

Submitted on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 - 10:05 Submitted by anonymous user: 203.45.103.140
Submitted values are:

First Name: Sharon

Last Name: Leptig

Organisation:

Which sector do you represent?

- Recreational boating
- Recreational fishing

Which draft plans are you commenting on? Coral Sea Which marine park(s) are you commenting on?

Coral Sea Marine Park What topic(s) or activity(s) are you commenting about?

- General use and access (including recreational)
- Recreational fishing

What part of the plan(s) are you commenting on? Part 1 - Managing Australian Marine Parks Which program are you commenting on? Park protection and management program Please tick this box if you would like to keep up to date with all the latest information on Australian Marine Parks by subscribing to our email updates. :

Yes please subscribe me to Australian Marine Parks news Your submission may also be published online by the Director of National Parks. Please tick 'No' if you do not want it published. Your submission will still be considered in the Director's Report on the Preparation of the Management Plans, and may be provided to the Minister and tabled before

Parliament: Yes

Does your comment relate to the renaming of marine parks? No Please type your comments below:

I write this submission as the Executive Officer for Zone 1, Queensland Game Fishing Association. This Zone represents the following recreational fishing clubs from the tip of Cape York to Ingham.

- Weipa Game Fishing Club
- Port Douglas Game Fishing Club,
- Lizard Is Game Fishing Club
- Cairns Bluewater Game Fishing Club,
- Yorkeys Knob Sport Fishing Club,
- Ribbons Ladies Game Fishing Club,
- Innisfail Game Fishing Club
- Mission Beach Game Fishing Club.

As the elected representative for this Zone, I put forward our submission in support of the proposed Coral Sea Marine Park. Under the proposed plan, we are pleased to be able to continue to fish within many of our traditional fishing grounds such as Shark, Vema, Holmes and Flora Reefs and the Sea Mount. We are already supporting research in these areas, regularly

supplying vessels to scientists who are conducting research studies. These areas are not easily accessible due to the distance required to travel to reach them, many of our members would only visit these areas to fish and explore once a year. Many of our members have been fishing these areas for decades. We are pleased to see that these areas will still be accessible to us under this draft plan.

We fully support the comments made by Queensland Game Fishing Association in their submission for comment on the draft plan.

As member clubs of Queensland Game Fishing Association, we are required to operate and fish within a strict standard of guidelines and rules. We are dedicated particularly to the conservation of the game fish and food fish resources of both our State and Nationally.

Most importantly for our Zone, we want to see Management of these proposed Marine Parks become a collaborative effort between the Government and the

Key Stakeholders in each area. We feel that as an association, we have a plethora of knowledge and historical data which will aid and assist in efficient, effective management of the Coral Sea Marine Park. We feel that this should be considered very thoroughly in this process.

We are enthused that this plan supports the key stakeholders involved as a whole and are hopeful that as the consultation process continues we will be continue to be involved and provide further knowledge, feedback and assistance.