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Clovelly NSW 2031

June 18th 1990

Minister for Agriculture & Fisheries  
McKell Building  
Rawson Place  
Haymarket NSW 2000  
Fax. 2811191  
Attention: Deborah Monks

Dear Sir,

This letter seeks your due consideration for declaring an area loosely known as Gordons Bay/Thompsons Bay, Clovelly, as a Marine and Estuarine Protected area. This letter also requests that consideration be given to declaring this area a sanctuary as well. For your information, I am attaching a photocopy of the area that is roughly under consideration.

The reason for requesting this consideration is that:

1. The area has a high usage for training novice scuba divers.
2. The area is unique, I believe, in the Sydney region as being one of the few ocean sites accessible by scuba divers to the ocean directly from the shore. Many dive sites in Sydney can only be reached by boat owners and or charter boat operators, who charge a fee for this service.
3. In recognition of the high usage of this area by scuba divers, Randwick Council with funding assistance from the Department of Sport, Recreation and Tourism, are currently in the stage of constructing a foot path directly from the car park right to the water for access by able and disabled scuba divers.
4. Through Pro-Dive Coogee, a local commercial operation, I have, with the assistance of volunteers, been constructing "an underwater trail" in Thompsons Bay for scuba diving use. This trail has been approved by the Department of Lands.
5. Under the design and management guidelines for the Eastern beaches issued by the Department of Environment and Planning in 1986 (ISBN No.0730518493) one of their many recommendations for the Gordon or Thompsons Bay area is designating an area as an underwater marine park.

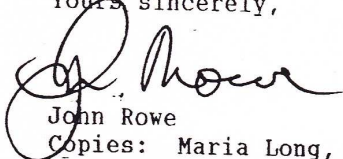
As background material for this proposal, I am enclosing a list of Aquatic reserves already declared in New South Wales (source Agfact FO.3.2) and also for your information and background material, the following is also enclosed:

- .copy of the relevant section from the draft Sydney Regional Environmental plan
- .copies of articles from the Eastern Herald, 5th Sept. 1985, the Daily Telegraph, May 26th, 1986, and Sydney Morning Herald, Wed. 23rd Sept. 1987
- .copy of Professional Association of Diving Instructors Newsline Bulletin, detailing the underwater nature trail
- .letters giving some idea of the community support given to the construction of the underwater trail.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

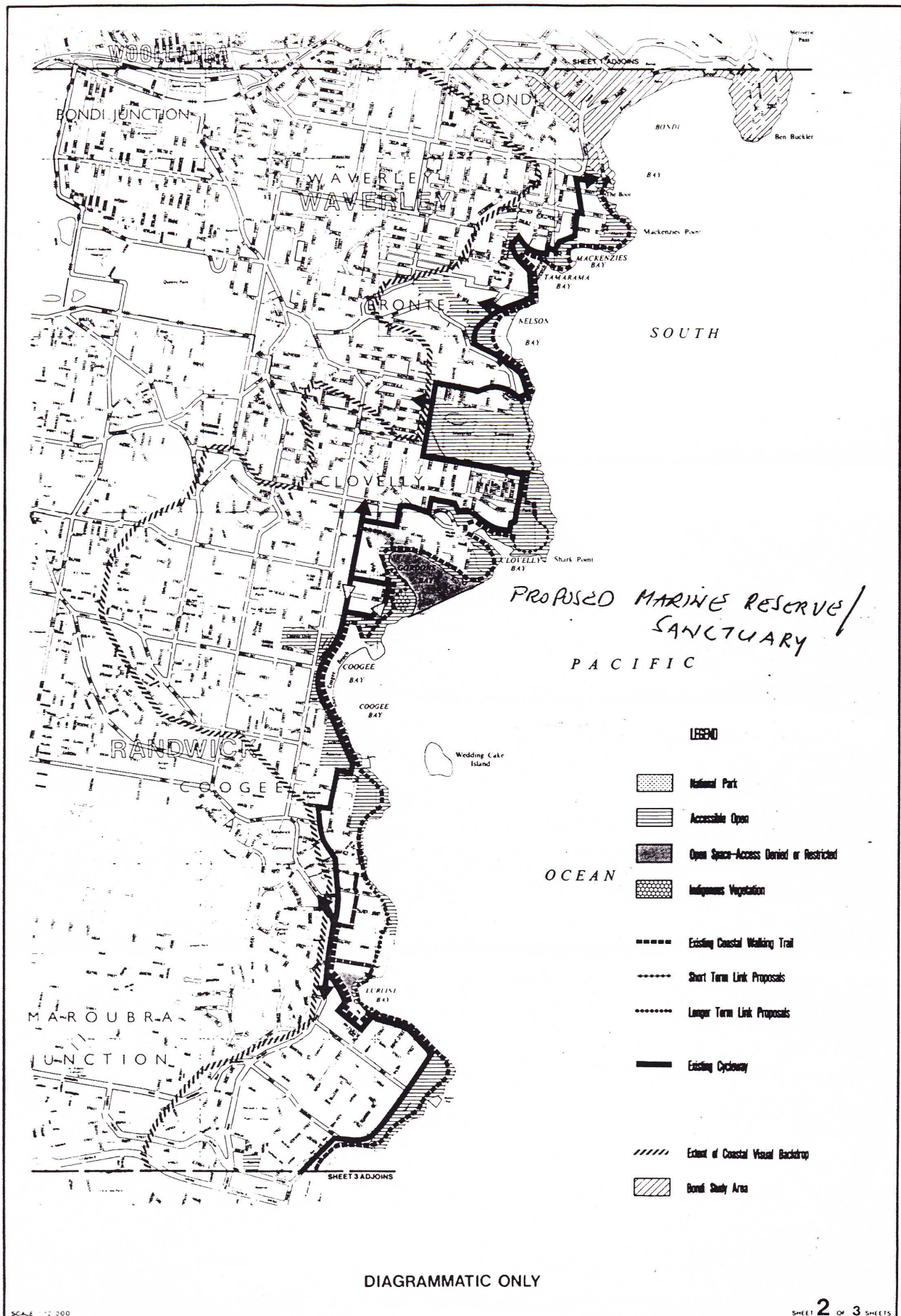
Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



John Rowe

Copies: Maria Long, Dept. Sport, Recreation & Tourism  
Vince Leslie, Randwick Municipal Council  
Neville Blundell, Randwick Municipal Council  
President, Thompsons Bay Fishing Club  
President, Clovelly Surf Life Saving Club





#### New South Wales aquatic reserves

Name	Type	Area (hectares declared)	Date	Comment
Bushrangers Bay	sanctuary	3	1982	protected area for novice divers
Fly Point-Halifax Park	refuge	75	1983	angling allowed
Julian Rocks	refuge	80	1982	angling allowed
Long Reef	refuge	60	1980	rock platform education value
North (Sydney) Harbour	refuge	250	1982	fishing permitted
Shiprock	sanctuary	2	1982	excellent dive site
Towra Point	multiple zoning	333	1987	estuarine wetland

Additional MEPAs, including aquatic reserves and nature reserves, may have been declared since this document was produced. If in doubt, check with your local inspector of fisheries.