

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture Resources and Environment Committee](#)
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For **17 years** Bird watchers of Hervey Bay have been **observing bird species at 12 different sites** mostly close to the coast in the Fraser Coast Region. On average we identify between **70 and 84 different species of bird in 2 hours** every Wednesday morning.

Several of these sites are now housing estates, but we continue to study around the perimeter of these estates and identify the big numbers outside the estates, but within the estates the number is **always below 10**.

Having studied the offset provisions and surveyed some of the offsets **there is a severe shortfall in bird species numbers**. That is, using **bird species numbers as an index of environmental health** the offset provisions are inadequate.

As The economy of Hervey Bay is largely based on the environment, inadequate offset provisions are prejudicing the Hervey Bay economy.

ANNEX—Businesses dependant on the environment in Hervey Bay.

Fraser Escape yacht hire	Princess 3	Herveybaywhale
Watching	Blue Dolphin	Krystal Clear
Tasman Venture	Reef fishing	
Happy Valley	Kingfisher resort	Eurong
resort	12 fishing trawlers	3 fish processing enterprises.

All these businesses require supporting businesses.

This list has not included the beaches and beach based activities at Hervey Bay, recreational fishing and boating all of which dependent upon healthy shore and near shore environment.

This list does not include economic activities in the Mary River catchment.

Hervey Bay has singular assets which distinguish it from all other coastal cities, for example Great Sandy Strait, The sheltered Bay, Fraser Island, Transition City, Biosphere designation, RAMSAR wetland designation. Currently these assets are being undermined by failing to accomodate and promote environmental imperatives.

The economy of Hervey Bay is the wholly owned subsidiary of the environment. Current offset arrangements are not addressing this problem effectively.

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