

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 2 November 2020 6:04 PM
To: Exmouth Gulf
Cc: Protect Ningaloo
Subject: Exmouth Gulf Consultation

EPA Western Australia

Re: Public Consultation on the future of Exmouth Gulf

Thankyou for the opportunity to have some input on the future of the Exmouth Gulf.



The Values (environmental, social and cultural) that I identify in and around Exmouth Gulf are many and varied. From an environmental aspect the Exmouth Gulf is so unique, it allows us to get up close to some of the worlds biggest mammals, as well as providing a fertile breeding ground for a huge variety of marine creatures that call the Gulf their home. There is no other place like it in the world and being on the doorstep of the World Heritage Ningaloo marine park it provides the foundation and sustains life for many of the inhabitants that frequent the Ningaloo coast.

In 1994 the WA Government Marine Parks recommended that the Gulf be considered for Marine Park Zoning and in 2004 The World Heritage consultative committee recommended the area be considered for World Heritage status, and yet here we are today after all the scientific studies have been done confirming the importance of this beautiful and diverse area still trying to protect its future and justify this to a minority who want to industrialize Exmouth Gulf.

Socially and Culturally the Gulf is an important part of Exmouth giving us a relatively untouched sanctuary allowing a wide variety of marine and land based activities to be undertaken. We have a connection with the country through our Aboriginal ancestors who utilized the Gulf and surrounding Islands a source of food and water and their careful management allows us to enjoy this pristine environment today.

I engage in many activities in the Gulf, some include Fishing, Boating, Diving and snorkeling. Its a popular swimming place as the shallow beaches are great for kids. Netting and Squidding along with crabbing are also popular. The area is bounded by many coral reefs stretching from Bundegi to the furthest east of the Gulf. Camping is also popular at Heron Point.

The main Environmental pressures I believe are due mainly to the increasing pressures from Global warming, rising sea water and erosion, visitors disposing of rubbish improperly, rubbish blowing out of cars and boats and the ever increasing use of 4X4 and motor bikes in the sand dunes, not to mention the constant threat of industrialization.

These Environmental pressures affect me in a way that I want to strive harder to see that this pristine environment will always remain a place for my children and grandchildren to enjoy as I have had the privilege to enjoy.

The activities that I am most aware of as having the potential to have a detrimental effect on the Exmouth Gulf are:

1. Subsea 7 Pipeline facility. I cannot understand for one moment why anyone would want to put this beautiful area at risk by going ahead with this project. Heron point is not the area to build such a facility. Gnoorea Point at 40 Mile Karratha has been used successfully to launch a pipeline previously and it would seem logical to use a similar area in this location and this would allow the bundles to be closer to their intended destination without disturbing the amazing and still pristine Exmouth Gulf. Scientists, marine biologists and experts and users from all walks of life are strongly opposed to this and any industrialization of Exmouth Gulf.
2. The Gascoyne Gateway project has the potential to severely impact the waters including Dugong habitats surrounding the 900 metre (jetty) notwithstanding the dredging and earthworks that will decimate Qualing Pool which is one of a handful of fresh water sources used by Aborigines and Exmouth locals. Again no logical reason to build it.
3. K + S salt is another project where an increase in Gulf saline levels could have a detrimental affect on the delicate environmental factors that govern the ecology of the Exmouth Gulf.

Exmouth has seen and increase in tourist numbers especially after the lifting of regional borders this Covid19 year however our enduring future can go hand in hand with an ecological based tourism industry that is not tied to the Fossil industry whose future is anything but assured. An Exmouth powered by renewables and adopting a leave no trace Ecco tourism model would surely prevail over an industry designed by Fossils and destined to become fossils.

Thankyou again,

Kind Regards,



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