point on Australia's 200 M line (UNCLOS article 76 para. 1) ●● 60 M formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(ii)) ● 350 M constraint point – point on 350 M constraint arc (UNCLOS article 76 para. 5) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Depth constraint point – point on the depth constraint arc (UNCLOS article 76 para. 5) | <p>Other points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Point defined in a maritime boundary treaty between Australia and another State | <p>Lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline — Treaty boundary with an opposite or adjacent State — Outer limit of extended continental shelf (UNCLOS article 76 para. 7) |
|---|--|--|---|

Figure 9. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Kerguelen Plateau region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.
(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-9

5. Lord Howe Rise

The Lord Howe Rise region is dominated by the Lord Howe Rise, a large, submerged continental plateau lying off eastern Australia. It is part of a broad zone of north- and northwest-trending continental plateaus, ridges, and narrow depressions, that includes the Lord Howe Rise, Norfolk Ridge and Three Kings Ridge, extending from the Tasman Basin in the west to the South Fiji Basin in the east. In the south, the Lord Howe Rise separated from the Australian continent during the extension and amagmatic break-up that preceded formation of the oceanic Tasman Basin in the Late Cretaceous to Eocene. The Lord Howe Rise forms the submerged prolongation of the landmasses of Lord Howe Island and other Australian islands, various French islands, and New Zealand.

Australia, France and New Zealand all have continental shelf entitlements on Lord Howe Rise. Australia's entitlement is by virtue of the Australian mainland, Lord Howe Island (part of the State of New South Wales), Elizabeth and Middleton Reefs and other islands; while France's and New Zealand's are by virtue of New Caledonia and the Chesterfield Islands and the New Zealand mainland and offlying islands respectively. These have been delimited between Australia and France by the 1982 *Agreement on Maritime Delimitation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the French Republic* (the Australia-France Delimitation Treaty), and between Australia and New Zealand by the 2004 *Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand Establishing Certain Exclusive Economic Zone Boundaries and Continental Shelf Boundaries* (the Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaty).

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Lord Howe Rise region encloses an area of 265,717 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined in part by lines associated with the Australia-France and Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaties, and in part by 118 article 76 fixed points, of which:

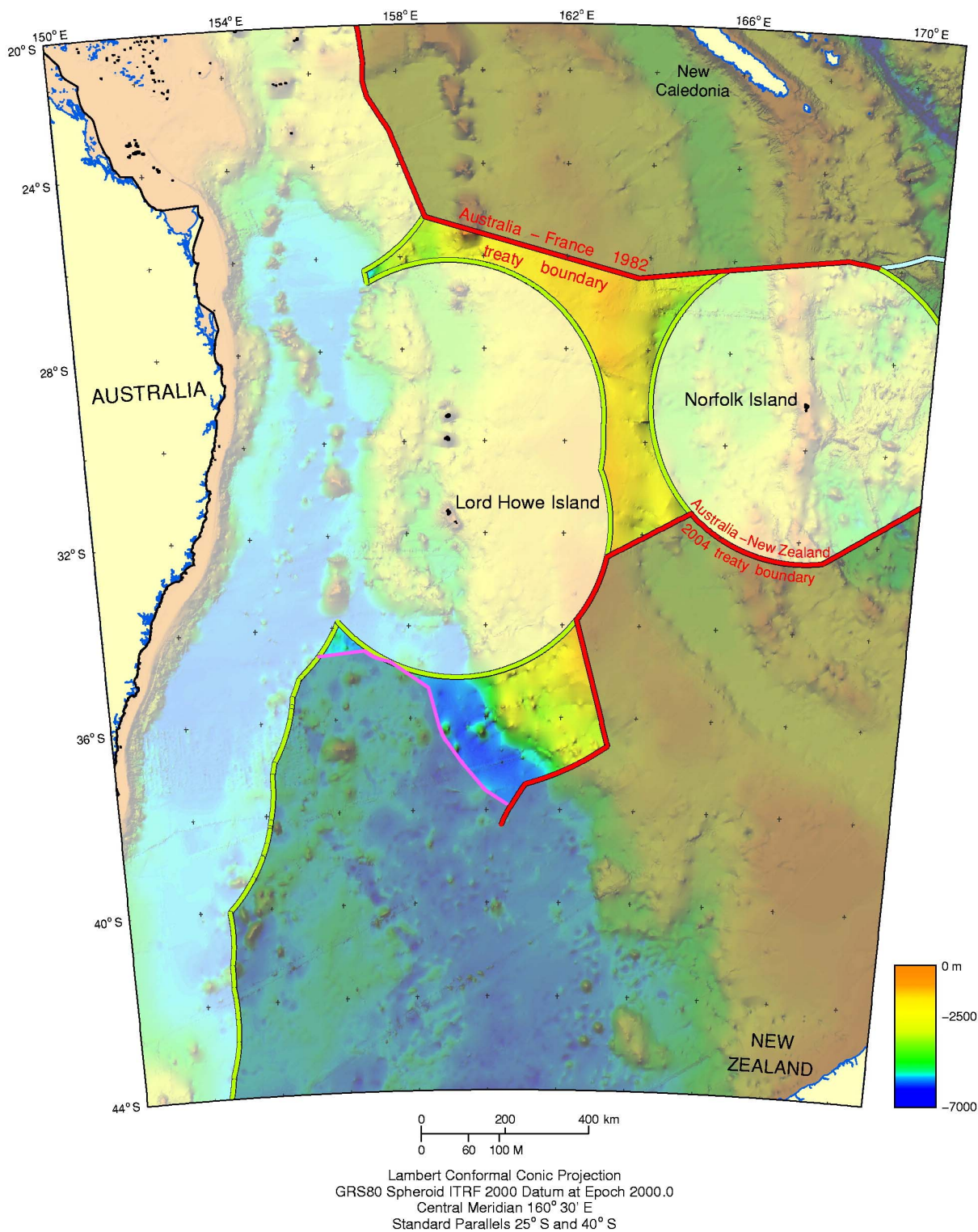
- 1 is defined by the sediment thickness formula (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(i));
- 113 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of the continental slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii));
- 1 is defined by the constraint line 350 M from the territorial sea baseline (article 76, paragraph 5);
- 1 is a point where the Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaty boundary delimiting the continental shelf intersects the outer limit of the continental shelf as delineated by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length connecting a 350 M constraint point and a depth constraint point; and
- 2 are points where the outer limit of the extended continental shelf joins to the line 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline (article 76, paragraph 1).

Each successive pair of fixed points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Lord Howe Rise region is given in Annexes 1 and 2. It includes a number of points that are defined in one or the other of the above treaties, or that lie on straight lines connecting two of the above points.

The following provisions of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, are invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the Lord Howe Rise region:

