



Threats to Dugong

Capricorn Conservation Council welcomes Environment Minister Kate Jones' statement yesterday that, "habitat protection is the key to saving Dugong", in her reply to an LNP discussion about the poaching of dugong.

The state and federal governments have approved a massive dredging program for Gladstone Harbour as part of the LNG industry. This will destroy huge areas of dugong habitat.

CCC Coordinator Michael McCabe asks, "Where was the minister when these projects were approved and why has she remained silent over this destruction and other approvals threatening the health of the Rodds Bay Dugong Sanctuary?"

"Dugong may be under intense pressure from loss of sea-grass feeding areas due to the 2011 floods. Urgent action is needed to halt dredging and other projects, before it's too late to risk a possible population collapse," Mr McCabe said.

"As newly appointed Environment Minister, Kate Jones needs to take a much tougher stand on such threats to remain credible," Mr McCabe said.
