

Dear Sir/Madam,

It has been circulating in the media that the Australian Government is planning to cut Marine Protected Areas by 50%. This is a huge setback for conservation in Australia and frankly a disregard to pure facts that MPAs act as safe zones for fish to recuperate, thereby replenishing fisheries. You are making places like the Great Barrier Reef vulnerable to human activities and a focal example that conservation groups will point as a ridiculous call from management. How is this managing and protecting the oceans of Australia? I sincerely hope you will rethink this judgement. As a student at James Cook University who has admired the ferocity of the sea and who has had to witness intense bleaching from warming ocean waters, I cannot imagine what the two-fold damage your decision will do on the reef.

Cheers,
Olivia Lee.