



Cairns and Far North Environment Centre Inc.

**DRAFT MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**STATE GOVERNMENT HYPOCRITICAL ON REEF  
PROTECTION**

The Cairns and Far North Environment Centre (CAFNEC) is accusing the State Government of being hypocritical when it comes to protection of the reef by not having stopped a canal estate planned for Half Moon Bay.

The 170 lot residential canal estate with a 75 berth marina is proposed for Trinity Park, in an area abutting the Half Moon Creek Fish Habitat Area and the Marlin Coast Marine Park. "This development has been an environmental mess from the beginning." said CAFNEC coordinator, John Rainbird. "From the initial clearing of the estuarine mangrove community and adjacent woodlands, the development has progressed to interference with Half Moon Creek, (with no buffer zones), and the disturbance of acid sulfate soils. Now the developers are applying for a permit to dredge a channel 700m through the Marlin Coast Marine Park."

"Having just put an enormous amount of effort into assessing and mitigating threats to this important marine environment, (through what process???) it is irresponsible and hypocritical of the Beattie Government to allow this type of development to go ahead" stated Mr Rainbird. "How can the community take the State's commitment to reef protection seriously if they allow this 700m channel to be dredged through the middle of a protected marine park?"

CAFNEC is calling on the State Government to honour their commitment to protecting the marine environment. by not allowing any further disturbance to that which belongs to all Queenslanders in the interests of private gain.

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