

Please find my comments regarding the current Coral Sea Management Plan:

I suggest the Special Purpose Zone (Trawl) (IUCN VI) proposed between the latitude of Townsville and Gladstone is an excessive area dedicated to trawling which is destructive to habitats and therefore not advisable over such an extensive area. Considerations include habitat connectivity and reproduction for all species that have a benthic or benthic associated life phase. This would likely impact the adjacent GBRMPA and could impact areas to the north and south of this proposed area.

I believe there should be another two National Park Zone (IUCN II) areas included along the boundary of the GBRMPA in the area south of Lockhart River and north of Cardwell.

I recommend revising the National Park Zone (IUCN II) surrounding Osprey Reef to include all of the western Side of Osprey Reef. This would include an important marine life cleaning station at “Raging Horn” which is also a high quality tourist diving site where regular sightings occur for thresher sharks, hammerhead sharks and manta rays amongst other marine life of high value to dive tourism. The western side of Osprey Reef is also important spawning habitat for numerous reef associated fish including the fish families Scarinidae and Acanthuridae. Osprey Reef also hosts the most well established population of *Bolbometopon muricatum* (Humphead parrotfish) I have observed on any Australian Coral reef and these rove the shallow waters of the extent of Osprey Reef.

I recommend revising both Holmes Reef and Flinders Reef to include areas that are National Park Zone (IUCN II). I suggest that 50% of the waters associated with each of these reef complexes are made National Park Zone (IUCN II).

I recommend revising the Frederick Reef, Cato Reef, Saumarez Reef and Wreck Reef plans to include areas of National Park Zone (IUCN II). I suggest 50% of each of these reef areas should become National Park Zone (IUCN II).

The area of National Park Zone (IUCN II) at Marion Reef should be extended beyond the limits of shallow water coral reef to include a margin of pelagic waters similar to the outline proposed as Habitat Protection Zone (Reefs) (IUCN IV) for the southern half of this reef.

The large areas of National Park Zone (IUCN II) that are placed north of Townsville should also be complemented with at least one area of National Park Zone (IUCN II) in the southern regions of the proposed Coral Sea Marine Park.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and keep up the challenging but good work,

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