Date:

Subject Line: Queenslanders deserve better.

Dear Mr/Mrs {insert name here}

As a resident for the Electorate of {Insert electorate} I am writing to you in disgust. The Department of Qld Fisheries along with the newly Established East Coast Spanish Mackerel Working Group are looking to close the East Coast Spanish Mackerel Fishery. New **Biased** studies now have the stock apparently in decline. This Fishery has been well managed by Fisheries QLD for many years now and has always been given the “Sustainable tick of approval”. Until now, well almost overnight. Really? Spanish Mackerel are a fast growing, fast breeding fish that inhabit and transit the whole Qld coastline along with Northern NSW. The fishery is already well regulated for Professional and Recreational anglers alike. They have quota systems and bag limits in place for many years. There are already many Green (protected no fishing) zones withing the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park se aside for their proliferation.

As a consumer of Seafood products and purchaser of Local Fish and Chips takeaway I always demand Australian Products. Spanish Mackerel is an affordable option for All Australians. Most Qld Fish and Chip outlets stock Australian Spanish Mackerel. It is a great product and very high in Omega 3 oils.

By closing this Fishery, fishing pressure will be shifted to other less sustainable species to fill the demand for seafood. Prices for average Australian consumers will increase and force them to reconsider their Weekly fish purchases. I feel this will lead to a flooding of the market with cheap imported fish or farmed fish. I refuse to buy Non-Australian caught and Unsustainable fish products. Australian Caught Spanish Mackerel is a Domestic market fish caught to feed the Domestic population that can’t fish for themselves. People have a right to access this valuable and healthy resource.

I Urge you to contact The Department of QLD Fisheries and the East Coast Spanish Mackerel Working group, to advise them to reconsider their processes and management strategies. A closure to this stock will affect a whole Coastline of people from retailers of fresh fish all the way to the cafes and takeaways that supply the tourists and communities.

I expect a reply on your stance on this matter in the near future.

Yours Sincerely {insert name}

Email: : {insert email}

Contact: { insert Ph}