

Referral of proposed Ella Bay Resort is being reconsidered



Commonwealth Minister for the Environment, the Hon Peter Garrett AM MP has decided to reconsider the referral of the proposed Ella Bay Resort (2005/2159) after being provided with significant new information about the existence of a large number of marine turtle nesting sites at Ella Bay.

Recently, a small group of dedicated conservationists at Bramston Beach conducted detailed surveys of previously unknown marine turtle nesting sites along a stretch of coast in North Queensland, including the yet-untouched Ella Bay which is nestled in between two World Heritage Areas (the Wet Tropics and the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Areas).

When EDONQ was provided with the results of those surveys, we immediately wrote to Minister Garrett to provide him with those survey results and to request that when assessing the proposed resort, he consider the adverse impacts that it will have upon the marine turtles as listed threatened species and listed migratory species, and also upon the adjacent Great Barrier Reef Marine Park as a Commonwealth marine area.

The significant new information which EDONQ provided the Minister with is now available on the website for the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts for viewing on the [Invitations to Comment Page](#). The public has until 11 March 2009 in which to lodge submissions on the reconsideration of the referral.

EDONQ intends to lodge its own submissions on the reconsideration of the referral by 11 March 2009, and encourages anyone interested to do the same.

Please feel free to contact the EDONQ if you would like any advice or guidance on the referral or reconsideration process.

Regards,

EDO-NQ

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