



Hon Tim Mulherin MP
Member for Mackay



**Queensland
Government**

Reference: 02252/08

**Minister for Primary Industries
and Fisheries**

27 NOV 2008

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

Neil
Dear Mr Laurie



Thank you for your letter of 11 November 2008 concerning petition number 1143-08 as received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly from Ms Jaynee Bennetts.

I am pleased to enclose a copy of my response to Ms Bennetts concerning commercial netting in Turtle Bay.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Nicole Kadic, Assistant Policy Advisor in my office on telephone 07 3239 3000.

Yours sincerely

TIM MULHERIN, MP
Minister for Primary Industries and Fisheries
Member for Mackay

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Reference: 0004/08

**Minister for Primary Industries
and Fisheries**

- 4 NOV 2008

Mrs Jaynee Bennetts
jayneebennetts@bigpond.com

COPY

Dear Mrs Bennetts

Thank you for your email of 23 September 2008 concerning the collision between your vessel 'Thylacine' and fishing apparatus set near Cape Grafton. I can appreciate how disturbing this incident would be to you and your family.

I note that the collision has been reported as a Marine Incident to the Cairns Harbour Master and as a consequence will be investigated accordingly.

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol (QBFP) has advised that the net in question was marked in accordance with *Fisheries Regulations 2008*. In an attempt to minimise any future incidents the QBFP will monitor the way commercial fishers are using and marking their fishing nets in this area.

I am further advised that the *Transport Operations (Marine Safety) Act 1994* (the Act) also contains provisions that seek to minimise collisions at sea, be it between vessels or fishing apparatus. The Act brings into effect the '*International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972*,' which requires every vessel, at all times, to maintain a proper lookout by sight and hearing, as well as by all available means appropriate in the prevailing circumstances and conditions, so as to make a full appraisal of the situation and of the risk of collision.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Ross Lloyd of the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries on telephone 07 3224 2289 or email ross.lloyd@dpi.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

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