

**Submission to
The standing Committee on Environment & the Arts
On
The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park & Other Legislation Amendments
Bill 2008
Submission from the International Game Fish Association.**

As a Member of the Board of Trustees of the International Game Fish Association (IGFA), I am making this submission on behalf of the association due to the closing date for submissions. I will however ask the President of that organisation to confirm his full support for this submission by email.

The IGFA represents anglers in 23 countries throughout the world and is very supportive of ethical fishing and conservation of the species and the habitat. Our association with the Game Fishing Association of Australia dates back to 1938 and continues to this day and IGFA recognises the high standard of catch and release and conservation by Australian anglers.

Many of our anglers from the countries throughout the world have for many years held fishing in Australian waters as one of their more important goals in their recreational fishing aspirations. This no doubt has been an important draw for many thousands of tourists to Australia over the years.

The previous GBRMPA legislation and the Zone Regulations have caused alarm to anglers worldwide and this legislation will further their concern with a strong potential to influence their decisions whether to travel to Australia or elsewhere.

IGFA has serious concerns for this legislation however, because time does not allow a detailed individual submission to this complex legislation, IGFA requests that their full support for the submission lodged by the Game Fishing Association of Queensland be noted.

For and on Behalf of
International Game Fish Association

K Neil Patrick
Trustee and Co-Chair of IGFA Fish Conservation Committee