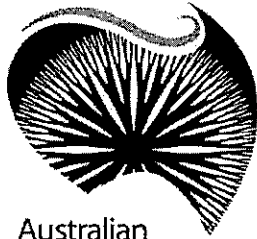


Submission
No 949

INQUIRY INTO RECREATIONAL FISHING

Organisation: Australian Coral Reef Society
Name: Prof Justin Marshall
Position: President
Date received: 22/03/2010



Australian
Coral Reef Society

Australian Coral Reef Society Inc.

A society promoting scientific study of Australian Coral Reefs

Address: ACRS Memberships
c/- Queensland Brain Institute
The University of Queensland
St Lucia QLD 4072

Tel: (07) 3365 1397

Fax: (07) 3365 4522

Email: Justin.marshall@uq.edu.au

The Hon Robert Brown MLC
Select Committee on Recreational Fishing
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

March 19th 2010

Dear Hon Member Brown,

Re: Parliamentary Enquiry into Recreational Fishing in NSW

The Australian Coral Reef Society (ACRS) is the professional society for coral reef scientists in Australia. It is the oldest coral reef society in the world and has a considerable number of international members. It plays a key role in promoting scientific research on Australian coral reefs, including those in NSW and is a forum for discussion and information transfer among scientists, management agencies and reef-based industries that are committed to ecological sustainability.

Many of our national and international members and colleagues are beginning to express great concern over this issue and we urge you to consider the carefully researched submission submitted to you by the Australian Marine Sciences Association (AMSA) recently. In particular it is difficult to underestimate the importance of two matters:

- a) The need to collect and rely on scientifically validated data. In this respect it is great to see, through this submission process, that this is clearly your intention.
- b) There are many examples of the benefits of marine parks and no take zones both from your own region and from other regions which have undergone this process. We recommend to you in particular the efforts of GBRMPA for the zonation issues of The Great Barrier Reef. As I am sure you know, other examples and clear data also exist for NTZs in New Zealand and regions in the Pacific where this is more a matter of life and death. We would be happy to provide more information on these if useful?

Interestingly, international opinion holds Australia and New Zealand up as world leaders in this respect (eg from a centuries-old fishing ground of Cornwall in the UK <http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=13674>) and we look forward to continuing this position of world leadership.

Yours sincerely

President:
Hon Secretary:
Hon Treasurer:

Prof Justin Marshall; Tel: 07 3365 1397; Fax: 07 3365 4522
Dr. Ulrike Siebeck; Tel: 07 3365 4070; Fax: 07 3365 4522
Dr Anna Scott; Tel: 02 6648 3923; Fax: 02 6651 6580

Email: justin.marshall@uq.edu.au
Email: u.siebeck@uq.edu.au
Email: ascott@nmsc.edu.au