

Only we can protect it

The Coral Sea lies to the east of the Great Barrier Reef, far from land. It is unique not only for its amazing marine treasures, but also because only we Australians can protect it.

Very few governments have it within their power to protect such a marvellous marine jewel. Action now will preserve our Coral Sea for the world and for future generations.

There is no better ocean legacy.

You can help

In May 2009, the federal government declared a conservation zone over the Coral Sea within Australian waters. This area is now being assessed for possible inclusion in a marine park. Its current designation as a conservation zone doesn't change existing uses such as fishing, and is only a temporary measure. Right now the federal government is deciding the fate of our Coral Sea.

You can participate in the call for a fully protected marine park, just like a national park on land, by visiting the website and sending a letter to your local MP.

What is the Coral Sea Initiative?

www.protectourcoralsea.org.au is a campaign developed and supported by regional, national and international conservation organisations.

Australian Conservation Foundation

Australian Marine Conservation Society

Pew Environment Group – Australia

Project AWARE Foundation

Queensland Conservation Council

Cairns and Far North Environment Centre

We believe the Coral Sea should be a place protected from extractive uses, a place where people can visit and enjoy a totally natural environment.

You can help. Please ask your MP to support the creation of a fully protected Coral Sea Heritage Park.



Humphead wrasse images courtesy of David Hannan

Meet Barry. Help him create the world's largest marine park in our Coral Sea.



protectourcoralsea.org.au

Who is Barry Wrasse?

Barry is a huge humphead wrasse. He lives in Australia's Coral Sea. He's the ambassador and spokes-fish for our campaign to protect Australia's Coral Sea. If you haven't seen him on TV you can still catch him online. Visit our website and find out what he has to say and how you can help.



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Why create the world's largest marine park?

In the last 50 years, 90% of the world's very large ocean going fish have disappeared due to overfishing. The Coral Sea is one of the last places on Earth where these huge fish can still be found in big numbers. These creatures travel long distances and need a very large park if they are to be protected.



Heritage

The Coral Sea is historically significant for Australia. In May 1942, it was the scene of a decisive naval battle that turned the tide of World War II in the Pacific. Australian and U.S. allies fought side-by-side, pushing back the Japanese Navy. The battle cemented a strong relationship between Australia and the U.S. that endures to this day.



The Coral Sea is our Amazon

Our Coral Sea covers nearly a million square kilometres. It features spectacular coral reefs, remote islands, underwater mountains and deep-sea canyons. The Coral Sea is one of the last relatively unspoilt marine ecosystems left on Earth.



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photo@www.boyceimage.com

The Serengeti of the seas

Humpback whales, dolphins and turtles swim in the Coral Sea's crystal clear waters. Majestic fish - such as billfish, sharks and tuna - rule the sea, just as lions rule the African plains. Hundreds of beautiful corals and dainty reef fish, such as the much-loved clownfish, are found in its more shallow waters along with many other amazing species.