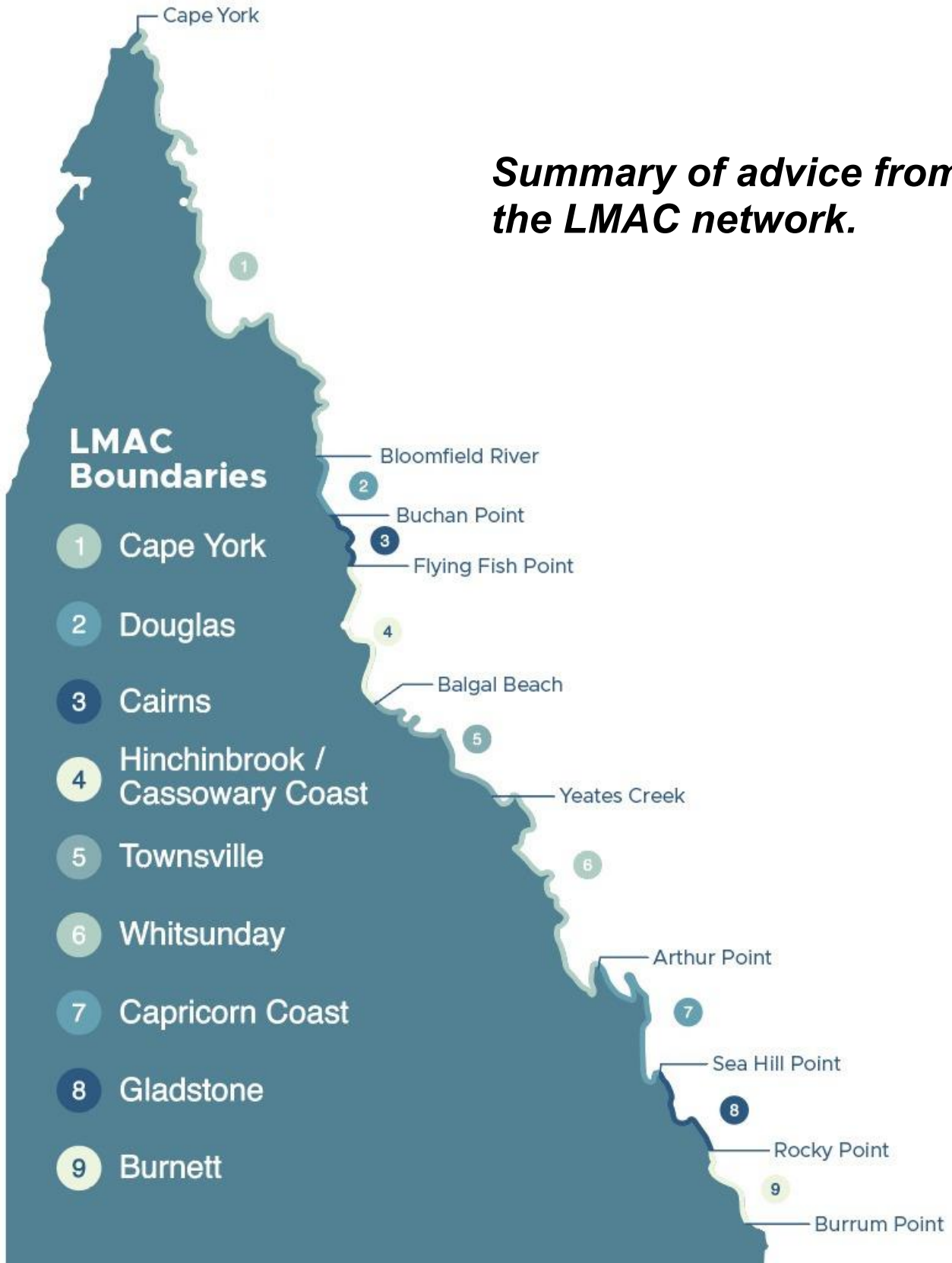


LOCAL MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MARCH 2026



Summary of advice from the LMAC network.



The seventh meeting of the Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) for the 2024–2027 term were held in March 2026.

The Reef Authority provided an overview on the [Marine Monitoring Program](#) (MMP).
Dr Susannah Leahy pre-recorded an update on the 2024-25 monitoring season.

The presentation included results from the paddock to reef Integrated Monitoring, Modelling and Reporting.

Members were encouraged to find out more about the latest results on:

[Inshore coral health](#)

[Inshore seagrass health](#)

[Inshore water quality](#)

Collective LMAC member discussion points:

- Seagrass in Far Northern region seems to be missing from report.
- More data needs to be collected in Cape York region.
- This report showcases the importance of coastal ecosystem restoration and its impact on the Reef, in particular wetlands and littoral forests.
- Disappointed to see that Cairns scored low on seagrass in the region.
- Southern Hinchinbrook Channel has no seagrass monitoring program. Pre Cyclone Yasi there were extension seagrass beds in the region, but they got wiped out with the cyclone. Anecdotal information suggests that there is some there now.
- The importance of sharing information / data and having local doing the monitoring / collection.
- Southern Hinchinbrook Channel has a dugong protection area but currently no sea grass monitoring is undertaken, this area should be considered.
- Data collected in the Fitzroy region only goes out to the Keppel's – the rating is poor. The Keppel area is highly impacted by floods and limited water flow.
- It is great that businesses can support the work being done with research in the region. It should be recognised in the community and showcased.
- Huge out flows have come from the Fitzroy River twice within the span of the last 18 months.
- A revision of the location of sites to better reflect the current conditions would be beneficial. Flood plume coming out of Fitzroy can reach North-West Island. Monitoring could be done there.
- The data collected by anyone doing water quality and pesticides in Bundaberg region could be included in the MMP reports.