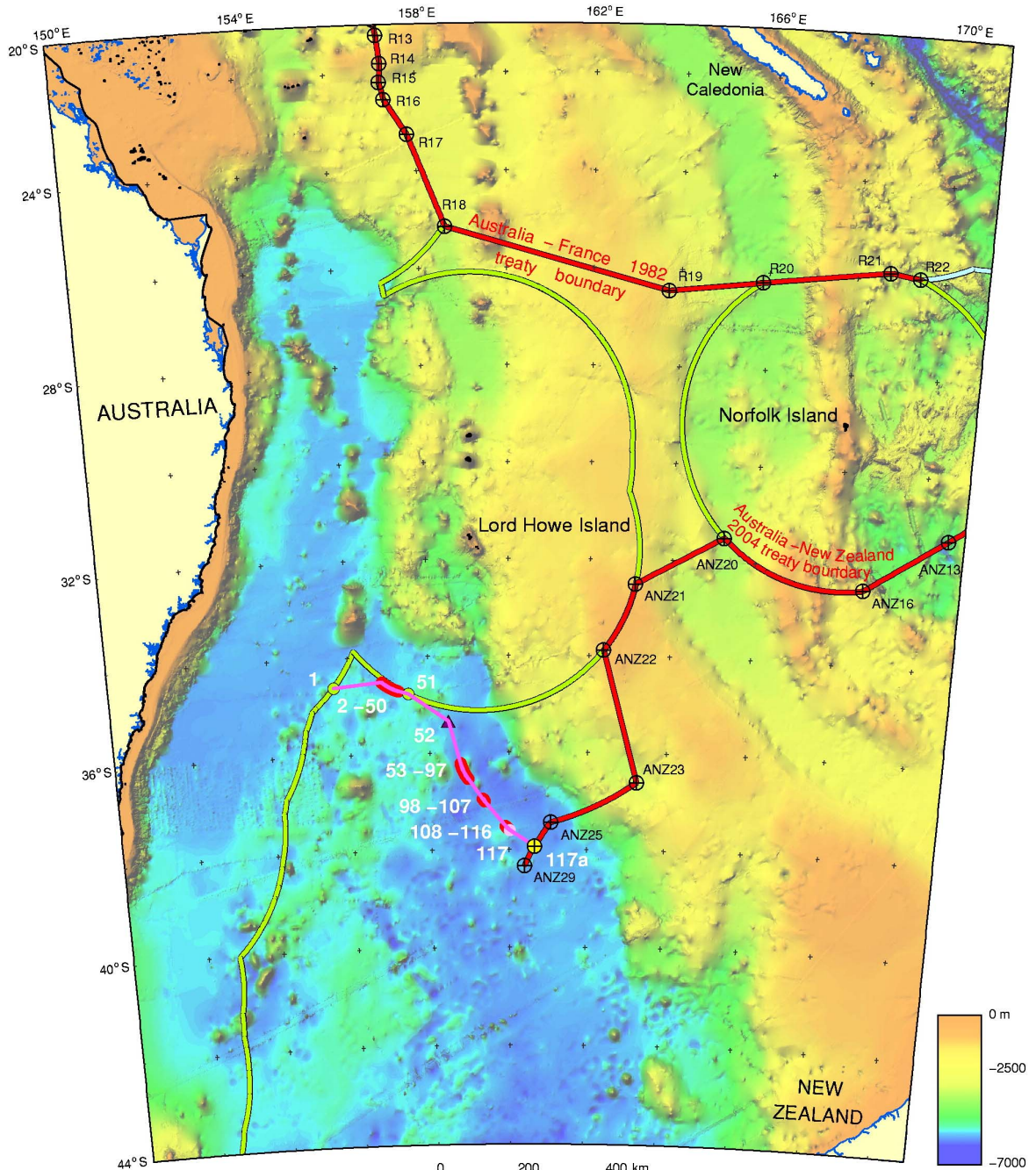
- subparagraph 4(a)(i) and (ii),
- paragraph 5.



- Lines**
- Australia's territorial sea baseline
 - 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline
 - 200 M line from territorial sea baseline of an opposite or adjacent State
 - Treaty boundary with an opposite or adjacent State
 - Outer limit of extended continental shelf

Figure 10. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Lord Howe Rise region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf.
(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-10



Lambert Conformal Conic Projection
 GRS80 Spheroid ITRF 2000 Datum at Epoch 2000.0
 Central Meridian 160° 30' E
 Standard Parallels 25° S and 40° S

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Article 76 fixed points (outer limit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point on Australia's 200 M line (UNCLOS article 76 para. 1) ▲ Sediment thickness formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(i)) ●● 60 M formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(ii)) ● 350 M constraint point – point on 350 M constraint arc (UNCLOS article 76 para. 5) | <p>Other points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Point defined in a maritime boundary treaty between Australia and another State ⊕ Point of intersection between treaty boundary and outer limit of extended continental shelf line | <p>Lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from territorial sea baseline of an opposite or adjacent State — Treaty boundary with an opposite or adjacent State — Outer limit of extended continental shelf (UNCLOS article 76 para. 7) |
|---|--|--|

Figure 11. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Lord Howe Rise region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.
 (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-11

6. Macquarie Ridge

The Macquarie Ridge region is dominated by the Macquarie Ridge complex, which consists of a series of linked, elongate, narrow submarine highs and adjacent deep troughs that lie along the boundary of the Indo-Australian and Pacific Plates to the southeast of the Australian continent. The ridge forms the submerged prolongation of the landmass of the Australian territory of Macquarie Island (part of the Australian State of Tasmania). Australia and New Zealand have delimited a continental shelf boundary in this region by way of the 2004 *Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand Establishing Certain Exclusive Economic Zone Boundaries and Continental Shelf Boundaries* (the Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaty).

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Macquarie Ridge region encloses an area of 81,719 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined in small part by a line associated with the Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaty, and in large part by 402 article 76 fixed points, of which:

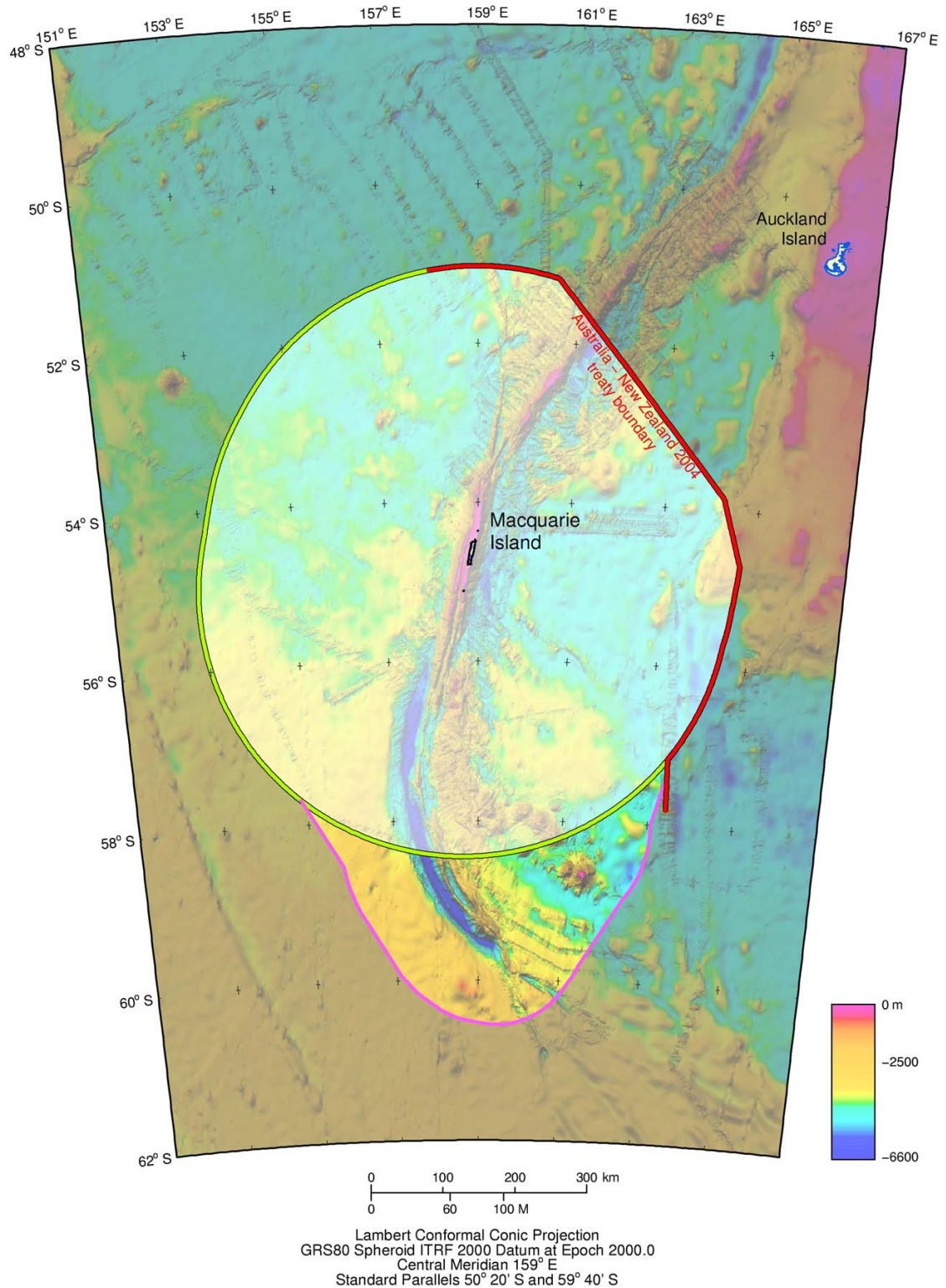
- 400 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii));
- 1 is a point where the Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaty boundary delimiting the continental shelf intersects the outer limit of the continental shelf as delineated by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length connecting a 60 M formula point and a point 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline around Macquarie Island; and
- 1 is a point where the outer limit of the extended continental shelf joins to the line 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline around Macquarie Island (article 76, paragraph 1).

