



12/Sept/2017

Marine Parks

[managementplanning.marine@environment.gov.au](mailto:managementplanning.marine@environment.gov.au)

Dear Sir or Madam:

As Chair of The Fishermens Portal Inc. I would like to relay to you the feedback from our 200 members (all families in Queensland's inshore fisheries) about the draft management arrangements for the Commonwealth Marine Parks.

I circulated the information with advise to our members that the plan appeared to me that all was in order. A number of informal telephone conversations took place confirming my view.

I am not sure of the benefits of changing the reference to the parks to remove the word 'Commonwealth' from the name, although there seems to be no apparent reason to object. I would hope though that the current Queensland Minister for Fisheries The Honorable Bill Byrne does not gain any influence over the management of our nearest parks in Commonwealth waters, given his hostile treatment of our sector. If that was to happen then I'm sure a lot of the good work that has been done to get us to this point will be undone.

Our organisation would like to commend the professionals who put the current arrangement together. The extensive consultation with industry was well received. To be listened to is fantastic.

Some of our small communities are struggling for the lack of support from decision makers for our future. We hope the proposed arrangements will be locked in as they will instill confidence in our regional economies.

We also note that there is strong criticism from some quarters saying that the zones are not extensive enough. These people have nothing to lose and have alternative agendas which I hope our decision makers will see through and dismiss.

Thankyou again. You have the full support of our fishing industry for the proposed arrangements.

Regards

Robert Pender

Chair

The Fishermens Portal Inc.

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