

Dear "Management planning",

**The federal government has recently embarked on many projects by rejecting science.**

This is something which indicates an increasing level of short term stupidity. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century with cumulative global losses of natural capital, clever capitalism would suggest a degree of caution!

Instead the tendency in many areas of concern has been the trend of government to ignore warnings and go for un-necessary "management" - which is the opposite of planning.

This also suggests immaturity in decision-making and a willingness to become a global laughing stock by taking backward, foolish steps.

**Thousands of Australians came together to create our National Network of Sanctuaries**

There is overwhelming community support for these sanctuaries, including from the vast majority of recreational fishers.

There is international scientific consensus that sanctuaries are the best thing we can do to protect our oceans.

Yet, lengthy Work by all sides of politics over many decades is now being completely undone.

**Surely this is not government for the good of the future ...**

The timing could not be worse. In the face of never-before coral bleaching, unprecedented mangrove dieback and disappearing kelp forests over the last year, surely sanctuaries are more important than ever before?

The Coral Sea is hardest hit. More than half the globally significant sanctuary has been stripped away and some of the world's most important reefs opened up, including Osprey Reef which has been described by David Attenborough as the perfect reef.

If these plans for suspended National Network of Marine Sanctuaries go ahead, we will be the first country in the world ever to go backwards on marine protection.

**Is this the record we want for Australia?**

*More than ever the management and planning of Nature needs Nature to be left alone to restore itself.*

Kindly think again about the Marine Network of Sanctuaries and leave them alone ...

With good wishes,  
Janet Harwood