

**MEDIA RELEASE: Abbot and Gazard harming economic viability of the Far South Coast, bad mouthing Batemans Marine Park Friends of Durras. John Perkins**

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Abbot and Gazard are harming economic viability of the Far South Coast, with their negative campaign being waged against the NSW Batemans Marine Park, and the proposed marine reserve in Commonwealth waters.

Environmental campaigner and Friends of Durras spokesperson, John Perkins said

"The economic and environmental credentials of Abbot and Gazard can be seen in the way they've done their bit to bad mouth the Batemans Marine Park, with little knowledge of the incredible recreational fishing that's now opened up to tourists and locals alike because of the park."

"Likewise scaremongering about the Commonwealth process is only contributing to fear and uncertainty. Mr. Gazard and Mr. Abbott have no idea about the Far South Coast."

Rob Paxevanos, fishing journalist and television host recently said,

"The more I travel around the country the more I realize that one of the best places to fish is right here in Eurobodella and it's getting better every year."

"The far south coast should be very concerned about our natural environment, which is our greatest asset down here. Tourism depends on this pristine image, and our sustainable industries depend on the environment." said John Perkins.

"Abbott and Gazard are like bulls in the china shop. Let's rein them in before they do any further damage."

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