

The proposals tabled by the Australian Government aimed at cutting the ocean area that we protect as a nation are an international disgrace, a poor reflection of our environmental values, and cannot be allowed to proceed.

These changes to relatively recent existing legislation will nearly halve the areas of the ocean currently under protection, including major portions of Coral Sea Marine National parks, as well as advocating complete removal of protective legislation placed on some parks, such as Vema and Shark Reefs. This is unconscionable and cannot be condoned.

We cannot turn back important legislation put in place to protect endangered and critical regions of our national coastline. No economic argument can be sustained to support such retrograde practice. The proposed legislation is clearly unsustainable and must be rejected.

Sincerely

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