

To whom it may concern

I am writing this submission in support of the current marine reserves - reducing their size is counter intuitive and retrograde. No government before has made such a retrograde proposal to remove so many hectares from an already existing reserve.

On a planet where wild environments are under threat our obligation is to protect wholeheartedly those wild places that still remain.

Wild places not only provide security for the wild species that live there they provide safe haven for spawning fish, providing safe nurseries... allowing fish stocks to be replenished and as they inevitably move out in the wider oceans, to feed a hungry human population. There must be large expanses of ocean in which this can happen without risk of midwater trawling and longline fishing, in order that the human population will be able to remain fed into the future. Managing fish stocks is critical for our future. Our reserves must be about the sustainability of environments that ensure viable fish stocks NOT about short term jobs and profits. Once fish stocks are depleted they will not return... And we will lose these extraordinary wild places.

I ask that the marine reserves that have been set in place remain as they are.

sincerely  
Greer Taylor