Each successive pair of fixed points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Macquarie Ridge region is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provisions of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, are invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the Macquarie Ridge region:

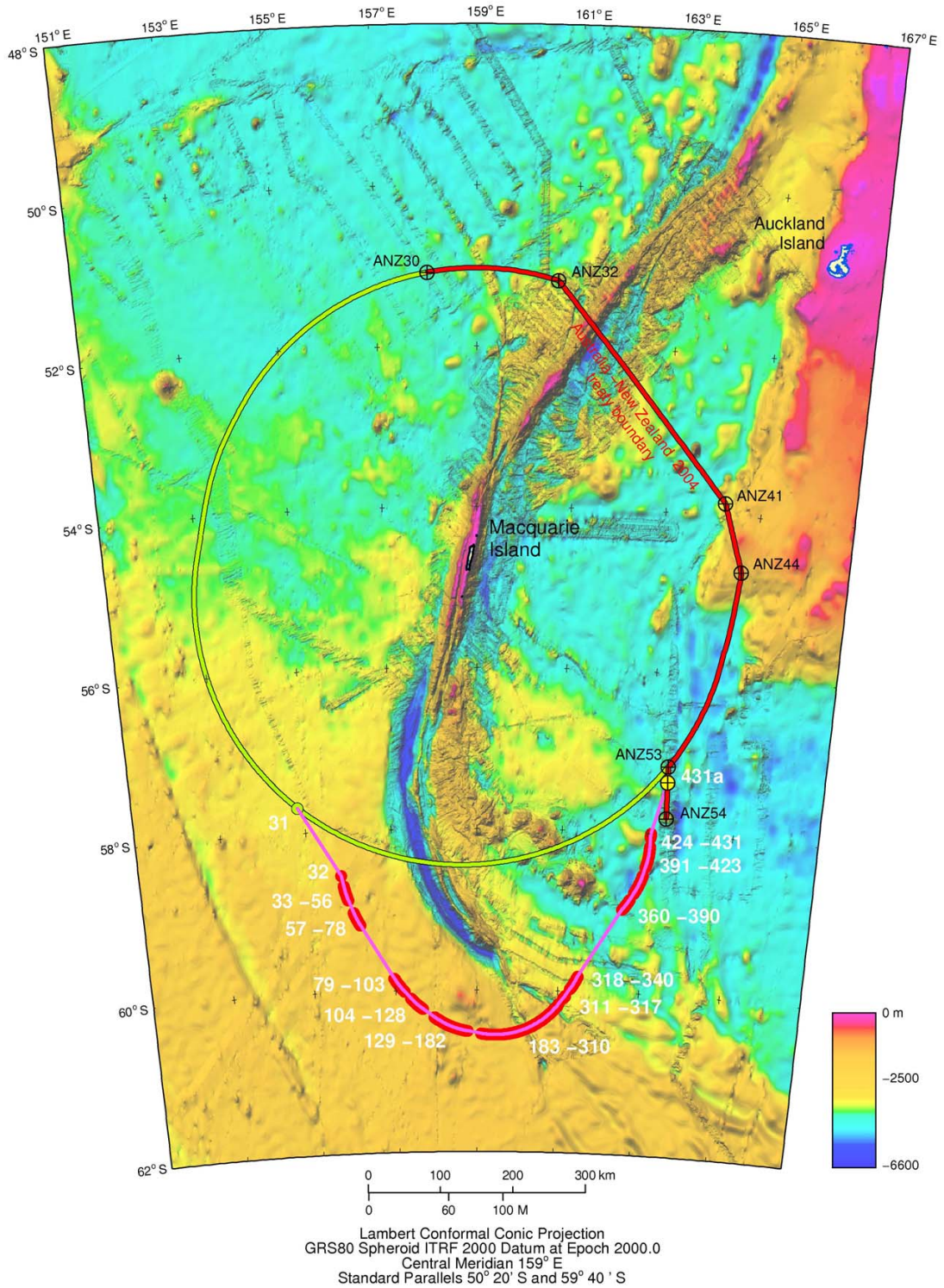
- subparagraph 4(a)(ii).



- Lines**
- Australia's territorial sea baseline
 - Treaty boundary with an opposite or adjacent State
 - 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline
 - Outer limit of extended continental shelf

Figure 12. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Macquarie Ridge region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf.
(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-12



- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Article 76 fixed points (outer limit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point on Australia's 200 M line (UNCLOS article 76 para. 1) ●●● 60 M formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(ii)) <p>Other points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Point defined in a maritime boundary treaty between Australia and another State ⊕ Point of intersection between treaty boundary and outer limit of extended continental shelf | <p>Lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline — Treaty boundary with an opposite or adjacent State — Outer limit of extended continental shelf (UNCLOS article 76 para. 7) |
|--|---|

Figure 13. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Macquarie Ridge region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.
(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-13

7. Naturaliste Plateau

The Naturaliste Plateau region is dominated by the Naturaliste Plateau, a large continental margin plateau that formed in the southwestern Australian margin during the extension and break-up of Australia, Greater India and Antarctica in the Cretaceous. The plateau is part of the submerged prolongation of the landmass of southwestern Australia.

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Naturaliste Plateau region encloses an area of 154,331 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined by 424 fixed points, of which:

- 322 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii));
- 10 are defined by the constraint line 350 M from the territorial sea baseline (article 76, paragraph 5);
- 90 are defined by the constraint line 100 M from the 2500 metre isobath (article 76, paragraph 5); and
- 2 are points where the outer limit of the extended continental shelf joins to the line 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline forming the relevant part of the outer limit of Australia's continental shelf to the north and south of the region (article 76, paragraph 1).

Each successive pair of points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Naturaliste Plateau region is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provisions of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, are invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the Naturaliste Plateau region:

- subparagraph 4(a)(ii),
- paragraph 5.

