

I would like to make a formal submission re the proposed marine park reduction.

I am horrified that the Government is considering rolling back protection to the Coral Sea, Marion Reef, Osprey Reef, Shark Reef and Vema Reef.

It is a terrible idea to reintroduce midwater trawling and to allow longlining at the southern tip of the Coral Sea reserve and continue all the way to the northern boundary.

Long lining and trawling have huge impacts on marine wildlife with tonnes of excess species dying as bycatch and many birds such as albatross dying cruelly in long lines.

Our oceans are already under ever increasing stress from overfishing and plastic pollution. Marine parks are needed to protect fish stocks and provide marine species with a safe haven.

Please DO NOT roll back these vital marine protections

Nicola Bowskill