



Jason O'Brien MP

MEMBER FOR COOK

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15 April 2009

Hon Mr Tim Mulherin
Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries
GPO Box 46
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

Please find enclosed further correspondence I have received from the Mossman Boat and Fishing Club and a recent newspaper article from the Port Douglas Mossman Gazette.

This letter and article deal with the protracted campaign in the former Douglas Shire area to prevent commercial net fishing in the waters roughly between Port Douglas, Snapper Island and Cape Kimberley.

I have been writing to you in support of the call to ban commercial net fishing in this area since August 2006 to no avail.

I know the government's position was to complete changes to the east coast inshore fin fish management before making any local arrangements.

While I understand that there is still a fair bit of work to be undertaken by fisheries officers to bed the new arrangements down, I seek your assurance that you will assist finally resolve this issue in my electorate.

Most fishers in the area do not want to ban commercial fishing. What they want is for a ban on net fishing of grey mackerel particularly when the fish are spawning.

I look forward to your assistance in resolving this matter.

Yours sincerely

Jason O'Brien MP
Member for Cook