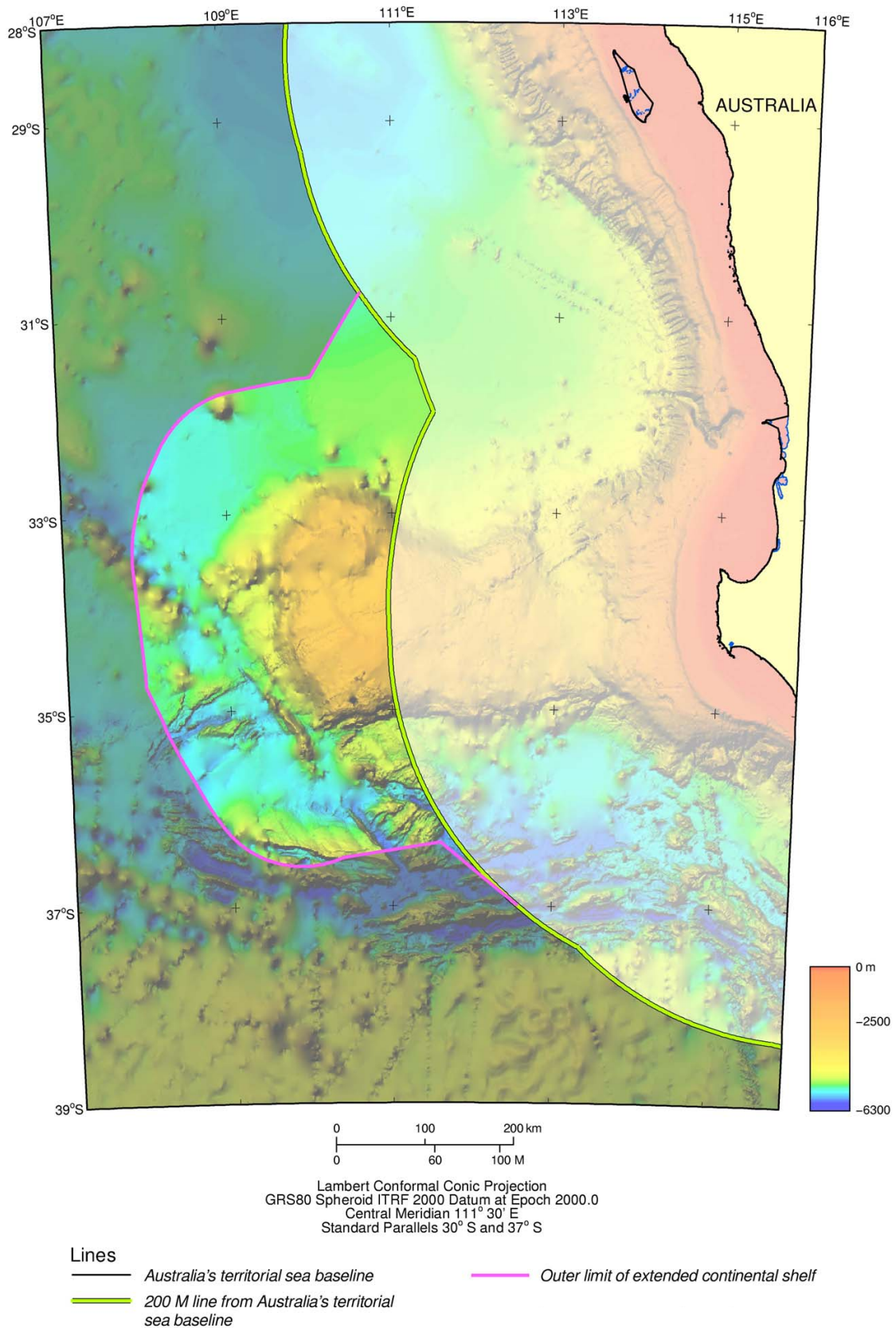


Figure 14. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Naturaliste Plateau region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf. (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-14

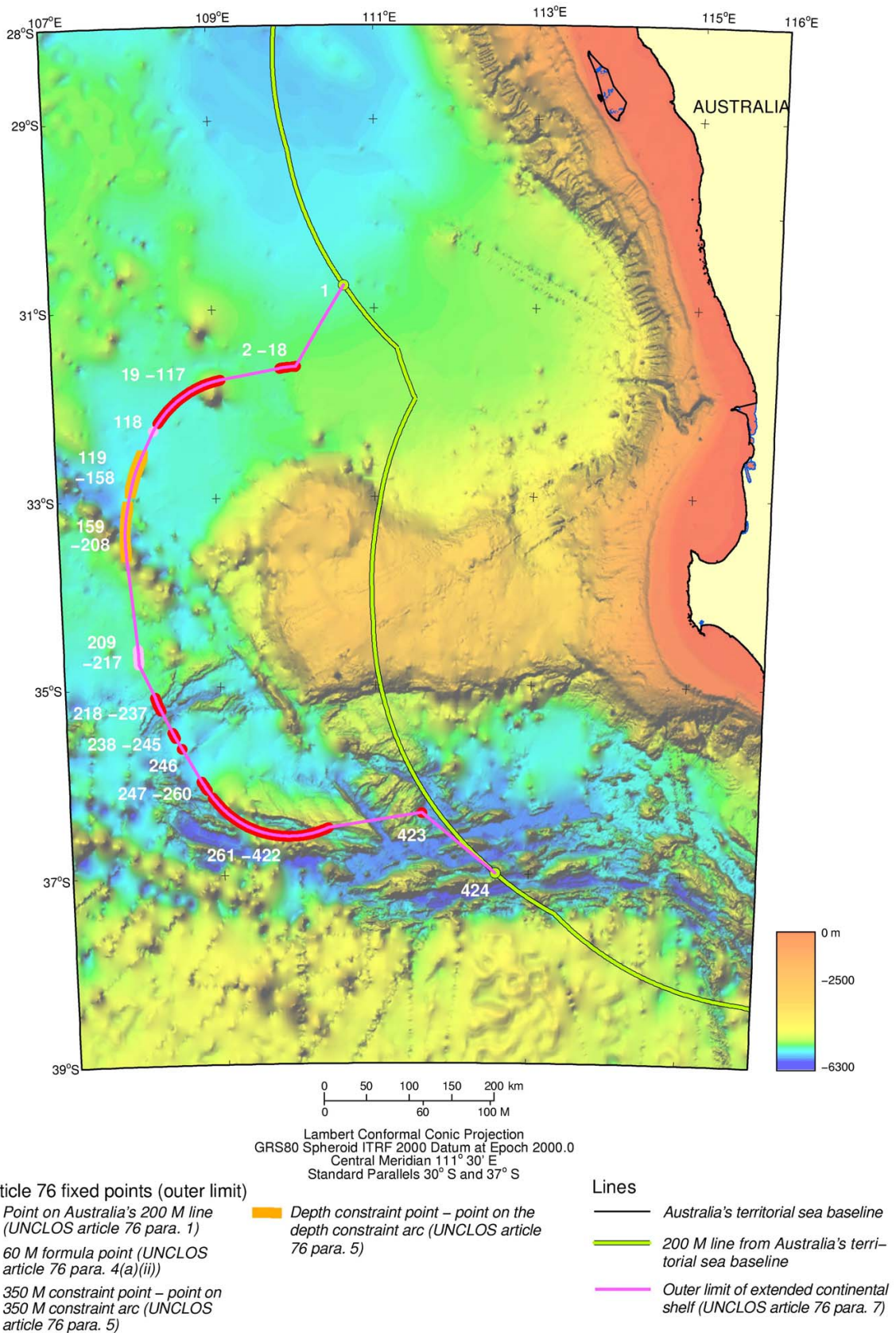


Figure 15. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Naturaliste Plateau region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.
(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-15

8. South Tasman Rise

The South Tasman Rise region contains two large continental margin plateaus, the South Tasman Rise and the East Tasman Plateau, that extend south and southeast respectively from the Australian State of Tasmania. The plateaus formed in the southeast Australian margin during the break-up Australia, Antarctica and New Zealand in the Cretaceous, and are part of the submerged prolongation of the landmass of southeastern Australia.

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the South Tasman Rise region encloses an area of 311,640 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined by 647 fixed points, of which:

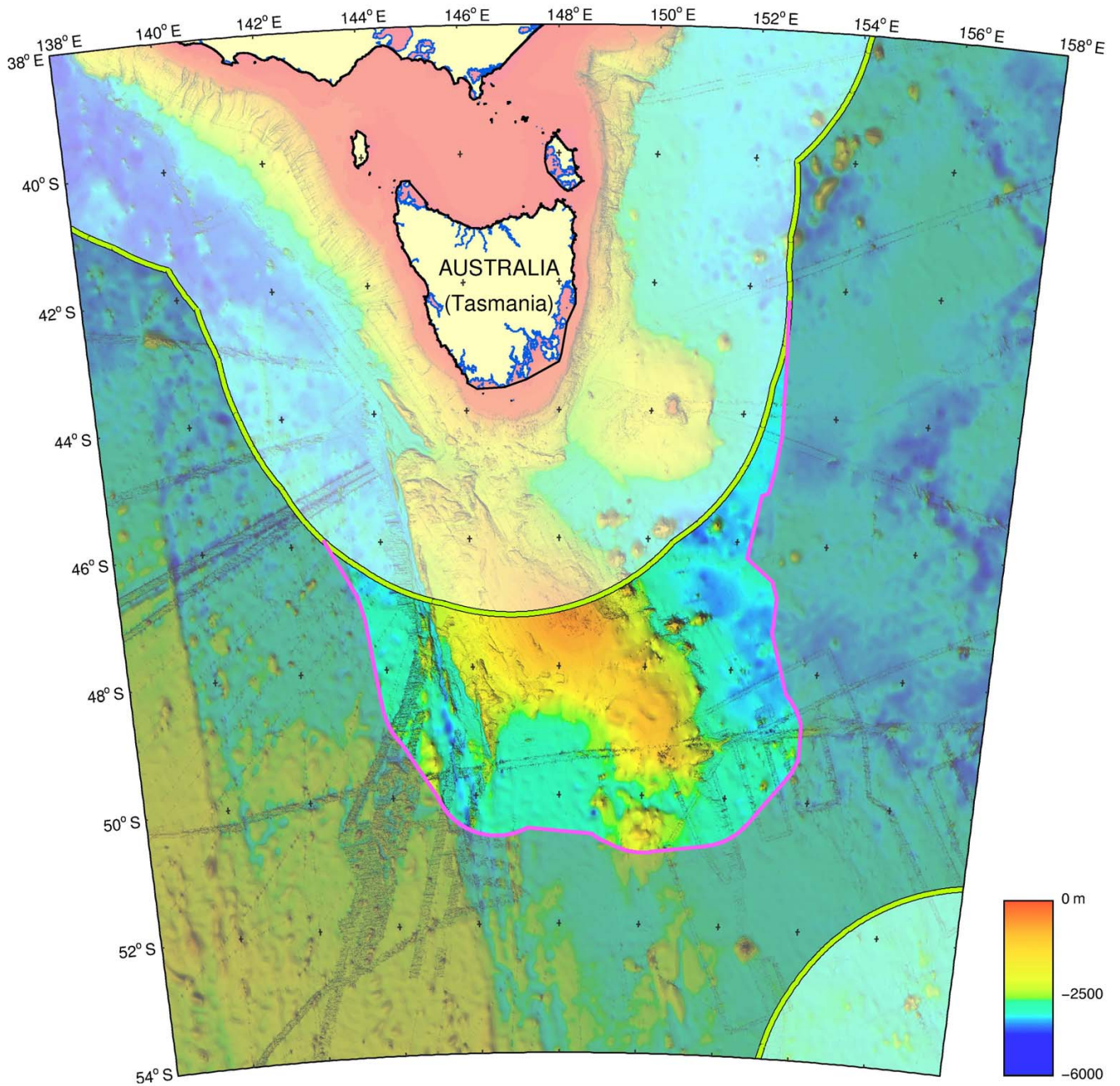
- 4 are defined by the sediment thickness formula (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(i));
- 641 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii)); and
- 2 are points where the outer limit of the extended continental shelf joins to the line 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline forming the relevant part of the outer limit of Australia's continental shelf outside the region (article 76, paragraph 1).

