

Keppel And Fitzroy Delta Alliance (KAFDA)

Media Release - 4 Oct 2011

Public Information Meeting - Stop Coal Ports in the Fitzroy Delta

A public information meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 October at the Yeppoon Town Hall, Normanby St, Yeppoon, from 6 pm to 8 pm to start a campaign against Coal Port proposals for the Fitzroy Delta. Independent information will be provided about the proposed coal ports, and associated dredging.

Proposed new export ports at Balaclava Island, Raglan Creek, and the northern end of Curtis Island will have major impacts on marine ecosystems and both recreational and commercial activities currently undertaken in the Fitzroy Delta and Keppel Bay.

The Fitzroy Delta is a critical breeding ground and nursery area for multiple species such as barramundi, King threadfin, mud crabs and prawns” said KAFDA spokesman Kim Martin. “In addition, we are extremely concerned that the local isolated population of the Australian Snubfin dolphin will not survive the proposed industrial activity. There are less than 90 of them living in the delta, and they are particularly vulnerable to disturbance.”

The public meeting has been called by Keppel And Fitzroy Delta Alliance (KAFDA) and is supported by a broad alliance of individuals and groups, including conservation, fishing, boating and natural resource management. All are interested in saving Keppel Bay and the Fitzroy Delta from industrialisation.

“We don’t want to turn Keppel Bay into another Gladstone Harbour.” said Mr Martin. “This is the largest river delta in Australia and the future health of the Fitzroy River and Keppel Bay hinge on the delta remaining in its natural state.”

“We need to send a strong message to government that the community is passionate about protecting our river delta and coast and that we are totally opposed to these developments.”

All members of the community who care about our wonderful Keppel Bay and Fitzroy Delta are invited to come to this meeting. While we shall be providing information about the proposals and their potential impacts, we shall also be seeking input and ideas from those attending, on future campaign activities.
