From:
To: Exmouth Gulf; info@protectningaloo.org.au
Subject: Preserve and Protect Exmouth Gulf
Date: Tuesday, 27 October 2020 9:59:02 AM
Attachments:

My husband and I visited Ningaloo Reef, stayed in Exmouth and also visited Monkey Mia in Western Australia in 2019.

We were disappointed with the destruction of the Great Barrier Reef and wanted to see a more pristine Australian reef.

We did a day tour and swam with the Whale Sharks. We snorkeled Ningaloo Reef and stayed in the caravan park. Enjoyed Exmouth and the surrounding land.

We love driving up the WA coast and have lived in remote towns many years ago. The landscape is truly magnificent and vast and mostly pristine.

The WA coast and land is not vacant. It has many lifeforms both fauna and flora particular to WA. The points I would like to make to you are these:

- 1. For whales and dolphins, 'listening' is as important as 'seeing' is for humans, as they live in a world of water and sound. Noise pollution threatens whale and dolphin populations, interrupting their normal behaviour, driving them away from areas important to their survival and at worst injuring or sometimes even causing the deaths of some whales and dolphins. Loud underwater seismic surveys (pulses of noise sent down to the seabed) to locate oil and gas, military exercises using powerful underwater sonar, and increasing levels of boat activity all create an ocean full of noise. And levels are
- increasing. https://au.whales.org/our-4-goals/create-healthy-seas/ocean-pollution/
- 2. Responsible Australian Tourism is a larger part of Australia GDP than mining or industry. Many of the young marine biologists we spoke to came to Exmouth because the Great Barrier Reef they had been working in, was dying and the Queensland Govt had not preserved the GBR by excluding mining along the coast and coastal river systems, giving the reef a poor chance with warming oceans and controlling access to marine areas. You have to look after what you have or you wont have it. Simple!
- 3. We know the natural life on the planet is dying. 'Australia has one of the highest rates of species extinction in the world and it now holds the first record of a mammalian extinction due to climate change. Other species are in grave danger because of our warming climate' (This is What Climate Change Looks Like | Report | Climate Council) Indeed Australia is now in the top 4 for rate of extinction of species and 1300 species are in grave danger and soon to be extinct. This is why a lot of

Australians want to see our awesome geographical wonders from ancient Pangaea and subsequently Gondwanaland and not least the Reefs and marine creatures that inhabit them, still elusive and mysterious to scientists.



https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/CC MVSA0198-Ecosystem-Infographic V3-FA.pdf

4. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals call on all Nations to protect life below the seas and the earth above, to act to mitigate climate change. Industrialization is not to interfere with these goals. https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/oceans/

5. Last but by no means least:

Brundtland Report 1987: "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (or compromising future marvels we have today).

Please please preserve and protect the Exmouth Gulf and be proud of what you have, not what you don't or wont have in the future.

Regards,







