

INTERNATIONAL COASTAL MANAGEMENT

COASTAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING
FORESHORE PROTECTION/ IMPROVEMENT
COASTAL & MARITIME STRUCTURES
BEACH NOURISHMENT
DREDGING
SUBMARINE PIPELINES
MARINAS
HYDRAULICS

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28/05/07

The Secretary
Marine Recreation Association
PO Box 22
MAIN BEACH QLD 4217

Dear Sir,

RE: Artificial Reefs on the Gold Coast

As a diver and long-term resident [54 years] of the Gold Coast, I strongly support plans to construct artificial reefs on the Gold Coast that will help restore the marine habitat and improve fishing and diving.

Artificial reefs are being constructed worldwide for environmental, commercial and recreational reasons, with the reef at Narrowneck being used as a model for the eco-engineering of multi-functional artificial reefs. Narrowneck reef has shown that soft non-woven geotextiles [used for the mega "sandbags"] creates a substrate for the growth of soft marine flora such as seaweeds and kelps that provide a productive habitat - See attached paper presented in Lisbon a few years ago. Diving and fishing have proven to be very popular at Narrowneck [far more than expected] and the suggested extension of the reef seaward into deeper water would further improve the amenity. An underwater video of Narrowneck can be downloaded from <http://coastalmanagement.com.au/projects/NGCBPS/default.htm#Video>

The results from monitoring Narrowneck have been used by ICM in the design of a large multi-functional artificial reef in our sister city of Dubai. A key component of this Dubai reef is "to improve the marine habitat". We have completed the design part of the contract and construction is expected to commence shortly. This project will provide more data that will be available for the Gold Coast.

Please let me know if we can help further.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angus Jackson', written in a cursive style.

Angus Jackson , Principal Engineer