



ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002



GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

ERRATA

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT 2001 - 2002

At pages 81 and 82 (Appendix C, Corporate Information, Table 7, Financial and Staffing Resources Summary 2001 - 02), the following corrections to values should be made. Replacement pages 81 and 82 are provided for insertion into the Annual Report.

Page	Item No.	Description	Values to be Corrected (\$'000)	Correct Values (\$'000)
81	1.1.1	Sub-total Output Group 1.1.1	1,4563	1,463
82	1.5.1	Field management of the Marine Park	10,7974	10,974
82	1.5.1	Field management of the Marine Park	19,972	9,772
82		Sub-total Output Group 1.5 Budget 2002-2003	15,188	14,406
82	1.6.1	Sub-total Output Group 1.6 Budget 2002-2003	4,267	4,337

Table 7 headings on pages 81 and 82 "RESOURCES FOR GBRMPA OUTCOME", in "Column 1 (Budget)" and "Column 2 (Expenses)" show the financial year as 20001-02. It should read 2001-02.

APPENDIX C:

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Financial and Staffing resources

Table 7. Financial and Staffing Resources Summary, 2001-02
(includes Capital Use Charge and repayment of loans)

RESOURCES FOR GBRMPA OUTCOME					
OUTCOME	Column 1	Column 2			
<i>Protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef.</i>	Budget	Actual	Variation	Budget	
	2001-02	2001-02	Column 2	2002-2003	
	\$'000	\$'000	minus	\$'000	
			Column 1		
Price of Departmental Outputs					
Output Group 1.1 -Conservation, Biodiversity & World Heritage					
1.1.1	Natural and cultural values protected and World Heritage obligations are met	1,486	1,463	-23	1,383
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.1</i>		1,486	1,463	-23	1,383
Output Group 1.2 - Water Quality & Coastal Development					
1.2.1	Minimal degradation of GBR by water pollution and coastal development	2,002	1,614	-388	1,584
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.2</i>		2,002	1,614	-388	1,584
Output Group 1.3 - Fisheries					
1.3.1	Ecologically sustainable fisheries in the GBRWHA	1,220	1,114	-106	1,056
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.3</i>		1,220	1,114	-106	1,056
Output Group 1.4 -Tourism & Recreation					
1.4.1	Enhanced tourism and recreation opportunities in the Marine Park	1,113	1,065	-48	1,214
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.4</i>		1,113	1,065	-48	1,214

continues

Table 7. Financial and Staffing Resources Summary, 2001-02 (continued)
(includes Capital Use Charge and repayment of loans)

RESOURCES FOR GBRMPA OUTCOME

OUTCOME	Column 1	Column 2	Variation	Budget
<i>Protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef.</i>	Budget	Actual	Column 2	2002-2003
	2001-02	2001-02	minus	
	\$'000	\$'000	Column 1	\$'000
Output Group 1.5 -Park Management				
1.5.1 Field management of the Marine Park	10,974	11,623	649	9,772
1.5.2 Planning and Impact Management of the Marine Park	3,557	5,498	1,941	3,751
1.5.3 Liaison with indigenous groups & community advisory committees	657	792	135	883
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.5</i>	15,188	17,913	2,725	14,406
Output Group 1.6 - Information for Park Management				
1.6.1 Scientific & technical information available for management	4,267	4,674	407	4,337
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.6</i>	4,267	4,674	407	4,337
Output Group 1.7 - Reef Education & Communication				
1.7.1. Improved Australia-wide profile and community understanding of GBRMPA critical issue group achievements	6,475	6,583	108	7,210
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.7</i>	6,475	6,583	108	7,210
	31,751	34,426	2,675	31,190

Staff Years (Number)	2001-02	2002-03
	169	165

ANNUAL REPORT
2001-2002



GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
let's keep it great

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Further information

The 2001-2002 Annual Report is accessible on the GBRMPA website. The site also includes supplementary information including a list of staff papers and Authority publications produced during the year. A detailed list of membership of relevant external committees can also be found at www.gbrmpa.gov.au.

Contact Officer: Director, Communication and Education (contract details as above).

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
PO Box 1379
Townsville QLD 4810

15 October 2002

The Hon Dr David Kemp MP
Minister for the Environment and Heritage
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

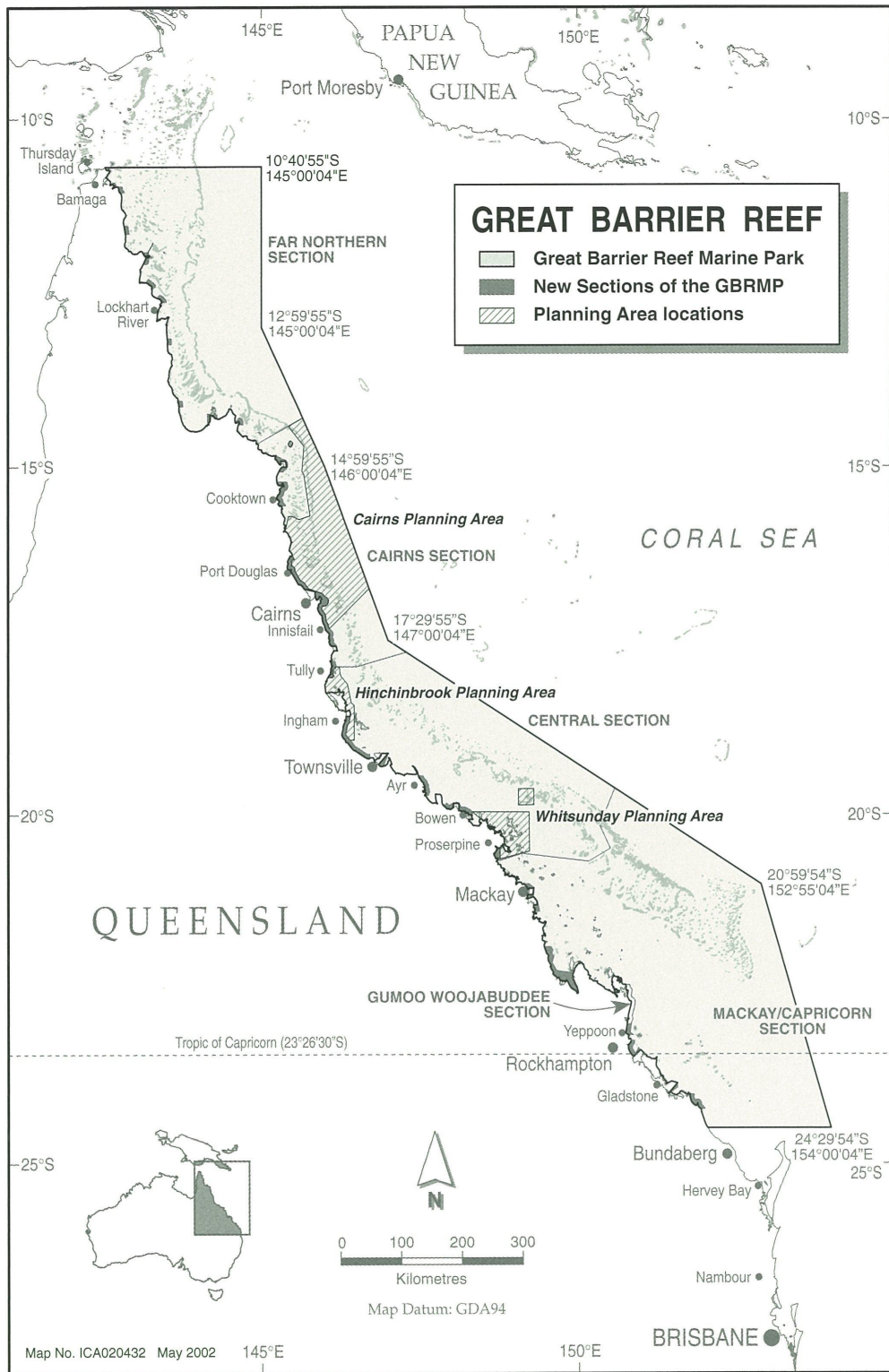
Dear Minister

In accordance with section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, I submit the Annual Report of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority for the year ended 30 June 2002.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V Chadwick', written in a cursive style.

Hon Virginia Chadwick
Chair



As specified in the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority is the principal adviser to the Commonwealth Government on the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

(CONTENTS

REPORT OF OPERATIONS

Message from the Chair	2
The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	4
Enabling Legislation	4
The Minister	4
Goal and Aims	5
Corporate Governance	6
Audit Committee	7
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Committees	7
Great Barrier Reef Consultative Committee	7
Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997	7
Offices of The GBRMPA	8
Operational Structure	8
Service Charter	9
Executive Group	9
Subsidiaries	9
Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council	11
State of Affairs of the Authority	11
Executive Operations	12
Executive	12
Legal Services	15
Ministerial and Parliamentary Liaison	17
Key Issues for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area ...	19
Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage	20
Water Quality and Coastal Development	26
Fisheries	32
Tourism and Recreation	38
Service Groups	43
Program Delivery	43
Information Support	49
Corporate Services	54
Communication and Education Coordination	61
Day-to-Day Management Program	66

Financial Report Summary	71
APPENDICES	73
A Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975, sections 5, 6, 7 and 7A	74
B Governance Practices	77
C Corporate Information	81
D Publications produced during 2001-02	89
E Ecologically Sustainable Development and Environmental Performance	92
F Report of the Auditor General	95
G Financial Statements	97
GLOSSARY	147
INDEXES	149
Compliance Index	150-151
Alphabetical Index	152

(FIGURES AND TABLES

Figure 1.	Operational structure at 30 June 2002	8
Figure 2.	External relationships	10
Figure 3.	Operational structure and members of the senior management team from May 2002	13
Table 1.	Dugong deaths in 2001-02	22
Table 2.	Permissions granted since 1997-98 for activities in the Marine Park	47
Table 3.	GBRMPA meetings, 2001-02	78
Table 4.	Audit Committee meetings, 2001-02	78
Table 5.	Members of Consultative Committee, 2001-02	80
Table 6.	Consultative Committee meetings, 2001-02	80
Table 7.	Financial and staffing resources summary, 2001-02	81-82
Table 8.	Employees of the GBRMPA as at 30 June 2002	83
Table 9.	Representation of EEO groups within salary levels as at 30 June 2002	83
Table 10.	Creative agencies used, 2001-02	85
Table 11.	Market research and polling organisations used, 2001-02	85
Table 12.	Direct mail organisations used, 2001-02	85
Table 13.	Media advertising organisations used, 2001-02	86



GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

————— (**REPORT *of***
OPERATIONS

(MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's timely and strong response to current and emerging issues over the last twelve months indicates the quality and commitment of staff and the maturity of its structure, based around critical issues.

The year has seen welcome outcomes from the research and policy development work of many years in the area of water quality. Agreement between the Commonwealth and the Queensland governments and the support of many agencies, industries, local government and community organisations provides optimism for the future. Support for the development and implementation of initiatives and programs to address the declining water quality, particularly inshore in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, is ongoing.

Fisheries issues remain high on the Authority's agenda. During the year, the Queensland East Coast Trawl Fishery Management Plan for the Far Northern Section of the Marine Park was accredited. In response to community concern a section of the Mission Beach area was closed to trawling. Liaison is ongoing with the Queensland Fisheries Service on a range of fisheries issues, with high priority given to Queensland's draft plan for the reef line fishery.

The Authority is particularly focussed on compliance matters. Improvements in the Authority's response to illegal fishing have been progressed through the Day-to-Day Management Program, jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Queensland governments. Acknowledgement is due to the contribution of the Commonwealth Coastwatch Service, the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service, and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority. Increased coordination between Commonwealth agencies and State agencies such as Queensland Boating and Fishing Patrol, Queensland Transport, the Queensland Police Service and the Queensland Department of Primary Industries has shown positive results. These developments, and the increased penalties introduced, assist the Day-to-Day Management Program staff to address the Authority's highest priority of compliance.

The Representative Areas Program - essentially a rezoning of the entire Great Barrier Reef Marine Park - aims to significantly increase high-level protection of habitat types. This is the largest rezoning the Authority has undertaken. Community input has been sought and 124 community information consultation meetings have been held in addition to meetings with individuals, interest and stakeholder groups. The input from scientific and technical committees, local and regional advisory groups, educational and research organisations has been both welcome and of value. Authority staff are currently examining the submissions resulting from this process.

The year has seen the major refurbishment of the Authority's Education Centre for the Great Barrier Reef-Reef HQ. Commonwealth government funding enabled this upgrade and visitors now have the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of the Great Barrier Reef in a high quality, contemporary environment.

Tourism is the most valuable activity in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in both economic terms and in its capacity to positively present and educate visitors about the values and importance of the Great Barrier Reef. Work is ongoing to establish a new partnership based framework. Amendments to Plans of Management and Commonwealth support to assist in the control of the Crown-of-Thorns starfish around tourism sites have been beneficial initiatives.

Sustained high seawater temperatures in early 2002 saw the Great Barrier Reef experience its worst known coral bleaching event. Monitoring was undertaken in cooperation with national and international agencies and with research institutions. The Authority's response strategy both informed the community and also sought input and information on affected sites from users of the Marine Park. The Authority continues to monitor the situation, especially to determine survival and recovery rates. While this global phenomenon is outside the Authority's control it does reinforce the importance of continued effort to reduce stress on the reef ecosystem and hence to provide Great Barrier Reef corals with the opportunity for recovery.

Work continues in the protection and conservation of threatened species, especially turtles, dugong, whales and dolphins.

The Authority's Indigenous Policy and Liaison Unit encourages involvement and partnerships with communities in the management of Sea Country issues. ATSIC Commissioner, Jenny Pryor and Sea Forum Chair, Bob Muir have accepted the Commonwealth Minister's invitation to become members of the Great Barrier Reef Consultative Committee.

The Authority's achievement's of the last twelve months have been made possible because of the quality and commitment of the staff of the GBRMPA, the efforts of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Day-to-Day Management staff, the Reef HQ volunteers, the contribution of members of local and regional advisory committees and of those giving their time to many other working groups, and because of the dedication of fellow Board members.

Acknowledgement and thanks are also due to the Authority's former Minister, Senator the Hon Robert Hill and to our Minister, the Hon Dr David Kemp MP, whose keen interest and support is valued.



Hon Virginia Chadwick
Chair

(GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA or the Authority) is the principal adviser to the Commonwealth Government on the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

(Enabling Legislation)

The GBRMPA is established under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* ('the Act') as a Commonwealth statutory authority. The objectives of the Act are set out in section 5 and specific functions of the GBRMPA are defined in sections 7 and 7A. These provisions are set out in Appendix A. Section 7 includes a requirement that the Authority perform its functions '... in accordance with any general directions given by the Minister not inconsistent with this Act'.

Regulations in force under the Act are the:

- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983;
- Great Barrier Reef Region (Prohibition of Mining) Regulations 1999; and
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Aquaculture) Regulations 2000.

The GBRMPA is also subject to the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. Section 28 of that Act requires members of the GBRMPA to ensure that policies of the Commonwealth Government notified to them in writing by the Minister are carried out in relation to the Authority.

(The Minister)

During 2001-02, following a federal election in November 2001, the Hon Dr David Kemp MP, replaced Senator the Hon Robert Hill who held portfolio responsibility for the Authority as Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

Directions to the Authority from the Minister

Subsection 7(1B)(2) of the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* states that: 'The Authority shall perform its functions in accordance with any general directions given by the Minister not inconsistent with this Act.'

Subsection 7(1B)(3) of the Act states that: 'The Members must include in each report on the Authority under section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* particulars of any directions given by the Minister under subsection (2) of this section during the period to which the report relates.'

The Minister issued no directives relating to the work of the GBRMPA.

(Goal and Aims)

The Authority's goal is:

to provide for the protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef in perpetuity through the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

The Authority's goal is inclusive, encompassing a wide range of outputs. However, implicit in the goal is the primary obligation to ensure conservation of the Great Barrier Reef. All other activities are dependent on this over-riding responsibility.

The Authority's aims are subordinate to the primary goal and must be read in conjunction with it and with each other. Our aims are:

- To protect the natural qualities of the Great Barrier Reef, while providing for reasonable use of the Reef Region.
- To involve the community meaningfully in the care and development of the Marine Park.
- To achieve competence and fairness in the care and development of the Marine Park through the conduct of research and the deliberate acquisition, use and dissemination of relevant information from research and other sources.
- To provide for economic development consistent with meeting the goal and other aims of the Authority.
- To achieve integrated management of the Great Barrier Reef through active leadership, and through constantly seeking improvements in coordinated management.
- To achieve management of the Marine Park primarily through the community's commitment to the protection of the Great Barrier Reef and its understanding and acceptance of the provisions of zoning, regulations and management practices.
- To provide recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traditional affiliations and rights in management of the Marine Park.
- To minimise costs of caring for and developing the Marine Park consistent with meeting the goal and other aims of the Authority.
- To minimise regulation of, and interference in, human activities, consistent with meeting the goal and other aims of the Authority.
- To achieve its goal and other aims by employing people of high calibre, assisting them to reach their full potential, providing a rewarding, useful and caring work environment, and encouraging them to pursue relevant training and development opportunities.
- To make the Authority's expertise available nationally and internationally.
- To adapt actively the Marine Park and the operations of the Authority to changing circumstances.

Membership of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

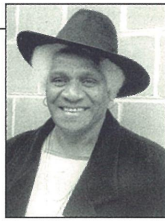
The GBRMPA consists of a full-time Chair and three part-time members. One of the part-time members is nominated by the Queensland Government. The Act provides for one of the part-time members to be appointed to represent the interests of Aboriginal communities living adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. See Appendix B for details of members' qualifications.

The members of the GBRMPA during 2001-02 were:

- Hon Virginia Chadwick
(full-time Chair and Chief Executive Officer from 19 July 1999)
- Dr Evelyn Scott (part-time member)
- Dr Glyn Davis (part-time member-resigned 16 November 2001)
- Ms Fay Barker (part-time member-appointed 8 October 2001)
- Dr Leo Keliher (part-time member-appointed 1 April 2002)



Hon Virginia Chadwick
*full-time Chair and
Chief Executive Officer
from 19 July 1999*



Dr Evelyn Scott
part-time member



Dr Glyn Davis
part-time member



Ms Fay Barker
*part-time member
(appointed 8 October 2001)*



Dr Leo Keliher
*part-time member
(appointed 1 April 2001)*

Mr Gregor Manson acted as Chair during periods of absence by the Hon Virginia Chadwick: 8-19 December 2001 and 8-15 April 2002.

Mr John Tanzer acted as Chair during periods of absence by the Hon Virginia Chadwick: 24 November-7 December 2001 and 27-31 May 2002.

(**Audit Committee**)

Section 32 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* requires the directors of the Authority to establish and maintain an audit committee. The Authority established such a committee in September 1997.

The objective of the audit committee is to ensure the Authority maintains a high standard of management, both corporate and financial, and achieves its outcomes in accordance with its business strategy and strategic plans whilst carrying out its responsibilities under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* (see Appendix B).

(**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Committees**)

The GBRMPA has established a number of permanent committees to help execute Board responsibilities. A number of other committees are also created from time to time to deal with specific issues. All committees have terms of reference and procedures established by the Board. Committee composition and membership is reviewed as required.

(**Great Barrier Reef Consultative Committee**)

The Great Barrier Reef Consultative Committee was established by the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* as an independent advisory body for both the GBRMPA and the Commonwealth Minister responsible for the environment.

The Consultative Committee represents a wide cross-section of interests in the Great Barrier Reef (from both the public and private sectors) including tourism, fishing, science, conservation, local government and Aboriginal communities. It consists of members appointed by the Minister for a three-year term and a member of the GBRMPA appointed by the GBRMPA for an indefinite term (see Appendix B).

(**Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997**)

The GBRMPA is included in the Commonwealth Insurable Risk Managed Fund, known as Comcover. The Authority has Directors and Officers Liability Insurance cover through Comcover to the extent allowed under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. The cover is for the Chair, Members of the GBRMPA and members of the Senior Management Team. The policy prohibits disclosure of the nature and limits of liability and the amount of member contribution.

(Offices of the GBRMPA)

The GBRMPA's principal office is in Townsville. Two Authority staff engaged in essential government and parliamentary liaison tasks are located with Environment Australia in Canberra.

Staff (including the Townsville office, the staff of Reef HQ and the two located with Environment Australia) numbered 169 at 30 June 2002. There were 149 ongoing employees and 20 non-ongoing employees (see Appendix C).

Operational centres for day-to-day management of the Marine Park are at Cairns, Townsville, Airlie Beach, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Port Douglas, Cardwell and Rosslyn Bay.

(Operational Structure)

The GBRMPA's operational structure includes the Executive, four critical issues groups and service groups to ensure a tight focus on key business areas to provide a clear internal reporting and accountability.

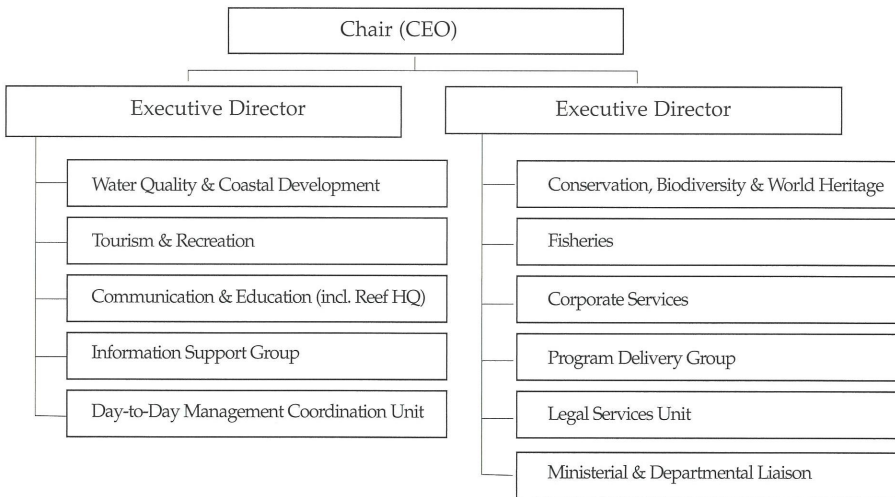


Figure 1. Operational structure at 30 June 2002

(**Service Charter**)

The GBRMPA Service Charter outlines the Authority's goal, aims, customers and commitments to these customers. It also provides a form for customers' comments on the Authority's service. Copies of the Service Charter are distributed by the GBRMPA's Public Information Unit upon request or enquiry.

(**Executive Group**)

The Executive Group consists of the full-time Chair/Chief Executive Officer, two senior executives and their assistants, the Legal Services Unit, and two officers with a coordination role, including Ministerial and Parliamentary Liaison. The Executive group assists and advises the Chair in carrying out the functions of the Authority and provides a forum for discussing and coordinating programs, recommending priorities and direction, and reviewing program performance.

The two Executive Directors have been designated as secretaries to the Authority (the Board).

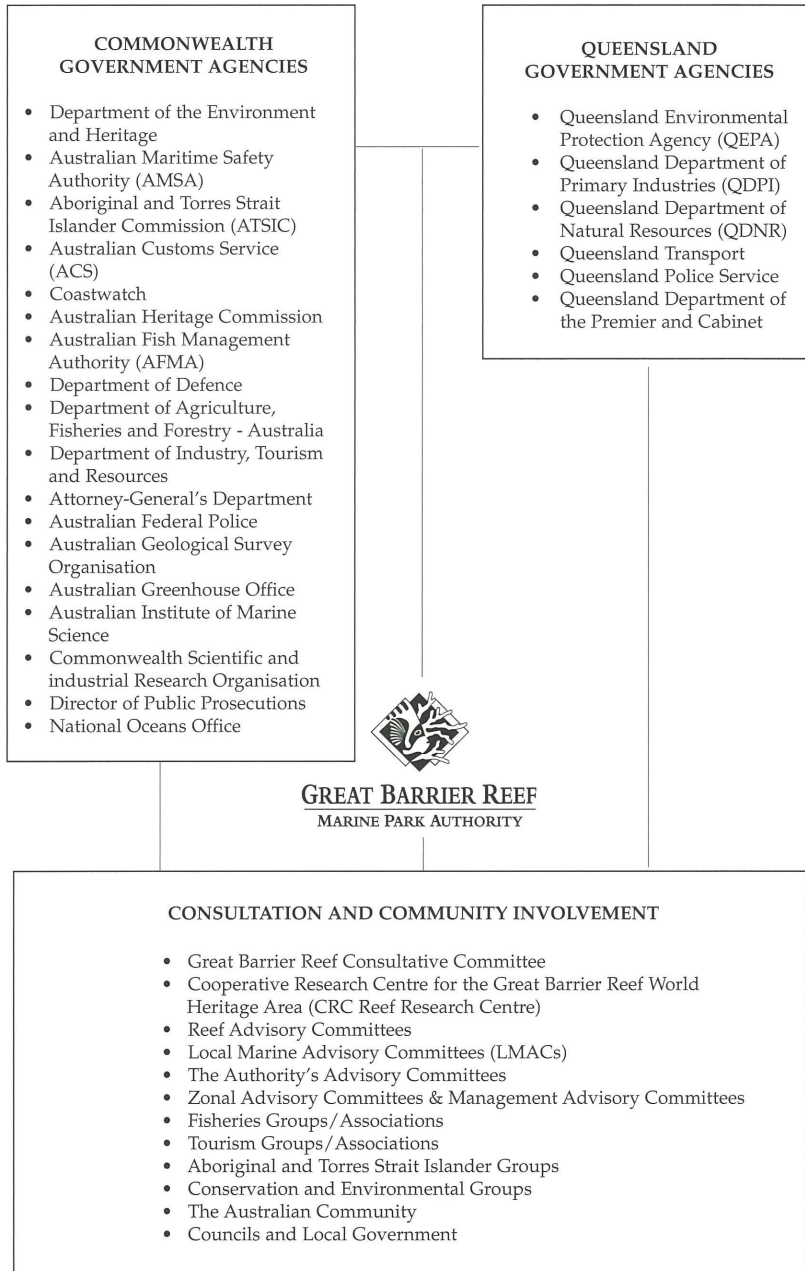
(**Subsidiaries**)

The GBRMPA has no subsidiaries. However, certain functions are carried out in conjunction with other Queensland and Commonwealth organisations, including the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency, which, through its Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, has joint responsibility for day-to-day management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, subject to GBRMPA guidelines. Certain powers have been delegated to positions in other organisations. All Australian Federal Police officers are inspectors appointed under the Act. The GBRMPA is a joint-venture partner in the Cooperative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (CRC Reef Research Centre).

Figure 2 details the links between the GBRMPA and external agencies.

(See following page)

Figure 2. External relationships



(**Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council**)

The Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council was established in 1979 to coordinate Commonwealth and Queensland Government policy on reef matters at Ministerial level. The Council comprises four Ministers, two from each government. The Hon Dr David Kemp MP, Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Heritage, is Convenor of the Council.

During 2001-02, the other members of the Council were: the Hon Joe Hockey MP, Commonwealth Minister for Tourism; the Hon Dean Wells MLA, Queensland Minister for Environment; and the Hon Merri Rose MLA, Queensland Minister for Tourism and Racing and Fair Trading. The Council did not meet in 2001-02.

(**State of Affairs of the Authority**)

In the 2001/02 budget, the Government announced funding of \$6.4 million over four years (\$4.9m in 01/02) of the Townsville Aquarium (Reef HQ). Work on the refurbishment started in late 2001 and is likely to be completed early in 2002-03. As foreshadowed in the 2000-01 annual report, work has started to ensure the aquaculture industry develops without having a detrimental impact upon water quality in the Great Barrier Reef lagoon.

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

EXECUTIVE

Strategic direction

Broad outcome

To provide strategic planning, resource allocation and accountable management for the Authority, its operations and external relationships in pursuit of the control, care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Strategic objectives

1. Provide a clear vision and strategic targets which are understood by all staff and stakeholders.
2. Ensure compliance with externally imposed obligations.
3. To have the Authority recognised as a national and international leader in marine and coastal environment management.
4. To respond flexibly to the needs of the community and Government.
5. Ensure strong working relationships with major clients based on good communication and clear policies.

Performance analysis

This is the fourth year of operation for the new organisational structure based around the main critical issues identified for conservation and management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The four critical issue groups are:

- Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage;
- Water Quality and Coastal Development;
- Fisheries; *and*
- Tourism and Recreation.

Five service groups support the work of the Critical Issues Groups, they are:

- Program Delivery;
- Corporate Services;
- Information Support;
- Day-to-Day Management; *and*
- Communication and Education Coordination.

The Executive Group consists of the Chair and Chief Executive Officer, the Hon Virginia Chadwick and the two Executive Directors, John Tanzer and Gregor Manson. The Chair is responsible for the overall strategic direction of the GBRMPA, its governance, chairing the Authority Board, and managing the organisation.

