

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

7 September 08

Dear Committee member,

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

*I am extremely concerned about (what is to my mind) the continued and expanding
unwarranted powers given to GBRMPA.*

*I am opposed to any legislation that gives power to officers of GBRMPA to impose fines,
arrest, search or any other infringement notification on recreational fisherman other than for
abuses of fishing bag or take limits.*

*This continued draconian legislation put before parliament by Green groups serves no interest
to 'the common good' and seeks to exclude many members of the public from what has
always been one of the chief recreational pastimes of Australians.*

*I ask that committee members seek not to expand the powers of GBRMPA and indeed argue
for these powers and legislation to be wound back.*

*There already exists more than ample legislation affecting recreational fishers to protect the
biodiversity and sustainability of fishstocks in Queensland.*

*I contend that Federal and State money would be much better spent on 'sustainable
fishing' education programs for recreational fishers.*

*I also ask that those who received criminal convictions for fishing in GBRMP Green Zones
would have their convictions overturned.*

*I see no correlation between convictions for deliberate civil disobedience occasioning violence
and destruction by interest motivated groups (however worthy the issue) and a criminal
conviction for mistakenly being in an area of open ocean.*

Sincerely
Craig Potter