

To whom it may concern,

I write this submission to will that our essential marine reserves are retained. This recent mootung of reducing reserves in the Coral Sea alone, the area placed in Marine National Parks, would be halved. The same goes for Marion Reef. Even Osprey Reef, one of the top dive sites in the world, would have half its area removed from the Marine National Park. **Shark and Vema Reefs have would be taken out of the Marine National Park area altogether.**

Midwater trawling proposed would now be possible for longlining to start at the southern tip of the Coral Sea reserve and continue all the way to the northern boundary. Counterintuitive and counterproductive moved, based on scientific research and forecast.

No Government **ever** has taken this many hectares out of conservation before. **It would be the largest backward step in areas under conservation in history.**

These protections are in place for five years now and Labor has committed fight to protect them, as the Greens have too.

Smarter fish farming and long term thinking are what are required to address the dwindling catch rate. I strongly object to the commercial influence that has created this draft of greater threatening our marine life and much more, if such changes are implemented.

Sincerely,

Paul

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"(All) truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident." *Arthur Schopenhauer*

