

My comments are brief as I only have a few minutes in which to submit

My association with the GBRMPA over the past 5 years has been in the many guises of my role as the Community Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator in the Dry Tropics Region (North Queensland) and as a member of the Townsville Local Marine Advisory Committee.

In that role and with that membership I have had many instances of contact / communication with a lot of staff across many departments and sections.

I have in each instance found those exchanges to have been informative and most helpful even though at times the subject matter was somewhat contentious.

I was an advocate of 50% 'lock up' within the RAP and was given sufficient discussion time so as to be accepting of the 1/3rd decision.

During that very difficult time for GBRMPA staff I was amazed at their resolve to keep discussions open with what was a very narrow, single focus group who were hostile to the changes necessary to ensure the basic steps were taken to maintain the health of the GBR.

Thanks for the opportunity, sorry about the brevity

David Reid