Each successive pair of points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the South Tasman Rise region is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provision of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, is invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the South Tasman Rise region:

- subparagraph 4(a)(i) and (ii).

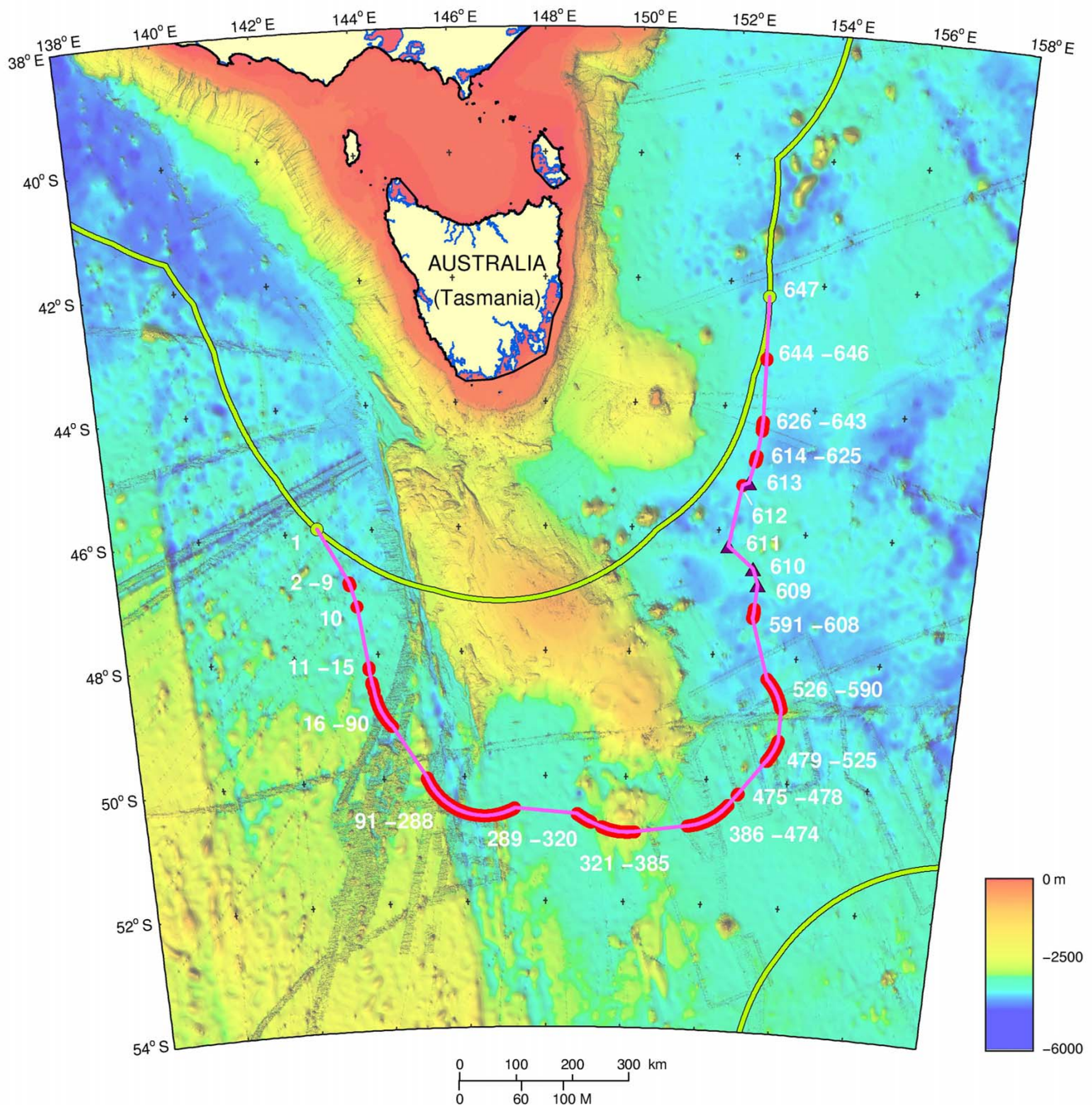


0 100 200 300 km
 0 60 100 M
 Lambert Conformal Conic Projection
 GRS80 Spheroid ITRF 2000 Datum at Epoch 2000.0
 Central Meridian 148° E
 Standard Parallels 40° 40' S and 51° 20' S

- Lines**
- Australia's territorial sea baseline
 - 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline
 - Outer limit of extended continental shelf

Figure 16. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the South Tasman Rise region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf. (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-16



Lambert Conformal Conic Projection
 GRS80 Spheroid ITRF 2000 Datum at Epoch 2000.0
 Central Meridian 148° E
 Standard Parallels 40° 40' S and 51° 20' S

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Article 76 fixed points (outer limit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point on Australia's 200 M line (UNCLOS article 76 para. 1) ▲ Sediment thickness formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(i)) ●● 60 M formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(ii)) | <p>Lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline — Outer limit of extended continental shelf (UNCLOS article 76 para. 7) |
|---|---|

Figure 17. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the South Tasman Rise region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.

(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-17

9. Three Kings Ridge

The Three Kings Ridge region, which is an area of interconnecting plateaus and elongate highs separated by narrow depressions, has a complex evolution related to extension, break-up and island arc formation from the Cretaceous to the Tertiary. It is part of a broad zone of north- and northwest-trending continental plateaus, ridges and narrow depressions, that includes the Lord Howe Rise, Norfolk Ridge and Three Kings Ridge, extending from the Tasman Basin in the west to the South Fiji Basin in the east. The Three Kings Ridge region encompasses the eastward submerged prolongation of the landmass of the Australian territory of Norfolk Island.

Australia, France and New Zealand all have continental shelf entitlements in the Three Kings Ridge region by virtue of Norfolk Island, New Caledonia and the New Zealand mainland and associated islands, respectively. Australia and New Zealand have delimited their respective entitlements by the 2004 *Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand Establishing Certain Exclusive Economic Zone Boundaries and Continental Shelf Boundaries* (the Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaty).

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Three Kings Ridge region encloses an area of 48,420 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined in large part by lines associated with the Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaty, and in small part by 3 article 76 fixed points, of which:

- 2 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii)); and
- 1 is a point where the Australia-New Zealand Delimitation Treaty boundary delimiting the continental shelf intersects the outer limit of the continental shelf as delineated by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length connecting two 60 M formula points.

