

Template 10

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Dear Director of National Parks (CC Minister Frydenberg and Rick Wilson MP),

I welcome the proposal to ban mining, oil and gas in the whole of Bremer Marine Park.

I welcome the new National Park zone (IUCNII/'sanctuary') over the globally significant Bremer Canyon, and I am pleased to see most of the inner National Park zone restored, protecting that part of our much-loved Bay from damaging scallop trawling.

However, we would like to see the inner National Park zone in the Bay fully restored. The Bay is an important breeding area for southern right whales, and is crucial for the Bremer community and economy, and the region's pristine and iconic reputation.

Our region is famous for its sea dragons – we even have a seagrass newly discovered to science and the world that was found in the area last year.

More than 600 members of the local community and 18 Bremer businesses have already contributed to the development of these draft plans, asking for our Canyon to be protected and our inner National Park 'sanctuary' in the Bay to be fully restored.

I urge you to completely restore the National Park 'sanctuary' zoning that was in the 2012 plans for Bremer Marine Park, and retain the new National Park 'sanctuary' zone protection that is within these new draft plans.

Please count this as my submission into the consultation on the draft plans for Australia's Marine Parks.

Yours sincerely,