

I wish to submit my deepest concerns regarding reducing the areas of protection of the marine environment on the grounds of:

1. Overfishing is becoming of desperate concern around the world
2. Protected zones are the only ways fish stocks can regenerate
3. Australia has the potential to be a source of restocking, supporting fish populations if our fishing industry is regulated
4. Protection zones mean amateur/recreational fishers can enjoy the benefits of a wholesome sport
5. Devastating methods of professional/commercial fishing destroy huge, unseen areas of marine environment
6. Tourism employs greater numbers of people than the commercial fishing industry
7. Destroying fish stocks reduces the viability of the tourism industry
8. There are serious flow-on effects from a reduction in fishing tourism, on land based enterprises
9. Protection zones have been working successfully since their development
10. Who is going to benefit from these reduction in protected zones? Not the environment, and not the general public
11. These are matters that impact on the national interest
12. It is not in the national interest to destroy a sustainable resource for some nebulous short term gain for some disinterested party who will probably not even pay taxes to the Australian government

Judy Hardy-Holden
83 Grays Road,
Doonan 4562.