

I have fished on the reef for the last 30 odd years. Over this time I have noticed a drop in not only the species of fish but also the number of fish we catch. I had also noticed years ago the bi-catch of the trawlers (which were trawling quite close inshore) all over the beach. Even if they weren't supposed to do this, they did it anyway. What a waste!! We are quite happy to observe the green zones which allow fish stock to recover.

Who is going to patrol the longliners to make sure they are doing the correct thing? Do you even care about the environment let alone the value of the marine industries and the amount of tourism they create? Just what is the purpose of this backward step and who are you supporting with this move?

Leave the reef alone! Don't allow any more pillaging of our fish stocks. Do not allow drilling in the reef environment! Do not wind back the protections we have in place now. Marine Parks also have a value which may be greater than the extra dollar for the odd Company or two.