

Re: RETENTION OF MARINE RESERVES UNDER AUSTRALIA'S PROTECTION

Dear Sir,

Please do not reduce the areas of ocean within Australia's 200 mile territorial zone that are under its protection.

Australia is well-placed to protect the biodiversity in its care and should do so. Such diversity of marine life can best be protected through marine reserves remaining in place. They need careful management in order to be a breeding ground for future stocks of seafood as well as for safeguarding the species they contain; for such species have a right to exist and flourish because of their own intrinsic value.

We need to protect marine life from the "increasing tide" of humans on the planet. Every hour the human population increases by a "net" (pardon the puns) amount of approximately 9000 individuals. There are around 16,000 births and a certain number of deaths with a net increase of 9,000 people. We need to tackle the problem of human numbers because no species ever decreases by feeding it and the process of transferring protected areas to areas for human use does just that and is therefore unsustainable. We will continue to overpopulate this planet until we too perish by destroying it.

Please show value for all life on the planet by safeguarding our marine reserves.

Yours sincerely,

(Miss) Nola Stewart