Petition: Community say no to Cairns Port Dredging Proposal

Ports North, is proposing to undertake a major dredging operation in Trinity Inlet, however there are serious environmental risks and major community concerns with the proposal.

Given the sensitive Inlet environment, the proximity of the Inlet to Great Barrier Reef, and its value to the tourism industry, we believe that the risks are too high and that this activity should only go ahead if it can be clearly shown that the dredging will have no adverse impact on the natural environment.

I*ssues of concern include:*

- Direct impacts on marine life such as fish, dugongs and turtles.
- The impact of environmental damage from dredging on the tourism industry, recreational fishing and commercial fishing including the release of potentially contaminated sediment into the greater Trinity environment and it's impact on both human and wildlife health.
- Impacts on critical habitat including seagrass beds and coral reef.
- The cumulative impact of this proposal in the context of the broader Great Barrier Reef environment, other dredging activities, shipping activity, and the massive increase in maintenance dredging that would be required.
- The environmental and amenity damage of increased (possibly toxic) mud washing up on our Northern beaches and elsewhere.

We call on Ports North and the Government to abandon plans for new 'capital' dredging for Cairns Port and to instead utilise the taxpayer money saved to support alternatives like cruise ship passenger transfer to the soon to be upgraded facility at Yorkeys Knob and support for small business and Industry that does not put the environment we rely on at risk.

Name	Address	Postcode	Email	Signature

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