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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## OVERWHELMING COMMUNITY OPPOSITION TO SEA-DUMPING

Townsville folk at yesterday's Cotters Market made it very clear that they do not want the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) to allow North Queensland Bulk Ports to dump 3 million cubic metres of dredge spoil in the Marine Park.

"The response was overwhelming" said North Queensland Conservation Council coordinator Wendy Tubman, who organised the market stall.

"People were well across the issue of the potential for dredge spoil to be dumped in the Marine Park as a result of the expansion of the port at Abbot Point.

"People were signing at the rate of one every 22 seconds, with 715 signatures collected in a bit over four hours. At times there were queues of people waiting to sign.

"Many with young children in tow, said that they were doing it largely for their children, as they fear that the reef will not be around for future generations unless it is better protected.

With GBRMPA due to make its decision before the end of the month, NQCC will be at the market again next Sunday.

Further information: Wendy Tubman, 0428 987 535