

# SEASON'S GREETINGS

A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year

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**merry christmas!**

**MELBOURNE SEAFOOD CENTRE**  
*wholesale fish market*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE MELBOURNE SEAFOOD CENTRE!**  
**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR NEW PREMISES IN 2012!**  
**133 KENSINGTON ROAD, KENSINGTON**

# SEAFOOD NEWS

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Serving the Australian Seafood Industry

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**SIV's new Executive Director**

**Farewell Jason**

**Fish & Alzheimer's Disease**

  
*Marisa*

**The last coffee**

## “So what”?

The Gillard Government announcement to establish an area of approximately 989,842 square kilometres, more than half the size of Queensland as the world's largest marine protected area in the waters of the Coral Sea, has not been welcomed by all.

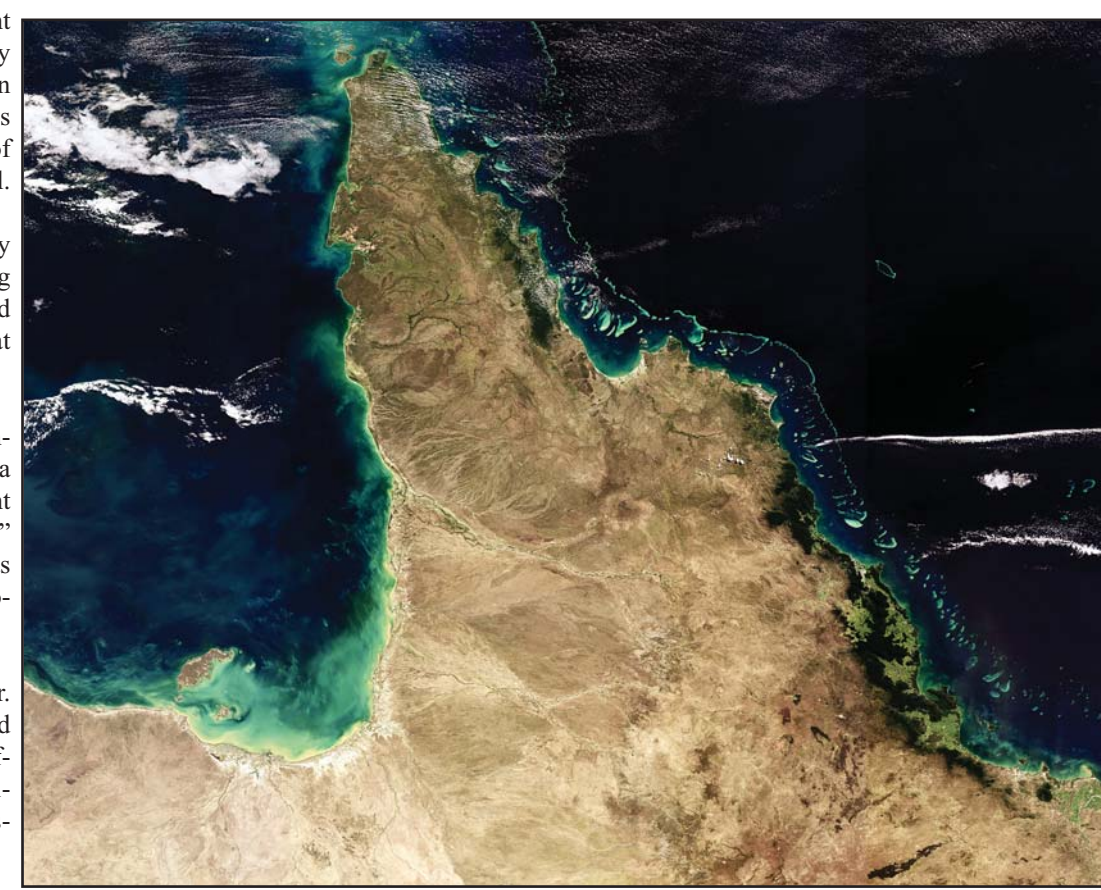
The Queensland Seafood Industry Association (QSIA) sees this as locking away enormous potential future food resources for Australia and the world, that could be harvested sustainably.

“For what? To be able to say Australian fishermen and seafood consumers have made a greater sacrifice than any other equivalent group of people anywhere else in the world?” said its Chairman, Mr. Geoff Tilton. And as for being the world's largest marine protected area Mr. Tilton says “So what?”

To the Federal Environment Minister, Mr. Tony Burke the Coral Sea is recognised across the world as a marine region of significance for its unique biodiversity. The environment in Australian waters is in near pristine condition.

“Australia's vast oceans provide a source of food and resources, and are a place of recreation, but we cannot afford to be complacent,” Mr Burke said.

The Coral Sea islands support critical nesting sites for the green turtle and a range of seabird species. It is also renowned for its diversity of predatory fish, such as albacore, yellowfin and bigeye tuna, broadbill swordfish, black marlin and mako



Part of the Coral Sea as seen from space. Image: European Space Agency

sharks.

Several important species found in the Coral Sea are under pressure elsewhere from over-harvesting and habitat degradation and the reef is a refuge for many iconic species under serious threat.

“Australia has a unique opportunity to protect this precious marine environment for future generations,” Mr Burke said.

Mr Burke said the Government had consulted a wide range of marine users and interest groups in the development of the proposed Coral Sea Marine Reserve.

The Government has extended the 60-day consultation period to 90 days to ensure people have every opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed Coral Sea Marine Reserve. The feedback and input the Government receives will assist in finalising the proposal.

“Now there will be a further opportunity for these stakeholders and regional communities to have their say in this important process. I encourage people to get involved,” Mr Burke said.

During the three-month public consultation period, officers from the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities will be visiting coastal centres along the Queensland coast. They will hold information sessions and meet with representatives of various industries and stakeholder groups.

Public information sessions will be held in Hervey Bay, Cairns, Gladstone, Mackay and Townsville. The consultation period will close on 24 February 2012.

## What to feed a President

At the “Parliamentary Dinner”, hosted by Australia's Prime Minister, Julia Gillard at Parliament House Canberra, in honour of the visiting US President Barack Obama, the three course menu for hundreds of Cabinet Ministers and luminaries was started with pan fried Jewfish.

We asked a number of renowned chefs what  
*Continued on page 2*



The President of the United States of America, Mr. Barack Obama who recently visited Australia and was treated to a meal of Australian seafood.

