

To the Department of Environment,

As Australian citizens we absolutely reject the Government's plans to cut marine protection in Australian waters.

No Government ever has taken this many hectares out of conservation before. It's the largest backward step in areas under conservation in history.

Labor put these protections in place five years ago. It was a brave and progressive action to take within a volatile political environment. Winding back these protections with all of the destruction that will result from commercial fishing makes no sense whatsoever.

In the words of a famous Australian...

“We deserve better than this fudging and scheming, and so do our seas. It's not too late for excellence. Or a legacy to be proud of. Sanctuaries and science can still be restored to marine parks. But that will take statesmanship, principle and courage.”

Tim Winton

Science shows that partial or low-level protection simply doesn't work. What your government is putting forward will radically diminish protection of habitat. It will also undermine sustainable regional economic development. This is simply not the direction this country should take.

We look forward to seeing these plans disappear, permanently.

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