

Dear Ministers of LNP Government

I wish to express my strong objection to your proposed changes to the marine park boundaries as it is short sighted and ignorant to not consider the best scientific knowledge that went into the original exhaustive and broad ranging planning process that led to the current boundaries.

The recent so called 'review' that these proposed changes are based on was obviously calculated and designed to change the boundaries in ways that catered to a few commercial interests and has been shown to be counter productive in terms of both economics as well as environmental sustainability.

In short, there is no logical or practical basis for these changes and reverses the good work done in coming up with the original plans for marine reserves in Australia.

I urge you to NOT adopt these changes and to show some leadership and concern for the sustainable use of Australia's marine resources, and not just cater to a very few commercial interests who will not benefit that much from the increased access and use of marine resources. Such proposed changes will however impact greatly on the sustainability of many of the regions like the Coral Sea.

These changes are proposed at a time when ecosystems like coral reefs are under serious pressures from the effects of climate change and most commercial fisheries are enduring unsustainable over exploitation.

Why are you even considering these changes?

It goes without saying if these changes are implemented, I will hold the LNP accountable at the next elections and vote accordingly.

Yours sincerely

David Fisk PhD (Coral Reefs)