

Brief Last Minute Submission due to being unaware of the senate committee's Existence.

Not enough funding is available for the protection of some island habitats within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage under the obligations of the World Heritage Convention. Magnetic Island in particular contains an urban area controlled by Townsville City Council and this area is causing degradation to the National Park World Heritage areas through little or no attempt to control feral animals or weeds which invade into the World Heritage area. The World Heritage area on the island is under the control of Queensland National Parks and Wildlife and there is no funding to promote the World Heritage in the community and little in their budget for feral animal and weed control. There is not even a Wildlife Officer on the island, no curbs on tour operator numbers as in the GBRMPA controlled area, no proper management plan, as stipulated in the World Heritage Convention which Australia has ratified. and really no special budgeting provisions at all to protect the World Heritage values on the island except from the efforts of the rangers who are understaffed and overworked. Comparable areas in New Zealand for example have 30 full time rangers, on Magnetic Island there are about 4.

Thankyou
Cris Lane