

**No consultation No rights No input** if this an example of how the government treats us now, how will it be any better for indigenous people after the Senate Committee make the changes to suit the government, is it because they are still failing in there obligations.

Through the World Heritage Legations the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority has struggled to uphold their obligation to include the indigenous people in the management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park although the indigenous people live and use their land and sea within the GBRMPA. So any removal of our indigenous representatives form the GBRMPA board will be the first issue that will be presented to the World Heritage people and UNESCO Because it seems that our human rights have been violated.

Below is some of Periodic report

Periodic Report 2002 - Section II Great Barrier Reef

**AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PERIODIC REPORT  
SECTION II**

**Report on the State of Conservation of Great Barrier Reef**

Indigenous involvement

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have relied on the reef and coastal seas for thousands of years for traditional resources and customary practices. Today over 70 coastal Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups maintain strong cultural relationships to areas within the GBRWHA. Some 11 native title claims [38] are registered over parts of the GBRWHA.

The ongoing cultural association, use, aspirations and enjoyment of sea estates needs to be given due recognition by management agencies. The GBRMPA is working in partnership with native title claimants in managing the GBRWHA and claimants and their representatives are consulted about all permit applications.

The social, spiritual and economic rights, interests and values that Indigenous people place upon the marine environment demonstrates an affiliation with tradition and traditional areas. Important cultural sites and values exist on many islands and reefs in the Great Barrier Reef region. Commercial activities such as shipping, tourism and fishing can result in the displacement of traditional activities and disrupt culture; however these also offer opportunities for social and economic aspirations. Various proposals have been developed by coastal Aboriginal groups to incorporate their interests into Marine Park and WHA management, including several proposals for Indigenous co-operative management, and these are currently being investigated.

-----  
-----

**b. Main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see Items II.4 and II.5. above)**

Neither management of the Marine Park nor the GBRWHA is static. Use patterns and technology are constantly changing and the marine environment itself is dynamic: subject to both human use and natural impacts. While many of the management tools developed when the park was first declared (zoning plans, permits) are still highly appropriate, management has had to adapt [16] and other management tools have needed to be introduced (eg plans of management [36]; no-anchoring areas, Vessel Monitoring Systems, Dugong Protection Areas [74]).

One area where considerable management efforts still need to occur is a move toward more effective management arrangements which meet the aspirations of Native Title holders and Indigenous people.

<http://whc.unesco.org/archive/periodicreporting/APA/cycle01/section2/154.pdf>

Thank you  
Bob Muir