

Management Planning. Dept of Environment and Energy.

Email to:- managementplanning.marine@environment.gov.au

Response to:- Have your say.

I, Tania Douthwaite as a supporter of the Australian Underwater Federation "AUF" and as a recreational spearfisher would like to submit as follows:-

- 1) **I agree with marine sanctuaries / fishing lockouts that were proposed for recreational and commercial fishers as we need to fish for the future and not for the freezer**
- 2) I believe the ocean **should be conserved** and science shows this is of benefit to the fishing sector
- 3) In regards to the area proposed for closure just north of the Abrolhos Islands, straddling John Moresby Bank I think this is fantastic and think larger sanctuary areas are needed to protect this unique and precious part of our coast. I am concerned it is not large enough and wish to enjoy the quality of fishing in the Abrohlos I enjoy now by protecting more areas to allow better recruitment from sanctuary areas.
- 4) In the Coral Sea I support the complete fishing closures to Kenn and Bougainville reefs.
- 5) In the Eastern Temperate NSW draft plans i support the Lord Howe Island and Elizabeth Reef closures to fishing.

Parks Australia should allow support for local Spearfishing bans to extend into Commonwealth waters or to Elizabeth Reef some 150klms distant. It will be a further move to protect vulnerable marine life in this area. We have plenty of other places to fish sustainably after all!

Conclusions.

-Spearfishing is generally supported by scientists as being the most sustainable form of fishing if closely monitored and ecology education on fish species is made available to fishers. More education is needed.

-The Coalition and Parks Australia have a wonderful opportunity in the creation of this CMR to have a world leading Marine Park that recognises the legitimate rights of all citizens to enjoy their recreational activities in a sustainable way. I support a big network of marine sanctuaries around Australia because I believe we need to look after special habitats and species with them so there is much in reserve for the future, our children and to help mitigate the risks to ocean life already apparent due to climate change.

Please feel free to contact me to discuss my submission and if you require evidence of the statements and assertions I have made heir in.

Warm Regards,

Tania Douthwaite

Hilton 6163 WA