

Dear sir/madam,

Please stop winding back ocean protections.

It is important for marine parks to contribute to Australia's well being, the national economy and most importantly to regional economies, through supporting local people to maintain jobs in tourism and fishing enterprises, so why in the Coral Sea alone,

has the area placed in Marine National Parks been halved?

The same goes for Marion Reef. Even Osprey Reef, one of the top dive sites in the world has had half its area removed from the Marine National Park.

Shark and Vema Reefs have been taken out of the Marine National Park area altogether, why?

Midwater trawling is to be reintroduced and it will be now be possible for longlining to start at the southern tip of the Coral Sea reserve and continue all the way to the northern boundary, why?

No Government **ever**, has taken this many hectares out of conservation before.

It's the largest backward step in areas under conservation in history!

These protections were put in place five years ago by the Labour Environment Minister and should not be reduced in any shape of form to protect all the points made in the second sentence above.

Yours etc,

Alan Kruger,

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Currimundi, 4551.