Sectional responsibilities have been divided between the two Executive Directors. John Tanzer is responsible for Fisheries; Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage; Corporate Services; Program Delivery; and Executive services. Gregor Manson is responsible for Water Quality and Coastal Development; Tourism and Recreation; Day-to-Day Management; Communication and Education Coordination (including Reef HQ); and Information Support.

The Executive Group and the Directors of each of the major work areas form a Senior Management Team. The Senior Management Team is an important part of managing the GBRMPA and is responsible for developing policy direction, coordinating programs, internal communications and budget control. Senior Managers are not only concerned with the day-to-day running of their own areas, but also with managing the intersections arising from the matrix structure. The members of the Senior Management Team and their areas of responsibility are shown in Figure 3.

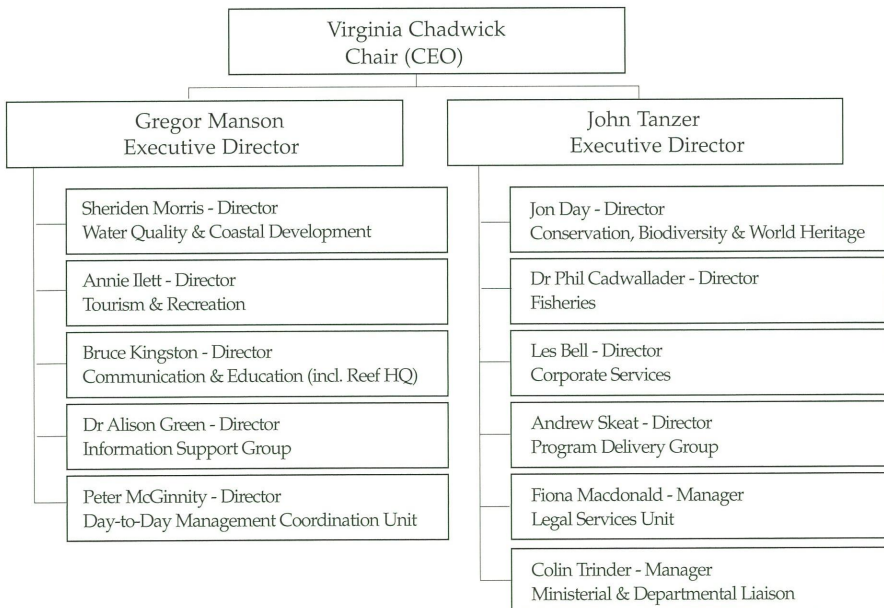


Figure 3. Operational structure and members of the senior management team at May 2002

The Senior Management Team, under the direction of the Chair, meets formally each fortnight and informally on alternate fortnights. In addition, it meets half yearly over two days to review performance and set program and budget priorities.

Overall, this structure has worked well especially in ensuring a clear focus for the GBRMPA on those matters of most environmental significance. The GBRMPA's work programs are now focused directly on addressing the major threats to the reef and ensuring its use is sustainable.

The GBRMPA continues to give high priority to forging and maintaining relationships with major stakeholders. The Executive Group seeks to negotiate outcomes with stakeholders and works to maintain support on issues pertinent to management of the Marine Park. The two-tiered system of advisory committees continues to improve communication between stakeholders and the GBRMPA as well as assist with policy formulation. There is an advisory committee for each Critical Issues Group. The role of these committees is to advise the Chair on major policy matters relating to each critical issue and to provide a transparent forum for the different stakeholder groups to set out their interests. Nine Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs), adjacent to the Marine Park, advise the GBRMPA on local issues. These committees also provide a forum for the GBRMPA to provide information to local communities on its programs.

The Executive provides advice for Senate Estimates Committee meetings, provided advice on parliamentary questions and conducted effective liaison with the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

There has been significant progress in placing issues relating to water quality from coastal catchments on the State and Commonwealth agenda. A whole-of-government process to facilitate community involvement is underway. The Representative Areas Program, which seeks to incorporate further protection of the biodiversity of each bioregion within the Marine Park, is now well advanced with the first phase of formal community participation launched in May 2002. The Board has commissioned an independent review of Day-to-Day Management field operations which will begin early in 2002-03.

The GBRMPA continues to be recognised nationally and internationally in relation to managing the marine environment, natural resources and coral reefs. The GBRMPA continued to participate actively in the International Coral Reef Initiative, with the Executive acting as a point of contact. The Chair again led the Australian delegation to meetings of the United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea. Discussions of this group address a wide range of issues including those relating to biodiversity conservation of the high seas and the concept of high seas marine protected areas.

LEGAL SERVICES

The Legal Services Unit provides and coordinates provision of legal advice and services to the GBRMPA, and helps develop policy. In addition, the Unit provides legal assistance to officers of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and the Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol relating to day-to-day management issues, such as permits and enforcement. In general, the scope of the legal advice provided is broad, covering such diverse areas as environmental law, contracts, intellectual property, administrative law, international law, and native title.

The Unit is responsible for managing preparation and amendment of legislation and liaison with external service providers, including the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. The Unit coordinates all litigation in which the GBRMPA is involved and processes all freedom of information requests.

Strategic direction

Broad outcome

To provide an effective legislative framework, commercial legal operations, and litigation representation.

Strategic objectives

1. Ensure timely and accurate legal advice is delivered to the GBRMPA.
2. Ensure the GBRMPA's interest in litigation is competently represented and, to the extent possible, ensure that the GBRMPA's involvement in litigation is minimised through appropriate legal awareness training, and freedom of information requests being processed in a legally effective manner.
3. Drive the timely progression of legislation subject to the constraints of the Government's legislative program.
4. Ensure that appropriate commercial legal support is provided to the GBRMPA.
5. Ensure that competent legal support is provided for the GBRMPA's corporate governance.
6. Ensure that the Legal Services Unit is managed effectively and competently and that the Unit's staff are provided with opportunities for appropriate professional development.

(Performance analysis

Significant achievements for 2001-02 include:

- conducting legal awareness training;
- providing legal support for legal proceedings in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, the Queensland Planning and Environment Court, the Magistrates Court, and the Supreme Court of Queensland;
- providing legal support in relation to preparing the Hinchinbrook Area Plan of Management and the Gumoo Wojobudee Zoning Plan, together with amendment of regulations and the Cairns Area and Whitsundays Plans of Management;
- processing freedom of information requests; and
- providing an effective legal support for branch operations and achievement of corporate objectives.

One of the objectives of the Legal Services Unit is to minimise the GBRMPA's involvement in litigation by providing timely and effective legal advice and legal awareness training for GBRMPA staff.

The Unit conducted internal training in relation to the 'Crocker Island' decision of the High Court of Australia, the Commonwealth's freedom of information legislation, and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the World Heritage Boundaries. One-on-one coaching, in respect of contracts and other legal issues, was also provided.

The Unit managed twelve pieces of litigation over the course of the year: nine in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, two in the Queensland Planning and Environment Court, and one in the Magistrates Court. The GBRMPA received one decision in its favour; five actions were dismissed or settled in the GBRMPA's favour; two matters are likely to settle; and four actions are ongoing.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman made no comments relating to any of the GBRMPA's permit decisions in 2001-02.

MINISTERIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY LIAISON

Strategic direction

Broad outcome

To ensure effective liaison and productive relationships with ministers, portfolio members and government agencies, and to provide effective, professional support to the Executive and the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council.

Strategic objectives

1. Facilitate liaison between Commonwealth and State Government policies impacting on the Great Barrier Reef.
2. Provide professional support to Committees, Ministerial Councils and the Commonwealth Government.

Performance analysis

The Ministerial and Parliamentary Liaison Unit comprises two permanent staff located within the Environment Australia offices in Canberra.

The Unit coordinates Ministerial briefings for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and answers to parliamentary questions and ministerial representations. The Unit also prepares briefing documents for the GBRMPA's appearances before Parliamentary Committees and provides the Secretariat for the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council and its official committees.

A major focus of the Unit's work entails liaison with relevant Commonwealth government agencies and non-government organisations on the GBRMPA's legislation, policies and programs. The Unit also coordinates responses on whole-of-government approaches and issues that impact on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

In 2001 the Unit was responsible for preparing the Incoming Minister's Brief with respect to the GBRMPA's operations.

To facilitate greater communication on issues of common interest, a Senior Executive Workshop was held between the Secretary of Environment Australia and the Chair of the GBRMPA and relevant senior executive officers. The meeting discussed a common approach to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act), Marine Protected Areas, fisheries management, and tourism. The group also visited Magnetic Island to examine first-hand the issues the GBRMPA deals with in terms of planning, policy, legislation, enforcement and surveillance.

The Senior Executive Workshop was the basis for subsequent issue-specific meetings.

In late 2001, officers from the Fisheries Issues Group met with their counterparts from Environment Australia's Sustainable Fisheries Section to discuss strategic assessment of fisheries in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park under the National Assessment Guidelines.

Identification of a package of measures to address water quality in the Great Barrier Reef lagoon was also the subject of an intergovernmental approach between the GBRMPA, Environment Australia, Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Australia, the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Treasury and the Department of Transport and Regional Development.

— (KEY ISSUES FOR THE GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AND WORLD HERITAGE AREA

Key issues for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area Through developing the GBRMPA's Vision, Principles for Management and Corporate Values, and with guidance from the 25-year Strategic Plan, key issues have been identified as being crucial for the wellbeing of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area and for managing their use.

These key issues are:

- conservation and biodiversity;
- world heritage status;
- water quality;
- fisheries;
- tourism and recreation;
- coastal development;
- shipping and ports; and
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander relationships.¹

These issues are monitored and managed by four Critical Issues Groups:

- Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage;
- Water Quality and Coastal Development;
- Fisheries; and
- Tourism and Recreation.

Each Critical Issues Group operates under a strategic work program with outcomes, objectives and strategies.

¹ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander relationships are considered to be of over-arching significance with a bearing on all other issues and provision of services by the GBRMPA. For this reason, the Indigenous Policy and Liaison Unit has been established and located within the Program Delivery Group.

CONSERVATION, BIODIVERSITY AND WORLD HERITAGE

The Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage Group places particular emphasis on ensuring conservation of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in accordance with the GBRMPA's goal and aims including:

- species conservation, particularly protection of threatened species such as dugongs, turtles, whales and dolphins;
- describing the biodiversity of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and identifying representative areas; and
- ensuring that reporting obligations for the World Heritage Bureau and World Heritage Committee are met.

Strategic direction

Broad outcome

To ensure the world heritage values of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are protected.

Strategic objectives

1. Ensure the natural values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are maintained or enhanced, with particular emphasis on:
 - threatened species, the region's unique fauna and flora, areas of high ecological value and critical habitats; and
 - identification and protection of areas representing the range of biodiversity within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
2. Ensure the cultural values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are maintained or enhanced.
3. Ensure the GBRMPA's involvement within the Marine Park meets the obligations of the World Heritage Convention and other relevant international obligations (including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea).

Performance analysis

Threatened species

The GBRMPA is one of a number of agencies involved in identifying threats and coordinating and facilitating conservation programs for threatened species. In recent years the conservation of dugongs, turtles, dolphins and whales has been given priority. There is now a strong interagency approach to managing these species, together with continuous assessment of their status and management.

Dugong recovery and conservation

Dugong conservation continued to be an imperative this year. During 2001-02 the Group:

- continued close liaison with other government agencies regarding management actions including surveillance and enforcement, public awareness, and carcass and live stranding procedures;
- coordinated a meeting of the interagency Senior Officers Group regarding dugong conservation; *and*
- contributed to consideration of allowing commercial dugong watching in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park-a single permit has been issued on a trial basis.

It is important for the public to be informed about dugong conservation and recovery. To this end the Group:

- provided media releases and interviews;
- printed an update of the *Dugong Information Kit* 4th edition May 2002;
- delivered several presentations on dugong carcasses and conservation to LMAC meetings;
- presented papers on Great Barrier Reef Marine Park marine mammal tourism at a national professional conference;
- started preparing a publication providing a compendium of information on dugongs; *and*
- reprinted a brochure about the Cleveland and Bowling Green Bays Dugong Protection Area using a donation from students of St Patrick's Secondary College, Townsville.

In commitment to ongoing research the group:

- developed and managed a contract devising body condition indices for dugongs;
- received the final report of an aerial survey in November-December 2000 of dugong numbers between Innisfail and Cape York;
- published Research Publications 66, 70 and 72 on the GBRMPA website (see Appendix D);
- participated in a workshop evaluating the methods used to estimate absolute abundance of dugongs; *and*
- provided extensive advice and comment on a range of research proposals and projects.

Turtle conservation

All six species of turtle on the Great Barrier Reef are listed in various categories of endangerment. There is rising concern for the loggerhead turtle, which has declined significantly in breeding numbers over the past 30 years. There is also concern for the breeding status of green and hawksbill turtles. In response, the GBRMPA has enhanced its turtle conservation initiatives through a variety of actions. The Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage Group has:

- continued to work towards a Marine Turtle Conservation Strategy by

incorporating recommendations from the Draft National Turtle Recovery Plan and considering human-related impacts specific to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park;

- proposed, convened and co-chaired the Interagency Turtle Issues Steering Committee comprising representatives of the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency, Environment Australia and the GBRMPA;
- continued to manage a contract that helps monitor green turtles in their feeding ground at Shoalwater Bay;
- printed an update of the *Turtle Information Kit* 2nd edition, May 2002;
- received and accepted the final report, by the tri-agency Steering Committee, of the southern Great Barrier Reef green turtle population;
- published Research publication 74 on the GBRMPA's website;
- highlighted the issue of boat strikes on turtles in the Townsville region and sought advice from the LMAC; *and*
- presented a summary of marine turtle issues and management options at a professional workshop in Hawaii.

Whale and dolphin conservation

Implementation of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Policy for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, adopted in March 2000, is proceeding. Actions this year included:

- provision of educational information to commercial and recreational whale-watchers;
- amendment of the Cairns Area Plan of Management to allow for issuance of tourist program permits involving swimming-with-whales activities; *and*
- contribution to development of performance indicators for the swimming-with-dwarf-minke-whale industry, offshore from Port Douglas.

Marine animal stranding responses

As endorsed by the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council, high priority continues to be given to responding to dugong carcass and live-stranding incidents. Twelve carcasses were recovered in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area in the first six months of 2001-02 and their cause of death investigated. Nine were recovered in Dugong Protection Area Zone A, two were recovered in Zone B, and one was recovered outside the Dugong Protection Areas. Table 1 provides details of the number of dugong carcasses recovered and the reasons they died.

Table 1. Dugong deaths in 2001-02

Number	Cause of death
7	unknown
1	non-permitted hunting
2	natural cause from disease
2	natural cause in the form of pneumonia

The GBRMPA, the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency and the Queensland Department of Primary Industries jointly:

- maintained an effective internal (government staff) and external (public) email reporting network for strandings and carcasses;
- convened a workshop (with James Cook University) on marine animal necropsies, and subsequently coordinated development of a funding proposal to the CRC Reef Research Centre to conduct a review and refinement study of the marine animal recovery program;
- conducted training and coordination meetings regarding live strandings and carcasses, including convening and chairing the Interagency Committee on Marine Animal Necropsies;
- provided assistance at necropsies of carcasses in the Townsville region;
- sponsored veterinary training dealing with marine animals; *and*
- promoted public use of the Marine Animal Stranding Hotline (1300 360 898).

Queensland Shark Control Program

The GBRMPA liaises with the Queensland Shark Control Program regarding its operations in the Cairns, Townsville and Mackay regions, to ensure the level of non-target bycatch caught in nets and drumlines set under the Program is minimal. Ten nets and 171 drumlines² now remain within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. Prior to 4 July 2001, all ten nets and 107 drumlines in the World Heritage Area were outside the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. By gazettal on that day, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park was extended to include additional small inshore areas. Now six of the nets (three near Cairns and three near Mackay) and a further 60 drumlines are within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The GBRMPA submitted comprehensive comments on a review of the Program by the Queensland Government. Key points of the submission were recommendations that:

- all Queensland Shark Control Program nets on the Great Barrier Reef be converted to drumlines and that this occur in the near future;
- the option of removing all Queensland Shark Control Program gear during the north Queensland stinger season be examined;
- the option of other non-lethal bather protection strategies be examined;
- population parameters, such as the size of sharks taken since 1962; *and*
- Queensland Shark Control Program contractors and staff continue to be trained, to the extent possible, to accurately identify, to species level, both shark and bycatch species.

Other species and general conservation issues

The Species Conservation Unit provided comment on species conservation issues through other government processes including:

- extensive advice and comment on a range of permit applications;
- national marine species protection proposals and activities referred by Environment Australia under the EPBC Act (see Appendix E); *and*
- general bird conservation issues.

² Increases to 177 in the turtle season (Sept-Mar) when the Eimeo Beach net, Mackay, is replaced with drumlines.

(Representative Areas Program)

The objectives of the Representative Areas Program are to help:

- maintain biological diversity;
- provide an ecological safety margin against natural and human-induced damage;
- provide a solid ecological base from which threatened species or habitats can recover or repair themselves;
- maintain ecological processes, systems and connections between different habitats; *and*
- allow species to evolve and function undisturbed.

The Representative Areas Program aims to maximise biodiversity protection while minimising any economic, cultural or social impacts upon traditional owners, other users or other relevant parties.

Two external expertise-based committees-the Scientific Steering Committee and the Social, Economic and Cultural Steering Committee-overview the methods and outcomes of the various phases of the Representative Areas Program.

Classification of marine diversity

A report describing the process and outcomes of how the GBRMPA has mapped the marine biodiversity of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area was favourably reviewed by external reviewers and is now being prepared for printing.

Informing the public

During 2001-02, GBRMPA staff conducted informal consultation and also launched the first formal 'Community Participation in the Representative Areas Program' on 7 May 2002. Avenues by which information was disseminated included:

- an update brochure;
- a variety of publications for the first Community Participation phase including the submissions brochure, detailed maps, technical information sheets, and bioregion information sheets, all of which are available on the GBRMPA website;
- public, community group and agency presentations;
- media releases;
- radio shows and community service announcements on television;
- newsletters;
- display and gazette advertisements;
- distribution of over 20,000 submission brochures to people who expressed an interest in the Representative Areas Program;
- a two-week Community Information Program where two teams of staff hosted information sessions in 24 coastal towns of north Queensland; *and*
- meetings with local mayors and shire councils, as well as state and federal members.

Processes and protocols have been developed to streamline and standardise flows of information to and from the public during this first formal Community Participation phase. This included development of databases and tools to effectively incorporate spatial information given to the GBRMPA.

Selection of candidate areas

Principles developed by the Social, Economic and Cultural Steering Committee are being implemented to help maintain cultural, social and economic values as well as optimise public understanding, acceptance and management effectiveness of areas selected as new Green Zones (or no-take areas). These principles intend to maximise complementarity of any new zoning with human uses and values while still allowing achievement of the biological objectives of the Representative Areas Program. We continue to collate data for use in the Program.

Implementation of all the principles within computer-assisted reserve selection software continues to be progressed. The analytical tool will help decision-makers have informed discussions with stakeholders about any potential new zoning plan.

GBRMPA staff have been developing the capacity to report upon the content of any network of candidate areas using the data we have available. This post-hoc accounting will allow the GBRMPA to list how much of each bioregion and each habitat is included in current no-take zones or any potential network of no-take zones.

Cultural heritage values

The GBRMPA is required, by its own regulations, to have regard to protecting the cultural and heritage values of Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples when assessing permit applications. It is also important to protect, conserve and present the Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural heritage values in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. Awareness-raising campaigns for threatened species were undertaken in a number of Indigenous communities. Because of the significance of dugong and turtle to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, conservation programs continue to take account of cultural sensitivities. In recognition of the need to understand the range of cultural values people have for the Great Barrier Reef, the GBRMPA is involved, through the CRC Reef Research Centre, in a project reporting on the cultural values of the Marine Park. This research task will incorporate consideration of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural values as they exist for the Great Barrier Reef.

World heritage

The Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area is 347 800 square kilometres in area. It extends from the top of Cape York to just north of Fraser Island, and from the low water mark on the Queensland coast seaward to the outer boundary of the Marine Park beyond the edge of the continental shelf. It is the largest World Heritage Area and marine protected area in the world.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park now comprises 99.25 per cent of the World Heritage Area with the recent addition of a number of coastal areas. World heritage areas not included in the Commonwealth Marine Park comprise:

- islands under State (Queensland) jurisdiction (most of these are national parks);
- State waters and internal waters of Queensland (e.g. deep bays or narrow inlets, many of which are State Marine Parks); and
- a number of small exclusion areas around major ports/urban centres (e.g. Cairns).

Protection of world heritage values and attributes for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area is a major responsibility of the Commonwealth. Maintenance of those

values and attributes is an important consideration in the GBRMPA's decision-making and management practices. This year the GBRMPA:

- prepared an update report on the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area for the June 2002 meeting of the World Heritage Bureau;
- prepared a draft report on the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area as part of Australia's input to the first Periodic Report for the Asia-Pacific Region which is due to be provided to the World Heritage Committee in June 2003;
- sent an officer (J Day) to the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization/World Conservation Union/United Nations Environment Programme workshop on world heritage biodiversity sites held in Hanoi, Vietnam, 25 February-1 March 2002-this workshop aimed to increase world heritage coverage of under-represented ecosystems, including tropical coastal, marine and small island ecosystems; *and*
- assessed referrals under the EPBC Act in relation to potential significant impacts on world heritage values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

WATER QUALITY AND COASTAL DEVELOPMENT

The GBRMPA has investigated or been party to investigations of changes in water quality in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, and the rivers and streams in adjacent catchments over the last 15 years. Anthropogenic activities in the river catchments adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area-primarily agriculture, grazing, industry and urban development-pose major threats to maintenance of suitable water quality in the nearshore waters of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. Terrestrial run-off of nutrients, sediment and toxic substances and their subsequent impacts on the nearshore biota and ecosystems of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area have been identified as the major water quality issue facing the GBRMPA. The Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area also contains several important commercial shipping routes, through which a range of products are carried to and from southern ports and communities along the Queensland coast. Shipping operations present two forms of pollution risk to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area: those derived from normal ship operations and those resulting from shipping accidents.

The GBRMPA has established that the long-term health of the nearshore region of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area is under threat from both land-based runoff and shipping activities. Consequently, an integrated and risk based approach to catchment management, coastal development and shipping involving all levels of government, industries and stakeholders, is required for the effective protection of water quality values in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

Strategic direction

There is an identified need to improve the water quality of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area due to:

- declining ecosystem health in estuarine and nearshore regions that may impact on the values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area;
- international and national obligations to conserve, protect, preserve and present the values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area;
- increasing community expectation regarding improved management of the coastal zone; *and*
- potential loss of viability for industries that rely on the long-term health of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

Broad outcome

To maintain and, where possible, improve the water quality of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

Strategic objectives

1. To prevent further degradation of nearshore ecosystems resulting from pollution through setting water quality targets for estuarine and nearshore environments.
2. To reduce pollution entering the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.
3. To develop protocols that protect the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area from shipping hazards and pollution.
4. To develop a strategic framework for water quality management which clearly defines the responsibilities and accountabilities of the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments, including setting water quality targets.
5. To develop a culture of mutual obligation between industry, government and the community at large.

In June 2001, the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area Ministerial Council requested advice from the GBRMPA on what impact the decline in water quality entering the Great Barrier Reef was likely to have on the world heritage values of the Marine Park and the required actions to eliminate the threat. The GBRMPA Report was released by the then Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Heritage on 10 September 2001. The Report recommended end-of-river load targets for 26 rivers entering the Marine Park.

For the effective management and protection of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area it is vital that the connectivity between land and sea is recognised by all government agencies, industries and stakeholders. Therefore the Water Quality and

Coastal Development Group is determining the source, transport and effects of pollutants on the biota and ecosystems of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and also instigating mechanisms to minimise and ameliorate the adverse impacts of these pollutants primarily derived from shipping and catchment activities and coastal development.

(Performance analysis

Monitor sources, fates and effects of pollutants

The GBRMPA continued to compile strong scientific arguments on the impacts of anthropogenic pollutants in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. This included involvement of the Water Quality and Coastal Development Group in preparing reports and publication of scientific papers on subjects such as:

- impact of water pollutants on marine mammals;
- major review of water quality issues affecting nearshore environments in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area;
- development of water quality targets for Great Barrier Reef catchments;
- spatial and temporal patterns of flood plumes in the Great Barrier Reef;
- review of water quality issues influencing habitat quality in Dugong Protection Areas;
- distribution of dioxins and other pollutants in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area;
- distribution of antifoulants following a major ship grounding in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area;
- pollution status of Cleveland Bay, North Queensland;
- heavy metal concentrations in the Torres Strait environment and traditional seafoods; *and*
- management of catchments adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

This work also led to completion of nine collaborative water quality research programs with non-CRC Reef Research Centre university-based researchers, which will result in publication of information relevant to identification of sources, fates and effects of pollutants in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area .

Water Quality and Coastal Development staff published 19 papers and presented information to scientific journals and symposiums respectively on the Great Barrier Reef (see Appendix D).

Presentations about water quality issues were also given to a number of science, industry and community groups including the Water Quality Reef Advisory Committee and several LMACs.

Manage coastal and catchment development activities adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area

Management of most coastal and catchment activities is the responsibility of the Queensland Government, local governments, industry and individuals. The GBRMPA's role in the past has been to ensure that development and assessment processes recognised and addressed potential impacts of their activities. In many instances this relied on largely voluntary compliance to industry codes of practice. This process has not delivered certainty with regard to protecting the values of the inshore Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. This year the Water Quality and Coastal Development Group began preparing strategies to move to more comprehensive protection of water quality in this area. The main achievements in developing and pursuing these strategies were:

- providing input into Australian Water Quality Management Strategy, including direction for *Guidelines for Tropical Marine Waters*;
- in conjunction with the Environmental Impact Management Unit, preparing guidelines for assessing aquaculture proposals;
- participating in the Great Barrier Reef Lagoon initiative with other Commonwealth and state agencies;
- helping prepare a Cabinet submission on the Queensland Reef Protection Plan and Memorandum of Understanding on Water Quality;
- providing input and requirements for addressing water quality and coastal development issues into 10 Local Government Planning Schemes under the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*;
- participating in development of Regional Coastal Management Plans;
- organising three Water Quality and Coastal Development Reef Advisory Committee meetings where policy direction, strategic work program and background documents on water quality and coastal development management were discussed; *and*
- providing comment to Queensland and Commonwealth assessment process for over 36 major projects in or adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. These included 14 referrals under the EPBC Act for projects such as impact assessment reports on the Comalco Smelter Development, Boyne Island; stages of the Laguna Quays redevelopment proposal and Castaway Bay Resort, Cliffords Beach and Airlie Beach.

Water quality

On 10 September 2001 the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Hill, released the Great Barrier Reef Water Quality Action Plan. The Action Plan suggests end-of-catchment targets for all catchments adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and identifies the major catchment-based threats and priority catchments in terms of potential risks. The Action Plan recommends specific targets for 2011 (including pollution loads and concentrations) for individual river outflow water quality and for reef water quality and suggests specific actions which need to be taken to improve the quality of water entering the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. The Action Plan also includes arrangements for monitoring and reporting against the water quality targets. The Water Quality and Coastal Development Group has also

influenced government arrangements with the incorporation of requirements for water quality targets in inter-governmental agreements for the National Action Plan and the Natural Heritage Trust Mark II.

The Queensland Government set up an inter-departmental science panel to, amongst other things, review information to identify water quality targets in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area Catchment as part of developing the Reef Protection Plan. This panel of water quality experts will help review the targets of the Action Plan and should continue to be involved in subsequent reviews of the targets in seeking to achieve the 2011 milestone.

Aquaculture

Introduction of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Aquaculture) Regulations in 2000 added another dimension to the Water Quality and Coastal Development Group. While assessment of aquaculture proposals and coordination of the referral process is performed by the Environmental Impact Management Unit, the Water Quality and Coastal Development Group continues to have an important role in the strategic direction and policy formulation in this area. The Water Quality and Coastal Development Group has been involved in:

- developing discussion and background papers for the aquaculture industry;
- developing the GBRMPA's aquaculture assessment guidelines;
- discussions with Queensland agencies on the progress towards accreditation of Queensland's aquaculture assessment process and future policies; *and*
- discussions with Environment Australia about arrangements between Commonwealth agencies with an interest in aquaculture development.

The Water Quality and Coastal Development Group also provided input into State policies being developed on the licensing of existing prawn farms and the strategic development of aquaculture adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef.

Legislative reform

The GBRMPA continued to refine its role with regard to Queensland's *Integrated Planning Act 1997* and related legislation, the *Integrated Planning and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2002*. The GBRMPA continued to operate as an informal advice agency under the *Integrated Planning Act* with Queensland Government departments and provided input into the State Interest Directory, undertaken by the Department of Local Government and Planning, to help local government draft their planning schemes. The Water Quality and Coastal Development Group prepared the Sewage Package which included a status report on sewage management in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the new Sewage Policy Statement. A position paper on discharge of sewage from vessels is being prepared as well as an induction program on the implementation of the amended legislation.

