

Do not lessen the areas of marine sanctuaries in Australian waters.

This is an absolute no brainer.

Fish stocks are at an all time low. And this is a food resource for the future of Australia.

Fish need sanctuaries to grow and reproduce. When they get big enough they travel out of the sanctuaries and then are 'fair game' for commercial fishing.

Commercial fishermen and people who harvest the sea are not like farmers who harvest the land.

Farmers maintain the health of their resource.

Commercial fishers harvest fish until they're all fished out then move on to another area.

History shows that, as with the North Atlantic shoals/banks off the coast of U.S.A in the 1960s, and as with the orange roughy in the Tasman in the 1980s, commercial fisheries cannot be trusted to sustainably harvest their resource. The cod, now 50+ years later, have still not recovered in the North Atlantic and neither have the orange roughy in the Tasman. Japan cheated for years on their quotas for tuna in Australian waters now we have to farm it.

This idea of reducing marine exclusion zones is pure madness.

We should be creating more.

William Scott