



Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program

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.

Communiqué Steering Group meeting 16 21 June 2019, Brisbane and teleconference 30 July 2019

Key topics of discussion

Purpose-focused monitoring program design: The Steering Group received an overview of the purpose-focused monitoring program design (i.e. the proposed data collection design) and the process to develop it. The data collection design is based on the best available knowledge following a process involving a range of partners. The design employed three integration principles (in bold) to ensure that it is an **effective** and **efficient** guide for prioritisation and deployment of monitoring and modelling activities in the short-term, that can **evolve** based on scientific and technological innovations.

Steering Group members reconvened out of session on 30th July 2019 and endorsed the program design.

Implementation roadmap:

An implementation roadmap has been created based on input from multiple partners, to guide the program's implementation and evolution through to 2024–25. Among other things, the roadmap highlights issues that must be addressed in the immediate future to successfully implement the program, such as governance, decision support system development and funding, and provides a pathway to establish the operational components of the program.

Steering Group members reconvened out of session on 30 July 2019 and endorsed the implementation roadmap, highlighting certain important considerations as reflected in the Minutes.

Prototype portal: An update was provided on work to produce a prototype web-based visualisation portal. The prototype uses existing data to present an example of key areas of focus for Reef management. The prototype serves to demonstrate the potential benefits of an operational system, both for Reef management as well as for a wider audience interested in Reef information.

Program Report: The Steering Group was provided with a detailed outline of the Program Report. The purpose of the report is to outline the evolution of the program, including demonstrating its potential benefits, what has been achieved through the development phase (2015–19), and the pathway for implementation. The report will be further developed and finalised in the coming months.

Priorities for the program: The Steering Group noted the priorities for the remainder of 2019 as the program transitions from development to implementation. Priorities include:

1. Determining an appropriate governance structure for implementation
2. Determining program options with specific regard to funding;
3. Finalising program recommendations to Ministerial Forum.

Future meetings: The next Steering Group meeting is proposed to be scheduled for mid-late September 2019. Previous meeting [communiqués](#) are available online.



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List of attendees

Attendee	Position	Title/Organisation
Josh Thomas	Chair	CEO, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Elisa Nichols	Member	Executive Director, Queensland Department of Environment and Science
Deb Callister	Member	Assistant Secretary, Department of the Environment and Energy
Christian Roth	Member	Coordinator GBR, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
Paul Hardisty	Member	CEO, Australian Institute of Marine Science
Mark Jacobs	Member	Assistant Director-General, Queensland Department of Environment and Science
Ian Gordon	Member	Director, Water, Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
Peter Stone	Member	General Manager, Agriculture, Bureau of Meteorology
Tim Moltmann	Member	Director, Integrated Marine Observing System
Damien Burrows	Proxy for CC	Director - TropWater, James Cook University
Apologies		
Chris Cocklin	Member	Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor, James Cook University
Roger Shaw	Member	Chairman, Independent Science Panel

Observers/Experts/Presenters

Attendee	Position	Title/Organisation
Roger Beeden	Observer	Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Margaret Johnson	Observer	General Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Mark McInerney	Proxy for DL	Chief Information Officer, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Meg Harlow	Observer	Department of Environment and Energy
Bernadette Hogan	Observer	Director, Office of the GBR, Queensland Department of Environment and Science
David Souter	Observer	Research Manager, Australian Institute of Marine Science
Paul Greenfield	Observer	Chair, Intl. Scientific Advisory Committee, Great Barrier Reef Foundation
Cedric Robillot	Observer	Project Director, Great Barrier Reef Foundation
Ian Poiner	Observer	MPA Board Chairman, GBRMPA
Richard Quincey	Observer	Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Mel Cowlshaw	Observer	Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Dylan Horne	Observer	Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Donna Audas	Observer	Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Bronwyn Houlden	Observer	Assistant Director, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority



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Attendee	Position	Title/Organisation
Deborah Eastlake	Observer	Contract Manager, RIMReP, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Joseph Street	Observer	Manager – Integration, RIMReP, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Chrissy Grant	Observer	Expert Adviser
Jerome Bowen	Observer	Senior Consultant, Program Advisory, Aurecon
Elliot Barron	Observer	Consultant, Program Advisory, Aurecon
James Udy	Observer	Director, Science Under Sail Australia

Secretariat

Attendee	Position	Title/Organisation
Asheley Ings	Secretariat	Program Support Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority