

Dear Minister Frydenburg,

Oceans are today under immense threat from acidification due to climate change, pollution (including runoff, plastic bags), and over-fishing leading to disruption of their normal ecologies.

I consider that in the context of threats to the oceans, lobbyists who want access to marine parks for fishing now are very short-sighted.

Our marine parks were placed on small selected coastal areas of high ecological value. Many hold fish nurseries which if they continue to be protected will contribute to the survival of species available for commercial and recreational fishing in the oceans outside the marine parks

Please do not pursue the proposals to cut the areas held in marine parks, which are a very small proportion of Australia's coastline.

They were created for very good reasons, and your Government should be considering expanding their area rather than reducing it as reductions could contribute to further species extinctions.

Your faithfully,

Lex Chalmers OAM (Ms)
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