

Dear Sir,

I am appalled that parts of the Great Barrier Reef are threatened by being removed from Marine Parks or opened up to trawling. Mid water trawling has the real potential to damage the reef despite of "how careful they might be"!

Long line fishing is indiscriminate and baited hooks will catch any fish including protected species such as Groper. Once hooked, these fish soon "drown". Long lines are not constantly patrolled so the real and actual possibility is that unintended catches will die.

Once you allow Commercial Fishers into areas that once were Marine parks, then it is "open slather" as anyone can fish there and there will be little or no control on catches. reef damage will also occur with ships and boats anchoring and garbage, escaping oil and fuel and other toxic conserving and maintain fish stocks. Allowing fishing on a Commercial basis will greatly reduce materials will find their way onto the reef areas.

Marine Parks are valuable areas for the conservation and breeding areas for many species. Marine Parks give us greater protection in maintaining sustainability of fish stocks. Fishing, especially the volumes caught by Commercial fishers can greatly reduce the sustainability of fish stocks.

We owe future generations the ability to see our reefs in a pristine state which is not possible with Commercial Fishing. Future generations are entitled to the continued sustainability of fish stocks which is greatly assisted by Marine parks.

it is also time that The Government start to take notice of the numerous ordinary voters and not be pressured by Big Business and Powerful Lobby Groups that are only there to serve the interests of a few.