Cooperative and integrated management

The GBRMPA is committed to developing partnerships with State agencies and local governments to maximise the relationship between the Marine Park and land use planning. This year the Water Quality and Coastal Development Group provided advice to seven Regional Vegetation Management Committees - Wet Tropics, Northern Brigalow Belt, Northern Desert Uplands, Southern Einasleigh Uplands, Central Coast, Broadsound-Nebo and Capricorn Dawson. This work complements the GBRMPA's representation in a range of forums for coastal planning and strengthens ties to industry representative bodies. The Water Quality Reef Advisory Committee provided constructive comment on the Group's Business Plans and on specific policy issues.

Incorporating a specific communication, education and awareness strategy in the work program has succeeded in improving the Water Quality and Coastal Development Group's education program for stakeholders in the coastal areas adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef about water quality management. The Water Quality and Coastal Development Group made a number of presentations, about the connectivity of ecosystems that drain into the Great Barrier Reef lagoon and their potential downstream impact on the marine environment, to industry groups, such as Agforce and Cane Growers, and to Integrated Catchment Management groups.

Management of shipping and maritime pollution response

Shipping management

The Water Quality and Coastal Development Group's strategies for addressing management of shipping in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area were to:

- take steps to minimise the risk of shipping accidents;
 - develop response capacity in the event of an accident;
 - reduce pollution entering the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park from shipping activities; and
 - plan strategically to minimise impacts in the event of a shipping accident.
- The Group's main achievements, in pursuing these strategies, were:
- preparing the GBRMPA's submission for the Anderson Review of Ship Safety and Pollution Prevention Initiatives;
 - developing mechanisms for working more effectively with Queensland agencies;
 - preparing for publication the Risk Assessment on Shipping Incidents in the Marine Park with Queensland Government agencies;
 - continuing development of a joint GBRMPA/ Queensland Environmental Protection Agency oil-spill contingency plan;
 - developing an implementation strategy, in consultation with Queensland Government agencies, for legislative amendments relating to discharge of sewage from vessels;
 - conducting six workshops along the Great Barrier Reef coast with relevant agencies for training staff in the use of the Shoreline Assessment Guidelines;

- facilitating training for staff in Incident Control Systems;
- introducing legislative changes to address environmental harm from shipping incidents in the Marine Park; *and*
- continued development of a draft Memorandum of Understanding with the Queensland Department of Transport and the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency for oil-spill response responsibility and enforcement.

Maritime incident response

In 2001-02 there were 32 minor oil spills, six minor groundings and seven sinkings in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The Water Quality and Coastal Development Group was involved in responding to these incidents, along with Queensland Transport and Day-to-Day Management. The most significant of these was the Holbourne Island oil spill that occurred on 8 September 2001. When a 20 kilometre slick of light oil was detected a response was initiated. The owner of the Panamanian registered vessel has since been charged with a pollution offence in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. In particular, the Water Quality and Coastal Development Group is responsible for providing advice on potential environmental impacts and the issuing wreck removal notices to remove sunk vessels from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The Group is continuing to streamline and improve the internal and external response capacity of the agencies involved in managing shipping incidents.

FISHERIES

Fishing is an important industry for the Queensland and Australian economies and relies on wise management of both the fisheries resources and the ecosystems on which these resources depend. Fishing has significant ecological effects that can impact on world heritage and nature conservation values. In conjunction with the Queensland Government, commercial and recreational fishers, Indigenous fishers and other community groups, the GBRMPA seeks to ensure that all fishing activities in the Marine Park are ecologically sustainable.

Strategic Direction

Broad outcome

To achieve sustainable fisheries that do not compromise the values of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

Strategic objectives

1. Develop strategic policy for fisheries in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park which:
 - clearly states the GBRMPA's position on fisheries;
 - enables the GBRMPA to audit the ecological sustainability of fishing in the Marine Park in accordance with world heritage obligations and the precautionary principle;
 - protects all species, particularly rare, threatened and endangered species, and communities together with their critical habitats;
 - incorporates a comprehensive system of protected areas which are free from fishing and are representative of the habitats within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park; *and*
 - is equitable across the community, meeting traditional, social and cultural needs and maintains a socially acceptable balance of access for all users of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park .
2. Achieve integration of fisheries and ecosystem management.
3. Develop an effective information base on the ecological and socioeconomic impacts of fishing so sound management decisions on resource sustainability and access are made.
4. Have fisheries management strategies that are both understood and accepted by Marine Park users and the community, and complied with.

(Performance analysis

The Fisheries Issues Group has, since 1998, worked with Queensland and Commonwealth fisheries managers and stakeholder groups to achieve ecologically sustainable fisheries in the Marine Park. The Group is made up of staff with extensive fisheries management and research expertise and is taking a whole-of-ecosystem fisheries management approach in line with the GBRMPA fisheries policy.

The Fisheries Issues Group contributes to fisheries management planning through membership of Queensland and Commonwealth Fisheries Management Advisory Committees and a range of subcommittees and working groups. The Group contributes

to fisheries research and management through involvement in conferences, workshops and other internal and external working groups. Members of the Group also liaise with individual researchers from a range of research institutions on issues of relevance to the GBRMPA.

The GBRMPA and Environment Australia work together to assess fisheries in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Ecologically sustainable fishing

As of 30 June 2002, the revised East Coast Trawl Fishery Management Plan had been in place for 18 months. The plan resulted in significantly reduced trawling in the fishery due to removal of 99 licences under a structural adjustment scheme (removing about 11 per cent of effort). Additional measures to reduce total trawling were introduced to compensate for increases in effort due to improvements in technology. As a result of the scheme and fishers opting to leave the trawl fishery there are fewer operators in the fishery and vessel numbers have dropped by some 260 (from about 800 to 540). Industry has reported less competition on fishing grounds and greater profitability.

In August 2001, following negotiations, the Queensland Government placed a limit on the annual amount of trawling allowed in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. This limit ensures there will be no migration of trawling into the Marine Park, following removal of fishery licences and their associated effort under the structural adjustment scheme. Following this, the GBRMPA accredited the East Coast Trawl Fishery Management Plan as ensuring an ecologically sustainable trawl fishery in the Far Northern Section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. In making this decision the GBRMPA was mindful that almost 80 per cent of the Far Northern Section of the Marine Park is closed to trawling under Great Barrier Reef Marine Park zoning or Queensland fisheries legislation.

In late 2001, after the release of a discussion paper, the Queensland Government reviewed the species allowed to be taken as byproduct under the Trawl Plan. Legislative changes giving effect to this review were introduced in December 2001 which resulted in a limiting of some byproduct species and removal of other species from the permitted list.

In line with the outcome of the 28th Ministerial Council meeting (13 October 1999), the GBRMPA has begun an audit of the progress of the East Coast Trawl Fishery in achieving the objectives set out in the Trawl Plan. The audit follows the first year of operation of the revised management arrangements in this fishery.

A major study conducted by the CSIRO on recovery of seabed habitat from the impact of prawn trawling in the Far Northern Section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is now in its final stages. Analyses of recovery rates of seabed organisms after trawling has ceased are being determined. Results from the study will be available in 2002-03.

Phase 3 of research on the effects of line fishing in the Marine Park has continued monitoring stock recovery rates of reefs closed to fishing that were previously monitored while open to fishing. This will continue until 2005. The project also involves

analysis of fish biology, life cycles, fishery economics, and development of sustainability indicators for target species, bycatch and the impact of commercial fishing on tropical marine ecosystems. The study will provide Marine Park and fisheries managers with an evaluation of current and potential management strategies to ensure ecological sustainability. In the meantime, the GBRMPA has worked with Queensland fisheries managers and stakeholder groups in developing new measures to protect stocks in the reef line, Spanish mackerel and deep water rocky reef fisheries.

In 2001-02, the GBRMPA contributed to development of management and compliance arrangements for all fisheries in the Marine Park that are managed by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries. The GBRMPA also participated in the Queensland Department of Primary Industries 'Foresight 2010' project. This project ensured that strategic directions developed for the next 10 years will recognise and encompass Great Barrier Reef Marine Park requirements. These were in accordance with directions and objectives enunciated in the GBRMPA's 25-year Strategic Plan.

Protection of rare and threatened species

The revised East Coast Trawl Fishery Management Plan restricts the commercial take of trawlers to principal (i.e. target) and permitted (i.e. byproduct) species only. To reduce the incidental catch of non-target and non-byproduct (i.e. bycatch) species, the Plan made the use of turtle excluder and bycatch reduction devices mandatory for all areas of the fishery as of 1 January 2002. However, further review of the relevant legislation has commenced to ensure industry is using an effective design standard for these devices. The revised trawl plan also aims for a 40 per cent reduction of bycatch species taken and a 25 per cent reduction in the amount of benthos taken. Research is underway to assess the impact of turtle excluder and bycatch reduction devices in reducing bycatch.

Discussions commenced between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments about managing the incidental take of listed³ seahorses and pipefish by trawlers. An agreement was reached on measures that need to be introduced to monitor the impact of trawling on these species and the research needed to gain a better understanding of their population dynamics and distribution.

Protection of critical habitats and representative areas

Marine protected areas are an important tool in safeguarding fish stocks and habitats. This strategy has included areas selected under the GBRMPA's zoning plans and plans of management, and input to designation of fishing closures under Queensland fisheries legislation. In addition, the GBRMPA has been addressing land-based impacts on estuarine and coastal habitats. During 2001-02, the GBRMPA obtained information on fisheries resource use for utilisation in the Representative Areas Program. The involvement of fisheries stakeholders is essential to ensure biodiversity is protected while minimising the impact on commercial and recreational fisheries.

³ Under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Under the revised East Coast Trawl Fishery Management Plan approximately 96 000 square kilometres of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park were closed to trawling. These new closures prevent the expansion of the trawl fishery into areas where, historically, there had been no trawling.

The GBRMPA is attempting to mitigate the impacts of fishing and tourism on fish spawning aggregation sites in the Marine Park. One key component in developing mitigation strategies is the ability of field assessment staff to identify site characteristics for key species, identify fish behavioural characteristics during and outside spawning seasons, and assess the potential impacts of human activities on sites. During October 2001, a training course was run by the Fisheries Issues Group on fish spawning aggregation site identification and assessment.

Equitable access recognising traditional needs

Marine Park zoning plans regulate fishing practices permitted in selected areas. These provisions apply equally to commercial, recreational and tourist charter fishers. Under a special provision that recognises traditional, social and cultural needs, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples can apply for permits to fish and gather seafoods in zones that are otherwise closed.

Integration of fisheries and ecosystem management

The GBRMPA is committed to ensuring that all fishing in the Marine Park is ecologically sustainable in terms of target species, non-target species and the environment generally. This includes direct impacts of fishing practices and indirect impacts such as changes to ecosystem functioning and productivity. Studies conducted into the effects of trawl and line fishing are key elements in this management approach. The approach is integrated with broader protection of critical and representative areas, including land-based impacts and pollution threats from shipping. The GBRMPA recognises that comprehensive research, monitoring and assessment techniques for complex ecological systems are still in their infancy both in Australia and overseas. Consequently, the precautionary principle, whereby lack of conclusive data does not prevent implementation of protective measures, is adopted as an integral part of management practice.

Information base

The revised East Coast Trawl Fishery Management Plan requires all trawl vessels to carry Vessel Monitoring System units. These units allow the movements of the trawl fleet to be monitored on a regular and individual basis. Analysis of this information helps the GBRMPA understand the dynamics of the fleet. The Fisheries Research and Development Corporation approved a new research project to ascertain the utility of Vessel Monitoring System data for stock assessment purposes. Improvements to the trawl logbook have continued to provide for better recording of target, byproduct, bycatch and incidental take of rare or threatened species.

Information is collated for core databases on the distribution of fishing catch and effort, fish spawning aggregation sites, and fisheries jurisdictional boundaries and closures. Supported by impact studies as well as biological and socioeconomic research projects,

this information provides a better understanding of spatial patterns of fishing effort and is essential to integrated fisheries and ecosystem management.

Community awareness and compliance

User groups and communities are consulted and involved in developing Marine Park zoning and management plans and Queensland's fisheries regulations. A communication and education program further enhances public understanding and acceptance of the fishing regulations in the Marine Park management strategy (see also the Day-to-Day Management report on page 66).

Fishing was the key focus of a new three-year enhanced compliance strategy that began in July 1999. High priority areas include dugong protection, trawling and line fishing in protected zones. Assisted by additional Commonwealth Government funding, the strategy includes enhanced patrol activities, development of an integrated intelligence-based planning system and use of a range of new technologies. The strategy has seen a significant increase in the rate of detection and prosecution of illegal fishing activity in the Marine Park. The GBRMPA will also have access to the satellite-linked vessel monitoring system developed by Queensland Government fisheries management agencies, initially for trawlers and vessels involved in the sea cucumber and trochus fisheries.

Amendments to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act came into effect on 19 July 2001. These amendments included provision to increase the maximum fines for illegal fishing contrary to Marine Park zoning provisions to \$220 000 for an individual and \$1.1 million for a body corporate. The GBRMPA's legislation will continue to be reviewed to streamline fisheries enforcement in the Marine Park. Under the new Queensland trawl plan, illegal fishing in the Marine Park is considered a serious fisheries offence and appropriate additional penalties, such as licence suspension, apply to offenders under Queensland management regulations. The GBRMPA is also seeking to ensure that other Queensland fisheries management plans include such provisions.

Trawling closure - Mission Beach

On 18 April 2002, trawling in the inshore waters off Mission Beach was closed by gazettal of regulations under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*.

Extensive fish kills, as the result of discards from trawlers operating in shallow, inshore waters off Mission Beach, have occurred at regular intervals since trawling became common in the area in the 1970s. For example, in May 2001, a slick of dead fish 0.6-1 kilometre wide and 3.5-4 kilometres long was recorded 2 kilometres offshore by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. The density of dead fish in the slick varied, but in some places was as high as 40-50 fish per square metre. The dead fish included dollarfish, trevally, grunter, silver jewfish, stripies and fingermark bream.

As well as the ecological impacts, such fish kills have an impact on recreational amenity, tourism businesses and the Commonwealth's reputation as the guardian of a world heritage area. The value of tourism to the Queensland economy, is substantial. Most tourists who visit Queensland come to see one of the natural wonders of the world-the Great Barrier Reef. Dead fish on beaches and floating on the water is not the image

domestic or international tourists expect to take home after visiting the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

The Mission Beach closure covers an area of about 400 square kilometres. It incorporates some existing Great Barrier Reef Marine Park zones in which trawling was already prohibited; these zones collectively make up some 130 square kilometres. In addition, some 16 square kilometres in the closed area were already closed to trawling under Queensland fisheries legislation. Consequently, the area closed to trawling for the first time is 254 square kilometres.

The inshore area off Mission Beach is also a source of broodstock for the leader (black tiger) prawn aquaculture industry in Australia. Prawn hatcheries require 3000-5000 broodstock per year, with 1500 broodstock on average collected each year in the Mission Beach area. So the industry is not adversely impacted by the closure, the regulation provides for up to five permits to be issued for collecting live leader prawn broodstock for the Australian aquaculture industry.

There was extensive consultation on the trawl closure at a local level, particularly by the LMACs at Mission Beach and Hinchinbrook. The closure was also discussed at Queensland's Trawl Management Advisory Committee; at the GBRMPA's Fisheries Reef Advisory Committee; and with local trawler operators. All parties recognised the need for a trawling closure off Mission Beach. Local community groups, recreational fishers, the tourism industry and conservation groups all supported a trawling closure. Commercial fishers expressed concern about any loss of access to trawl grounds. Before the boundaries of the trawl closure area were finalised, extensive discussions were held between the Hon David Kemp, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, and representatives of the Queensland Seafood Industry Association and the GBRMPA.

TOURISM AND RECREATION

Tourism is the principal commercial use of the Marine Park. During 2001-02, commercial tourism operators carried around 1.6 million visitors to the Marine Park (not including island transfer passengers), a similar figure to the previous year. Approximately 85 per cent of this tourism is centred within the Cairns and Whitsundays areas of the Marine Park.

The GBRMPA is developing a more strategic, reef-wide framework for managing tourism and recreation impacts. The aim is to effectively manage cumulative impacts of tourism and recreation use and to minimise displacement effects on other users.

Strategic direction

Broad outcomes

Maximise opportunity for tourism and recreation use of the Marine Park, and present world heritage values through tourism, in a manner that is ecologically sustainable, equitable and efficient.

Strategic objectives

1. A sustainable, cost-efficient and equitable way of managing tourism and recreation use of the Marine Park.
2. Tourism and recreation stakeholders who contribute effectively to improved management of the Marine Park.

The Tourism and Recreation Group was established to develop and implement the GBRMPA's new approach to managing tourism and recreation, an approach based on strategic policy and planning and cooperative management with industry and community groups.

Zoning Plans, Plans of Management for the Cairns and Whitsundays, simplified standard permits and reef-wide policies, such as those for bareboats (i.e. vessels for hire without crew), cruise ships and moorings, all contribute to this strategic framework. Tourism industry training and accreditation programs and encouragement of best practice initiatives support these policies and plans.

Strong working relationships with the marine tourism industry and community groups are crucial to the success of this management approach.

(Performance analysis

Management plans

Cairns Area and Whitsundays plans of management

The Tourism and Recreation Group helped finalise a number of amendments to the Cairns Area and the Whitsundays Plans of Management.

The Group was a member of the joint GBRMPA/Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service Implementation Working Group and worked closely with the tourism industry to address some ongoing issues identified since the plans were last amended in October 1999. The amendments, gazetted on 7 June 2002, included:

- improved access arrangements for boutique cruise vessels, long-range rovers (extended charter operations), support service operations and passenger transport operations;

- permits for swimming-with-whales activities;
- a limited number of new permits providing every day access to the areas covered by the Cairns Area and Whitsundays Plans of Management;
- contingency arrangements for site-dedicated tourism operators; *and*
- provisions reflecting site planning outcomes.

Draft Hinchinbrook plan of management

The Tourism and Recreation Group contributed to a draft Hinchinbrook Plan of Management, placed on public exhibition in October 2001. Public submissions are currently being analysed prior to finalising the Plan.

Reef-wide policies

Latency and allocation of tourism permits

To determine the extent of latency in tourism permits in the Marine Park, the Tourism and Recreation Group conducted an audit of the use made of tourism permits for the year 2000. The Latency Audit showed that in 2000:

- latency was greatest in areas where there was low tourism demand;
- the Cairns Area and Whitsundays Plans of Management was a good initial step to reducing latency in these two high demand areas;
- there was a significant latency in 'capped' permits (i.e. where a capacity limit applies); *and*
- very few of these latent 'capped' permits were transferred (traded) during the year.

The results of this audit are available from the GBRMPA website.

In April 2002, questionnaires jointly prepared by the GBRMPA and the Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators were distributed to all current tourism permit holders. These questionnaires sought to gain preliminary views of tourism operators on the issues of latency and allocation. The responses will help the Group formulate policy on latency and allocation, following broader public consultation, for future consideration by the GBRMPA Board.

Moorings

The Tourism and Recreation Group coordinated development of a policy for the reef-wide management and use of moorings in the Marine Park. A draft moorings policy was placed on public exhibition between 26 November 2001 and 15 February 2002. A number of public submissions were received and taken into consideration when the GBRMPA Board finalised the moorings policy at its meeting of 30 April 2002.

This moorings policy, to be available from the GBRMPA website, consolidates previous GBRMPA decisions about moorings and complements current management arrangements in the Whitsundays and Cairns Areas. Regulations to support the moorings policy will cover various issues including standard mooring buoy requirements to help in recognition, use and management of moorings.

Bareboats

During 2001-02, the Tourism and Recreation Group coordinated development of a policy for the reef-wide management and use of bareboats. A draft bareboats policy was placed on public exhibition between 20 August and 12 October, which resulted in several public submissions. The GBRMPA Board took these submissions into consideration when finalising the bareboats policy at its meeting of November 2001.

This policy consolidates previous GBRMPA decisions in relation to bareboats and complements current management arrangements in the Whitsundays. The bareboats policy is available from the GBRMPA website.

Bareboat accreditation is one component of the bareboats policy, and will help raise the profile and professionalism of the bareboat industry in the Whitsundays region, with flow-on benefits to the environment. Regulations supporting the Whitsundays bareboat accreditation requirements came into effect on 1 January 2002.

Cruise shipping

Fitzalan Passage, Whitsundays

The Tourism and Recreation Group is facilitating a technical working group progressing a risk analysis for a proposed cruise ship anchorage in the Fitzalan Passage near Hamilton Island in the Whitsundays region. The working group comprises representatives of the GBRMPA, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Queensland Transport, Australian Hydrographers Service, Reef Pilots and representatives of the cruise ship industry. The report will be placed on public exhibition once a detailed site assessment and peer review has been completed.

The Tourism and Recreation Group is coordinating work on the designation of this anchorage and is currently assessing the candidate site, having regard to environmental impacts, cultural and heritage values and safety issues. The process includes opportunity for public representations, as well as frequent consultation with stakeholders.

Boutique cruise vessels

The Tourism and Recreation Group has been working with representatives of an emerging boutique cruise industry to improve access arrangements for boutique cruise vessels in the Cairns Area. Amendments to the Cairns Area Plan of Management, gazetted on 7 June 2002, will implement these arrangements.

Crown-of-thorns starfish

Following strong representations from the tourism industry in 2000-01, the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments have committed \$1.4 million of joint funding for the control of crown-of-thorns starfish at priority tourism sites in the Great Barrier Reef.

The Commonwealth's financial contribution to the crown-of-thorns starfish control program is worth \$700 000 over this and the next financial years. The Tourism and Recreation Group is the nominated project manager.

On 8 January 2002, the Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators was contracted to undertake the crown-of-thorns starfish control program and has subsequently subcontracted that program to the Great Barrier Reef Research Foundation. A vessel, dive team and coordination officer have also been engaged by the Foundation for the term of the program.

The crown-of-thorns starfish control program started in the Whitsundays before moving to the Cairns-Port Douglas area. Sites for crown-of-thorns starfish control have been prioritised by an independent site selection committee to ensure the best possible outcome for the tourism industry with the funding provided. Funding is disbursed in accordance with an agreed payment schedule, and upon receipt and acceptance of quarterly progress reports.

Publications

The Tourism and Recreation Group distributes a newsletter on a regular basis, highlighting the GBRMPA initiatives of particular interest to tourism and recreation stakeholders. During 2001-02, three *Tourism Newsletters* were produced and distributed.

The Group has also prepared a comprehensive update of its website and an update of the *Tourism Operators Handbook*, both of which should be approved for public release in the near future.

(SERVICE GROUPS

The following service groups are fundamental for the GBRMPA, to enable it to effectively manage the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:

- Program Delivery
- Information Support
- Corporate Services
- Communication and Education Coordination
- Day-to-Day Management

PROGRAM DELIVERY

The Program Delivery Group comprises units dealing with Planning, Environmental Impact Assessments, Environmental Management Systems (Permits), Indigenous Policy and Liaison and Local Marine Advisory Committees.

Strategic direction

Broad outcome

Program Delivery supports the achievement of the broad outcomes and objectives of the four critical issues programs within the Authority.

Strategic objectives

1. Ensure the natural values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are maintained.
2. Ensure the cultural values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are maintained.
3. Ensure the management of the Marine Park meets the obligations of the World Heritage Convention and other relevant international obligations.
4. Minimise the individual and cumulative impacts of tourism and recreation on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
5. Maintain diversity of opportunities for users of the Great Barrier Reef.
6. Ensure minimal degradation of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park by water pollution.
7. Protect the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park values from impact of land use activities.
8. Achieve integration of fisheries and ecosystem management.

These objective are pursued through statutory plans, impact assessments and permits and liaison with the community.

Planning

Statutory planning projects have been undertaken to address both short and long-term management issues in areas of the Marine Park.

Cairns Area and Whitsundays Plans of Management

Plans of Management for the Cairns Area and the Whitsundays, gazetted on 22 June 1998, have been progressively implemented. Amendments to these Plans were finalised on 6 June 2002. The amendment process involved community participation including a two-month public submission period-54 submissions were received for the Cairns Area Plan of Management amendments and 47 submissions were received for the Whitsunday Plan of Management amendments.

The Plans and amendments aim to protect and conserve the identified values of the areas while allowing for reasonable opportunities to access and use of the Planning Areas. The Cairns and Whitsundays areas account for approximately 85 percent of all tourism activity in the Marine Park.

Hinchinbrook Area

The GBRMPA continued work on a draft Plan of Management for Marine Park areas in the Hinchinbrook region. The draft Plan was released for public comment for three months from October 2001-50 submissions on the draft Plan were received and are being considered by the GBRMPA before finalising and releasing the Plan.

Interim Management Arrangements will remain in place until this Plan is finalised. A complementary Queensland management plan is being developed by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. Both plans will address issues in the Hinchinbrook Island area, renowned for its quiet and natural qualities.

Rezoning of the Marine Park

The GBRMPA has started rezoning the entire Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The rezoning aims to increase protection of biodiversity through placement of a representative system of no-take areas within the Park. The rezoning will also provide for consistency of zoning provisions between existing sections of the Park and will develop zoning for the 28 coastal areas that were incorporated into the Park during 2000 and 2001. The first Community Participation Phase of the rezoning started on 7 May 2002.

Far Northern Section

A revised zoning plan for the Far Northern Section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park came into effect on 15 April 2002. The new Far Northern Section Zoning Plan has been developed through an extensive consultative process including focused dialogue

with stakeholders and two formal public consultation periods. The first public consultation period was held in 1994 and the second in 1998.

The Far Northern Section is regarded as the most remote and biologically diverse of all Marine Park sections. The GBRMPA's management objectives for the Far Northern Section are: protection of biodiversity; recognition of the interests of Indigenous peoples living adjacent to the section; maintenance of the remote and undeveloped character of the region; and provision for ecologically sustainable use.

Gumoo Woojabuddee Section

The Gumoo Woojabuddee Section, situated adjacent to the central Queensland coast in the Shoalwater Bay region, was proclaimed in 1998 in response to the recommendations of the 1993-94 Commonwealth Commission of Inquiry into Shoalwater Bay. Preparation of a zoning plan for the Section continued during the year.

The Gumoo Woojabuddee Section Zoning Plan is expected to be tabled in Federal Parliament during 2002-03. The Plan aims to conserve the natural values of the area, including dugong habitat, while allowing for a diverse range of uses including recreational and commercial fishing and operation of the Shoalwater Bay Defence Training Area.

Environmental Impact Management Unit

The Environmental Impact Management Unit is responsible for:

- assessment and ongoing management of potential environmental impacts associated with major developments within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park;
- operation of the Aquaculture 'one-stop shop' for all Commonwealth legislative requirements for aquaculture developments adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park;
- assessment and approval processes under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Aquaculture) Regulations 2000* (the Aquaculture Regulations);
- assessment of applications for 'routine' activities within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park through the Environmental Management Systems (Permit) team; *and*
- liaison with the Department of Defence regarding defence activities or operations that will be conducted within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Major projects

Coordination of major projects is structured into four regions corresponding with the major Marine Park Sections (Far Northern, Cairns, Central, Mackay-Capricorn).

During 2001-02 the GBRMPA considered over 50 major development applications. These applications included projects such as boat harbours, dredging and pontoons. Considerable resources were focused on the Nelly Bay Boat Harbour development at Magnetic Island Townsville, where the GBRMPA ensured full-time environmental site supervision and adaptive management practices were adopted.

Largely as a result of incorporating 28 new coastal areas of the Marine Park in 2000-01, the GBRMPA has been involved in several near-shore dredging and spoil disposal projects in these new Sections. These projects included permissions for dredging at the Cairns Port, Rosslyn Bay Harbour and Molongle Creek. Several applications for offshore pontoon structures were also assessed.

Considerable progress was achieved on several strategic initiatives aimed at providing a transparent, consistent and contemporary approach to environmental impact management in the Marine Park. These initiatives included preparation of draft policies on 'Environmental Impact Management', 'Structures and Dredging', and 'Spoil Disposal'. These drafts were released for public comment in June 2002. The GBRMPA also worked closely with the CRC Reef Research Centre to finalise 'Reef Infrastructure Guidelines for Tourism Pontoons'.

Aquaculture

A new aquaculture team of three has been created to focus on aquaculture assessment and approvals under the Aquaculture Regulations. The Aquaculture Regulations relate to discharge of waste from facilities adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

The GBRMPA and Environment Australia have developed an aquaculture 'one-stop shop' that deals with all Commonwealth regulatory requirement and ensures that assessment and approval of the proposed development is conducted under a single Commonwealth process. A website which provides online forms and advice on assessment criteria has been provided on the GBRMPA's website.

During 2001-02 the aquaculture team has:

- issued six permits to discharge aquaculture waste under the Aquaculture Regulations;
- received six 'one-stop shop' referrals;
- conducted two compliance audits of GBRMPA permitted facilities; *and*
- participated in seven aquaculture industry forums or workshops.

