

To Whom It May Concern;

I strongly object to the winding back of Australia's Marine Conservation provisions. The proposed changes reduce the protected area by around 50%; this is unacceptable in an era where climate change is a dominant force affecting and changing our food-gathering systems. This is an unprecedented retrogressive step, and one that should be abandoned. If anything, our environment – including its' marine ecosystems – need \*more\* protection from over-exploitation and pollution. Increased trawling activity in formerly protected areas will rapidly degrade their biomass, and diminish the returns available to subsequent generations. We need to secure our food supply for the future, which necessitates adopting sustainable practices – which is not a recognisable part of the proposed changes.

Regards;

Dr. Andrew Grosse

University of Tasmania Electronic Communications Policy (December, 2014).

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