

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Exmouth Gulf](#)
Subject: Think with your heart.
Date: Monday, 9 November 2020 1:52:49 PM

Good day to who ever reads this!

The values (environmental, social, cultural) I associate with in and around the Exmouth Gulf:

One of the biggest values that Identify with the Gulf is education, respect & hope. The gulf is not only the place where almost all of our bigger marine life is born and nurtured but also a safe haven to many, many different species of marine life (whales, dugongs, Ras, sharks, nudibranchs). It is also an incredible place filled with seagrass, sponges and macro life that has a massive positive impact on the current (dreadful) status of our planet or in this case WA. Socially The Gulf has always been a place where friends, families come together and enjoy their afternoons, weekends or any time you can and the weather permits it. It is not just a safe haven for marine life, but also for our community. The Ningaloo reef is incredible, world famous and THANK THE SEA GODS looked after but it would slowly start to stop existing or at least flourishing if we stop respecting the value of The Exmouth Gulf.

What activities I engage with in and around the Exmouth Gulf :

There are many activities I engage in in and around the Gulf :) the first one would be scuba diving, then Freediving, spear fishing, swimming. One of my favourite activities is Taking my beautiful dog there ever day after work so she can meet up with all her dog friends. Again this is also a massive social component for the community as we all meet and talk while our dogs play on the beach and in the water (this also means look after each other, help each other if needed). It is a place to come and unwind after a busy day at work and have a cooling (or not so cool..) swim after you've been sweating all day!

The environmental pressures I observe in and around the Gulf :

Obviously [REDACTED] and the cyclones have done their damage over the years. Natural damages or pressure from it is something we have to learn to live with but man made damages like damaged coral by bad skippers or hooks, sinkers, lines etc. ever other rock to kilometres or destroyed reef by years of prawn trawlers dragging long nets is something I already struggle with. This is nothing compared to the damage that subsea 7 or a deeps eaport could do. The argument that many local people use that are keen to see al of this happen is that the want more work opportunities for their kids, because there are not enough jobs. I strongly disagree, the town has been thriving on tourism for many years. After COVIDs horror this season by having the boarders closed it got even busier with Australians visiting their own back yard. THERE ARE MANY JOBS AVAILABLE! Why did the parents of these kids come to this town, I'm sure they were attracted by the magic, the freedom, the ruggedness of this place. The Gulf will give you something new exciting to find and explore every day if you let her, and as a person who is lucky enough to have travelled a bit, I can tell you, there are not many places like that left in the world. And if people don't stand ups and protect the places left, we will shortly be out of places like this at all. I also see many of my Australian friends young & old become creative or entrepreneurial and starting their own businesses or brands, other people or happy to leave and explore the rest of the country and move to a city for a different kind of employment but then are also so, so happy to come back to Exmouth for a holiday and enjoy their beautiful hometown. Lately more and more companies are trying to slice of piece of paradise. Before a other giant industrial company gets there first. In stead of seeing the beauty of this place, all they see is money. How can they not realise that it might be a short term solution to create some more jobs and funding for the government but long term you lose every thing. Because industrialisation of the Gulf if you ask me, will mean the end of Exmouth as we know it. We will be a second Onslow within 5 years.

What environmental pressures in and around the Exmouth Gulf affect me/my sectors business :

When you fly into Emouth it is one of the most beautiful stunning views you can imaging, seeing the range meet the reef. The red with the blue and then the endless coral structures you can see glistening through the water inviting you to come and explore them or if you are lucky you might even see some big rays, sharks or turtles from the plane before you even hit the water! No imagine this same view with some massive cleared area, full with massive building, smoke, pipe lines etc. And then go one step further all the beautiful animals

that you could normally almost surely run into like dolphins, Rays, sharks, dugongs, turtles have moved away because of the lack of seagrass, no visibility because of dragging or the wake of big massive ships, or the sounds underwater that will impact the migration patterns of all of these animals. My business would be gone within a couple of years. The magic of this town is nature, on land, but mainly in the water. Without that magic we still have incredible gorges and stunning beaches, but I do not know many people who would travel the world to just come see that, where I know an endless amount of people who would literally travel the world to come see the magic animals that call the Exmouth Gulf their home!

These are the other activities proposed that I am aware of that will impact the Exmouth Gulf :

Some of the other activities proposed that I know of are Kailis (oldest one), limestone mining companies, oil & gas operations , they are already own our doorstep, the deep sea water port and of course SUBSEA 7. When will a couple of rich, older men learn that the public will not allow this extremely beautiful place to be turned into another industrial area. We need this place to heal instead of die.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this.

Please think not just with your brain but also with your heart and do the right thing by telling these businesses once and for all THE GULF AND HER MANGROVES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR INDUSTRIALISATION.

Kind regards,

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