

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

Date: 8<sup>TH</sup> 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 Robert Bentley and I am 34 years old. I am an IT professional qualified employed at Coca-Cola Amatil, who I have worked with for 8 years.

My Grandfathers was and my Father, mother, grandmother and brothers are all keen recreational fishermen, My grandfather taught me to fish for whiting at the age of 4 in the pumicestone passage. Although I live in NSW now, I grew up fishing the waterways of 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. Also fished in Cairns and surrounding river systems
- Cape York Peninsula, including three self drive trips from Brisbane and two charter trips based at Aurukun.
- Darwin, Kakadu and surrounding rivers
- The Kimberlies
- Coastal NSW and the trout streams of the snowy mountains

I travel to Qld regularly and am flying to Townville this weekend to go fishing for 3 days with a mate.

In order to fulfil my love of the outdoors, marine environment and fishing I own a boat and a kayak, one four wheel drive vehicle. I shudder to think of the capital .I have an extraordinary amount of fishing tackle. My boat and four wheel drive cost me around \$130,000. As you can see, a significant investment. The purchase of these certain I am adding considerable value to the 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,

Robert Alan Bentley