Each successive pair of fixed points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

In addition, that part of the outer limit of the continental shelf lying to the west of the ECS fixed point TKR-ECS-347 and connecting this point to the Australian 200 M line drawn from Norfolk Island, is defined by the 200 M line constructed from certain non-Australian islands.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Three Kings Ridge region is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provisions of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, are invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the Three Kings Ridge region:

- subparagraph 4(a)(ii).

There is a potential outstanding delimitation with France that may involve the extension at its eastern end of the 1982 boundary established by the Australia-France Delimitation Treaty should there be any overlap between the area of extended continental shelf of Australia, the subject of this part of the submission, and any such area appurtenant to France that may be included in a French submission to the Commission. France has, however, indicated to Australia that it has no objection to the Commission considering and making recommendations on this part of Australia's submission, without prejudice to any eventual delimitation between the two States.

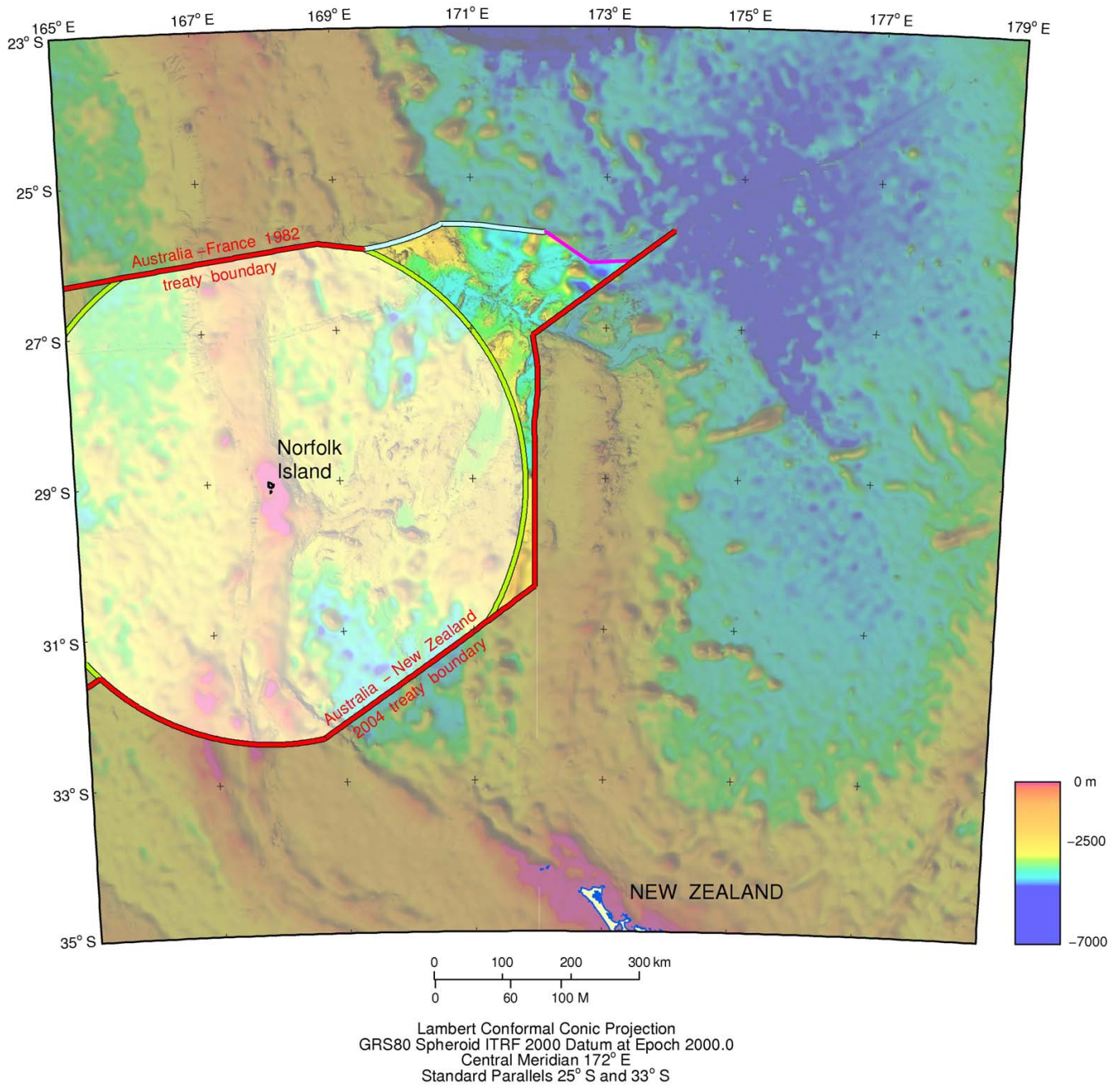


Figure 18. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Three Kings Ridge region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf. (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-18

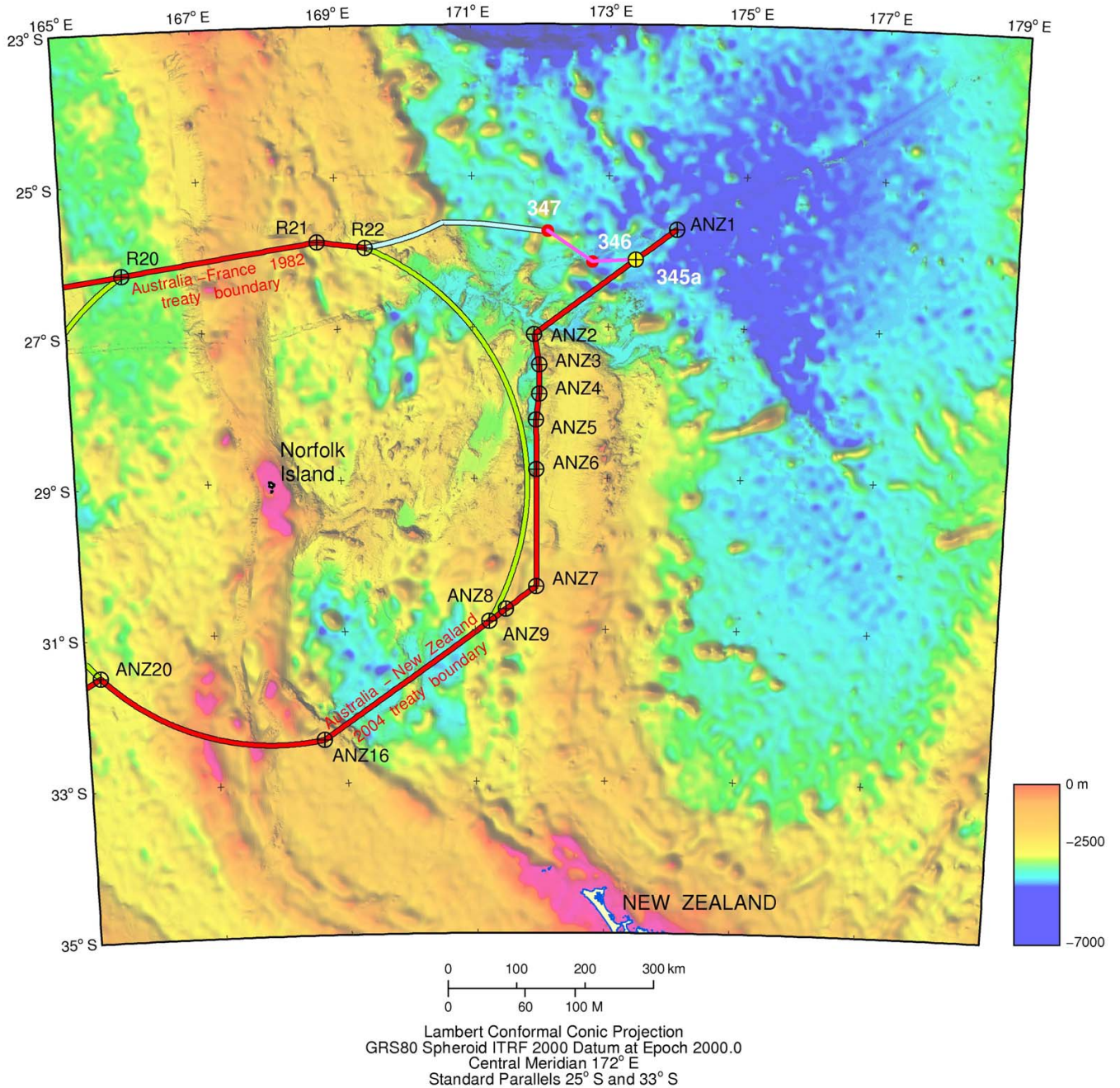


Figure 19. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Three Kings Ridge region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked.

