

Application of Laws (Coastal Sea) Act 1980 No 146

[1980-146]



New South Wales

Status Information

Currency of version

Current version for 31 March 2001 to date (accessed 18 January 2025 at 6:40)

Legislation on this site is usually updated within 3 working days after a change to the legislation.

Provisions in force

The provisions displayed in this version of the legislation have all commenced.

Responsible Minister

- Attorney General

For full details of Ministerial responsibilities, see the [Administrative Arrangements \(Minns Ministry—Administration of Acts\) Order 2023](#).

Authorisation

This version of the legislation is compiled and maintained in a database of legislation by the Parliamentary Counsel's Office and published on the NSW legislation website, and is certified as the form of that legislation that is correct under section 45C of the [Interpretation Act 1987](#).

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Application of Laws (Coastal Sea) Act 1980 No 146



New South Wales

An Act to apply laws of the State, other than criminal laws, to the coastal sea adjacent to the State.

1 Name of Act

This Act may be cited as the *Application of Laws (Coastal Sea) Act 1980*.

2 Commencement

- (1) This section and section 1 shall commence on the date of assent to this Act.
- (2) Except as provided by subsection (1), this Act shall commence on such day as may be appointed by the Governor in respect thereof and as may be notified by proclamation published in the Gazette.

3 Definitions

- (1) In this Act, except in so far as the context or subject-matter otherwise indicates or requires:

coastal sea means:

- (a) the territorial sea adjacent to the State, and
- (b) the sea on the landward side of the territorial sea adjacent to the State that is not within the limits of the State,

and includes the airspace over and the seabed and sub-soil beneath any such sea.

criminal laws means the substantive criminal law, and the law of criminal investigation, procedure and evidence, within the meaning of the *Crimes at Sea Act 1998*.

territorial sea means the territorial sea of Australia.

- (2) In this Act, a reference to a law in force in the State includes a reference to the provisions of any instrument made under that law.

- (3) In this Act, a reference to the laws in force in the State does not include a reference to any law to the extent to which it would, if it were to apply by virtue of this Act, regulate or purport to regulate coastal trading, as mentioned in section 736 of the *Merchant Shipping Act 1894* of the Imperial Parliament.

4 Application of laws to coastal sea

The provisions of the laws in force in the State, whether written or unwritten, and whether substantive or procedural, and as in force from time to time, other than criminal laws and laws of the Commonwealth, apply to and in relation to the coastal sea, and so apply as if the coastal sea were part of the State.

5 Laws with specific application not to apply

- (1) Nothing in this Act renders a provision of the laws in force in the State applicable to a particular place:
- (a) in so far as the provision is incapable of applying to or in relation to that place,
 - (b) if those laws expressly provide that the provision does not extend or apply to or in relation to that place, or
 - (c) if those laws expressly provide that the provision applies only in a specified locality in the State that does not include that place.
- (2) A provision of the laws in force in the State shall not be taken to be a provision to which subsection (1) applies by reason only that it is limited in its application to acts, matters and things within the territorial jurisdiction of the State or within the territorial or adjacent waters (however described) of the State.

6 Extent of jurisdiction in relation to coastal sea

- (1) All persons who may exercise powers and authorities conferred on them by law for the purposes of or in connection with a provision of any law in force in the State shall have and may exercise all or any of those powers and authorities for the purposes of or in connection with that provision as applying by virtue of this Act, as if the coastal sea were part of the State.
- (2) The several courts of the State are invested with jurisdiction in all matters arising under the provisions of the laws as applying by virtue of this Act, as if the coastal sea were part of the State.

7 Regulations

- (1) The Governor may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, for or with respect to prescribing all matters required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed or necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.

- (2) Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), the regulations may provide that such provisions or classes of provisions of the laws in force in the State as are specified in the regulations:
- (a) do not apply by virtue of this Act,
 - (b) do not apply by virtue of this Act to acts, matters or things, or classes of acts, matters or things, specified in the regulations, or
 - (c) do not apply by virtue of this Act in circumstances specified in the regulations.
- (3) Where regulations such as are referred to in subsection (2) are in force, this Act shall be construed to apply the provisions of the laws in force in the State subject to and in accordance with the regulations.