



Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program

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Communique steering group meeting 11

23 March 2018

The 11th Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program steering group meeting was held in Townsville on 23 March 2018.

The monitoring program is the key mechanism to track the progress of the *Reef 2050 Plan*. It brings together monitoring, modelling and reporting activities across the Reef and its catchment to enable timely and appropriate responses by Reef managers and partners to emerging risks and issues.

Outcomes

The steering group received insight into current and upcoming activities, and provided strategic guidance on planned approaches to data management and systems, program design, and reporting.

The group noted:

- Updates to the program strategy document including a revised purpose, vision, mission and objectives, and additional details on the program's underpinning framework. The group endorsed the changes subject to a few minor amendments. The strategy will be publicly available soon.
- Progress by the eight expert theme groups towards monitoring design recommendations for seagrass, coral, fish, megafauna, Indigenous heritage, human dimensions, catchment and estuaries, and the physico-chemical environment. The final monitoring design reports are due at the end of April.
- The amalgamation of three program working groups into one working group is assisting program management and delivery. The group will meet monthly to ensure alignment of program components.
- The data management and systems work required to support an operational program is underway and noted the program design work will be used to inform the final operational requirements.
- Progress in developing consistent approaches for data collection and management including protocols for sharing and handling culturally sensitive information.
- An update on the progress of the *Reef 2050 Long Term Sustainability Plan (Reef 2050 Plan)* mid-term review. A comprehensive review of the *Reef 2050 Plan* will be undertaken in 2020.
- A [communication tool](#) to showcase program development, provide program updates and information on monitoring and modelling programs has been created. It will be regularly updated as the program progresses.

Provided advice on:

- The program design trade-off analysis — which will examine recommended designs against a number of management objectives and funding scenarios.



Reporting and future meetings

The next steering group meeting will be held in June 2018. Previous meeting [communiques](#) are available online.



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List of attendees

Attendee	Position	Title/Organisation
Russell Reichelt	Co-chair	Chairman, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Deb Callister	Member	Assistant Secretary, Department of the Environment
Paul Hardisty	Member	CEO, Australian Institute of Marine Science
Tim Moltmann	Member	Director, Integrated Marine Observing System
Ian Gordon	Member	Regional Manager, Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mining
Roger Shaw	Member	Chairman, Independent Science Panel
Greg Stuart	Member	National Manager, Bureau of Meteorology
Christian Roth	Member	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
Mark Jacobs	Member	Assistant Director-General, Department of Environment and Science
Damien Burrows	Proxy	Director, James Cook University
Apologies		
Jamie Merrick	Co-chair	Director-General, Queensland Department of Environment and Science
Chris Cocklin	Member	Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor, James Cook University
Elisa Nichols	Observer	Executive Director, Queensland Department of Environment and Science

Observers/Experts

Attendee	Position	Title/Organisation
David Souter	Observer	Research Manager, Australian Institute of Marine Science
Margaret Johnson	Observer	General Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Angela Stokes	Observer	Director, Reef Delivery, Department of the Environment
Kirstin Kenyon	Observer	Director, Queensland Department of Environment and Science
Mel Cowlshaw	Observer	Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Chloe Schauble	Observer	Acting Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Nyssa Henry	Observer	Chief Scientific Officer, Queensland Department of Environment and Science
Giles West	Observer	Assistant Director, Department of Environment

Secretariat

Attendee	Position	Title/Organisation
Fergus Molloy	Secretariat	Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Dylan Horne	Secretariat	Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Jesscia Mead	Secretariat	Communications Project Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Camille Conaghan	Secretariat	Project Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority