

I believe that you are planning to greatly reduce the size of marine national parks. This is extremely worrying to me as our oceans and their inhabitants are not doing well in this world where we value commercial gain over sustainable practice.

I value the long term capacity to provide healthy foods for the world's growing populations in the oceans.

Currently we are allowing practices such as fish farming and mass capture of fish and the incidental killing of species not being sought. These and many other practices are putting immense pressure on this very vulnerable environment. Until we can know just what damage is being done and how it may be treated we need to increase rather than decrease the size of sanctuaries where natural processes can produce a more normal environment for fish species and where they can retreat to cope with the growing population of the world.

The world's resources are not infinite and old practices and beliefs can no longer be allowed to remain especially when humans can develop more ways to capture existing resources than the capacity of these resources to regenerate.

We are all aware of species which have been over fished and have been nearly destroyed needing drastic changes to help them recover.

Commercial interests are most usually concerned with quick profits over sustainable practice. They are historically very unreliable as advisors to a world which needs desperately to conserve and manage its resources.

We must learn to plan for the next thousand years rather than the next election cycle. Cutting the size of Marine National parks is an example of the latter rather than the former. The survival of the human race is at stake if we make the wrong decisions now not just the survival of the marine environment.

Robin Percy