

Sent via email to managementplanning.marine@environment.gov.au

20th September 2017

Dear sir/madam,

Please find below my feedback on the draft management plans for marine parks.

I write as an Australian resident, voter and taxpayer, unlike some parties that are only pushing their own agendas, I have no agenda to push and do not work in any industry associated to the marine parks. What a care about is good, unbiased decisions and policy and the environment and this does not seem to be happening in this case.

I would like to stress that The Department of the Environment and Energy works for and should represent all Australians and do what is best for the majority of Australians and the Environment that you are entrusted to protect. You are **NOT** working for the minister of the day or the government of the day or vested interests, you are working for all Australians. If you do not agree with government policy and vested interests then stand up and say so, it is too late after the plans are implemented.

The parks are owned by all Australians not just the fishing industry (a vested industry) and the fishing industry should never be in charge of government policy regarding marine parks. Why do we need changes and reviews? Because vested interests want to water down protections to suit their own agendas and business's.

Halving protections seem to be nothing more than poor policy and seems to be all about vested interests above anything else, they come first and the rest of concerned and interested Australians come a very poor second. That is unacceptable and I expect more from an agency that is funded by all taxpayers, you are not an industry funded lobby group and you should stand up to vested interests.

I really worry and have grave concerns that vested interests and government agendas are getting in the way of good policy and protections with the management plans.

You can say whatever you like and use spin but the facts are the facts and this plan winds back high level protection zoning and that is unacceptable under any measure.

What especially annoys me is the worst case scenarios pushed by vested interests and parties with agendas to push like the tuna industry saying if this does not happen the industry will die, where are the facts to back up there arguments? Those claims are nothing but scare mongering and anybody with any sense should be able to see straight through these claims.

It smells like this request for feedback is nothing more than a shame and is just smoke and mirrors as really the only parties the government wants to hear is the fishing industry. You will say you consulted but the real questions should be did you act on the feedback you sort or only on some feedback that backed the plan and the agenda the minister and this government is pushing?

Yours sincerely,

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