



Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy

Malé, Republic of Maldives

Ministry of Environment

Malé, Republic of Maldives

Economically fulfilled – Societal peace

Number: (IUL)438-ENV/438/2020/129

Announcement

By power vested in this ministry by article 4 of Law no. 4/93 (Maldives Environmental Protection and Preservation Act), the following area are hereby proclaimed as protected as of 22nd July 2020.

Furthermore, the maintenance of this area will be in accordance to the regulation pertaining to the sustaining of natural, protected and preserved areas (Regulation number: 2018/R-78).

- a. Protected area: Farikede area
- b. Parameters of the area to be protected (with G.P.S. coordinates) and details of zonation

Farikede area

Core area

Longitude

Latitude

Buffer area

Longitude

Latitude

- c. Why the area has been proclaimed as a naturally protected area and its special attributes
Farikede area in Gn. Fuvahmulah is an area frequented by various species of sharks to clean themselves and to give birth. Some important species that can often be seen in this area include the Thresher Shark (*Alopias pelagicus*) and the Whitetip Reef Shark (*Triaenodon obesus*). Additionally, a number of Oceanic Manta Rays (*Manta birostris*) and Whale Sharks (*Rhincodon typus*) can also be spotted in this area. As these species are in danger of being extinct, it is imperative to protect the areas they use to clean themselves, give birth, and breed in.
- d. Category of natural protection and sustaining
Category 6: Species/ habitat management area
- e. Actions prohibited in the aforementioned area:
 1. Dropping anchor in any situation other than an emergency in which a person's life is in danger.
 2. Capturing, taking, and killing birds from this area.
 3. Removing or taking of rocks, sand, and coral rubble.
 4. Dumping trash in the area.
 5. Any action of aquaculture/ mariculture.
 6. Introducing any species of living thing.
 7. Land reclamation and making lagoons deeper.
 8. Fishing using lights.
- f. Actions allowed with special permission under an established guideline:
 1. Civilians/ tourists visiting reefs or lagoons.
 2. Feeding fish.
 3. Researching.

1st Dhu'l-Hijjah 1441 AH.

22nd July 2020 GC.