Environmental Management Systems (Permits)

During 2001-02 the GBRMPA received 713 applications for permission to conduct activities in the Marine Park. A total of 693 permits comprising 971 permissions were granted for a range of activities. A further 95 permits were transferred between operators during the year. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, as GBRMPA delegates, issued a total of 134 permits for collecting, moorings and educational permits during the year. Nine requests for reconsideration of GBRMPA permit decisions were processed. Two decisions were appealed in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Table 2 provides a comparison of permits granted since 1997-98.

Stage 1 of a new database to improve the operation of the permits system was completed. The new web-based system is called PEMS (Protected Environment Management System) and provides an improved mechanism for managing and disseminating information about permits. Future enhancements of PEMS will include a public interface displaying, among other things, a register of permissions.

Progress has been made on several strategic issues including class assessments, a review of permit assessment criteria and a scientific research policy.

In conjunction with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Planning and Permits staff finalised allocation of moorings according to provisions of the Cairns Area Plan of Management. This process implemented one of the primary intents of the Plan, that is, reduced anchoring access in exchange for enhanced use of moorings.

Table 2.

Permissions granted since 1997-98 for activities in the Marine Park

Permission type	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Tourism programs	352	204	432	502	416
Research programs	152	105	170	114	108
Education programs	46	63	61	69	83
Moorings	25	1	30	113	96
Collecting	54	69	66	103	56
Traditional hunting	52	35	17	1	0
Aquaculture	1	1	1	n/a	n/a
Sea dumping	0	2	2	1	3
Offshore structures	14	3	8	8	12
Removal of dangerous animals	12	5	23	20	20
Waste discharge	6	1	2	2	1
Tourist facilities	8	3	6	5	2
Land-based aquaculture	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	6
Other activities	58	24	43	71	168
Total permissions granted	779	515	860	1011	971

Liaison with Defence on activities in the World Heritage Area

The GBRMPA maintained a central coordinating role in liaising with the Department of Defence about its activities in the World Heritage Area. The GBRMPA and the Department of Defence worked cooperatively to ensure no significant environmental impact occurred as a result of exercises around the Shoalwater and Halifax Bay regions. The GBRMPA meets Department of Defence officials routinely to ensure issues of importance to both agencies are discussed to maintain the sound cooperative relationship that exists between the two agencies.

Indigenous Policy and Liaison Unit

Indigenous peoples live in all communities adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park coast. There are more than 50 recognised traditional owner groups affiliated with the area and a significant number of people with historical association.

To help all areas of the GBRMPA deal appropriately with Indigenous issues, a four-person unit operates within the Program Delivery Group. This Indigenous Policy and Liaison Unit provides strategic support and assistance to the Critical Issues Groups and liaises directly with Indigenous representatives and traditional owner groups.

Cooperative management

Following a request from the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council, the Indigenous Policy and Liaison Unit helped draft a costed strategy for cooperative management, involving Indigenous communities and managing agencies. The proposed strategy was presented to State and Federal Ministers on 8 June 2001. Ministers have asked that agencies focus on Indigenous Ranger proposals and local agreements. The work is continuing.

At a local level, the GBRMPA has continued to support arrangements for collaborative management of the Marine Park with Aboriginal groups. The Hope Vale Community has been supported in its efforts to implement a hunting management plan, which was produced in 2000 and has received widespread recognition. Support was also provided to the Giringun Elders and Reference Group from Cardwell, and to the Darumbal Noolar-Murree Corporation in Rockhampton to increase Aboriginal involvement in day-to-day management of the Marine Park.

Cross Cultural Education

Indigenous Policy and Liaison staff have conducted a program of cultural education for staff, university students and visiting guests including university summer school courses, staff seminars and a two-day field trip for GBRMPA and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service staff to Goold Island in May-June 2002.

Local Marine Advisory Committees

The GBRMPA established Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) in 1999 at nine regional coastal communities along the Queensland coast: Cooktown, Port Douglas, Cairns, Mission Beach, Hinchinbrook, Townsville, Whitsundays, Mackay and Gladstone.

LMACs provide a forum for the local community and representative stakeholder groups to discuss marine resource management issues and advise the GBRMPA accordingly. They provide a communication link between stakeholder groups, the wider community and management agencies.

LMACs consist of volunteer members of the community. Members usually have an interest in marine resource issues and may be independent, or represent a constituent group. Each LMAC is chaired by a member who is charged with running meetings and ensuring a broad representation of the community participates in the committee. The GBRMPA provides funding for LMACs to meet every two months.

An annual meeting of LMAC Chairs was held in March 2002. LMAC Chairs discussed achievements, local issues and ongoing projects with senior GBRMPA staff and with each other. In addition, work programs and the LMAC Guidelines were discussed and reviewed. The meeting was considered to be highly productive by all those who attended.

Information Support

The Information Support Group provides scientific, technical and information services for all areas of the GBRMPA, and comprises:

- Research and Monitoring Coordination;
- Information Technology;
- Library and Image Services; and
- Information Coordination and Analysis.

Major achievements this year have included:

- development of an Information Support Group vision for 2002-05 based on a proactive client service model;
- monitoring of water temperatures and coral bleaching during a major coral bleaching episode;
- improved information technology network accessibility and security;
- increased provision of electronic library and image services; and
- significant progress towards production of high quality digital maps of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Strategic direction

Broad outcome

To ensure the GBRMPA's policies and decisions are based on the best available information and are understood and accepted by all sectors of the community.

Strategic objectives

1. To coordinate delivery of information needs throughout the GBRMPA.
2. To ensure best scientific information is available for decisions and policies of the GBRMPA.
3. To provide information systems and services, which meet the needs and priorities of the GBRMPA, and achieve efficiency gains through the strategic and effective application of information technology.
4. To supply an effective and proactive library and image service, which meets the information needs of its clients, and provides leadership in the specialist field of marine information management.
5. To provide efficient, reliable, high quality spatial (and other) data coordination, information, analysis and project management services.

Research and Monitoring Coordination

The role of the Research and Monitoring Coordination Unit is to ensure that the best available scientific information is available for management decisions. The members of the Unit maintain the scientific expertise within the GBRMPA necessary for understanding and interpreting this information.

This year the Unit provided advice on a wide variety of scientific issues. Of particular importance was social science support for the Representative Areas Program. The Research and Monitoring Coordination Unit reported on the status of the World Heritage Area and developed relevant policies. In conjunction with the Environmental Impact Management Unit and the Secretariat, the Unit also provided support for the Environmental Research Ethics Advisory Committee[JJC13]. The Committee met once during 2001-02 in Townsville.

Coordinating research

Most of the GBRMPA's scientific information needs were met through outsourcing. The CRC Reef Research Centre is the primary research provider, and the Unit maintained extensive liaison with the Centre to ensure the research program closely reflects the GBRMPA's research priorities (see the GBRMPA website). Ongoing close liaison will ensure the continuing value of the CRC Reef Research Centre's tasks to the GBRMPA. Some key research priorities, not covered by the CRC Reef Research Centre, were commissioned directly from other research providers.

Providing scientific advice on major phenomena and significant events

In the first half of 2002 the Great Barrier Reef experienced a major coral bleaching event caused by record-breaking high temperatures. The Research and Monitoring Coordination Unit lead a cross-institutional effort to monitor water temperatures and the bleaching on the Reef. Information on the 2002 coral bleaching event is available on the GBRMPA's website.

Implementing Impact Monitoring Programs

A major task for the Unit was implementation of the Impact Monitoring Program (part of the Environmental Impact Management Plan) for the Nelly Bay Harbour development on Magnetic Island. The Impact Monitoring Program played a key role in minimising the environmental impacts of the development by alerting managers to increasing levels of environmental risk so appropriate management actions could be taken before impacts occurred. An Impact Monitoring Program is also being prepared for a development at Keswick Island.

Disseminating research results

This year, the GBRMPA hosted 20 presentations, which were attended by about 500 people, as part of the GBRMPA Seminar Series. This series disseminated the latest research information to researchers and managers in the Townsville area.

In 2001-02, the Research and Monitoring Coordination Unit published seven research publications (see Appendix D), copies of which are available on the GBRMPA website. Following an internal review, the GBRMPA's other publication for disseminating research results, the *Reef Research* newsletter, was suspended pending development of a new series of research-based fact sheets. It is expected that this new product will appeal to a wider audience in the community and more rapidly convey topical research information. Past editions of *Reef Research* (from 1996 onwards) are available on the GBRMPA website.

Supporting training of postgraduate students

In 2001-02, the GBRMPA awarded a total of \$10 000 to ten postgraduate students as Augmentative Research Grants. In addition, the GBRMPA provided further support to postgraduate students through three grants under the Australian Research Council's Strategic Partnerships with Industry, Research and Training Scheme.

Information technology

Network and information technology security was a major focus for the Information Technology Unit during 2001-02, as was complying with the Government Online strategies and database development. Significant resources were utilised in these areas, with the Unit successfully meeting the Government Online timelines.

Effective user support to improve productivity

Client focus remains a high priority for the Unit. Improved help desk procedures have been implemented to ensure effective user support. Software and user procedures are constantly refined to improve responsiveness to support needs. There is a continuing high demand for information technology training due to the number of temporary and contract staff employed by the GBRMPA.

Effective information systems to meet Authority needs

Major database developments included a system to support the Representative Areas Program, and an online booking system for educational and other events in Reef HQ. Technical advice and support was provided for the development of the Protected Environment Management System. Several web-based and other databases were also developed to support internal administrative functions.

This year has seen re-development of the public website to reflect the GBRMPA's revised corporate identity. The new site features an improved navigation system and other utilities to facilitate ease of use.

Effective, accessible network and technical services

A new external web server was installed and a number of older generation servers were taken off-line. The Internet link was upgraded to provide better access to staff and stakeholders. The Reef HQ and Kelleher Place buildings were re-cabled and new switches installed to provide faster and more reliable access for the increasing demands being placed on the network. Network and server availability continues to be maintained at a very high level.

Library and Image Services

Library and Image Services continues to adjust to meet the GBRMPA's changing needs. Library staff completed a major client survey of all groups across the organisation during the year. Feedback from clients was extremely positive on the Library's commitment to providing a proactive client service. The survey resulted in changes to some existing services, cancellation of others and commencement of services in new project areas. The overall result has been an increase in demand for Library and Image Services. By realigning priorities, demand has been met within existing resources. Library staff played a pivotal role in developing the three-year vision for the Information Support Group. The proposed future emphasis on corporate information and knowledge management will benefit the whole organisation, with respect to its effective use of information resources.

Developing the library collection

Library and Image Services aims to provide a wide range of information services to clients electronically. In support of this, serial subscription payments continued to decrease this year, with increasing emphasis being placed on online access to material. This provides clients with current information at their desktop. The Library management system, Horizon, continues to provide a reliable service. A major system upgrade was successfully completed this year.

Reference service

Library REVEAL and ALERT services continued to efficiently and effectively help staff maintain currency on relevant issues. Some existing ALERT's were cancelled and new ones established in response to the client surveys. These services are offered electronically, via email. With interlibrary loan request forms available electronically on the Intranet, the request process is fast and streamlined. Access to electronic journals has been increasing. Library Links, an electronic newsletter providing relevant and interesting links to web-based resources, continues to be distributed bi-monthly. Library staff began a new email-based current awareness service during the year: Best Books - a monthly list of new and relevant books. This service has significantly increased the use of new material.

Image collection

Library and Image Services aims to provide clients with a comprehensive digital imaging service. This service is the combination of a high-quality digital image

collection available at clients' desktops, together with the technical expertise of the Image Collection Officer. Significant progress towards this goal was achieved during this year, with 4000 images scanned in 2001-02.

Corporate PowerPoint presentations relied heavily on the digitised images from the Image Collection Catalogue available on both the intranet and the Internet. An extremely large number of high-quality images were used in presentations and publications for both the Reef HQ refurbishment and the Representative Areas Program.

REEF bibliographic database

REEF is a bibliographic database, managed by the GBRMPA, which is commercially available both in CD format and via the Internet through the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology 'Informit'. REEF indexes journal articles, books, maps, videos, and CD ROMS, which describe or illustrate some aspect of the Great Barrier Reef. Successful outsourcing arrangements for article indexing continue: records now include a short abstract which adds to the quality of this nationally-recognised database. Database updates met all deadlines for 2001-02.

Information Coordination and Analysis

The Information Coordination and Analysis Unit is responsible for spatial data analysis and presentation using Geographic Information Systems, cartography and remote sensing.

This year, the Unit provided major support for the critical issues and support groups, made significant progress towards production of high quality digital maps of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and implemented quality assurance procedures for boundary descriptions of the Marine Park and World Heritage Area.

Support for critical issues and support groups

The Unit provided effective support for most sections of the agency, particularly the Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage, Fisheries Issues, Program Delivery, Water Quality and Coastal Development, and Day-to-Day Management groups. A major focus this year was spatial analysis and information support for the Representative Areas Program. Information Coordination and Analysis Unit also provided critical support for development of the new Protected Environment Management System.

Production of high-quality digital maps

The Reef Mapping Project aims to produce more accurate and detailed maps of the entire Marine Park and World Heritage Area. Satellite images covering the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park have been converted to an image-map with a high degree of accuracy (10-20 metres), which provide more detail than has been previously available. The results of this project have already contributed directly to high priority management tasks. For example 1:250 000 scale maps produced directly from Geographic Information System databases have made a vital contribution to the Community Information Program for the Representative Areas Program.

Quality assurance for boundary descriptions

This year, the Information Coordination and Analysis Unit implemented new quality assurance procedures to ensure the accuracy of boundary descriptions in all future GBRMPA products. The Unit also revised existing boundary descriptions in the Whitsundays and Cairns Area Plans of Management and the Far Northern Section Zoning Plan.

CORPORATE SERVICES

Ensuring that the GBRMPA has appropriate systems, resources and support to achieve its objectives is an ongoing priority. Effective use of resources relies on integration of flexible and efficient systems and practices for managing human, physical and financial resources.

Strategic direction

Broad outcome

To deliver a management framework and support services that help facilitate effective functioning of the GBRMPA.

Strategic objectives

1. To achieve a corporate planning and financial management framework which is efficient and provides timely, flexible and easily accessible decision support systems to managers and staff.
2. To achieve a human resource management framework which supports the achievement of corporate objectives by attracting and developing high quality staff, promoting teamwork, encouraging innovation, creativity and improving performance.
3. To provide a safe working environment and adequate standard of accommodation and field and office equipment.
4. To provide ongoing corporate services which are benchmarked to appropriate standards and responsive to organisational needs.
5. To ensure the Environment Management Charge is administered in a cost effective and efficient manner and sound relationships with clients are maintained.
6. To provide effective, efficient and professional Secretariat support to the GBRMPA.

(Performance analysis

During 2001-02, Corporate Services' major achievements included:

- finalising implementation of new finance system with incorporation of asset management module and migration to 'Version 10' of Finance One providing real-time access to staff within the GBRMPA;
- making significant advances in introduction of electronic commerce, with over 80 per cent of payments made electronically;
- measuring finance functions against Australian National Audit Office benchmarks-GBRMPA services generally proved more efficient than the Australian Public Service (APS) median;
- developing and conducting finance and office services induction course providing guidance on corporate policy, systems and procedures;
- completing a review of the Protective Security Manual 2000 and starting to implement recommendations;
- implementing Employee Self Service modules for Human Resources Management Information System;
- completing Human Resources Survey, including development of strategies to improve human resource management issues;
- developing a Human Resources Plan for refurbishing Reef HQ facility;
- coordinating and facilitating structural review of Reef HQ;
- developing a range of corporate procedures, policies and guidelines;
- further developing consultative arrangements through the Authority Consultative group;
- increasing levels of training in performance management, workplace diversity, occupational health and safety and other key APS subject areas;
- reviewing, and delivering updated GBRMPA induction program;
- developing and publishing GBRMPA Strategic Work Plans for 2001-02 to 2003-04;
- further developing and enhancing Environment Management Charge compliance framework-several client reviews were undertaken;
- starting Indigenous traineeship and Indigenous support network as part of the Workplace Diversity Program;
- coordinating GBRMPA Consultative Group meetings and managing Authority Consultative Group-initiated issues;
- providing high quality secretariat services to committee structures and managing programs of visiting dignitaries;
- improving the physical security to the office complex; and
- managing implementation of the dive policy and associated training.

Resource management

The alignment of the program structure to report on outputs and outcomes was again reviewed and improved during the year with the majority of positions within the GBRMPA being staffed on a continuing basis (see Appendix C for details of staffing as at 30 June 2002). The output groups developed for the portfolio budget statements remain relevant and provide a sound appreciation of the focus of the GBRMPA's activities.

Corporate governance remained a high priority during the year and audit review activity was linked to compliance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

Environmental Management Charge

In 2001-02 the GBRMPA collected an Environmental Management Charge (EMC) of \$6.4 million. The GBRMPA is using EMC revenue to fund research, provide user education and manage the reef. A review of compliance with EMC statutory requirements conducted during 1999-2000 recommended introduction of a structured control framework. A sound compliance framework, which incorporates educational and client review elements, has been introduced and enhanced and a significant number of client reviews have been undertaken over the last three years. Staff within the Environmental Management Charge Unit are providing ongoing advice and guidance to clients to ensure they are conversant with their statutory obligations. As was the case in previous years, continuing development and improvement of the compliance framework remained a high priority in 2001-02.

EMC systems are continually modified and improved to clarify the recording of visitor categories. These modifications have helped to ensure accurate collection of revenue. Improvements to the integrity of the reef visitor database, which records the number of visitors to each location within the Marine Park, have also been undertaken. This database continues to be a valuable resource for managers, planners, the tourism industry and researchers.

Payroll services

Use of an external bureau (with data input from the Human Resources Unit) for payroll services is proving to be a cost-effective strategy. The Human Resource Management Information System is providing valuable information in areas such as training and occupational health and safety. In 2001-02 a system of user access to payroll records was provided using 'employee self-service' arrangements.

Employee development

During 2001-02 the GBRMPA spent \$79 926 in providing learning and development opportunities for employees. This covered a wide range of activities including leadership, communication and negotiation skills, project management, performance management, information technology plus an array of relevant technical training.

Review of the Human Resources Unit, introduction of a new Human Resource Management Information System, and appointment of staff to key positions have all provided the opportunity to continue developing a strategic approach to employee development.

Equal employment opportunity and workplace diversity

The GBRMPA recognises its employees' contributions by providing a participative, consultative work environment which enables employees to contribute to program

development and decision-making processes. The GBRMPA Workplace Diversity Plan is being implemented.

Equal employment opportunity data for the GBRMPA's staff is provided in Appendix C.

The peak consultative mechanism between management and employees is the Authority Consultative Group. This group comprises a mix of management representatives and elected employee representatives. The Authority Consultative Group is scheduled to meet formally every three months with further opportunity to meet monthly. In addition to these formal meetings, elected representatives and management meet on an informal basis to consider issues as they arise.

At each formal meeting of the Authority Consultative Group the following standing agenda items are discussed:

- staffing and other resources;
- finances;
- workplace diversity;
- accommodation;
- employee learning and development;
- occupational health and safety;
- employee recruitment and selection activities; *and*
- information technology.

Other issues discussed by the Authority Consultative Group include:

- changes to human resource management guidelines, policies and procedures;
- certified agreement updates;
- work level standards; *and*
- review of GBRMPA positions.

Workplace diversity outcomes for the year include:

- continued family friendly and employee initiatives including flexible work hours, time-off in lieu of overtime, purchased leave, home-based work, part-time employment, carers rooms and maternity leave at half pay;
- providing access to part-time work particularly for female employees returning to work after periods of maternity leave;
- continued high-level of use of study leave assistance by equal employment opportunity (EEO) target group members;
- improved access by staff to timely and comprehensive information on employment related issues through the use of the GBRMPA Intranet;
- completion of a workplace diversity plan and workplace diversity survey;
- commenced Indigenous traineeships and Indigenous support network; *and*
- increased representation of people with a disability in the workplace.

Accommodation

The majority of GBRMPA staff are accommodated in the Reef HQ complex which is the main office building. The refurbishment has resulted in attractive, modern and occupational health and safety-compliant accommodation. Minor works undertaken within the Kelleher Place building provide a reasonable standard of accommodation and meet occupational health and safety requirements.

Access and equity

The Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) continued to operate effectively along the coastline adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef. They provided valuable advice and input to the GBRMPA decision-making processes. LMACs provide local people with an opportunity to identify regional issues of importance as well as broader issues of concern throughout the Marine Park and to help develop policy responses to those problems. The GBRMPA monitors membership, in the interests of access and equity, and makes ongoing efforts to encourage representation from a wide range of individuals and interest groups.

The GBRMPA's relationship with Indigenous people is important. All major planning exercises for the Marine Park include consultation with Indigenous communities. During 2001-02 the major focus for consultation was on development and delivery of conservation programs relating to dugongs and turtles and the Representative Areas Program. The GBRMPA is working with the Queensland Government and Indigenous communities to develop strategies for the co-management of marine and coastal areas.

Internal and external scrutiny

Pacific Bridge Pty Ltd, through efficient and professional compliance and performance audit services, retained the contract for providing internal audit and evaluation services during 2001-02.

In line with the Commonwealth Government's focus on accountability and corporate governance, audit activity has concentrated on areas of high risk and the adequacy of existing control frameworks. During 2001-02 internal audits were undertaken in the following areas of operation:

- permit issues, collection and management;
- information management-research coordination;
- day-to-day management;
- consultancy management; *and*
- financial management.

Ernst & Young, under contract to the Australian National Audit Office, undertook the external audit of the GBRMPA's 2001-02 Financial Statements (see Appendix G).

The Auditor-General's report of the Financial Statements of Commonwealth Entities for 2000-01 (Audit Report No. 29 of 2001-02) was tabled in Federal Parliament during 2001-02 (see Appendix F).

The internal Audit Committee was mindful of the recommendations made in other reports from the Australian National Audit Office and has considered steps to implement relevant recommendations.

During 2001-02 there were no external reviews that related specifically to the GBRMPA. Human resource management decision-making by the GBRMPA during 2001-02 was regarded as sound. There were no actions relating to the appealable selection processes and no comments were made by the Commonwealth Ombudsman in relation to human resource management activities. There were no other external reviews of human resource management decisions during 2001-02.

Commonwealth Disability Strategy

The Commonwealth Disability Strategy recognises that the Commonwealth has an impact on the lives of people with disabilities. The GBRMPA has developed a draft disability action plan, which is currently under review as part of the GBRMPA's obligation to provide an assessment of performance in implementing the Strategy framework. The revised plan will meet the new reporting requirements of the four key roles identified in the Strategy.

The GBRMPA has identified that it performs the roles of policy adviser, provider, regulator and employer.

Policy adviser

In its role as a Policy adviser, the GBRMPA is the principal adviser to the Commonwealth Government on the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Public consultation and participation are integral in the management of the Great Barrier Reef. The GBRMPA recognises its responsibility to ensure new policies are developed in consultation with people with a disability where appropriate. Where possible public meetings are held in venues with disability access. Public websites and public web entry points have been created in accordance with the accessibility requirements of the Government Online strategy.

Provider

In the provider role, the GBRMPA manages Commonwealth marine parks and Reef HQ. Access is provided to the majority of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park for tourism and recreational activities. Information about the Park is available in accessible formats on the GBRMPA's website at <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au> and in hard copy from the Townsville office and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services offices situated along the coast. The GBRMPA's library has been designed to enable disability access and library staff provide assistance to people with disabilities. GBRMPA's library services provide access to information on CD Rom and on-line catalogues.

Due to the limitations of a marine-based park, access for people with a disability to the Park varies. Reef HQ provides a land-based reef experience for people who would otherwise be unable to access the Marine Park. Townsville Enterprise, the regional tourism body has recognised Reef HQ in its publications as a user-friendly centre for

people with disabilities. Improved disability access, tactile and audiovisual displays have been incorporated into the current refurbishment of Reef HQ. Reef HQ provides interpretive facilities, on request, for people with disabilities.

Regulator

Under its regulatory role, the GBRMPA administers the:

- *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*;
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983;
- Great Barrier Reef Region (Prohibition of Mining) Regulations 1999;
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Aquaculture) Regulations 2000;
- *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Environmental Management Charge-General) Act 1993*; and
- *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Environmental Management Charge-Excise) Act 1993*

Commonwealth legislation specific to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park is accessible to the public through the GBRMPA website at http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/about_gbrmpa/legislation_regulations and brochures and fact sheets are provided on request through the GBRMPA Public Information Unit.

Public notifications are also made in the *Commonwealth Government Gazette* and, depending on the needs of the person requesting the information, specific requests may be responded to by fax, email or normal postal services.

Under section 32 of the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*, the GBRMPA is required to provide opportunities for interested people to comment and gain information in relation to changes to the zoning of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. This consultative process is achieved through a variety of media including intranet, mail outs, public meetings and public service announcements on both radio and television. This process also occurs in relation to preparation of plans of management under section 39ZE of the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*.

Preparation of an annual report on the operation of the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* is required under section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. The report is also available on the Internet in an accessible format.

Employer

The GBRMPA works across a number of areas to ensure it provides fair and equitable employment opportunities for all members of the community. The GBRMPA's employment policies, procedures and practices comply with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992. Recruitment information for potential job applicants is made available in various ways depending on the needs of the individual. Recruitment opportunities advertised in the *Commonwealth Government Gazette* and the press are accessible through the Internet.

The 2001-02 Annual Workplace Diversity data identifies 5.3 percent of employees as having some form of disability. The actual number of employees with disabilities is expected to be higher than this figure due to non-disclosure. The GBRMPA's rate of employment of people with disabilities is slightly higher than that of the broader APS (quoted as 4.2 percent in the 1999-2000 *Workplace Diversity Report* published by the Public Service and Merit Protection Commission).

Within the agency, the GBRMPA applies the principle of reasonable adjustment. For example, work is arranged to suit individual requirements and the necessary equipment, such as large computer screens or more appropriate keyboards, is provided. Flexible work arrangements are put in place as necessary to suit the needs of the individual. The main building, Reef HQ, conference rooms and meeting rooms are wheelchair accessible. Training and development programs are accessible to staff with disabilities and, where appropriate, contain information on disability issues.

Complaints and grievance mechanisms are in place and available to all staff.

The GBRMPA has networks of harassment and diversity contact officers, and appropriate policies and mechanisms are in place should staff have concerns or issues needing to be addressed and resolved. GBRMPA employees also have access to an employee assistance program to discuss issues and concerns and to the Public Service and Merit Protection Commission for external reviews of actions.

COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION COORDINATION

Ensuring the public is informed and educated about issues pertaining to the Great Barrier Reef continues to be an important role for the Communications and Education Coordination Group. Communication, education and media strategies are important mechanisms for providing this information to a wider audience.

Strategic direction

Broad outcome

Improved Australia-wide profile and community understanding of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and its management.

Strategic objectives

1. Provision of local, regional and national educational services and programs relevant to the Great Barrier Reef.
2. Effective media and public relations.
3. Efficient and effective marketing of the GBRMPA programs and products.
4. Provision of a readily accessible, affordable and effective on-shore reef environment and interpretive centre.
5. Enhanced community support for and understanding of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

Performance analysis

The Communication and Education Section has further cemented its role within the GBRMPA over the past 12 months. Not only responsible for marketing, education, media and corporate communication activities for the GBRMPA and Reef HQ, the Section also worked with all the Critical Issue Groups and Service Units on many issues and initiatives.

Let's Keep it Great

The Great Barrier Reef Catchment Water Quality Action Plan was released in September 2001. The Communication and Education Section worked collaboratively with the Water Quality and Coastal Development Group to ensure the materials were available for the Ministerial release. This saw the new corporate look *Let's Keep it Great* showcased for the first time.

The *Let's Keep it Great* strategy is designed to promote the value of the Marine Park and the World Heritage Area, and works alone or in conjunction with issue-specific campaigns. The slogan encourages cooperative action between all stakeholders interested in the Great Barrier Reef. It is an inclusive and action-orientated message which suggests that a positive outcome is indeed possible. The slogan is included on all corporate stationery, telephone on-hold messages, displays, banners and corporate publications. It is now an integral part of the GBRMPA's identity.

Marketing

The Marketing Unit coordinated marketing activities for a number of key GBRMPA initiatives this year.

The Unit played an important role in delivering information about the Representative Areas Program to the community, coordinating support materials including all printed documents, and coordinating and scheduling community service television commercials. The Unit scheduled the locations and advertising of the Representative Areas Program Community Information Program.

The 'Under Pressure' advertising campaign was strongly associated with the Representative Areas Program. It raised awareness about the impact of human activities on the reef and was followed up by the Representative Areas Program community consultation phase. The 'Under Pressure' message was used in Representative Areas Program marketing activities, such as the submission brochure and on the GBRMPA website.

The newly refurbished Reef HQ will soon open its doors with the new positioning statement of 'The Reef Up Close'. The Communication and Education Section developed the statement and new identity for Reef HQ, and coordinated all printed materials and television advertising. The initial reaction from the tourism industry has been extremely positive.

The 'Where in the world is Lucky T Turtle?' competition was launched while Reef HQ

was closed, to keep locals interested and enthusiastic about the reopening. The campaign was very successful-thousands of locals entered the competition and the local media regularly featured Reef HQ.

Reef HQ

Until its closure, on 15 February 2002 to undertake a major refurbishment, Reef HQ had 58 590 visitors, including 7 059 students undertaking education programs. On historical trends, this would have normally indicated an improved visitor number position over the previous year.

The Reef HQ upgrade is a major step forward for the GBRMPA's strategy of regional, national and international education about the Great Barrier Reef. New exhibits, using multimedia and interactive displays, will bring visitors up close to reef creatures and processes. A team of staff and volunteer reef experts will help visitors discover why the Great Barrier Reef is great.

The refurbishment has restored Reef HQ to as-new condition in many areas and improved the efficiency of building and exhibit support systems and structures. Airconditioning systems have been replaced with a central, efficient cooling plant. Using an innovative locally developed coffer dam, the large main exhibit viewing panels have been resealed and polished without needing to drain the tank and disturb the coral reef residents. Pumping systems and associated pipes and filters have been reconfigured to significantly reduce operational and maintenance costs, while greatly improving the effectiveness of seawater processing and circulation.

Improved reception facilities, a new shop, and a café relocated to provide an outdoor eating area overlooking Ross Creek provide attractive efficient services for visitors.

A detailed understanding of visitor behaviour and interests has been developed since the aquarium first opened in 1986. This has been applied in developing new interpretive programs and activities, which take full advantage of the reconfigured exhibit spaces to effectively convey the GBRMPA's reef education and conservation messages. While Reef HQ was closed, 39 new Reef HQ volunteers were recruited and public contact staff were trained in the new interpretive programs.

After a detailed staff consultation activity, a new management structure was developed for the aquarium. The structure reflected the changed management environment in Reef HQ since the inception of the Communication and Education Coordination Group in the previous year. One highlight of the new structure includes a stronger focus on service delivery.

Community support

Volunteers continue to play a crucial role in supporting Reef HQ operations. Volunteers have helped ensure cost-effective service delivery by contributing over 16 000 hours of voluntary service-equivalent to 10 full-time staff members.

Over 164 volunteers, including 31 student volunteers, helped with a range of Reef HQ

programs: visitor services, education, functions, promotions, exhibits and administration. Their help allowed Reef HQ to expand visitor services and more effectively deliver the GBRMPA's conservation and wise use messages.

During the International Year of the Volunteer (2001) the Reef HQ Volunteers' Association played a significant role in public celebrations. They worked with many community organisations in the Townsville region to plan and participate in regional events including 'Volunteers' Breakfast in the Park', (600 volunteers attended), beach activities for environmental volunteers, and the Townsville and Thuringowa 'Vollies with Brollies' parade (500 volunteers attended).

As well, the Reef HQ Volunteers' Association held a reunion for its past and present members. Over 95 members from around Australia attended the event, which celebrated the work of the Association over its 14-year history.

The Volunteers' Association has continued to work closely with Reef HQ management to ensure joint goals and aims are achieved through cooperative efforts. In recognition of their outstanding service, the Reef HQ Volunteers' Association won the General Tourism Services Category of the 2001 North Queensland Tourism Awards. The Reef HQ Student Volunteers received a special commendation as part of the Townsville City Council Environmental Excellence Awards.

Membership

Membership numbers have steadily increased since July 2001. By the time Reef HQ closed more than 5 700 people were Reef HQ members. During its closure, members received regular information about refurbishment developments and members-only activities. In addition, new commercial partners are providing benefits for members, adding further value to Reef HQ Membership.

Education

The Education Unit produced the revised program for the newly refurbished Reef HQ and the outline for the new education program, Reef ED.

Reef ED is a national plan for reef education activities, ensuring that Reef HQ is a 'must see' educational destination. Reef ED will ensure quality education programs are delivered, encourage the community to understand and support the values of the World Heritage Area and the Marine Park, and raise the tourism industry's understanding of the Great Barrier Reef. Reef ED includes:

- a website;
- videostreaming and videoconferencing modules;
- Reef Schools;
- curriculum units; *and*
- interactive activities related to the Great Barrier Reef.

Media and public relations

Media and public relations activities continue to support most of the GBRMPA's key activities, seeing development of proactive media plans, including for the Reef HQ refurbishment and the Representative Areas Program community consultation.

GBRMPA staff received support and advice through media and presentation training allowing them to confidently deal with a wide variety of interviews. A significant media event during the year was the ABC's *Four Corners*, 'Beautiful One Day' which highlighted many of the threats the Great Barrier Reef currently faces.

Water quality and the Representative Areas Program were, and continue to be, focal points for media attention along the Great Barrier Reef coast. By working with the GBRMPA's critical issue groups, communication strategies have helped achieve a large amount of positive media coverage to ensure community and special interest groups have access to useful and appropriate information.

Public information

It has been a busy year for the Public Information Unit, particularly in the second half of the year. The Unit continues to provide a wide range of information and manuals to the public, and publications to students and teachers who are undertaking projects about the Great Barrier Reef. The Unit is establishing a wide-ranging database to communicate more effectively with people interested in the GBRMPA's activities.

The Unit was an important part of the first community consultation phase of the Representative Areas Program. It supplied over 35 000 information packages and detailed maps to the public, and handled many enquiries.

Most publications are now available online, with hard copies still available. Research publications are now available on the Internet, with hard copies being phased out. Fact sheets are currently being developed, which will provide the public with easy-to-understand and relevant information about the GBRMPA and reef-related issues. Fact sheets will be available on the Internet, and able to be updated easily and frequently.

DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT COORDINATION PROGRAM

By agreement between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments, day-to-day management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and Queensland marine parks and island national parks within the Great Barrier Reef Region is undertaken principally by the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. This work is supported by arrangements with other agencies for provision of aerial surveillance, compliance and enforcement services.

Strategic direction

Demands on the Day-to-Day Management Program continue to increase as new areas are added to the Park, use of the Park increases and new management issues emerge. The challenge is to find innovative ways to maintain high standards for core programs such as compliance, resource protection and education, while allocating resources, as necessary, to address emerging priorities.

Broad outcome

Field operations and routine activities are required for the management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, Queensland marine parks and island national parks within the Great Barrier Reef.

Strategic objectives

The strategic objectives of the Day-to-Day Management Program were set out in the annual business plan and can be summarised:

1. Protection of the integrity of the Great Barrier Reef by maximising compliance with the legislation.
2. Protection of areas of key importance for ecological, cultural and economic purposes.
3. Presentation and promotion of awareness and appreciation of the natural and cultural values of the Great Barrier Reef and its management, which responds to identified community needs.
4. Provision and management of identified key physical infrastructure to support recreational and tourist use.
5. Through continuous improvement programs, improve workplace practices, training and knowledge to implement operational strategies.

Performance Analysis

A focused and efficient team of Day-to-Day Management Program staff is delivering outcomes on key management issues both on the water and on the islands of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

Assessment of day-to-day management activities undertaken confirms that the Day-to-Day Management Program has achieved the aims of the annual business plan.

Compliance and enforcement

Detection of high priority illegal activities has increased with improved coordination, specialist training and resource sharing.

Implementation of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks and Island National Parks Compliance and Enforcement Plan has put in place a coordinated and cost-effective approach to compliance and enforcement activities in the Great Barrier Reef Region. Combined with the final year of the Commonwealth-funded Enforcement and Compliance Initiative, enforcement and compliance capacity has been increased. Benefits of this funding have included:

- an increased enforcement presence in the Marine Park;
- special operations concentrating on identified problem areas;
- enhancement of integrated intelligence and operational field systems;
- raised public awareness resulting in increased reporting of possible infringements;
- and*
- purchase of equipment to improve detection and investigation of enforcement matters.

Also, this year has seen a significant increase in the level of interagency operational coordination across the Program reef-wide. A number of initiatives have contributed to this and include:

- implementation of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park compliance planner; *and*
- establishment of a centralised reef-wide operational centre, which coordinates and supports strategic and tactical interagency Marine Park patrol programs and is supported by establishment of a Prosecutions and Operations Coordinator.

The Program concentrated on commercial line fishing activities following the outcomes of risk assessment of this fishery. With effective interagency cooperation, 59 commercial line vessels were found operating illegally in the Marine Park. Of these, 35 were directly detected by Coastwatch and 24 were detected by Queensland Water Police, Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol, and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service vessels. These detections represent a 247 percent increase in comparison with 2000-01 figures. As a result of these operations, there is evidence to support 114 charges, which will proceed to prosecution through the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

Amendments to the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* have also enhanced enforcement activities. For example, the first prosecution for an offence under section 38M of the Act occurred in January 2002. The master of a Greek registered 70 000 tonne dead weight bulk carrier pleaded guilty and was fined \$10 000, in default six months imprisonment, for piloting a ship through the General Use B Zone at the Capricorn Bunker Group in the Mackay-Capricorn Section of the Marine Park. Ships over 1 500 tonnes are not permitted in this area.

Management of natural and cultural resources

The Program continued to manage the World Heritage Area's natural and cultural resources by undertaking fire management, weed and problem animal control, and rehabilitation of degraded sites. As well, an Island Risk Assessment system for weeds and problem animals was developed and has been implemented.

A focused monitoring program supported key priorities. This included development of the Rapid Assessment Monitoring system for reefs, which enables field staff, following a generic methodology, to record observations and key data. This condition monitoring will help identify problems or potential problems, monitor changes following disturbance or impacts, provide a base for comparisons of impacts and provide resource information for a variety of management purposes. The Coastal Bird Atlas and Strategy was developed and implemented and ensures better quality data is collected and collated.

Support, including personnel and vessels, was provided in response to an infestation of the Asian Green Mussel in Trinity Inlet, Cairns, which led to quarantine and cleaning of vessels in the port. The vessel *Reef Heron* and several Marine Parks staff were deployed to help the Navy destroy a World War II mine discovered near Sudbury Reef Cay. Marine Park staff and vessels provided support to GBRMPA officers in assessing the extent and impacts of coral bleaching.

District response procedures were reviewed to ensure preparedness to respond to incidents including shipping vessel groundings, pollution, and marine wildlife strandings. To support these procedures, field staff received training in incident control systems, scientific response to shoreline assessment, oiled wildlife and marine wildlife necropsy findings. Staff continued to respond to marine animal strandings including dugongs, cetaceans and turtles. Three staff also gained important experience attending oiled foreshore and oiled wildlife incidents in Victoria and New Zealand. Staff responded to a number of pollution and vessel grounding incidents. In particular, staff supported the environmental advice and assessment for an oil spill near Holbourne Island.

Maintenance of the reef protection system, comprising 68 public moorings and 15 marked 'no anchoring' areas, continued throughout the year. Planning for installation of 60 additional public moorings progressed with installation to be completed in 2002, nine months ahead of original schedule. Installation of these additional moorings is being made possible through funding from the National Moorings Program.

Visitor facilities and services

The Day-to-Day Management Program maintains a diverse range of visitor services and facilities, including publications, information centres at key locations, signage at access points and in national parks, walking tracks and camp grounds on 55 islands and reef protection markers and moorings in high-use areas. Complementing the ongoing workload of maintaining these services and facilities, achievements through the year included:

- Official opening of the new display for the Heron Island Information Centre. This display finalises the upgrade of the Centre, replacing the original display installed in 1986.
- Upgrading of priority signage in a number of locations within the World Heritage Area.
- Installation of new standard mooring buoys for public moorings.
- Completion of campground upgrades at Whitsundays, Hook, Denman and Planton Islands.
- Construction of two lookout structures at the Peak on Brampton Island, shelter sheds on Carlisle and Scawfell Islands and installation of an environmentally sound toilet system, replacing an outdated pit toilet system, at Ramsay Bay, Hinchinbrook Island.
- Installation of interpretative signs and a new board and chain track at Flinders Island Group National Park. These works provide protection for, and interpretation of, important rock art sites.

A number of information products and displays were produced including:

- Compilation and distribution of resource folders to key outlets in the northern Central Section.
- Information brochures to provide up-to-date information to marine park users on a range of topics including visitor information sheets for national park islands and 2002 Tide Timetables, which incorporates information on the marine animal hotline.
- Portable zoning displays for the Central, Cairns and Far Northern Sections.

Marine Park staff also participated in public events, delivered presentations and provided media interviews on Marine Park matters in coastal centers between Bundaberg and Cape York.

Community volunteers continued making an invaluable contribution to Marine Park management.

Program management

The Day-to-Day Management Strategy and Operations Groups comprise senior staff from the GBRMPA and the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. These groups provide strategic direction and priorities, and develop practical strategies for achieving those priorities.

Refinements to asset management practices continued with the review of vessel operations completed. The Program is also participating in a Queensland Government review to investigate a whole-of-government approach to vessel acquisition, asset management and vessel operations coordination. Three vessels, the *Caprella*, *Irrawaddy* and *Kanomie* were replaced during the year. Effective vessel operations were further enhanced when outboard motors and necessary vessel equipment was replaced.

The Day-to-Day Management training program was successfully implemented with 333 participants taking part in 33 courses. Training courses for Program staff were convened

throughout the Great Barrier Reef Region and concentrated on the priorities of compliance and enforcement, and incident response management. Places were also made available to staff from the GBRMPA, the Environment Protection Agency and other external participants who are involved in various aspects of Marine Park management. Additionally, accredited training was undertaken to meet the requirements of the Commonwealth Fraud Policy-39 Program staff attained necessary formal qualifications.

Future outlook

The Day-to-Day Management Program will continue to build on its achievements as it is committed to continuous improvement, and to the need for high quality and professional service delivery. To this end, a review of the core Day-to-Day Management Program's on-ground activities and delivery mechanisms is to be undertaken. The review will, amongst other things, ascertain the core deliverables the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments require for managing the Marine Park and World Heritage Area, assess the current Program operations, and recommend any adjustments.

In the interim, priorities for the Day-to-Day Management Program are:

- Compliance with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act and subordinate regulations related to:
 - line and trawl fisheries,
 - dugong protection,
 - Far Northern zoning plan, and
 - emerging compliance issues to prevent serious environmental harm.
- Protection works directly related to vulnerable species habitat protection.
- Essential works for protecting key high-visitor-use sites to prevent environmental harm and to provide for public access.
- Implementation of Indigenous co-management programs when agreed by the Board.

(FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

Details of the Authority's financial operations are provided in the Financial Statements at Appendix G. An overview of the Authority's financial operations follows and a summary of financial and staffing resources is at Table 7.

Total appropriation for 2001-02 of \$26.419 million was \$5.564 million more than the 2000-01 appropriation. This was due to new measures for managing the impact of aquaculture, offsetting the impact of EMC concessions and for refurbishment of Reef HQ. In addition, a change in the accounting treatment of Reef HQ as a GBRMPA asset has resulted in the reinstatement of supplementation for depreciation and capital use charge in the 2001-02 appropriation.

Revenue from independent sources was more than in 2000-01 primarily due to recovery of costs involved in the independent monitoring of the Nelly Bay Harbour development. Reef HQ admission sales and other Reef HQ revenues were down on previous years due to the facility being closed for refurbishment from February to July 2002.

The operating expense of managing the Marine Park in 2001-02 was \$32.488 million, an increase of 5 per cent from 2000-01. Employee expenses increased due to the second stage of the Agency Certified Agreement and additional staff associated with aquaculture management and other minor staffing variations. Expenses for suppliers were higher than the previous year with additional resources allocated to surveillance and enforcement, aquaculture, crown-of-thorns starfish control program and Reef HQ refurbishment.

In the 2001-02 Budget, announced on 22 May 2001, the Government agreed to funding of \$6.4 million over four years (\$4.9 million in 2001-02) for Reef HQ to enhance the facility for visitors and to ensure that health and safety standards are maintained. As part of the refurbishment a number of assets were replaced. This is reflected in the write down of assets as at 30 June 2001 and the disposal of assets in 2000-02.

Payments to Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service for day-to-day management of the Marine Park increased in line with increased funding from the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments.

The operating surplus for the year from operations before the capital use charge was \$2 579 million.



GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

(APPENDICES

(APPENDIX A:

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK ACT 1975; SECTIONS 5, 6, 7 AND 7A

(5: Object of this Act)

- (1) The object of this Act is to make provision for and in relation to the establishment, control, care and development of a marine park in the Great Barrier Reef Region in accordance with the provisions of this Act, to the extent that those provisions are within the legislative powers of the Parliament and, in particular but not to the exclusion of any other relevant power, its powers with respect to or in relation to:
- (a) the Australian coastal sea;
 - (b) rights (including sovereign rights) and obligations of the Commonwealth in relation to the continental shelf of Australia;
 - (c) external affairs;
 - (d) fisheries in Australian waters beyond territorial limits;
 - (e) places acquired by the Commonwealth for public purposes;
 - (f) trade and commerce with other countries, including the import or export of animals and plants;
 - (g) statistics relating to animals and plants; and
 - (h) matters incidental to the execution of the powers of the Government of the Commonwealth;
- and this Act shall be administered accordingly.
- (2) It is the intention of the Parliament that this Act shall have effect in respect of a part of the Great Barrier Reef Region or a part of the Marine Park (whether or not separately declared under section 31) to the fullest extent that the Constitution permits irrespective of the extent of the effect of the operation of this Act in respect of any other part of the Great Barrier Reef Region or of the Marine Park.

(6: Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority)

There is established by this Act an Authority by the name of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

(7: Functions of the Authority)

- (1) The functions of the Authority are:
- (a) to make recommendations to the Minister in relation to the care and development of the Marine Park including recommendations, from time to time, as to:
 - (i) the areas that should be declared to be parts of the Marine Park; and
 - (ii) the regulations that should be made under this Act;

- (b) to carry out, by itself or in cooperation with other institutions and persons, and to arrange for any other institutions or persons to carry out, research and investigations relevant to the Marine Park;
 - (c) to prepare zoning plans for the Marine Park in accordance with Part V;
 - (caa) to make plans of management for the Marine Park in accordance with Part VB;
 - (ca) to furnish information and advice to the Minister in respect of matters relating to the Marine Park, including:
 - (i) information and advice in relation to any agreement (including any proposed agreement) between the Commonwealth and Queensland on such matters;
 - (ii) information and advice on the following matters:
 - (A) whether the Commonwealth should grant financial assistance to Queensland in respect of a matter relating to the Marine Park;
 - (B) the amount and allocation of such assistance;
 - (C) the terms and conditions (if any) on which such assistance should be granted; and
 - (iii) information and advice on the following matters:
 - (A) whether it is desirable that Queensland should make a payment to the Authority in respect of a matter relating to the Marine Park;
 - (B) the amount and allocation of such payment;
 - (C) the terms and conditions (if any) on which such payment should be given;
 - (cb) to receive and disburse moneys appropriated by the Parliament for payment to the Authority for the purpose of payment of the moneys to Queensland by way of financial assistance to Queensland in respect of matters that relate to the Marine Park;
 - (cc) to receive and disburse moneys paid to the Authority by Queensland under an agreement between:
 - (i) the Commonwealth and Queensland;
 - (ii) Queensland and the Authority; or
 - (iii) the Commonwealth, Queensland and the Authority;
 - (cd) to provide, and arrange for the provision of, educational, advisory and informational services relating to the Marine Park;
 - (d) such functions relating to the Marine Park as are:
 - (i) conferred on the Authority by this Act; or
 - (ii) provided for by the regulations;
 - (da) to provide assistance to other institutions and persons in accordance with section 7A; and
 - (e) to do anything incidental or conducive to the performance of any of the foregoing functions.
- (1A) For the purposes of this section but without limiting the generality of paragraph (1)(ca), (cb) or (cd), a matter shall be taken to relate to the Marine Park if it relates to:
- (a) the use or management of an area (which may be a Queensland national park or a Queensland marine park) the use or management of which would or might affect the Marine Park; or
 - (b) the use of a place outside the Marine Park for a purpose relating to the Marine Park.

- (1B) The Authority is responsible for the management of the Marine Park.
- (2) The Authority shall perform its functions in accordance with any general directions given by the Minister not inconsistent with this Act.
- (3) The members must include in each report on the Authority under section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* particulars of any directions given by the Minister under subsection (2) of this section during the period to which the report relates.

(7A: Provision of assistance to other institutions and persons)

- (1) Subject to this section, the Authority may, at the request of another institution or person, provide assistance to the institution or person in matters relating to environmental management.
- (2) The assistance may be provided by the Authority acting by itself or in cooperation with other institutions and persons.
- (3) Without limiting the generality of the assistance that may be provided, the assistance may take any of the following forms:
 - (a) the carrying out of research or investigations;
 - (b) the provision of educational, advisory or informational services;
 - (c) the making available of facilities.
- (4) The Authority shall not perform a function that the Authority has only because of this section unless the Minister has approved, in writing, the provision of the assistance concerned.
- (5) The Minister shall not give an approval under subsection (4) unless the Minister is satisfied that the provision of the assistance concerned is not likely to affect adversely the performance of the functions of the Authority conferred by other provisions of this Act.
- (6) An approval under subsection (4) may be given subject to conditions or restrictions set out in the instrument of approval (including conditions requiring the charging of fees).
- (7) Nothing in this section limits the functions that may be conferred on the Authority by the regulations.
- (8) The Minister may, by writing, delegate to the Authority or to the Chair his or her power to give approvals under subsection (4).

APPENDIX B:

GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

Qualifications of Marine Park Authority Members

The Hon Virginia Chadwick was appointed as Chair of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in July 1999. Prior to her appointment she trained as a teacher and worked in Australia and the United Kingdom in both the school and TAFE systems. She entered the New South Wales Legislative Council in 1978 and served as Opposition Whip and Shadow Minister of various portfolios. Her Ministerial responsibilities have included Community Services, Education, TAFE, Training and Tourism. She was also the Minister assisting the Premier on Ethnic Affairs, Women and the Aged and chaired the Government Trading Enterprises Reform Group. She has also served as President of the Legislative Council. She was the first woman elected as the President of the New South Wales Legislative Council. She has received an Honorary Doctorate from the Southern Cross University. Virginia Chadwick currently is a member of Queensland's Fishing Industry Development Council, a Board member of the Co-operative Research Centre Reef, and a Board member of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

Dr Evelyn Scott was Chairperson of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation until 31 December 2000. She was instrumental in the establishment of Aboriginal Legal Services, Housing Societies and Medical Services in Queensland. In 1977 she was a recipient of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal for her work in the advancement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. In April 2000, Mrs Scott was presented with an Honorary Doctorate from the Australian Catholic University for her work in the advancement of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the advancement of women and her tireless work for reconciliation. On 16 August 2001, she became a Member of the Australian National Training Authority, and in March 2002 was presented with an Honorary Doctorate from James Cook University.

Dr Glyn Davis was Director-General of the Queensland Department of the Premier and Cabinet. He holds a First Class Honours degree in Political Science from the University of New South Wales and a Doctorate from the Australian National University. He resigned from the Board on 16 November 2001.

Ms Fay Barker FAICD is a fellow of the Institute of Company Directors, currently a director of the Breakwater Island Trust Limited, director of RACQ Limited and past President of the Townsville Chamber of Commerce Inc. Formerly a director of Townsville Enterprise Limited and the Townsville Port Authority and a Council member of James Cook University. In 1989 she was awarded Business Executive of the Year by the Queensland Government and in 1994 Chief Businesswoman of the Year by Queensland Newspapers. Ms Barker serves on numerous community service organisations.

Dr Leo Keliher is Director-General of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. He holds a First Class Honours degree in Economics and a Master of Arts from the University of Queensland. Dr Keliher holds a Doctorate from the London School of Economics and Political Science (University of London).

During 2001-02, the GBRMPA held three meetings (*see Table 3 below*).

Table 3. GBRMPA meetings, 2001-02

Meeting	Date	Location	Attendance
MPA 183	20 September 2001	Townsville	Virginia Chadwick Evelyn Scott Glyn Davis
MPA 184	8 November 2001	Brisbane	Virginia Chadwick Evelyn Scott Glyn Davis Fay Barker
MPA 185	30 April 2002	Townsville	Virginia Chadwick Evelyn Scott Leo Keliher Fay Barker

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY - *Audit Committee*

The following people were members of the Audit Committee during 2001-02:

- Mr Matt Pope, Chairperson, a practising Townsville barrister
- Mr Barry Sheedy, member, an accountant practising in Mackay
- Dr Glyn Davis, member, a permanent part-time member of the GBRMPA (Dr Davis resigned from the Audit Committee on 16 November 2001)
- Mr John Tanzer, member an Executive Director on the Authority's staff
- Mr Gregor Manson, member, an Executive Director on the Authority's staff

At its meeting on 30 April 2002, the GBRMPA appointed Dr Leo Keliher, member, a permanent part-time member of the GBRMPA, to replace Dr Glyn Davis. During 2001-02, the Audit Committee held three meetings (*see Table 4 below*).

Table 4. Audit Committee meetings, 2001-02

Meeting	Date	Location	Attendance
AC17	6 September 2001	Townsville	Matt Pope, Barry Sheedy, John Tanzer, Gregor Manson
AC18	4 December 2001	Townsville	Matt Pope, Barry Sheedy, John Tanzer, Gregor Manson
AC19	18 April 2002	Townsville	Matt Pope, Barry Sheedy, John Tanzer, Gregor Manson

Business activities of the Audit Committee concerned:

- Annual financial statements
- Environmental Management Charge
- Day-to-Day Management
- Development of a Risk Management Plan
- Reef HQ refurbishment
- Various internal audit reports

Powers and functions

The functions and responsibilities of the Audit Committee are to:

1. Help the Authority and its members to comply with obligations under the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997.
2. Provide a forum for communication between members, the senior managers of the Authority and the internal and external auditors of the Authority.
3. Review the risk management strategy and fraud control plans of the Authority to ensure they remain current and focus on the areas of greatest risk.
4. Review and endorse the internal audit strategic and annual work plans.
5. Assess the external audit strategy to ensure it addresses all significant business and other risks.
6. As far as practicable, coordinate internal and external audit programs.
7. Review all audit reports involving matters of concern, follow-up implementation of recommendations and provide advice to the board of the Authority on action to be taken for matters raised by internal, or external audit.
8. Review the Authority's accounting policies and disclosures in the annual financial statements and other disclosures in the Annual Report.
9. Review any other externally published financial information prior to release.
10. Monitor developments and changes in legislation and government policy in terms of their possible impact on the responsibility and liability of the Authority, its members and officers.
11. In addition to the specific advice functions at 7) above, advise the board of the Authority in regard to any matter relating to its other functions, as it considers necessary or is directed to by the Authority.
12. Review any activity of the Authority to achieve the Committee's objectives.

GREAT BARRIER REEF - *Consultative Committee*

The Great Barrier Reef Consultative Committee was established by the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* as an independent advisory body for both the GBRMPA and the Commonwealth Minister responsible for the environment.

The Consultative Committee represents a wide cross-section of interests in the Great Barrier Reef (from both the public and private sectors) including tourism, fishing, science, conservation, local government and Aboriginal communities. It consists of members appointed by the Minister for a three-year term and a member of the GBRMPA appointed by the GBRMPA for an indefinite term (*see Table 5 below*).

Table 5. Members of Consultative Committee, 2001-02

Name	Affiliation
Mr Tony Charters	Tourism Queensland
Mr Noel Dawson	Chair, Water Quality Reef Advisory Committee
Mr Peter Frawley	Chair, Tourism and Recreation Reef Advisory Committee
Dr Ian McPhail	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
Mr Bob Muir	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interests
Mr Peter Neville	Department of Primary Industries
Dr Russell Reichelt	CRC, Reef Research Centre
Ms Diane Tarte	Chair, Fisheries Reef Advisory Committee
Mr Terry Wall	Department Premier and Cabinet
Mr Bill Whiteman	Chair, Hinchinbrook Local Marine Advisory Committee
Mr Simon Woodley	Chair, Conservation Reef Advisory Committee
Commissioner Jenny Pryor	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander interests

The Committee met once during 2001-02 (*see Table 6 below*).

Table 6. Consultative Committee meetings, 2001-02

Meeting	Date	Location
GBRCC66	28 May 2002	Townsville

APPENDIX C:

CORPORATE INFORMATION

Financial and Staffing resources

Table 7. Financial and Staffing Resources Summary, 2001-02
(includes Capital Use Charge and repayment of loans)

RESOURCES FOR GBRMPA OUTCOME					
OUTCOME	Column 1	Column 2	Variation	Budget	
<i>Protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef.</i>	Budget	Actual	Column 2	2002-2003	
	20001-02	20001-02	minus		
	\$'000	\$'000	Column 1	\$'000	
Price of Departmental Outputs					
Output Group 1.1 -Conservation, Biodiversity & World Heritage					
1.1.1	Natural and cultural values protected and World Heritage obligations are met	1,486	1,463	-23	1,383
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.1</i>		1,486	1,4563	-23	1,383
Output Group 1.2 - Water Quality & Coastal Development					
1.2.1	Minimal degradation of GBR by water pollution and coastal development	2,002	1,614	-388	1,584
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.2</i>		2,002	1,614	-388	1,584
Output Group 1.3 - Fisheries					
1.3.1	Ecologically sustainable fisheries in the GBRWHA	1,220	1,114	-106	1,056
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.3</i>		1,220	1,114	-106	1,056
Output Group 1.4 -Tourism & Recreation					
1.4.1	Enhanced tourism and recreation opportunities in the Marine Park	1,113	1,065	-48	1,214
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.4</i>		1,113	1,065	-48	1,214

continues

Table 7. Financial and Staffing Resources Summary, 2001-02 (continued)
(includes Capital Use Charge and repayment of loans)

RESOURCES FOR GBRMPA OUTCOME				
OUTCOME <i>Protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef.</i>	Column 1 Budget 20001-02 \$'000	Column 2 Actual Expenses 20001-02 \$'000	Variation Column 2 minus Column 1	Budget 2002-2003 \$'000
Output Group 1.5 - Park Management				
1.5.1 Field management of the Marine Park	10,7974	11,623	649	19,972
Output Group 1.5 - Park Management (continued)				
1.5.2 Planning and Impact Management of the Marine Park	3,557	5,498	1,941	3,751
1.5.3 Liaison with indigenous groups & community advisory committees	657	792	135	883
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.5</i>	15,188	17,913	2,725	15,188
Output Group 1.6 - Information for Park Management				
1.6.1 Scientific & technical information available for management	4,267	4,674	407	4,337
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.6</i>	4,267	4,674	407	4,267
Output Group 1.7 - Reef Education & Communication				
1.7.1. Improved Australia-wide profile and community understanding of GBRMPA critical issue group achievements	6,475	6,583	108	7,210
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.7</i>	6,475	6,583	108	7,210
	31,751	34,426	2,675	31,190

Staff Years (Number)	2001-02	2002-03
	169	165

Table 8. Employees of the GBRMPA as at 30 June 2002

Classification	Ongoing employees					Non-ongoing employees				
	Female		Male		Total	Female		Male		Total
	F/T	P/T	F/T	P/T		F/T	P/T	F/T	P/T	
APS1	5	2	2	0	9	1	3	1	0	5
APS2	14	0	6	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
APS3	17	1	7	0	25	2	0	2	0	4
APS4	7	0	3	0	10	3	0	1	0	4
APS5	9	2	9	0	20	0	0	1	0	1
APS6	12	1	19	0	32	1	0	1	0	2
EXEC 1	4	2	17	0	23	0	0	0	0	0
EXEC 2	3	0	6	0	9	0	0	0	0	0
SES 1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
SES 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
CEO	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	71	8	70	0	149	8	3	9	0	20

Total number of employees = 169

APS = Australian Public Service Officer; Exec = Executive Level; SES = Senior Executive Service; CEO =Chief Executive Officer

Table 9. Representation of EEO groups within salary levels as at 30 June 2002

Classification	Women	NESB1	NESB2	NESB	ATSI	PWD
APS1 (14)	11 (78%)	0 (0%)	1 (7%)	0 (0%)	1 (7%)	1 (7%)
APS2 (20)	14 (70%)	1 (7%)	2 (10%)	1 (5%)	2 (10%)	1 (5%)
APS3 (29)	19 (65%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)
APS4 (14)	10 (71%)	0 (0%)	2 (14%)	2 (14%)	0 (0%)	3 (21%)
APS5 (21)	11 (52%)	4 (19%)	3 (14%)	3 (14%)	3 (14%)	0 (0%)
APS6 (34)	14 (41%)	6 (43%)	7 (21%)	6 (18%)	1 (4%)	1 (3%)
EXEC1 (23)	6 (26%)	2 (33%)	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	0 (0%)	1 (4%)
EXEC2 (9)	3 (33%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
SES1 (2)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
SES2 (2)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
CEO (1)	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

NESB1 = non-English speaking background, second generation (mother);
 NESB2 = non-English speaking background (father); NESB = non-English speaking background, first generation; ATSI =Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander;
 PWS = people with a disability

Occupational health and safety

The primary focus of the occupational health and safety function this year has been in developing a health and safety policy framework to supplement the legislative framework. Diving policy and training standards development have been a major issue over the past year. This has involved the appointment of a full-time Dive Officer to implement the policy and develop a training and operational framework. A further exercise is underway to identify a framework to carry forward Dive Officer responsibilities after the implementation phase.

Major policies developed have included: a diving policy document, guidelines for mascots, safe driving, client contact for reception staff, client contact for out-of-office work, and drugs and alcohol in the workplace.

The GBRMPA will continue to develop policy, operational manuals and safe working procedure to support the safe and healthy work practices of all employees. Major policy focuses for the coming year are emergency procedures, hazard management, dangerous goods and chemical management.

Training has continued to play a major role in health and safety with a new induction module developed and implemented, a training program for all employees and supervisors developed and approved, introduction of regular advanced driver training as well as major work on training to support the diving function. Employees accessed a range of Health and Safety training programs including: First Aid and Senior First Aid, Hazardous Chemicals, Occupational Health and Safety at Sea, Advanced Oxygen Resuscitation, and Workstation Ergonomics. Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service staff visited many of the staff providing personal and group advice on preventing manual handling, Occupational Overuse Syndrome and related injuries.

The Occupational Health and Safety Committee met regularly to review and implement safety management systems with a particular focus on:

- emergency procedures
- refurbishment of the Reef HQ complex
- policy development
- incident reporting
- hazard management
- office environmental standards
- health and safety training

Two compensation claims (of a minor or short-term nature) were accepted during 2001-02. There were a small number of incidents reported mostly minor slips, trips or falls.

Consultants and competitive tendering and contracting

GBRMPA engaged external consultants to gain access to specialist technical, professional, research and management expertise in relation to specific tasks. Consultants are used to augment the GBRMPA resources or to carry out work independently.

During 2001-02, 67 consultancy contracts were made. Total expenditure on consultancy services was \$ 3.29 million. See the GBRMPA website for more information. A large proportion of research is now outsourced to the CRC Reef Research Centre principally through financial contribution of \$13.2 million over seven years commencing in 1999-2000. Field management of the Marine Park is implemented through day-to-day management programs, the majority of which are carried out by Queensland Government agencies.

(Advertising and Marketing

Table 10. Creative agencies used, 2001-02

Sign Time	1 128.60
McGregor Consulting	8 910.20
Peter Lynch Designs	14 985.97
Grafik Switch	20 743.75
Fresh New Media	5 830.00
Redsuit Advertising	101 752.45
The Rowland Company	21 187.10
Work of Art	7 040.00
Chalkley Consulting	5 531.95
Extremely Graphic	1 792.50
Facing Pages	2 244.00

Table 11. Market research and polling organisations used, 2001-02

Agency	\$
McKenzie Communications	5 445.00

Table 12. Direct mail organisations used, 2001-02

Agency	\$
Endeavour Foundation	1 669.31
Local Attraction	973.78

Table 13. Media advertising organisations used, 2001-02

Agency	\$
Starcom Worldwide	123 360.67
Townsville Enterprise Limited	10 558.39
Paradise Outdoor Advertising	8 415.00
DMG Regional Radio	4 825.26
The North Queensland Newspaper Company Ltd	13 669.50
Australian Posters	2 145.00
Pacific Access	3 532.10
North Australian Publishing	2 277.00
Win Television	34 856.80
Australian Tourism Commission	6 045.00
Eye Corp	1 452.00
GOA Outstanding	3 217.50
Magnetic Island Guide	1 053.80
Seven Network	10 049.60
Southern Cross Television	9 983.60

Freedom of information

Documents available for purchase

The following documents are available for purchase (including bulk-purchase) through selected outlets:

- *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* and Regulations
- Companion Map to Great Barrier Reef
- Maps of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
- Management Plans
- Tour Operators Handbook

Documents available free of charge

The following documents are available, free of charge, for single copies only from the GBRMPA's Townsville office:

- Strategic Plan
- Environmental Management Charge information booklets
- Zoning Plans and Zoning Plan Introductory Guides
- Selected maps of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
- Media releases and communiqués
- Various information brochures, posters, bulletins and leaflets
- Research reports and workshop proceedings
- Nomination of the Great Barrier Reef by the Commonwealth of Australia for inclusion in the World Heritage List

Facilities for access

The Townsville office holds most documents relating to GBRMPA decisions and operations as well as that of the Great Barrier Reef Consultative Committee. It is possible to arrange access to documents, available under provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, through either the Canberra or Townsville office (see addresses below), or at the State Freedom of Information Access Office. Staff are available to provide assistance in relation to any aspect of freedom of information requests.

Members of the public may make inquiries on freedom of information matters and inspect documents to which access has been granted at either office. Business hours are 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m., Monday to Friday. Formal requests for access to documents must be directed to the offices listed below. Information about facilities for access by disabled people can be obtained by contacting the Freedom of Information Officer at the Townsville office.

The following facilities for access are maintained at the Townsville office:

- computer printer
- microfiche reader
- film and slide projectors
- video and audio tape recorders
- photocopy machine
- reading areas

Freedom of information procedures and initial contact points

Inquiries may be made in writing, by telephone or in person at any of the official freedom of information access points listed below. It is recommended that inquirers provide a telephone number.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

2-68 Flinders Street
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810
Telephone (07) 4750 0700
Facsimile (07) 4772 6093

or

PO Box 1379
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Ground Floor
John Gorton Building
King Edward Terrace
PARKES ACT 2600
Telephone (02) 6274 1922
Facsimile (02) 6274 1509

or

GPO Box 791
CANBERRA ACT 2601

If any difficulty arises in identifying a document or in providing access in the form requested, an officer of GBRMPA will contact the applicant with a view to resolving the difficulty.

In consultation with applicants, documents will be made available by mail to the address specified by the applicant or at the official FOI access points. The authorised decision makers under the Act for the GBRMPA, with official addresses for the lodging of requests, are:

The Executive Director

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
PO Box 1379
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

Director of Corporate Services

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
PO Box 1379
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

(APPENDIX D:

PUBLICATIONS PRODUCED DURING 2001-02

Brodie, J, Christie, C, Devlin, M, Haynes, D, Morris, S, Ramsay, M, Waterhouse, J & Yorkston, H 2001, 'Catchment management and the Great Barrier Reef', *Water Science and Technology* 43, 203-211.

Brodie, J, Devlin, J & Haynes, D 2002, 'Spatial extent and effects of land-sourced pollution in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area', *Environmental Geochemistry and Health* (submitted).

Brodie, J, Furnas, M, Ghonim, S, Haynes, D, Mitchell, A, Morris, S, Waterhouse, J, Yorkston, H & Audas, D 2001, *Great Barrier Reef catchment water quality action plan: A report to Ministerial Council on targets for pollutant loads*, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville.

Brodie, J, Mitchell, A, Furnas, M, Haynes, D, Waterhouse, J, Ghonim, S, Morris, S, Yorkston, H & Audas, D 2002, 'Developing catchment pollutant load targets for the protection of the Great Barrier Reef', *Sustaining Aquatic Ecosystems* (submitted).

Chaloupka, M 2002, Phase 1 - *Assessment of suitability of Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service Sea Turtle Data for use in models of the population dynamics of the Southern Great Barrier Reef Green Turtle Stock*, Research Publication No. 74, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, Queensland.

Coles, RG, Lee Long, WJ, McKenzie, LJ & Roder, CA 2002, *Seagrass and Marine Resources in the Dugong Protection Areas of Upstart Bay, Newry Region, Sand Bay, Llewellyn Bay and the Clairview Region-April/May 1999 and October 1999*, Research Publication No. 72, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, Queensland.

Devlin, M, Brodie, J, Waterhouse J & Haynes, D 2002, 'Exposure of Great Barrier Reef inner-shelf reefs to river-borne contaminants', *Sustaining Aquatic Ecosystems* (submitted).

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Doherty, G, Cruz, J, Neil, K & Haynes, D 2001, 'Review of investigations into the marine environmental quality and air quality of Cleveland Bay', in *Cleveland Bay Consortium Cleveland Bay status report*, eds Anderson, C, Battershill, C, Carter, RM, Cruz, J, Doherty, G, Ericson, G, Evansillidge, E, Haynes, D, Hesse, A, Jones, G, Larcombe, P, Lough, J, Neil, K, Orpin, A, Reichelt-Bruschett, A, Ridd, P, Roche, M & Veitch, V, Cleveland Bay Consortium, pp.92-115.

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- Gaus, C, Pöpke, P, Blanchard, W, Haynes, D, Connell, D & Müller, JF 2002, 'Bioaccumulation and pathways of a natural PCDD source in the lower trophic marine system', *Organohalogen Compounds* (submitted).
- Green, A, Oliver, J & Wachenfeld, D 2002, *Research Priorities for the Management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and the World Heritage Area 2001*, Research Publication No. 73, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, Queensland.
- Haynes, D & Kwan, D 2002, 'Trace Metals in Sediments from Torres Strait and the Gulf of Papua: Concentrations, distribution and water circulation patterns', *Marine Pollution Bulletin* (submitted).
- Haynes, D & Kwan, D 2002, *Trace metal concentrations in the Torres Strait environment and traditional seafood species, 1997-2000*, Torres Strait Regional Authority, Thursday Island.
- Haynes, D & Loong, D 2002, 'Antifoulant (copper and butyltin) concentrations in sediments from the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, Australia', *Environmental Pollution* (in press).
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- Marsh, H & Lawler, I 2001, *Dugong Distribution and Abundance in the Southern Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Hervey Bay: Results of an Aerial Survey in October - December 1999*, Research Publication No. 70, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, Queensland.
- Marsh, H & Lawler, I 2002, *Dugong Distribution and Abundance in the Northern Great Barrier Reef Marine Park-November 2000*, Research Publication No. 77, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, Queensland.
- Marsh, H, Arnold, P, Freeman, M, Haynes, D, Kasuya, T, Read, A and Reynolds, J 2002, 'Strategies for conserving marine mammals', *Oceans and Coasts* (submitted).

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Schaffelke, B, Waterhouse J & Christie, C 2001, *A Review of Water Quality Issues Influencing the Habitat Quality in Dugong Protection Areas*, Research Publication No. 66, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville, Queensland.

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APPENDIX E:

ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Section 516A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) requires Commonwealth organisations to include in their annual reports details of the organisation's contribution to ecologically sustainable development as well as the environmental performance of the organisation. Section 516A also promotes development of a framework which integrates environmental, economic and social considerations and helps improve the environmental and ecologically sustainable development performance of Commonwealth organisations.

The principles of ecologically sustainable development are defined in section 3A of the EPBC Act, namely:

- a) decision-making processes should effectively integrate both long-term and short-term economic, environmental, social and equitable considerations;
- b) if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation;
- c) the principle of inter-generational equity - that the present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations;
- d) the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity should be a fundamental consideration in decision-making; and
- e) improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms should be promoted.

The GBRMPA is responsible under legislation, policies, plans and processes to ensure permitted activities in the Marine Park are ecologically sustainable. Ecologically sustainable development principles are directly addressed in the GBRMPA's Goal and Aims and the Annual Strategic Work Programs. The GBRMPA's goal is to provide for the protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef in perpetuity through the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The "protection" outcomes are improved water quality and conservation of the biodiversity of the Great Barrier Reef. The "wise use" outcomes are sustainable fisheries and effective Marine Park management. The "understanding and enjoyment" outcomes are improved community understanding of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, high quality tourism and recreation opportunities, and provision of accurate and adequate information for management.

All four critical issue groups have the ecologically sustainable development principles within their broad objectives, with several major programs (specifically Fisheries, and the Representative Areas Program) directly referring to ecological sustainability and

protection of biological diversity. Details of how these principles have been specifically addressed are referred to elsewhere in this report, principally within the activity statements of the four critical issues groups.

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage has responsibility under the EPBC Act for protection and conservation of matters of national environmental significance. The EPBC Act provides protection for Australia's environment in respect of actions that have, or will have, a significant impact on matters of national environmental significance. The matters of national environmental significance are:

- World Heritage properties;
- Ramsar wetlands of international importance;
- listed threatened species and communities;
- migratory species protected under international agreements;
- nuclear actions; *and*
- the Commonwealth marine environment

Section 43 of the EPBC Act exempts those prescribed actions undertaken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park from obtaining the Minister's approval under the EPBC Act, provided that the action is authorised under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park regulations, Zoning Plans or Plans of Management, including through a permission, approval, authority or permit. The GBRMPA's advice relating to environmental impact assessment of an action will take into account on-site and off-site impacts, frequency or duration, impacts over time and over adjoining regions, sensitivity of the receiving environment, and levels of scientific understanding of the impacts.

In the financial year 2001/2002, the Minister for the Environment and Heritage referred 29 matters to the GBRMPA that have or were likely to have, a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance. These referrals by the Minister comprised:

- 10 applications involving aquaculture development;
- 13 applications involving coastal development;
- 4 applications involving existing infrastructure development, *and*
- 2 applications requiring issue of a permit under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Act 1975*.

The GBRMPA provides advice to Environment Australia on permit issues relating to listed threatened species and ecological communities.

The GBRMPA provides advice to Queensland state and local government authorities on matters that have the potential to impact on the values of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area GBRWHA. In providing advice on developments adjacent to the Marine Park, the GBRMPA seeks to apply the same standards of assessment as apply to developments within the GBR Marine Park. The GBRMPA provides comments in respect of a range of development activities adjacent to the World Heritage Area under the Queensland *Integrated Planning Act 1997*. In 2001, the Authority provided advice to

Queensland authorities, principally under the provisions of the Queensland *Integrated Planning Act 1997*, on 72 matters involving activities adjacent to the World Heritage Area . These included:

- 27 plans of management;
- 9 developments involving existing infrastructure;
- 2 developments involving marinas;
- 15 major residential developments;
- 16 tourism related developments; *and*
- 3 industrial developments.

The GBRMPA maintains a strong commitment to continuous improvement of its own environmental performance. The GBRMPA conducts environmental audits of its operations to maximise efficient use of resources, reduction of waste, and building of environmental awareness among its staff of employees and volunteers. Activities undertaken in the last year include:

- establishment of a Green Office Committee to raise awareness of environmental management within the office;
- office machines (photocopiers, printers) are automatically programmed to save power;
- printers are programmed to duplex documents to reduce paper usage;
- paper and cardboard are collected frequently for recycling by a local recycling company;
- packaging and envelopes are recycled;
- wherever possible documents are provided electronically to reduce paper usage;
- recycled paper is used in toilets (toilet paper and hand towels); *and*
- all refrigerators are CFC-free.

Future initiatives towards developing of an Environmental Management System will include:

- development of a written Energy Management Plan;
- development of Water Conservation Policy; *and*
- investigating whether a recycler of fluorescent tubes is available in local area.



(APPENDIX F:

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority for the year ended 30 June 2002. The financial statements comprise:

- Statement by Members;
- Statements of Financial Performance, Financial Position and Cash Flows;
- Schedules of Commitments and Contingencies; and
- Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements.

The members of the Authority are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to you.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards, to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Audit procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Authority's financial position, its financial performance and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion the financial statements:

- (i) have been prepared in accordance with Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*; and
- (ii) give a true and fair view, in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and the Finance Minister's Orders, of the financial position of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority as at 30 June 2002, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

Australian National Audit Office



Mashelle Parrett
Executive Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra
19 September 2002



— (**APPENDIX G:**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2002 give a true and fair view of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

Handwritten signature of Fay Barker in black ink.

FAY BARKER
Member

12 September 2002

Handwritten signature of John Tanzer in black ink.

JOHN TANZER
Acting Chairperson

12 September 2002

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
for the year ended 30 June 2002

	Notes	2002 \$	2001 \$
Revenues from ordinary activities			
Revenues from government	5A	26,419,311	20,854,904
Interest	5B	183,074	214,834
Revenue from Reef HQ shop trading	5C	305,428	412,827
Reef HQ revenues	5D	915,565	1,251,877
Other miscellaneous revenues	5E	2,787,637	2,098,497
Proceeds from disposal of assets	5F	13,944	46,919
Payments from Queensland Government for day-to-day management	9(a),(c)	<u>4,484,001</u>	<u>4,410,001</u>
Total revenues from ordinary activities		35,108,959	29,289,859
Expenses from ordinary activities			
Employees	6A	11,092,966	10,113,242
Suppliers	6B	11,023,421	10,384,558
Depreciation and amortisation	6C	748,360	587,197
Write-down of assets	6D	4,045	129,586
Grants	7	25,600	25,283
Cost of goods sold			
from Reef HQ shop trading	5C	191,187	210,323
Disposal of assets	5F	244,735	104,335
Payments to Queensland Government for day-to-day management	9(a),(b)	<u>9,157,538</u>	<u>9,302,027</u>
Total expenses from ordinary activities		32,487,852	30,856,551
Borrowing costs expense	8	<u>42,072</u>	<u>74,925</u>
Net operating surplus/(deficit) from ordinary activities		<u>2,579,035</u>	<u>(1,641,617)</u>
Net surplus/(deficit)		<u>2,579,035</u>	<u>(1,641,617)</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Commonwealth		<u>2,579,035</u>	<u>(1,641,617)</u>
Total revenues, expenses and valuation adjustments recognised directly in equity		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with owners as owners		<u><u>2,579,035</u></u>	<u><u>(1,641,617)</u></u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
as at 30 June 2002

	Notes	2002 \$	2001 \$
ASSETS			
Financial assets			
Cash	10A	5,442,531	417,766
Receivables	10B	2,934,033	2,705,582
Investments	10C	18,999	-
Capital use charge receivable		<u>-</u>	<u>126,000</u>
Total financial assets		<u>8,395,563</u>	<u>3,249,348</u>
Non-financial assets			
Buildings and improvements to leased property	11A	8,357,368	8,875,182
Plant and equipment	11B	1,113,508	1,184,724
Work in Progress	11C	2,033,583	-
Other	11D	78,308	87,631
Inventories		<u>44,115</u>	<u>119,626</u>
Total non-financial assets		<u>11,626,882</u>	<u>10,267,163</u>
Total assets		<u>20,022,445</u>	<u>13,516,511</u>
LIABILITIES			
Interest bearing liabilities			
Advances from the Department of Finance & Administration (DOFA)	12	<u>354,121</u>	<u>687,831</u>
Total interest bearing liabilities		<u>354,121</u>	<u>687,831</u>
Provisions			
Capital use charge payable		127,000	-
Employees	13	<u>2,862,706</u>	<u>2,363,382</u>
Total provisions		<u>2,989,706</u>	<u>2,363,382</u>
Payables			
Suppliers	14A	3,199,341	1,342,853
Other	14B	<u>945,382</u>	<u>704,585</u>
Total payables		<u>4,144,723</u>	<u>2,047,438</u>
Total liabilities		<u>7,488,550</u>	<u>5,098,651</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>12,533,895</u>	<u>8,417,860</u>
EQUITY			
Contributed Equity	15	4,203,988	1,103,988
Reserves	15	12,145,585	12,145,585
Accumulated (deficits)	15	<u>(3,815,678)</u>	<u>(4,831,713)</u>
Total equity		<u>12,533,895</u>	<u>8,417,860</u>
Current assets		8,517,986	3,456,605
Non-current assets		11,504,459	10,059,906
Current liabilities		6,084,333	3,612,880
Non-current liabilities		1,404,217	1,485,771

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

	Notes	2002 \$	2001 \$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received:			
Appropriations		26,225,000	20,559,000
Permit assessment fees		258,576	298,324
Interest		182,719	238,067
Reef HQ admission fees		730,943	930,250
GST recovered from taxation office		662,816	602,804
Payments from Queensland Government for day-to-day management		4,484,000	4,410,001
Environmental Management Charge		6,461,933	6,050,652
Other		3,819,305	2,170,447
Total cash received		<u>42,825,292</u>	<u>35,259,545</u>
Cash used:			
Grants		(25,600)	(25,283)
Employees		(10,664,170)	(10,186,256)
Suppliers		(11,734,432)	(11,361,386)
Borrowing costs		(42,072)	(74,925)
Payments to Consolidated Revenue Fund		(6,400,000)	(6,000,000)
Payments to Queensland Government for day-to-day management		(9,157,538)	(9,302,027)
Total cash used		<u>(38,023,812)</u>	<u>(36,949,877)</u>
Net cash from operating activities	16	<u>4,801,480</u>	<u>(1,690,332)</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received:			
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment		13,944	46,919
Cash used:			
Purchase of plant and equipment		(1,246,949)	(1,412,533)
Net cash from / (used by) investing activities		<u>(1,233,005)</u>	<u>(1,365,614)</u>
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received:			
Appropriations - contributed equity		3,100,000	-
Reimbursement of capital use charge		138,000	-
Total cash received		<u>3,238,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash used:			
Capital use charge paid		(1,448,000)	(138,000)
Repayments of debt		(333,710)	(271,261)
Total cash used		<u>(1,781,710)</u>	<u>(409,261)</u>
Net cash from / (used by) financing activities		<u>1,456,290</u>	<u>(409,261)</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		5,024,765	(3,465,207)
Cash at the beginning of the reporting period		417,766	3,882,973
Cash at the end of the reporting period	10A	<u>5,442,531</u>	<u>417,766</u>

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS
as at 30 June 2002

BY TYPE	2002 \$	2001 \$
CAPITAL COMMITMENTS		
Plant and equipment ¹	<u>437,063</u>	<u>75,806</u>
Total capital commitments	<u>437,063</u>	<u>75,806</u>
OTHER COMMITMENTS		
Operating leases ²	2,220,376	2,340,544
Other commitments ³	<u>1,155,456</u>	<u>1,005,003</u>
Total other commitments	<u>3,375,832</u>	<u>3,345,547</u>
COMMITMENTS RECEIVABLE	<u>(346,626)</u>	<u>(311,032)</u>
Net commitments	<u>3,466,269</u>	<u>3,110,321</u>
BY MATURITY		
All net commitments		
One year or less	2,007,898	1,432,671
From one to five years	<u>1,458,371</u>	<u>1,677,650</u>
Net commitments	<u>3,466,269</u>	<u>3,110,321</u>
Operating lease commitments		
One year or less	609,500	523,762
From one to five years	<u>1,409,024</u>	<u>1,604,004</u>
Net operating lease commitments	<u>2,018,524</u>	<u>2,127,766</u>

NB: Commitments are GST inclusive where relevant.

¹ Plant and equipment commitments are primarily purchase orders for refurbishment of Reef HQ.

² Operating leases included are effectively non-cancellable and comprise

Nature of lease	General description of leasing arrangement
Lease for office accommodation	Lease payments are subject to current open market rent review in 2002 and 2004; The initial period is still current; The term of first option for renewal is 3 years. The term of second option for renewal is 3 years.
Leases for office equipment	Lease payments are paid monthly

³ As at 30 June 2002, other commitments comprise amounts payable under contracts for consultancy services and purchase orders for other services and supplies.

Commitments to the Co-operative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (CRC Reef) are not included above and are disclosed at Note 22.

In addition, the Authority has a lease arrangement with the Townsville Port Authority in relation to the Reef HQ building for a nominal amount payable if demanded.

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF CONTINGENCIES
as at 30 June 2002

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
CONTINGENT LOSSES		
Claims for damages / costs	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>
	<u><u>30,000</u></u>	<u><u>30,000</u></u>

The amount is an estimate of legal costs which may be payable on a continuing case.

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

Note Description

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
2. Reporting by Segments and Outcomes
3. Economic Dependency
4. Subsequent Events
5. Operating Revenues
6. Operating Expenses - Goods and Services
7. Operating Expenses - Grants
8. Borrowing Costs Expenses
9. Day-to-day management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
10. Financial Assets
11. Non-Financial Assets
12. Interest Bearing Liabilities
13. Provisions
14. Payables
15. Equity
16. Cash Flow Reconciliation
17. Repayment of Advances from Department of Finance and Administration
18. Remuneration of Members
19. Related Party Disclosures
20. Remuneration of Officers
21. Remuneration of Auditors
22. Co-operative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area
23. Cash Bonds
24. Financial Instruments
25. Employee Equivalents
26. Financial Statements: Day-to-day Management
27. Reporting by Outcomes Information

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are required by clause 1(b) of Schedule 1 to the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* and are a general purpose financial report.

The statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Finance Minister's Orders (being the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2001-2002) Orders*);
- Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board;
- Other authoritative pronouncements of the Board; *and*
- Consensus Views of the Urgent Issues Group.

The statements have been prepared having regard to:

- The Explanatory Notes to Schedule 1 issued by the Department of Finance and Administration; *and*
- Finance Briefs issued by the Department of Finance and Administration.

The Statements of Financial Performance and Financial Position have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with historical cost convention, except for certain assets which, as noted, are at valuation. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or on the financial position.

Assets and liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when and only when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow and the amounts of the assets or liabilities can be reliably measured. Assets and liabilities however are not recognized unless required by an Accounting Standard. Obligations and benefits which are unrecognised are reported in the Schedule of Commitments and the Schedule of Contingencies.

Revenues and expenses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance when and only when the flow or consumption or loss of economic benefits has occurred and can be reliably measured.

1.2 Changes in Accounting Policies

The accounting policies used in the preparation of these financial statements are consistent with those used in 2000-2001.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

1.3 Reporting by Outcomes

A comparison of Budget and Actual figures by outcome specified in the Appropriation Acts relevant to the Authority is presented in Note 27. Any intra-government costs included in the figure 'net cost to Budget outcomes' are eliminated in calculating the actual budget outcome for the Government overall.

1.4 Revenue

The revenues described in this Note are revenues relating to the core operating activities of the Authority. Details of revenue amounts are given in Note 5.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Revenue from disposal of non-current assets is recognised when control of the asset has passed to the buyer.

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of contracts. The stage of completion is determined according to the proportion that costs incurred to date bear to the estimated total costs of the transaction.

Revenues from Government - Output Appropriations

The full amount of the appropriation for departmental outputs is recognised as revenue to the extent they have been received into the Authority's Bank account or are entitled to be received by the Authority at year end.

1.5 Transactions by the Government as Owner

Amounts appropriated by the Parliament as equity injections have been fully drawn down in 2001-02 and recognised as 'contributed equity' in accordance with the Finance Minister's Orders.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

1.6 Employee Entitlements

Leave

The liability for employee entitlements includes provision for annual leave and long service leave. No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and the average sick leave to be taken in future years by employees of the Authority is estimated to be less than the annual entitlement for sick leave.

The liability for annual leave reflects the value of total annual leave entitlements of all employees at 30 June 2002 and is recognised at its nominal amount.

The non-current portion of the liability for long service leave is recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at 30 June 2002. In determining the present value of the liability, attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

Separation and redundancy

Provision is also made for separation and redundancy payments in circumstances where the Authority has formally identified positions as excess to requirements and a reliable estimate of the amount of the payments can be determined.

Superannuation

Employees contribute to the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS). Employer contributions in relation to these schemes have been expensed in these financial statements.

No liability for superannuation benefits is recognised as at 30 June as the employer contributions fully extinguish the accruing liability which is assumed by the Commonwealth.

1.7 Leases

A distinction is made between finance leases which effectively transfer from the lessor to the lessee substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of leased non-current assets, and operating leases, under which the lessor effectively retains substantially all such risks and benefits.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

Where a non-current asset is acquired by means of a finance lease, the asset is capitalised at the present value of minimum lease payments at the inception of the lease and a liability recognised at the same amount. Lease payments are allocated between the principal component and the interest expense. Leased assets are amortised over the period of the lease. As at 30 June 2002 the Authority had no finance leases.

Operating lease payments are expensed on a basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

1.8 Borrowing costs

All borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

1.9 Cash

Cash includes notes and coins held and any deposits held at call with a bank or financial institution.

1.10 Financial Instruments

Accounting policies for financial instruments are stated at Note 24.

1.11 Acquisition of Assets

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below.

1.12 Buildings and leasehold improvements, Plant and Equipment

Asset recognition threshold

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the Statement of Financial Position, except for purchases costing less than \$5,000, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total).

Reef HQ

The Reef HQ building was funded as a Commonwealth - State Bicentennial project, through the Great Barrier Reef Wonderland Association Incorporated. The building was sub-leased by the Authority from the Association for a period of 75 years, the end date for the lease being in the year 2061. Following the winding up of the Association in September 2001

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

that lease arrangement is now between the Authority and the Townsville Port Authority. Under the terms of the arrangement the Authority is responsible for the maintenance of the building as necessary and for all expenses and revenue in relation to its operation. Consequently, the value of the building is shown as an asset in the Authority's accounts.

Revaluations

Buildings, plant and equipment are revalued progressively in accordance with the 'deprival' method of valuation in successive 3-year cycles. The current cycle commenced in 1999/2000. In the 1999/2000 financial year the Reef HQ building and associated plant and equipment were revalued.

Any assets which would not be replaced or are surplus to requirements are valued at net realisable value. All valuations are independent.

Recoverable Amount test

Schedule 1 requires the application of the recoverable amount test to the Authority's non-current assets in accordance with AAS 10 Recoverable Amount of Non-Current Assets. The carrying amounts of non-current assets have been reviewed to determine whether they are in excess of their recoverable amounts. In assessing recoverable amounts, the relevant cash flows have been discounted to their present value.

Depreciation and Amortisation

Depreciable plant and equipment assets are written off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to the Authority using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation. Leasehold improvements are amortised on a straight-line basis over the lesser of the estimated useful life of the improvements or the unexpired period of the lease.

Depreciation/amortisation rates (useful lives) and methods are reviewed at each balance date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate. Residual values are re-estimated for a change in prices only when assets are revalued.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

Depreciation and amortisation rates applying to each class of depreciable assets are as follows:

	2002	2001
Buildings	50 years	50 years
Leasehold improvements	Lease term	Lease term
Plant and equipment	3 to 20 years	3 to 20 years

The aggregate amount of depreciation allocated for each class of asset during the reporting period is disclosed in Note 6C.

1.13 Inventories

Goods held for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is determined as the latest purchase price plus inwards transport costs.

1.14 Taxation

The Authority is exempt from all forms of taxation except fringe benefits tax and the goods and services tax.

1.15 Capital Usage Charge

A capital usage charge of 11% (2001: 12%) is imposed by the Commonwealth on the net assets of the Authority. The charge is adjusted to take account of asset gifts and revaluation increments during the financial year.

1.16 Comparative Figures

Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in these financial statements where required.

1.17 Insurance

The Authority has insured for risks through the Government's insurable risk managed fund called 'Comcover'. This includes insurance cover for the operation of Reef HQ. Worker's compensation is insured through Comcare Australia.

1.18 Day-to-day Management Advances

Except for expenditure on fixtures upon land owned by or under the direct

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

control of the Commonwealth or the Authority, advances to the Queensland Department of the Environmental Protection Agency for day-to-day management are fully expensed in the year of payment (refer to note 9 for details of the day-to-day management items).

2. REPORTING BY SEGMENTS AND OUTCOMES

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority operates primarily in a single industry and geographic segment and is the Commonwealth Statutory Authority responsible for the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Protection of the environment, especially those aspects that are matters of national environmental significance is a major aim of the Government.

The Authority is included in Outcome 1 of the Environment and Heritage Portfolio. The specific sub-outcome for the Authority is the protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef. Additional information on reporting by outcomes is at Note 27.

3. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority was established by the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* and is controlled by the Commonwealth of Australia.

The Authority is dependent on appropriations from the Parliament of the Commonwealth for its continued existence and ability to carry out its normal duties.

4. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On 22 May 2001, the Government announced funding of \$4.9m for Reef HQ in the 2001-02 Budget. The funding has been used to enhance the facility for visitors, ensure that health and safety standards are maintained and to offset revenue foregone during the refurbishment. The decision has significantly affected the financial activities of the Authority during the 2001-02 financial year.

The refurbishment was still in progress at 30 June 2002 and the facility was subsequently reopened to the public on 31 July 2002.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

5. OPERATING REVENUES

5A: Revenues from government

	2002	2001
Appropriations:	\$	\$
Operational	15,318,000	10,149,000
Special Appropriation	6,594,311	6,295,904
Commonwealth contribution to day-to-day management: refer Note 9(c)	<u>4,507,000</u>	<u>4,410,000</u>
	<u>26,419,311</u>	<u>20,854,904</u>

Special Appropriation: The Authority, as agent for the Commonwealth, collects an Environmental Management Charge (EMC). Amounts collected are paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund and then paid back to the Authority as a Special Appropriation. The amount shown above represents actual amounts received through Special Appropriation plus an accrual for amounts due to be paid to the Authority as Special Appropriation for the year ended 30 June 2002.

5B: Interest

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Term deposits	38,885	51,170
Bank accounts	<u>144,189</u>	<u>163,664</u>
	<u>183,074</u>	<u>214,834</u>

5C: Reef HQ shop trading results

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Shop Sales	305,428	412,827
Less: Cost of goods sold		
Opening Stock	117,208	131,785
Purchases	118,094	209,835
Less: Closing Stock	44,115	117,208
Less: Special credit for Wholesale Sales Tax	-	14,089
Cost of goods sold	<u>191,187</u>	<u>210,323</u>
Gross profit from shop trading	<u>114,241</u>	<u>202,504</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

5D: Reef HQ revenues

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Admission fees	664,494	930,250
Donations and sponsorships	3,943	7,423
Membership program	54,081	72,483
Other	193,047	241,721
	<u>915,565</u>	<u>1,251,877</u>

5E: Other miscellaneous revenues

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Project revenue	161,381	129,388
Sale of Authority education and information materials	27,604	35,252
Permit assessment fees	258,576	298,325
Fines	59,988	50,835
Reimbursement of monitoring costs	1,648,830	1,125,940
Cost recovery	386,368	270,036
Other	244,890	188,721
	<u>2,787,637</u>	<u>2,098,497</u>

5F: Net loss on disposal of assets:

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Property, plant and equipment		
Proceeds from sale / disposal	13,944	46,919
Net book value at sale / disposal	<u>244,735</u>	<u>104,335</u>
Net loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	<u>(230,791)</u>	<u>(57,416)</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

6. OPERATING EXPENSES - GOODS AND SERVICES

6A: Employee expenses

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Basic remuneration for services provided	10,935,515	9,948,775
Separation and redundancy	<u>84,257</u>	<u>118,417</u>
Total remuneration	11,019,772	10,067,192
Other	<u>73,194</u>	<u>46,050</u>
	<u>11,092,966</u>	<u>10,113,242</u>

The separation and redundancy expense is calculated on the basis of two weeks pay for every year of service by employees made redundant.

The Authority contributes to the Commonwealth Superannuation (CSS) and the Public Sector (PSS) superannuation schemes which provide retirement, death and disability benefits to employees. Contributions to the schemes are at rates calculated to cover existing and emerging obligations. Current contribution rates are 19.9% of salary (CSS) and 11.0% of salary (PSS). An additional 3% (PSS) and 2% (CSS) is contributed for employer productivity benefits.

6B: Suppliers expenses

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Supply of goods and services	10,392,151	9,874,544
Operating lease rentals	<u>631,270</u>	<u>510,014</u>
	<u>11,023,421</u>	<u>10,384,558</u>

6C: Depreciation

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	748,360	587,197
	<u>748,360</u>	<u>587,197</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

The aggregate amounts of depreciation allocated during the reporting period as expense for each class of depreciable asset are as follows:

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Buildings	246,299	250,403
Leasehold improvements	215,603	77,518
Plant and equipment	<u>286,458</u>	<u>259,276</u>
	<u>748,360</u>	<u>587,197</u>

6D: Write-down of assets

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Financial assets:		
Receivables for goods and services	4,045	-
Non-financial assets:		
Buildings, plant & equipment written down to net recoverable amount: ref: Note 1.12	-	129,586
	<u>4,045</u>	<u>129,586</u>

7. OPERATING EXPENSES - GRANTS

The Authority makes grants (Augmentative Research Grants) to universities to provide financial support to students undertaking marine related research and to voluntary community groups providing educational activities relevant to the marine environment.

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Augmentative research grants	9,600	9,783
Grants to voluntary community groups	4,000	2,500
Grants to universities	<u>12,000</u>	<u>13,000</u>
	<u>25,600</u>	<u>25,283</u>

8. BORROWING COSTS EXPENSES

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Interest on advances from DOFA	<u>42,072</u>	<u>74,925</u>
	<u>42,072</u>	<u>74,925</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

9. DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK

- (a) Principles agreed between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments relating to the day-to-day management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park provide for:
- . the Queensland Department of Environment, now known as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to carry out the day-to-day management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, subject to the Authority in accordance with intergovernmental agreements;
 - . the Commonwealth to fund 100% of an initial capital works program required to establish management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park on a sound basis; other capital costs (i.e. the post-initial program) of day-to-day management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park to be shared equally between the two Governments;
 - . the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments to meet in equal shares the recurrent costs for day-to-day management in relation to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (which may include Queensland national parks or Queensland marine parks, the use or management of which would or might affect the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park);
 - . moveable property funded pursuant to the arrangements to be used and administered by Queensland; proceeds from the sale of any such moveable property are paid into the day-to-day management account to offset Commonwealth/Queensland contributions on a 50:50 basis;
 - . fixed assets funded pursuant to the arrangements to be used by Queensland and administered by the Government (or the Authority) which owns or controls the land on which the fixture is located;
 - . expenditure on day-to-day management to be in accordance with an annually agreed program; and
 - . the Authority to administer funds provided by the Commonwealth and Queensland for these purposes.
- (b) Expenditure on day-to-day management for 2001-2002 was \$9,157,538 (2000-2001 \$9,302,027).

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

- (c) Revenue received from the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments and from other sources:

	2002	2001
Commonwealth Government appropriation:	\$	\$
Recurrent and post Initial		
Capital Programs: refer: Note 5A	4,507,000	4,410,000
Queensland Government contribution	4,484,000	4,410,001
From other sources	<u>81,942</u>	<u>216,125</u>
Total	<u>9,072,942</u>	<u>9,036,126</u>

- (d) The receipt and expenditure of day-to-day management cash resources is reconciled as follows:

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Funds available 1 July	271,959	537,860
Plus revenue received	9,072,942	9,036,126
Less expenditure	9,157,538	9,302,027
Less bank fees	<u>42</u>	<u>-</u>
Funds available 30 June	<u>187,321</u>	<u>271,959</u>

- (e) Financial statements for day-to-day management which have been prepared by the EPA and audited by the Queensland Auditor-General are at Note 26.

10. FINANCIAL ASSETS

10A: Cash

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Day-to-day management account	187,321	106,668
Cash on hand	4,923	26,499
Authority operations account	<u>5,250,287</u>	<u>284,599</u>
	<u>5,442,531</u>	<u>417,766</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

10B: Receivables

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Trade debtors	524,566	783,125
Amounts receivable from the Commonwealth	<u>2,020,422</u>	<u>1,826,111</u>
	2,544,988	2,609,236
Less: Provision for doubtful debts	<u>2,500</u>	1,000
	2,542,488	2,608,236
Other debtors	3,825	3,309
GST receivable	<u>387,720</u>	<u>94,037</u>
	<u>2,934,033</u>	<u>2,705,582</u>
Receivables (gross) are aged as follows:		
Not overdue	2,865,809	2,486,033
Overdue by:		
- less than 30 days	58,163	23,958
- 30 to 60 days	1,245	4,238
- 60 to 90 days	-	99,280
- more than 90 days	<u>11,316</u>	<u>93,073</u>
	<u>2,936,533</u>	<u>2,706,582</u>

10C: Investments

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Shares	18,999	-

11. NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

11A: Buildings and Leasehold Improvements

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Buildings and improvements to leasehold property		
- at 30 June 2000 valuation	10,724,725	10,860,048
Accumulated depreciation	<u>3,186,962</u>	<u>3,016,205</u>
	<u>7,537,763</u>	<u>7,843,843</u>
Buildings and improvements to leasehold property		
- at Net Recoverable Amount	7,642	12,087
Accumulated depreciation	<u>7,642</u>	-
	<u>0</u>	<u>12,087</u>
Improvements to leasehold property-at cost	1,104,277	1,088,321
Accumulated depreciation	<u>284,672</u>	<u>69,069</u>
	<u>819,605</u>	<u>1,019,252</u>
Total Buildings & Leasehold Improvements	<u>8,357,368</u>	<u>8,875,182</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

<u>11B: Plant and Equipment</u>	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Plant and equipment		
- at 30 June 2000 valuation	477,117	806,956
Accumulated depreciation	<u>214,756</u>	<u>316,419</u>
	<u>262,361</u>	<u>490,537</u>
Plant and equipment		
- at Net Recoverable Amount	4,560	5,449
Accumulated depreciation	<u>4,560</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>5,449</u>
Plant and equipment - at cost	2,475,291	2,092,956
Accumulated depreciation	<u>1,624,144</u>	<u>1,404,218</u>
	<u>851,147</u>	<u>688,738</u>
Total Plant and Equipment	<u>1,113,508</u>	<u>1,184,724</u>

The revaluations were in accordance with the revaluation policy stated at Note 1 and were completed by an independent valuer M.A.Becker FVLE (Val). Adjustments were made to the asset revaluation reserve in the year of revaluation.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

11C: Analysis of Property, Plant and Equipment

TABLE A - Movement summary 2001-02 for all assets irrespective of valuation basis

Item:	Buildings and Leasehold Improvements \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Work in Progress \$	Total \$
Gross value as at 1 July 2001	11,960,456	2,905,361	-	14,865,817
Additions	15,956	388,191	2,033,583	2,437,730
Disposals	(139,770)	(336,584)	-	(476,354)
Write-downs	-	-	-	-
Transfer between categories	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Gross value as at 30 June 2002	<u>11,836,642</u>	<u>2,956,968</u>	<u>2,033,583</u>	<u>16,827,193</u>
Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortisation as at 1 July 2001	3,085,274	1,720,637	-	4,805,911
Depreciation/Amortisation charge for assets held 1 July 2001	460,845	252,240	-	713,085
Depreciation/Amortisation charge for additions	1,055	34,220	-	35,275
Adjustment for disposals	(67,900)	(163,637)	-	(231,537)
Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortisation as at 30 June 2002	<u>3,479,274</u>	<u>1,843,460</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,322,734</u>
Net book value as at 30 June 2002	8,357,368	1,113,508	2,033,583	11,504,459
Net book value as at 1 July 2001	8,875,182	1,184,724	-	10,059,906

TABLE B - Summary of balances of assets at valuation as at 30 June 2002

Item:	Buildings and Leasehold Improvements \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Total \$
As at 30 June 2002			
Gross value	10,724,725	477,117	11,201,842
Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortisation	3,186,962	214,756	3,401,718
Net book value	<u>7,537,763</u>	<u>262,361</u>	<u>7,800,124</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

	<u>11D: Other Non-Financial Assets</u>		
		2002	2001
		\$	\$
	Other prepayments	78,308	87,631
		<u>78,308</u>	<u>87,631</u>
12.	INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES		
		2002	2001
		\$	\$
	Advances from Department of Finance and Administration (DOFA)		
	Reef HQ	242,685	471,503
	Redundancies	111,436	216,328
		<u>354,121</u>	<u>687,831</u>
	Advances from DOFA as at 30 June are payable as follows:		
		2002	2001
	Maturity schedule for loans:	\$	\$
	Payable:		
	Within one year	354,121	333,710
	In one to two years	-	354,121
		<u>354,121</u>	<u>687,831</u>
13.	PROVISIONS		
	Employees	2002	2001
		\$	\$
	Salaries and wages	254,716	168,929
	Provision for long service leave	1,493,364	1,183,805
	Provision for annual leave	1,106,077	1,003,097
	Other	8,549	7,551
		<u>2,862,706</u>	<u>2,363,382</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
 NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 for the year ended 30 June 2002

14. PAYABLES

14A: Suppliers

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Trade creditors	<u>3,199,341</u>	<u>1,342,853</u>

14B: Other

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Current liabilities		
Revenue received in advance	365,755	176,537
Amounts owed to the Commonwealth	570,423	508,490
Other	9,204	19,558
	<u>945,382</u>	<u>704,585</u>

**GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002**

15. EQUITY

Item	Capital		Accumulated results		Special Purpose Reserves		Asset Revaluation Reserve		Other Reserves		Total Reserves		TOTAL EQUITY	
	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001
Opening Balance 1 July	\$ 1,103,988	\$ 1,103,988	\$ (4,831,713)	\$ (3,178,096)	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 3,569,542	\$ 3,569,542	\$ 8,376,043	\$ 8,376,043	\$ 12,145,585	\$ 12,145,585	\$ 8,417,860	\$ 10,071,477
Operating Result Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	2,579,035	(1,641,617)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,579,035	(1,641,617)
Net Revaluation Increases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Use Charge - Incurred for the period	-	-	(1,575,000)	12,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,575,000)	(12,000)
Capital Use Charge - Repaid by DOFA	-	-	12,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,000	-
Contribution of Equity - Appropriation	3,100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,100,000	-
Closing Balance as at 30 June	4,203,988	1,103,988	(3,815,678)	(4,831,713)	200,000	200,000	3,569,542	3,569,542	8,376,043	8,376,043	12,145,585	12,145,585	12,533,895	8,417,860
Total Equity attributable to the Commonwealth	4,203,988	1,103,988	(3,815,678)	(4,831,713)	200,000	200,000	3,569,542	3,569,542	8,376,043	8,376,043	12,145,585	12,145,585	12,533,895	8,417,860

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
 NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 for the year ended 30 June 2002

16. CASH FLOW RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation of operating surplus / (deficit) to net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities:

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Operating surplus / (deficit)	2,579,035	(1,641,617)
Depreciation	748,360	587,197
Write-down of assets	4,045	129,586
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	230,791	104,335
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in receivables	(228,451)	(594,992)
(Increase) / decrease in inventories	75,511	14,659
(Increase) / decrease in other assets	(9,676)	6,841
Increase / (decrease) in employee liabilities	499,324	124,647
Increase / (decrease) in suppliers	661,744	(395,668)
Increase / (decrease) in other liabilities	<u>240,797</u>	<u>(25,320)</u>
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>4,801,480</u>	<u>(1,690,332)</u>

17. REPAYMENT OF ADVANCES FROM DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Finance and Administration has determined that certain funds appropriated for the purposes of Reef HQ are repayable advances. There have been two such advances:

- . \$450,000 in 1986-87 for establishment costs; *and*
- . \$1,000,000 in 1989-90.

The advances are being repaid by an annual instalment with the final instalment due in the 2002-2003 financial year. Interest on the outstanding principal is charged at the long-term bond rate.

The Authority also received a repayable advance of \$410,000 in the 1998-99 financial year to offset the costs of redundancies in that year. This advance is being repaid over four years with the final instalment due in the 2002-2003 financial year. Interest on the outstanding principal is charged at the long-term bond rate.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

18. REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS

Remuneration - Members of the Authority

The number of Members of the Authority included in these figures are shown below in the relevant remuneration bands:

	2002	2001
\$Nil - \$10,000	2	2
\$10,001 - \$20,000	1	1
\$160,001 - \$170,000	-	1
\$170,001 - \$180,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	\$	\$
Aggregate amount of superannuation payments in connection with the retirement of Members:	17,422	17,183
Other remuneration received, or due and receivable, directly or indirectly, by Members of the Authority:	<u>187,723</u>	<u>163,513</u>
Total remuneration received, or due and receivable, directly or indirectly, by Members of the Authority:	<u>205,145</u>	<u>180,696</u>

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Authority Members

The members of the Marine Park Authority during the financial year were:

Hon Virginia Chadwick (full-time Chair and Chief Executive Officer);

Dr Evelyn Scott (part-time member);

Dr Glyn Davis (part-time member - resigned 16 November 2001);

Ms Fay Barker (part-time member);

Dr Leo Keliher (part-time member)

Remuneration

The aggregate remuneration of Authority Members is disclosed at Note 18.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

Superannuation

The aggregate amount of superannuation payments paid to the Public Sector (PSS) superannuation scheme in connection with the retirement of Members was \$17,422 (2000-2001: \$17,183).

Authority Members' interest in contracts

On the basis of statements declared by Members in accordance with s. 16A of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act or s. 21 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997, no Authority Member has received or become entitled to receive a benefit, other than a benefit included in the aggregate of remuneration received or due and receivable shown at Note 18 by reason of a contract made by the Authority Member or with a firm of which the Authority Member is a Member or with a company in which the Authority Member has a substantial interest.

20. REMUNERATION OF OFFICERS

Remuneration - Officers of the Authority

The number of officers who received or were due to receive total remuneration of \$100,000 or more:

	2002	2001
\$100,000 - \$110,000	4	4
\$110,001 - \$120,000	2	-
\$120,001 - \$130,000	1	-
\$140,001 - \$150,000	-	1
\$150,001 - \$160,000	-	1
\$160,001 - \$170,000	2	-
	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>
	\$	\$

The aggregate amount of total remuneration of officers shown above: 1,090,623 699,696

The remuneration disclosed includes all officers concerned with or taking part in the management of the Authority during 2001-2002 except the Chairperson. Details in relation to the Chairperson have been incorporated into Note 18 Remuneration - Members of the Authority.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

21. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
Remuneration to the Auditor-General for auditing the financial statements for the reporting period	41,000	41,400

No other services were provided by the Auditor-General during the reporting period.

22. CO-OPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE FOR THE GREAT BARRIER REEF WORLD HERITAGE AREA

The Co-operative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (CRC Reef) was established to provide strategic scientific information, education and training to enhance reef-based industry and management of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. As at 30 June 2002, the Authority's commitment to the CRC Reef, in cash contributions, 'in kind' contributions and amounts payable from EMC collections was:

	Cash	In Kind	EMC	2002	2001
				\$	\$
Within one year	665,000	420,000	1,240,000	2,325,000	2,325,000
From one to two years	665,000	420,000	1,240,000	2,325,000	2,325,000
From two to five years	1,330,000	840,000	2,480,000	4,650,000	6,975,000
	<u>2,660,000</u>	<u>1,680,000</u>	<u>4,960,000</u>	<u>9,300,000</u>	<u>11,625,000</u>

23. CASH BONDS

As a condition of some permits, a bond is required to be lodged with the Authority. Some permit holders have provided a cash bond in lieu of a bank guarantee.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30 June 2002

	2002
	\$
Cash at bank 1 July 2001	46,066
RECEIPTS	
Cash bonds	140,000
Interest	<u>2,468</u>
	188,534
PAYMENTS	
Return of Bonds	5,000
Bank fees	<u>22</u>
Cash at bank 30 June 2002	<u>183,512</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

24A Terms, conditions and accounting policies

Financial Instrument	Notes	Accounting Policies and Methods (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)	Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms & conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows)
Financial Assets		Financial assets are recognised when control over future economic benefits is established and the amount of the benefit can be reliably measured	
Cash at Bank and Deposits at Call	10A	Deposits are recognised at their nominal amounts. Interest is credited to revenue as it accrues.	Temporarily surplus funds, mainly from monthly drawdowns of appropriations, are placed on deposit at call with the Authority's bank. Interest is earned on the daily balance at the prevailing daily rate and is paid monthly.
Term Deposit	10A	The deposit is recognised at the nominal amount. Interest is credited to revenue as it accrues.	Temporarily surplus funds are placed on term deposit with the Authority's bank. Interest is earned on the daily balance of the prevailing daily rate and is paid monthly.
Receivables for goods and services	10B	These receivables are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any provision for bad and doubtful debts. Provisions are made when collection of the debt is judged to be less rather than more likely.	Credit terms are nett 28 days (2000-01: 28 days).
Amounts receivable from the Commonwealth	10B	The amount receivable is recognised at the nominal amount due as at 30 June 2002. The amount arises from EMC collections due to be paid into Consolidated Revenue and then paid to the Authority as Special Appropriation.	The EMC is collected each quarter by the Authority as agent for the Commonwealth.
Other Debtors	10B	These amounts represent interest accrued on deposits with banks.	Interest is received monthly.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)
 24A Terms, conditions and accounting policies

Financial Instrument	Notes	Accounting Policies and Methods (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)	Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms & conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows)
Financial Liabilities		Financial liabilities are recognised when a present obligation to another party is entered into and the amount of the liability can be reliably measured	
Advances from the Department of Finance and Administration (DOFA)	12	Liabilities are recognised at the present value of the outstanding principal plus accrued interest unpaid as at reporting date.	Advances received for the purposes of the Great Barrier Reef Aquarium are being repaid by annual instalments. Interest on the outstanding principal is charged at the long-term bond rate. At 30 June 2002 the applicable rate was 6.06%. An advance was received in 1998-99 to offset the costs of redundancies and is being repaid over four years. At 30 June 2002 the applicable rate was 6.24%.
Finance lease liabilities		Liabilities are recognised at the present value of the minimum lease payments at the beginning of the lease. The discount rates used are estimates of the interest rates implicit in the lease.	At reporting date the Authority had no finance leases.
Trade creditors	14	Creditors and accruals are recognised at their nominal amounts, being the amounts at which the liabilities will be settled. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods and services have been received.	Settlement is usually made in 30 days.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

24B Interest rate risk

Financial Instrument	Notes	Floating Interest Rate		Fixed Interest Rate 30 day terms		Non-Interest Bearing		Total		Effective Interest Rate	
		01-02 \$	00-01 \$	01-02 \$	00-01 \$	01-02 \$	00-01 \$	01-02 \$	00-01 \$	01-02 %	00-01 %
Financial Assets (Recognised)											
Cash at Bank & Deposits at Call	10A	1,402,503	391,267	-	-	-	-	1,402,503	391,267	3.25	3.00
Cash on Hand	10A	-	-	-	-	4,923	26,499	4,923	26,499	n/a	n/a
Term Deposit (3 term deposits were held at year end)	10A	-	-	4,035,105	-	-	-	4,035,105	-	Ave 4.53	n/a
Receivables for Goods & Services	10B	-	-	-	-	522,066	782,125	522,066	782,125	n/a	n/a
Amounts receivable from the Commonwealth	10B	-	-	-	-	2,020,422	1,826,111	2,020,422	1,826,111	n/a	n/a
Other Debtors	10B	3,825	3,309	-	-	-	-	3,825	3,309	3.25	3.00
Investments	10C	-	-	-	-	18,999	-	18,999	-	n/a	n/a
Total Financial Assets (Recognised)		1,406,328	394,576	4,035,105	-	2,566,410	2,634,735	8,007,843	3,029,311		
Total Assets								20,022,445	13,516,511		

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

Financial Instrument	Notes	Floating Interest Rate		Fixed Interest Rate 1 year or less		Non-Interest Bearing		Total		Effective Interest Rate	
		01-02	00-01	01-02	00-01	01-02	00-01	01-02	00-01	01-02	00-01
Financial Liabilities (Recognised)											
Advance from DOFA	12	242,685	471,503	-	-	-	-	242,685	471,503	6.06	6.24
Advance from DOFA	12	111,436	216,328	-	-	-	-	111,436	216,328	6.24	6.24
Trade Creditors	14A	-	-	-	-	3,199,341	1,342,853	3,199,341	1,342,853	n/a	n/a
Other Payables	14B	-	-	-	-	945,382	704,585	945,382	704,585	n/a	n/a
Capital Use Charge payable		-	-	-	-	127,000	-	127,000	-	n/a	n/a
Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised)		354,121	687,831	-	-	3,199,341	1,342,853	4,625,844	2,735,269		
Total Liabilities		-	-	-	-	-	-	7,488,550	5,098,651		

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

24. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

24C Net Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

		2002		2001	
Financial Assets		Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value	Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value
Note		\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash at Bank and					
Deposits at Call	10A	1,402,503	1,402,503	391,267	391,267
Cash on Hand	10A	4,923	4,923	26,499	26,499
Term Deposit	10A	4,035,105	4,035,105	-	-
Receivables for goods and services	10B	522,066	522,066	782,125	782,125
Amounts receivable from the Commonwealth	10B	2 020 422	12 020 422	1,5826 111	1,826 111
Other Debtors	10B	3,825	3,825	3,309	3,309
Investments	10C	18,999	18,999	-	-
Total Financial Assets (Recognised)		8,007,843	8,007,843	3,029,311	3,029,311
		2002		2001	
Financial Liabilities		Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value	Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value
Note		\$	\$	\$	\$
Advance from DOFA	12	242,685	242,685	471,503	471,503
Advance from DOFA	12	111,436	111,436	216,328	216,328
Trade creditors	14A	3,199,341	3,199,341	1,342,853	1,342,853
Other payables	14B	945,382	945,382	704,585	704,585
Capital use charge payable		127,000	127,000	-	-
Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised)		4,625,844	4,625,844	2,735,269	2,735,269

Financial Assets

The net fair values of financial assets and liabilities approximate their carrying amounts.

The net fair values of term deposits approximate their carrying amounts.

Financial Liabilities

The net fair values of trade creditors approximate their carrying amounts

24D Credit Risk Exposures

The Authority's maximum exposures to credit risk at reporting date in relation to each class of recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Statement of Financial Position.

The Authority has no significant exposures to any concentrations of credit risk.

**GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002**

25. EMPLOYEE EQUIVALENTS

	2002	2001
The number of full-time equivalents employed for the year:	169	167

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

	Notes	2002 \$	2001 \$
Revenues from ordinary activities			
Appropriations from State Government	8	4,430,358	4,501,014
Funding from Commonwealth Government for day-to-day management	8	4,453,358	4,197,841
Other		310,328	113,586
Gain on disposal of assets		67,688	53,780
Total revenues from ordinary activities		9,261,732	8,866,221
Expenses from ordinary activities			
Employee expenses		5,341,990	5,073,134
Supplies and services		3,376,803	3,256,599
Depreciation	2	516,430	507,172
Assets written off or scrapped		7,440	6,021
Loss on disposal of assets		19,069	23,295
Total expenses from ordinary activities		9,261,732	8,866,221
NET SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)		..	..
Increase (decrease) in asset revaluation reserve	9	18,421	..
Net amount of each revenue, expense, valuation or other adjustment not disclosed above recognised as a direct adjustment to equity	9	..	(19)
Total revenues, expenses and valuation adjustments recognised directly in equity		..	..
Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with owners as owners		18,421	(19)

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2002

	Notes	2002 \$	2001 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash	3	749,933	424,292
Receivables	4	91,408	102,880
Other	5	35,197	82,410
Total current assets		<u>876,538</u>	<u>609,582</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	4,083,807	4,111,273
Total non-current assets		<u>4,083,807</u>	<u>4,111,273</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>4,960,345</u>	<u>4,720,855</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	7	39,008	91,761
Unearned Revenue	8	576,995	303,173
Total current liabilities		<u>616,003</u>	<u>394,934</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>616,003</u>	<u>394,934</u>
NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		<u>4,344,342</u>	<u>4,325,921</u>
EQUITY			
Retained surpluses	9	3,687,137	3,687,137
Reserves			
- Asset revaluation reserve	9	657,205	638,784
Total equity		<u>4,344,342</u>	<u>4,325,921</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2002

	Notes	2002 \$	2001 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriations from State Government		4,567,847	4,501,014
Payments from Commonwealth Government for day-to-day management		4,590,847	4,801,014
Other		288,146	136,446
GST collected on sales		38,259	23,581
GST input tax credits received		290,877	183,740
Outflows:			
Employee costs		(5,333,046)	(5,059,923)
Supplies and services		(3,428,271)	(3,250,458)
GST paid on purchases		(284,541)	(240,276)
GST remitted to ATO		(34,090)	(19,148)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	10	<u>696,028</u>	<u>1,075,990</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of property, plant and equipment		80,033	133,019
Outflows:			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(450,420)	(781,914)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>(370,387)</u>	<u>(648,895)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		325,641	427,095
Cash at beginning of financial year		424,292	(2,803)
Cash at end of financial year	3	<u>749,933</u>	<u>424,292</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
AS AT 30 JUNE 2002

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, "Schedule 2 to orders made by the Commonwealth Finance Minister for the preparation of Financial Statements" and as required by the relevant Agreements dated 10 May 1988 between the Commonwealth and Queensland Government and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

Except where stated the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention on an accrual basis.

(b) Funding from the Commonwealth and State Governments

Funding from the Commonwealth and State Governments is recognised as revenue in the same reporting period as expenses have been incurred.

(c) Acquisition of Assets

The cost method of accounting is used for the initial recording of all acquisition of assets. Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

(d) Property, Plant and Equipment

All items of property, with a cost, or other value, in excess of \$5,000 and plant and equipment in excess of \$1,000 are recognised in the year of acquisition. Items with a lesser value are expensed.

(e) Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment

Depreciation on property, plant and equipment is calculated on a straight line basis so as to write off the cost (or other value) of each depreciable asset, less its estimated residual value, progressively over its estimated useful life.

The useful lives for each class of Property, Plant and Equipment are:

Buildings:	10 years to 33 years
Infrastructure:	5 years to 20 years
Vessels > \$250,000:	15 years
Plant and Equipment:	3 years to 15 years

(f) Revaluations of Non-Current Physical Assets

Australian Accounting Standard AASB 1041 *Revaluation of Non-Current Assets*, effective from 1 July 2000, has been applied for the first time in the 2001-02 financial year. This standard requires that all non-current physical assets are to be measured at either fair value or cost.

Queensland Treasury's "Non-Current Asset Accounting Guidelines in the Queensland Public Sector" requires that land, buildings, infrastructure, heritage and cultural assets to be recorded at fair value with all other classes of assets to be recorded at cost. Accordingly, the carrying amount of vessels > \$250,000 at 1 July 2001 are deemed to be their cost valuation (AASB 1041 paragraph 8.7(a) refers). Other plant and equipment has previously been recognised at cost.

In accordance with the transitional provisions of AASB 1041 a comprehensive revaluation of building and infrastructure assets will be progressively undertaken between 1 July 2002 and 30 June 2005.

An interim valuation using an appropriate index has been applied to all buildings and infrastructure this year.

(g) Payables

Payables are recognised at the amount expected to be paid for the goods and services received.

(h) Employee Entitlements

Officers of the Environmental Protection Agency provide a service to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and consequently the Agency is the responsible entity for all employee entitlements. In recognition of this service the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority contributes to the salary and related costs of the officers but does not incur any liabilities with regards to employee entitlements.

(i) Gains and Losses

Recorded gains and losses include gain and loss on disposal of capitalised and non capitalised assets.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 JUNE 2002

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
NOTE 2 DEPRECIATION EXPENSE		
Depreciation expense for the financial year was charged in respect of:		
Plant and equipment	180,453	219,094
Vessels	179,855	139,702
Buildings and Infrastructure	156,122	148,376
	<u>516,430</u>	<u>507,172</u>
NOTE 3 CASH		
Unexpended funds	737,731	413,765
Imprest Accountable Advances	800	1,100
Accountable Advances - Travel	11,402	9,427
	<u>749,933</u>	<u>424,292</u>
NOTE 4 RECEIVABLES		
Trade Receivables	38,584	43,720
GST Input Tax Credits	52,824	59,160
	<u>91,408</u>	<u>102,880</u>
NOTE 5 OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepayments	35,197	82,410
	<u>35,197</u>	<u>82,410</u>
NOTE 6 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Buildings and Infrastructure		
- At cost	17,540	31,285
- Accumulated depreciation	(1,242)	(507)
- At valuation	2,098,983	2,048,758
- Accumulated depreciation	(884,009)	(728,103)
Work In Progress	94,400	90,491
Vessels > \$250,000		
- At cost	4,773,875	330,534
- Accumulated depreciation	(3,192,295)	(408)
- At valuation	..	4,443,341
- Accumulated depreciation	..	(3,012,032)
Plant and equipment		
- At cost	2,462,322	2,368,329
- Accumulated depreciation	(1,285,767)	(1,460,415)
Total Property, Plant and Equipment - Net Book Value	<u>4,083,807</u>	<u>4,111,273</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

	Buildings & Infrastructure	Work in Progress	Vessels > \$250,000	Plant & Equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Carrying amount at start of year	1,351,433	90,491	1,761,435	907,914	4,111,273
Acquisitions	..	91,059	..	499,173	590,232
Disposals	(3,427)	..	..	(116,262)	(119,689)
Transfer between classes	20,967	(87,150)	..	66,183	0
Revaluation Increments/Decrements	18,421	..	..	..	18,421
Depreciation	(156,122)	..	(179,855)	(180,453)	(516,430)
Carrying amount at end of year	<u>1,231,272</u>	<u>94,400</u>	<u>1,581,580</u>	<u>1,176,555</u>	<u>4,083,807</u>

	2002 \$	2001 \$
NOTE 7 PAYABLES		
Trade creditors	21,463	87,328
GST payable	8,601	4,433
Payroll Tax payable	8,944	..
	<u>39,008</u>	<u>91,761</u>

	2002 \$	2001 \$
NOTE 8 UNEARNED REVENUE		
Appropriations from State Government not yet earned	288,498	..
Funding from the Commonwealth Government not yet earned	288,497	303,173
	<u>576,995</u>	<u>303,173</u>

Unspent funds are transferred to unearned revenue at balance date. In 2000-01 unearned revenue was recorded in total against the Commonwealth. In 2001-02 unearned revenue has been split equally between the Commonwealth and the State Contributions to better reflect the 50/50 funding arrangement. The additional \$23,000 received from the Commonwealth relates to a variation in the escalation applied to the contributions.

NOTE 9 CHANGES IN EQUITY

	<i>Retained Surpluses</i>		<i>Asset Revaluation Reserve</i>	
	2002 \$	2001 \$	2002 \$	2001 \$
Opening balance	3,687,137	3,687,152	638,784	638,788
Adjustment to correct closing reported balances for 2000	..	(15)	..	(4)
Interim revaluation	..	..	18,421	..
Net surplus or deficit	..	..	..	..
Closing balance	<u>3,687,137</u>	<u>3,687,137</u>	<u>657,205</u>	<u>638,784</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 JUNE 2002

	2002	2001
	\$	\$
NOTE 10 RECONCILIATION OF NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) TO NET CASH (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net Surplus / Deficit	..	..
Non-cash items:		
Depreciation	516,430	507,172
Net Gain on disposal of assets	(48,619)	(30,485)
Stock write-on's and other asset adjustments	(27,318)	..
Assets written off/scrapped	7,440	6,021
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/Decrease in receivables	11,472	297,184
(Increase)/Decrease in other assets	45,557	(40,444)
Increase/(Decrease) in payables	(83,912)	33,369
Increase/(Decrease) in unearned revenue	274,978	303,173
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	696,028	1,075,990

NOTE 11 COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no known commitments or contingent liabilities of a significant nature at 30 June 2002 (2001: Nil).

NOTE 12 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) Terms, Conditions and Accounting Policies

The entity's accounting policies, including terms and conditions of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument, both recognised and unrecognised at balance date, are as follows:

Recognised Financial Instruments	Statement of Financial Position Notes	Accounting Policies	Terms and Conditions
1. Financial Assets Receivables	4	Receivables are carried at nominal amounts due.	No terms and conditions apply.
2. Financial Liabilities Payables	7	Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received whether or not billed to the entity.	Trade liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms or less.

(b) Interest Rate Risk Exposure

No exposure to interest rate risk exists at 30 June 2002.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT**

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 JUNE 2002

(c) Credit Risk Exposure

The entity's maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date in relation to each class of recognised financial asset is the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Statement of Financial Position.

(d) Net Fair Values

The aggregate net fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities at the balance date are as per the Statement of Financial Position.

The following methods and assumptions are used to determine the net fair values of financial assets and liabilities.

Recognised Financial Instruments

Trade Receivables and Trade Payables

The carrying amount approximates fair value.

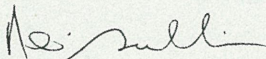
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

CERTIFICATE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
In relation to the operations of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

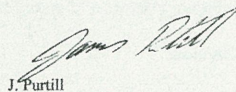
The foregoing financial statements have been prepared as required by the relevant Agreements dated 10 May 1988 between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. We certify that -

- (a) the statements together with the other information and notes to and forming part thereof are in agreement with the accounts of the Environmental Protection Agency; and
- (b) the receipt and expenditure of monies and the control and management of assets were in accordance with the approved programs and in accordance with the aforementioned agreements and previous agreements executed between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments with regard to day to day management; and
- (c) in our opinion -
 - (i) the prescribed requirements in respect of the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
 - (ii) statements have been drawn up so as to present a true and fair view of the transactions and cash flows of the Environmental Protection Agency in relation to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park for the period 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, and of the financial position as at 30 June 2002.



N. O'Sullivan
Acting Director, Financial Services

Date: 15 August 2002



J. Purtil
Director-General

Date: 15/8/2

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

26. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park for the year ended 30 June 2002 comprising the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Notes to and forming part of the accounts and certificates given by the Director-General of the Environmental Protection Agency and the person responsible for financial administration of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

The Director-General of the Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for the preparation and the form of presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. I have audited the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them.

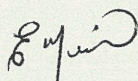
The audit has been conducted in accordance with *QAO Auditing Standards* to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Audit procedures adopted have included the examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with prescribed accounting standards and other prescribed requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the entity's financial position, the results of its operations and cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this certificate has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In terms of the Agreements dated 10 May 1988 between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority relating to the management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, I certify that I have received all the information and explanations I have required in respect of the financial statements of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and, in my opinion -

- The prescribed requirements in respect of the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- The statements have been drawn up so as to present a true and fair view in accordance with the prescribed accounting standards and other prescribed requirements of the transactions of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park for the financial year ended 30 June 2002 and of the financial position as at the end of that year.



E A MUIR, FCPA
Assistant Auditor-General
(As Delegate of the Auditor-General of Queensland)



Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

27. REPORTING BY OUTCOMES

27A The Authority is included in Outcome 1 of the Environment and Heritage Portfolio. The specific sub-outcome for the Authority is the protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef.

27B Total Cost / Contribution of Outcomes (Whole of Government)

Reporting by Outcomes for 2001-2002	Sub-outcome	
	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000
Total net administered expenses	-	-
Add: Net cost of entity outputs	24,035	23,840
Outcome before Abnormal/extraordinary items	24,035	23,840
Abnormal/extraordinary items	-	-
Net cost to Budget Outcome	24,035	23,840
 Total assets deployed as at 30/6/02	 17,424	 20,022

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2002

27. REPORTING BY OUTCOMES

27C Major Departmental Revenues and Expenses by Output Group

	Output Group 1 CB&WH		Output Group 2 WQ&CD		Output Group 3 Fisheries		Output Group 4 T&R		Output Group 5 Park Mgt		Output Group 6 Info for Park Mgt		Output Group C&E		Non-attributable		Total	
	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000
Operating revenues																		
Revenues from Govt	1,472	1,391	1,983	1,109	1,210	1,230	1,102	696	10,493	9,226	4,240	3,892	4,240	3,892	594	796	26,419	20,855
Sales of goods and services	3	6	30	161	1	4	7	15	2,059	1,504	87	111	87	111	523	189	4,009	3,763
Payments from Qld Govt. - DDM Mgt									4,484	4,410							4,484	4,410
Other non-taxation revenues															190	261	197	262
Total operating revenues	1,475	1,397	2,013	1,270	1,211	1,234	1,109	711	17,036	15,140	4,327	4,003	4,327	4,289	1,307	1,246	35,109	29,290
Operating expenses																		
Employees	919	830	905	914	637	541	510	558	3,814	3,387	1,710	1,538	1,710	1,538	2,598	2,345	11,093	10,113
Suppliers	430	541	572	653	399	513	473	343	4,350	3,549	2,686	2,766	2,686	2,766	2,304	2,230	11,214	10,595
Grants											21	23	21	23	5	2	26	25
Deprn & amort.															348	273	400	587
Write-down/Disposal of assets															4	104	4	234
Other															13	20	9,200	9,377
Total operating expenses	1,349	1,371	1,477	1,567	1,036	1,054	983	901	17,322	16,238	4,417	4,327	4,417	5,035	417	438	32,550	30,931

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
 NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
 for the year ended 30 June 2002

27. REPORTING BY OUTCOMES (continued)

27D Major Classes of Departmental Assets & Liabilities by Output Group

	Output Group 1 CB&WH		Output Group 2 WQ&CD		Output Group 3 Fisheries		Output Group 4 T&R		Output Group 5 Park Mgt		Output Group 6 Info for Park Mgt		Output Group 7 C&E		Non-specific		Total	
	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2001 \$'000
<i>Output specific depart. assets</i>																		
Buildings & Improvements																		
Inventories																		
<i>Total specific depart. assets</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,615	7,923	820	1,072	10,435	8,995	
<i>Other departmental assets</i>																		
Cash																		
Receivables																		
Less: provisions for d/debits																		
GST receivable																		
GST receivable																		
Investments																		
Plant and equipment																		
Other																		
<i>Total other departmental assets</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9,587	4,522	9,587	4,522	
<i>Output specific depart. liab</i>																		
Employees	20	15	22	14	12	9	15	8	87	56	37	27	40	2,608	2,194	2,863	2,363	
<i>Total specific depart. liab</i>	20	15	22	14	12	9	15	8	87	56	37	27	40	2,608	2,194	2,863	2,363	
<i>Other depart. liab</i>																		
Loans																		
Capital use charge																		
Suppliers																		
Other																		
<i>Total Other depart. liab</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	472	4,382	2,264	4,625	2,736	



GLOSSARY

ACS	Australian Customs Service
AFMA	Australian Fisheries Management Authority
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
APS	Australian Public Service
ATSIC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission
CRC Reef Research Centre	Cooperative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
EMC	Environmental Management Charge
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
GBRMPA	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
LMAC	Local Marine Advisory Committee
PEMS	Protected Environment Management System
QDNR	Queensland Department of Natural Resources
QDPI	Queensland Department of Primary Industries
QEPA	Queensland Environmental Protection Agency
QPWS	Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service



GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

(INDEXES

COMPLIANCE INDEX

This annual report has been prepared using the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Orders 1998 and the requirements for annual reports approved by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit under subsections 63(2) and 70(2) of the Public Service Act 1999 (May 2000).

Requirement	Location
Letter of transmittal	iii
Aids to Access	
Table of Contents	vii
Alphabetical Index	151
Contact Details	87
Abbreviations	147
Corporate Overview	
Enabling Legislation	4
Minister	4, 93
Goals and Aims	5
Corporate Structure	
Directors	8
Audit Committee	78
Summary of Significant Change	
Social Justice and Equity Overview	58-61
Internal and External Scrutiny Overview	58, 59
Service Charter	9
Program Performance Reporting	
Activities	1 - 70

Financial and Staffing Resources	71, 81-86
Human Resources	
Senior Management	13
Staff Training	8, 51-52, 55-56
Equal Employment Opportunity	56-57, 60-61
Occupational Health and Safety	56, 58, 84-85
Indemnities and Insurance Premiums	7, 109
Other Resources	
Consultancy Services	10, 25, 50-54, 84-85
Advertising and Marketing	85
Ecologically Sustainable Development and Environmental Performance	20-38, 92-94
Financial Statements	97-142
External Scrutiny	
Report of the Auditor-General	95
Comments by the Ombudsman	59
Decisions of Courts and Administrative Tribunals	16, 84
Freedom of Information	86-88

ALPHABETICAL INDEX

A

abbreviations 147
access and equity 58
Acts see legislation
advertising and marketing 85-86
Agforce 31
Annual Strategic Work Programs 92
anthropogenic activities 26
antifoulants 28
appendices 73-146
aquaculture 30, 46, 93
Audit Committee 7, 78-79
Auditor General's Report 58, 95
auditors 58, 126

B

bareboats 41
biodiversity 8, 20-26, 53
Bird Atlas, Coastal 68
bleaching of corals 3, 49-50
boundaries of Park 2, 44, 54
boutique cruise vessels 41
Bowling Green Bay 21
bycatch/byproduct 23, 34-35

C

Cairns Area 39-40, 68-69
candidate areas 25
Cane Growers 31
catchment development 29, 62
Central Section 69
chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) 94
Cleveland Bay 21, 28
coastal development 8, 26-32, 53, 93
commercial fishing 35
Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions 67
Commonwealth Disability Strategy 59
Commonwealth Government Agencies 10
Commonwealth Ombudsman 59
communication and education 8, 31, 61-65
community involvement 2, 10, 63-64
compensation claims 84
compliance and enforcement 29, 56, 67
compliance index 149
Conservation, Biodiversity & World Heritage 8, 20-26, 53

Consultative Committee 3, 7, 55, 57, 80
cooperative management 31, 48
coral bleaching 3, 49-50
Corporate Services 8, 54-61, 81-86
CRC Reef Research Centre 10, 25, 50, 85
critical habitats 35-36
critical issues 19, 48, 53, 62, 65
Cross Cultural Education 48
crown-of-thorns starfish 3, 41-42
cruise shipping 41
CSIRO 34
Cultural heritage 25
cultural resources 68

D

databases
fisheries 36-37
REEF bibliographic 53
reef visitors 56
day-to-day management 8, 32, 53, 66-70, 115-116
defence activities 47
development, coastal 8, 26-32, 53, 93
digital maps 49, 53
disabilities 57, 60
diving 55, 84
dolphins 3, 20, 22
drumlines 23
Dugong Information Kit 21
dugong recovery and conservation 3, 20-23
dwarf minke whales 22

E

East Coast Trawl Fishery Management Plan 34
ecological sustainability
developments 92-94
fishing 33-35
education and communication 8, 31, 61-65
employees see staff
endangered species 33
Energy Management Plan 94
enforcement and compliance 29, 56, 67
Environment Australia 93
Environmental Impact Management Unit 45-46, 50
Environmental Management Charge 55-56
Environmental Management Systems (permits) 40, 46-47

environmental performance 92-94
Environmental Protection and
Biodiversity Conservation Act 93
Environmental Research Advisory
Committee 50
equal employment opportunity 56-57, 60-61
Executive 9, 12-14
external relationships 10

F

Far Northern Section 34, 44-45, 54, 69
Financial Report 71
financial resources 81-86
financial statements 97-142
fisheries 8, 32-38
ecosystem management 36
information base 36-37
Issues Group 33, 53
spawning 36
fishing, illegal 2
flood plumes 28
Fraser Island 25
freedom of information 86-88

G

Great Barrier Reef map v
Geographic Information Systems 53
glossary 147
goal and aims 5
Goold Island 48
GBRMPA Act 4
Green Office Committee 94
Green Zones 25
Gumoo Woorabuddee Section 45

H

Hinchinbrook 40, 44, 69
Holbourne Island oil spill 32
Hope Vale Community 48
human activities 26
Human Resource Management 56

I

image collection 52-53
incident control systems 32
Indigenous Liaison Unit 3, 47-48, 58
Indigenous traineeships 55, 57
information coordination and analysis 53-54
information support 8, 49-54

information technology 51-52, 56
informing the public 24, 60, 65, 67
insurance 109
Integrated Catchment Management groups
31
Integrated Planning Act 93
Internet/web 51-53, 59-60, 62, 64-65
interpretive programs 63
Intranet 53, 57, 60

K

Keswick Island 50
key issues 19-42

L

leases 106
legal services 8, 15-16
legislation 4, 56, 60, 74-76, 92-94
reform 30
Let's Keep it Great 62
library and image services 49, 52-54, 59
licences, trawling 34
litigation 16, 67
Local Marine Advisory Committee 28, 48-49

M

Mackay-Capricorn Section 67
mackerel 35
Magnetic Island 17
management
fisheries 36
natural and cultural resources 68
shipping and maritime pollution 31-32
water quality 31
management plans 39-40
maps 49, 53
Great Barrier Reef v
marine animal strandings 22-23
maritime pollution 31-32
marketing 62-63
media and public relations 65
membership of Authority 6, 77-78, 124
membership of Reef HQ 64
Minister 4, 93
Ministerial Council 11, 27, 34
Mission Beach, trawling closure 2, 37-38
monitoring 50, 68
moorings 40, 68

N

Natural Heritage Trust Mark II 30
natural resources 68
Nelly Bay Harbour 50
no-take zones 25
nutrients 26

O

occupational health and safety 56, 58, 84-85
offices of Authority 8, 58, 87-88
oil spills 31-32
 Holbourne Island 32
Ombudsman 59
operational structure 8

P

parliamentary liaison 17-18
patrol programs 67
 see also compliance
permits, tourism 40, 46-47
permitted bycatch list 34
planning 44-45
 Strategic 19, 55
policy adviser 59
pollutants 27-28
pollution, maritime 31-32
prawn trawling 34
program delivery 8, 43-49
program management 69-70
prosecutions 67
Protected Environment Management System 46
protection
 critical habitats 35-36
 rare and threatened species 3, 20, 33, 35
 representative areas 35-36
public information 24, 60, 65, 67
public relations and media 65
publications 89-91
 tourism 42

Q

QEPA 70
QPWS 10, 15, 39, 46, 59
 day-to-day management 66-67, 69, 71
 fishing 37
 permits 47-48
quality of water see water
Queensland Government Agencies 10

R

Ramsar wetlands 93
Rapid Assessment Monitoring 68
rare and threatened species 3, 20, 33, 35
recreation see tourism
REEF bibliographic data base 53
Reef HQ 2, 8, 55, 59-64, 71
reef line fishery 2
Reef Research newsletter 51
Regional Vegetation Management Committees 31
regulatory role 60
Representative Areas Program 24-26,
 35-36, 50, 53, 65
 community information 62
 ecological sustainability 92
research and monitoring 50-51
rezoning of marine park 2, 44
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology 53
run-off 26

S

scientific advice given 50-51
sediment 26
 see also water quality
Service Charter 9
service groups 43-70
sewage discharge 30-31
shark control program 23
shipping
 cruise 41
 management 31-32, 67
 piloting 67
 routes 26
Shoalwater Bay 22
Spanish mackerel 35
staff 8, 83-85, 106, 125
 development 56
state of affairs 11
Strategic Plan 19, 55
subsidiaries of Authority 9-10
support groups 53
sustainable development 92-94
sustainable fishing 34-35

T

target species 35
temperature of seawater 3
threatened see rare and threatened
tourism and recreation 3, 8, 38-42
 permits 40, 46-47

Townsville Enterprise 59
traditional usage 36
training
 Indigenous trainees 55
 information technology 56
 postgraduate students 51
trawling/trawl plan 34
 closure, Mission Beach 37-38
turtle conservation 3, 20-22

V

vessel acquisition 69
visitors 63
 database 56
 facilities and services 68-69
volunteers 63

W

Water Conservation Policy 94
water quality 2, 8, 26-32, 53, 62
 temperature 3
web/Internet 51-53, 59-60, 62, 64-65
whale and dolphin conservation 3, 20, 22
Whitsundays 39-41, 44, 69
Workplace Diversity Plan 57
World Heritage 25-26, 47, 53, 69

Z

zoning of Park 2, 44, 60, 93
 no-take zones 25



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