

Submission to the Inquiry into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008

Date: 8TH September, 2008

Dear Committee member,

Please accept this submission to the inquiry into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008.

My name is David Penfold and I am 40 years old. I have worked my entire life since completing school in 1985. I am a qualified refrigeration mechanic and am about to complete my Masters in Business Administration at Griffith University. I am currently employed as a District Sales Manager with Coca-Cola Amatil, who I have worked with for nearly 15 years.

My Grandfathers and Father were avid recreational fishermen, and their love for fishing and the marine environment rubbed off on me at an early age. My earliest memory of fishing is one when I was about five years old. On the beach at Mermaid Beach, Gold Coast, Qld with my Grandfather and Father. Sadly my Father passed away nearly five years ago, but his ashes remain in an area we both loved - Jumpinpin. Such was his connection with this area, that it was his wish for his ashes to be scattered there.

I have the same strong connection with Jumpinpin, but also have been fortunate to have fished, camped and enjoyed many places throughout Queensland. These areas include;

- Gold and Sunshine Coast waters
- North and South Stradbroke Islands, Moreton Island and Fraser Island
- Tin Can Bay and Hervey Bay waters, as well as the offshore areas in these
- Town of 1770 and the reefs offshore
- Extensive areas around Townsville (north to Cardwell and south to Bowen), including many reefs of the Great Barrier Reef, estuaries, freshwater impoundments, freshwater natural streams.
- Cape York Peninsula, including three self drive trips from Brisbane and two charter trips based at Aurukun.

In order to fulfil my love of the outdoors, marine environment and fishing I own two boats and a canoe, one four wheel drive vehicle and much camping equipment. I shudder to think of the capital investment I have made toward to fishing tackle. My boats and four wheel drive cost me around \$150,000. As you can see, a significant investment. Add to this the annual maintenance, purchase of bait etc and money spent on travelling to locations. I am certain I am adding considerable value to the Queensland economy.

I am opposed to the following parts of the amendment; 9 Subsection 3(1) as they have they will damage the economy that benefits from recreational fishing related activities and they will have an unacceptable negative impact on my lifestyle.

- (a) searching for, or taking, fish;
- (b) attempting to search for, or take, fish;
- (c) engaging in any other activities that can reasonably be expected to result in the locating of, or taking of, fish;

I am also particularly opposed to the “Precautionary Principle”, as it is unacceptable to have our resources managed by nothing more than guess work. Particularly given the potential for negative outcomes to the economy and my lifestyle.

Regards,
David Trewern Penfold.