



Senator David Bushby
Chair
Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Bushby

On 17 October 2016 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Estimates Hearing.

During the hearing Senator Whish-Wilson said in relation to a threat abatement plan for marine debris

“Are you involved with the government at the moment in a new threat abatement plan for marine debris—any monitoring or scientific study?... They have not worked with you on the threat abatement plan or come to you for evidence or scientific input?”

In response I said

“...No, at this stage we have not worked on that.”

I wish to correct this answer. GBRMPA was represented by Samantha Gibbs at a two-day workshop for the development of the revised marine debris threat abatement plan on 24-25 August 2015.

Samantha presented to the workshop group on GBRMPA’s partnerships with other organisations and their work in raising community awareness in relation to marine debris.

I also stated in my response

“...The annual investment on clean-up through the Reef Trust is \$30 million, I think.”

I wish to correct this answer. The Reef Trust investment on marine debris has been \$700,000 over two years.

The remainder of my answer to the question, given at the Hearing, is correct.

I apologise for the error in my answer and trust this further information will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Russell Reichelt
Chairman

25 October 2016