**Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program**

**Communiqué steering group meeting 12**

**21 June 2018**

The 12th Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program steering group meeting was held in Brisbane on 21 June 2018. The monitoring program is the key mechanism to track the progress of the *Reef 2050 Plan*.It will bring together monitoring, modelling and reporting activities across the Reef and its catchment, offering an easily accessible consolidated source of information to enable timely and appropriate responses by Reef managers and partners to emerging risks and issues.

**Outcomes**

**Proposed design recommendations for monitoring**: The steering group discussed and provided feedback on proposed monitoring designs across key Great Barrier Reef and catchment themes including the physico-chemical environment, seagrass, coral, megafauna, Indigenous heritage, human dimensions, islands, and microbes. The designs are being developed through the driver, pressure, state, impact and response framework to provide a recommended set of indicators with details on what will be collected, where, when, how and why.

The steering group noted the complementary work underway — led by the Queensland Government — to review existing fisheries related monitoring and explore potential linkages with the monitoring designs of the other themes. An update was also provided on the draft Paddock to Reef Integrated Monitoring, Modelling and Reporting Program design five-yearly review, which will inform the catchment and estuaries monitoring design theme for the program. The steering group is looking forward to more detailed updates on both components out-of-session in July.

The group commended the progress on the monitoring design work and provided direction on finalising the reports including bringing the outcomes of the theme reports into a synthesized set of recommendations to feed the next stage.

**Designing an integrated monitoring program fit-for-purpose:** The steering group was updated on the process that will be used to examine the monitoring design recommendations against a number of management objectives and funding scenarios. This important work is crucial for selecting the final design of the integrated monitoring program.

**Building an online knowledge system:** An update was provided on the development of the online knowledge platform that will provide timely access to monitoring information to support resilience-based management of the Great Barrier Reef and its catchment as well as the development of reporting products. The group discussed and provided positive feedback on the work completed to date, but acknowledged there are some critical design elements to be resolved. The group noted a functioning knowledge system prototype will be available in 2019, and endorsed a proposed approach to ensure the right resources were available to guide this process. The system will allow users to query, browse, search and visualise RIMReP data.

While open data and creative commons processes are preferred, progress has been made towards developing protocols for managing and negotiating data sharing agreements where required.

**Program strategy update:** The steering group was informed an updated [program strategy](http://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/handle/11017/3385) is now available on the Marine Park Authority’s [website](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/managing-the-reef/reef-integrated-monitoring-and-reporting-program).

**Reporting and future meetings:** The next steering group meeting is scheduled for September 2018. Previous meeting [communiqués](http://gbrmpa.e-newsletter.com.au/link/id/zzzz5a6fcaefa99b8649/page.html) are available online.

**List of attendees**

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| **Attendee** | **Position** | **Title/Organisation** |
| Jamie Merrick | Co-chair | Director-General, Queensland Department of Environment and Science |
| Margaret Johnson | Proxy Co-chair | A/Chairperson, 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 | Director, Water, Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy |
| Roger Shaw | Member | Chairman, Independent Science Panel |
| Roger Proctor | Proxy | Director, AODN, Integrated Marine Observing System |
| Christian Roth | Member | Coordinator Great Barrier Reef, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation; Great Barrier Reef Foundation |
| Mark Jacobs | Member | Assistant Director-General, Department of Environment and Science |
| Damien Burrows | Proxy | Director - TropWater, James Cook University |
| **Apologies** | | |
| Russell Reichelt | Co-chair | Chairman, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority |
| Chris Cocklin | Member | Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor, James Cook University |
| Tim Moltmann | Member | Director, Integrated Marine Observing System |
| Greg Stuart | Member | National Manager, Bureau of Meteorology |

**Observers/Experts/Presenters**

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| **Attendee** | **Position** | **Title/Organisation** |
| David Souter | Observer | Research Manager, Australian Institute of Marine Science |
| Elisa Nichols | Observer | Executive Director, Queensland Department of Environment and Science |
| Kirstin Kenyon | Observer | Director, Queensland Department of Environment and Science |
| Mel Cowlishaw | 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 |
| Paul Lawrence | Observer | A/Executive Director, Queensland Department of Environment and Science |
| David Wachenfeld | Observer | Chief Scientist, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority |
| David Leverton | Observer | Chief Information Officer, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority |
| Donna Audas | Expert | Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority |

**Secretariat**

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| **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 |
| Camille Conaghan | Secretariat | Project Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority |
| Jessica Mead | Communications Officer | Communications Project Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine  Park Authority |