(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-19

10. Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus

The Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus are large continental margin plateaus that formed in the western Australian margin during the extension and magmatic break-up of Australia and Greater India in the Late Jurassic to Early Cretaceous. The plateaus are part of the submerged prolongation of the landmass of western Australia.

The outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus region encloses an area of 564,731 km² beyond 200 M from the territorial sea baseline. The outer limit of the extended continental shelf is defined by 966 fixed points, of which:

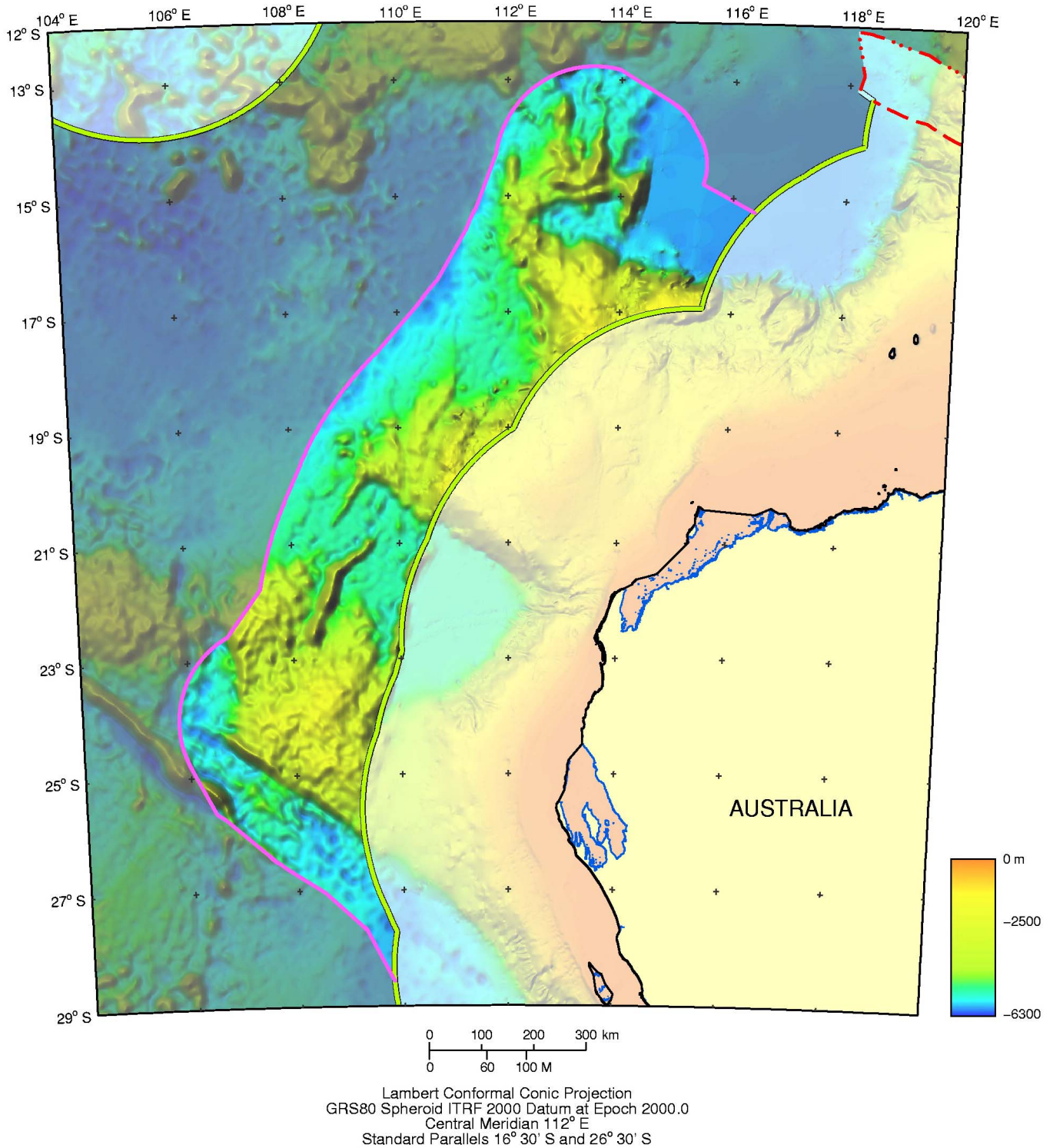
- 190 are defined by arcs 60 M from the foot of slope (article 76, paragraph 4(a)(ii));
- 231 are defined by the constraint line 350 M from the territorial sea baseline (article 76, paragraph 5);
- 543 are defined by the constraint line 100 M from the 2500 metre isobath (article 76, paragraph 5); and
- 2 are points where the outer limit of the extended continental shelf joins to the line 200 M from Australia's territorial sea baseline forming the relevant part of the outer limit of Australia's continental shelf to the north and south of the region (article 76, paragraph 1).

Each successive pair of points is connected by a straight line not exceeding 60 M in length.

The list of points delineating the outer limit of Australia's extended continental shelf in the South Tasman Rise region is given in Annexes 1 and 2.

The following provisions of article 76, as well as paragraphs 4(b) and 7, are invoked to support the submission for the outer limit of the extended continental shelf in the Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus region:

- subparagraph 4(a)(ii),
- paragraph 5.

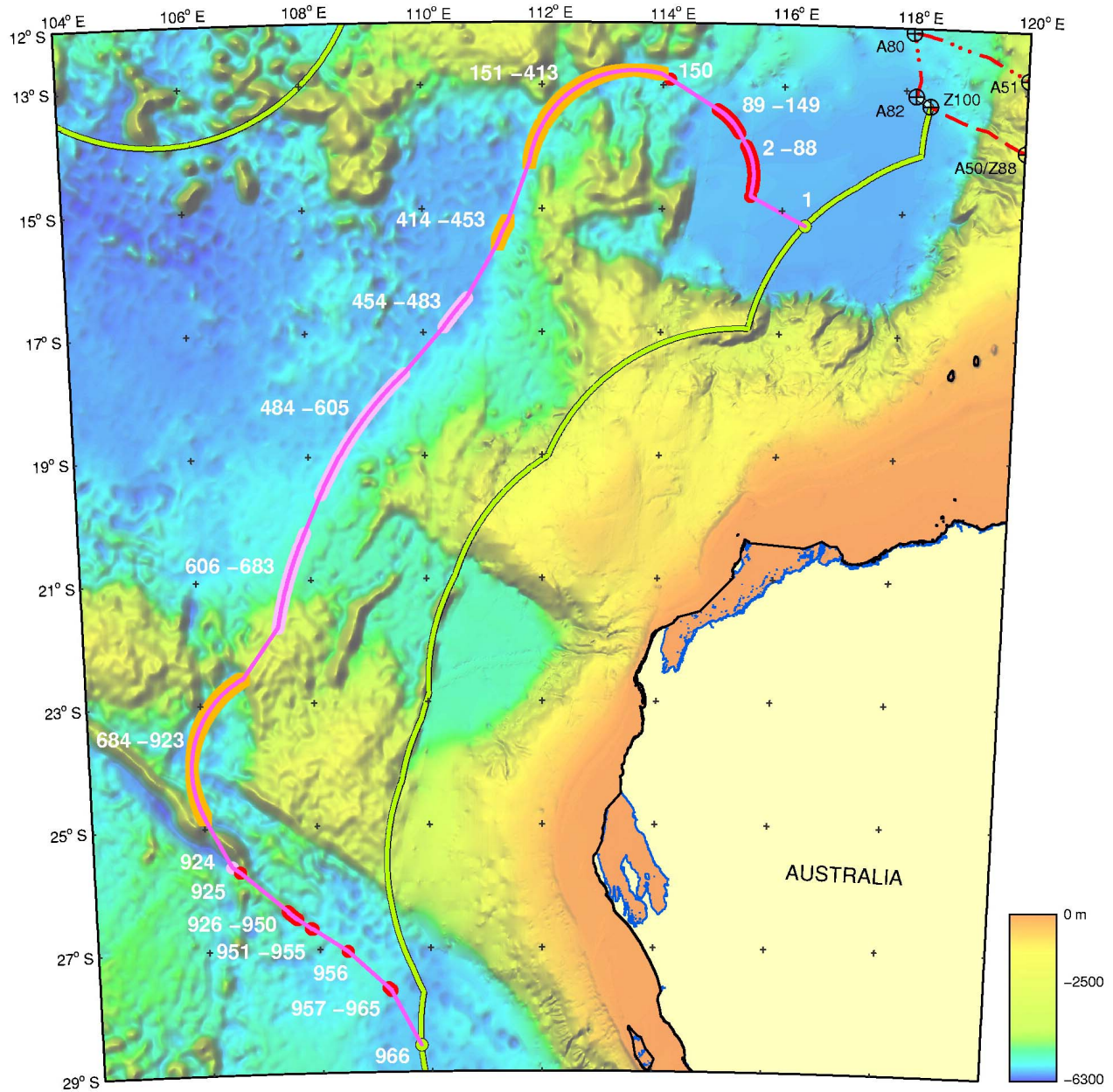


- Lines**
- Australia's territorial sea baseline*
 - 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline*
 - 200 M line from Indonesia's archipelagic baseline*
 - 1997 treaty with Indonesia –exclusive economic zone boundary*
 - 1997 treaty with Indonesia –seabed boundary*
 - Outer limit of extended continental shelf*

Figure 20. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus region showing the outer limit line and the area of extended continental shelf.

(see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-20



Lambert Conformal Conic Projection
 GRS80 Spheroid ITRF 2000 Datum at Epoch 2000.0
 Central Meridian 112° E
 Standard Parallels 16° 30' S and 26° 30' S

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Article 76 fixed points (outer limit)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Point on Australia's 200 M line (UNCLOS article 76 para. 1) ●● 60 M formula point (UNCLOS article 76 para. 4(a)(ii)) ● 350 M constraint point – point on 350 M constraint arc (UNCLOS article 76 para. 5) ■ Depth constraint point – point on the depth constraint arc (UNCLOS article 76 para. 5) | <p>Other points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊕ Point defined in a maritime boundary treaty between Australia and another State <p>Lines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from Australia's territorial sea baseline — 200 M line from Indonesia's archipelagic baseline - - - 1997 treaty with Indonesia –exclusive economic zone boundary ... 1997 treaty with Indonesia –seabed boundary — Outer limit of extended continental shelf (UNCLOS article 76 para. 7) |
|---|--|

Figure 21. The outer limit of the continental shelf of Australia in the Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus region showing the provisions of article 76 invoked (see section H for notes relevant to this map)

AUS-DOC-ES-FIGURE-21

H MAP NOTES

General

Depiction of 200 nautical mile lines from the territories of States other than Australia, and of lines equidistant from Australian land territory and that of another State, is based on information available at the time of production, and should not be taken to signify acceptance or endorsement by Australia of the validity at international law of the non-Australian basepoints from which they are drawn.

Figure 1 – Overview

Unshaded areas depict the area of Australia's extended continental shelf (ECS) as submitted to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. White shading depicts areas where Australia exercises water column, seabed and subsoil jurisdiction; seabed and subsoil jurisdiction only; or fisheries jurisdiction only, as defined in certain treaties. Light grey shading depicts areas that lie within 200 M of Antarctica (including offshore islands). Dark grey shading depicts the marine area beyond the areas described above.

Figures 2 and 3 – Argo Region

There are two maritime boundary treaties between Australia and Indonesia within the Argo region – the 1997 Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia Establishing an Exclusive Economic Zone Boundary and Certain Seabed Boundaries (marked as the “1997 treaty with Indonesia”) that establishes a seabed boundary and an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) boundary in the central part of the region and a 1972 treaty that establishes a seabed boundary in the eastern part of the region. The seabed boundaries and the EEZ boundary defined by the treaties diverge in a number of areas. In the area between the divergent boundaries, Australia exercises seabed and subsoil jurisdiction and Indonesia exercises jurisdiction over the water column.

Figures 4 and 5 – Region of the Australian Antarctic Territory

The 200 nautical mile line and the outer limit of the continental shelf have been marked to take account of the fact that maritime boundaries have not been negotiated with States adjacent to the Australian Antarctic Territory. The extent of this marking does not reflect any view with regard to the merits of any delimitation methodology.

Figures 8 and 9 – Kerguelen Plateau Region

The 1982 Agreement on Maritime Delimitation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the French Republic delimits continental shelf and exclusive economic zone boundaries between Heard and McDonald Islands (Australia) and the Îles Kerguelen (France).

Figures 10 and 11 – Lord Howe Rise Region

The 1982 Agreement on Maritime Delimitation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the French Republic delimits the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone boundaries between the Australian islands in the Coral Sea, Norfolk Island and other Australian islands on the one hand and New Caledonia, the Chesterfield Islands and other French islands on the other hand.

The 2004 Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand Establishing Certain Exclusive Economic Zone Boundaries and Continental Shelf Boundaries delimits the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone boundaries between Australia in respect of Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island and New Zealand.

Figures 12 and 13 – Macquarie Ridge Region

The 2004 Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand Establishing Certain Exclusive Economic Zone Boundaries and Continental Shelf Boundaries delimits the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone boundaries between Australia in respect of Macquarie Island and New Zealand in respect of Auckland and Campbell Islands.

Figures 18 and 19 – Three Kings Ridge Region

The 1982 Agreement on Maritime Delimitation between the Government of Australia and the Government of the French Republic delimits continental shelf and exclusive economic zone boundaries between the Australian islands in the Coral Sea, Norfolk Island and other Australian islands on the one hand and New Caledonia, the Chesterfield Islands and other French islands on the other hand.

The 2004 Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of New Zealand Establishing Certain Exclusive Economic Zone Boundaries and Continental Shelf Boundaries delimits the continental shelf and exclusive economic zone boundaries between Australia in respect of Norfolk Island and New Zealand.

Figures 20 and 21 – Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus Region

There are two maritime boundaries between Australia and Indonesia to the north of the Wallaby and Exmouth Plateaus region established by the 1997 Treaty between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia Establishing an Exclusive Economic Zone Boundary and Certain Seabed Boundaries. The seabed boundaries and the EEZ boundary defined by the treaties diverge in a number of areas. In the area between the divergent boundaries, Australia exercises seabed and subsoil jurisdiction and Indonesia exercises jurisdiction over the water column.

Attachment

**Note from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Secretary-General of the
United Nations accompanying the lodgement of Australia's submission**



Note No. 89/2004

The Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the **Submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf on the Outer Limits of Australia's Continental Shelf Extending Beyond 200 Nautical Miles from the Territorial Sea Baseline** (the Submission) lodged pursuant to article 76, paragraph 8, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) under cover of Note No 88/2004 of the same date as this Note.

Australia recalls the principles and objectives shared by the Antarctic Treaty and UNCLOS, and the importance of the Antarctic system and UNCLOS working in harmony and thereby ensuring the continuing peaceful cooperation, security and stability in the Antarctic area.

Australia notes also the relevant provisions of UNCLOS, including its article 77, which provides *inter alia* that the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on any express proclamation, and recalls the decisions of Meetings of the States Parties to UNCLOS and the rules of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission).

Australia has regard to the circumstances of the area south of 60 degrees South latitude and the special legal and political status of Antarctica under the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, including its article IV, and notes that appurtenant to Antarctica there exist areas of continental shelf the extent of which has yet to be defined. It is open to the States concerned to submit information to the Commission which would not be examined by it for the time being, or to make a partial submission not including such areas of continental shelf, for which a submission may be made later, notwithstanding the provisions regarding the ten-year period established by article 4 of Annex II to UNCLOS and the subsequent decision on its application taken by the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to UNCLOS.

Consistent with the first option, Australia requests the Commission in accordance with its rules not to take any action for the time being with regard to the information in this Submission that relates to continental shelf appurtenant to Antarctica.

The Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations requests that this Note be placed on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea along with the remainder of the executive summary of the Submission in fulfilment of the requirements of the Commission's Rules of Procedure.

The Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.



NEW YORK

November 2004