

Hon Mike Rann MP
Premier
GPO Box 2434
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Date:

Dear Premier Rann

Congratulations and thanks for the recent proclamation of marine park outer boundaries covering over 44% of State waters.

This is a fantastic first step but what matters now is getting the zoning right. They will be pretend parks until we have adequate sanctuary zones in place which prohibit fishing and mining.

Reassurances given to the recreational and commercial fishing sectors that existing access will be maintained throughout the marine park network except in "small" areas designated as sanctuaries or restricted access zones are a cause for concern.

Small and large are relative concepts, but to be considered a conservation success, the marine parks program must deliver a core network of sanctuary zones which protect a significant proportion of each habitat type within each bioregion. The most relevant conservation management literature recommends minimum high level protection targets in the vicinity of 30% of each habitat type.

Within each marine park there must be at least some sanctuary zones which are of several kilometres extent. Highly relevant studies from Queensland and Tasmania tell us that small isolated marine parks on their own do not provide the necessary protection for marine life to rebuild and recover.

Please let me know how you intend to ensure that South Australia's new marine parks deliver real and effective protection for our marine environment, not meaningless parks with insignificant sanctuary zones.

Yours sincerely

Signature:

Name:

Address: