









In June 2024, all 11 Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) were involved in discussions with the Reef Authority Eye on the Reef team. At the LMAC Chairs' meeting in October 2023, the attendees selected Corporate Objective 4.1 Upgrade the Eye on the Reef Platform as a priority to receive information and provide advice.

Overview of Eye on the Reef Program

The Reef Authority staff presented on the Eye on the Reef Program explaining the various components to the program. The members were given a summary on the sightings network, rapid monitoring, Tourism weekly monitoring and the Reef health Impact surveys and how the data systems provided by the program are integral to the delivery and effectiveness of the Crown-of-thorns Control Program, Reef Health and incident response.

The data

There are multiple data entry methods used, and training is provided for the more advanced monitoring programs. The data has been validated and reported in several scientific journals and is available to users in either dashboards or as spreadsheets. The members were shown some new mapping layers and case studies as well.

New Eye on the Reef App

The Reef Authority were pleased to announce they have released a major upgrade of the app in April. Members were encouraged to delete the old version and upload the new version. The upgrades included web interface with additional map products and cloud migration of the data. The upgrade also allows for greater data interpretation and availability.

LMAC Advice: Members identified numerous data sources that could be useful such as: bleaching trends over time, crocodiles, dive sites, dolphins, fin fish, links with reef Knowledge Management System, satellite imagery, sharks, turtles, useful for risk assessments.

A number of LMAC members across the Committees suggested that to increase use of the App, the Reef Authority could:

link with other data (such as AMDI, Crocwatch and iNaturalist)

have a brag board for photos

link to stranding information

help with regional report cards

share information with dive clubs

add additional map layers (such as TUMRAs and special management areas)





Australian Government

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