

Submitted on Saturday, September 16, 2017 - 16:36 Submitted by anonymous user: 110.142.192.176
Submitted values are:

First Name: John

Last Name: Tate

Organisation:

Which sector do you represent?

- General public
- Recreational fishing
- Recreational diving or snorkeling

Which draft plans are you commenting on? South-west Network Which marine park(s) are you commenting on? National Park zone shown off the coast from Margaret River, Geographe Bay What topic(s) or activity(s) are you commenting about? General use and access (including recreational) What part of the plan(s) are you commenting on? Part 2 - The Marine Park or Network Which program are you commenting on? Park protection and management program Please tick this box if you would like to keep up to date with all the latest information on Australian Marine Parks by subscribing to our email updates. :

Your submission may also be published online by the Director of National Parks. Please tick 'No' if you do not want it published. Your submission will still be considered in the Director's Report on the Preparation of the Management Plans, and may be provided to the Minister and tabled before Parliament: Yes

Does your comment relate to the renaming of marine parks? No Please type your comments below:

I am surprised and disappointed to note that the recently released draft plans for the Australian Marine Parks shows that the sanctuary/Marine National Park protection zones in Geographe Bay have been revoked and replaced with a zoning type ('Habitat Protection Zone') that offers no meaningful protection. It allows recreational and commercial fishing there, precluding all the major benefits and opportunities we know adequately protected marine parks deliver.

I urge you to carefully consider the implications and opportunities of restoring our sanctuary protection in Geographe Bay, and ignore fringe voices but rather the overwhelming scientific evidence and the significant community support for having effective management plans that genuinely protect our ocean