

SOUTHERN PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

STAGE 1 - PUBLIC CONSULTATION REPORT 2024



© Commonwealth of Australia 2024

Published by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

ISBN 978-0-6453809-6-5

This document is licenced by the Commonwealth of Australia for use under the Creative Commons by Attribution 4.0 International Licence with the exception of the Coat of Arms of the Commonwealth of Australia, the logos of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, any other material protected by trademark, content supplied by third parties and any photographs. For licence conditions see: <http://creativecommons.org/licences/by/4.0>

While all efforts have been made to verify facts, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority take no responsibility for the accuracy of information supplied in this publication.

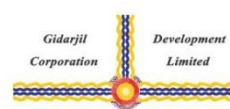
Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander readers are advised this publication may contain names and images of deceased persons.

This document is intended to be used for general reference purposes only. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority do not warrant the accuracy or completeness of information in this document.

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the National Library of Australia.

This publication should be cited as:

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (2024). Southern plan of management public consultation report – stage 1 2024, Reef Authority, Townsville.



Comments, and questions regarding this document are welcome and should be addressed to:

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
235 Stanley Street
Townsville QLD 4810

Phone: (07) 40 500 700

Email: info@gbbrmpa.gov.au

www.gbbrmpa.gov.au

Front cover © Commonwealth of Australia (Reef Authority)

Photographer: Braden Smith. Image taken at: Heron Island Reef

Acknowledgements: Vicki Martin, Mosaic Insights – part of the Alluvium Group of companies.

Executive summary

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (Reef Authority) acknowledges the continuing Sea Country management and custodianship of the Great Barrier Reef by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Owners whose rich cultures, heritage values, enduring connections and shared efforts have and are protecting the Reef for future generations. The Reef Authority is committed to co-managing in partnership with Reef Traditional Owners by embracing Traditional Owner histories, rights, interests, and knowledge of the Reef to further deliver world-class Reef management.

Together with Yuwibara, Darumbal, Woppaburra and Port Curtis Coral Coast Traditional Owners, the Reef Authority is developing a new Plan of Management for the southern Great Barrier Reef, extending from approximately Midge Point just north of Mackay to the southern boundary of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Marine Park). We are doing this to better address threats, conflicts and identify opportunities for the future.

Two stages of public consultation are required for the development of a Plan of Management (POM) under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*. The Reef Authority published a notice to develop a Plan of Management for the southern Great Barrier Reef on 19 March 2024 with the first stage of public consultation opening for three months, through to 19 June 2024.

This first stage of public consultation focused on uses, values, threats and management ideas. As part of the public consultation period, community drop-in information sessions were held in Mackay, Yeppoon, Rockhampton, Gladstone, Agnes Water and Bundaberg. A total of 193 submissions were received of which 135 were via the online form, 24 were verbal submissions and 34 were received via email.

Of the 135 online submissions, almost half (65) came from the Gladstone region, 28 were received from the Isaac region, 22 from the Yeppoon region, and 20 from the Mackay region. Four late submissions were accepted after the 19 June deadline and form part of the total submission number.

Submissions came from a wide range of groups including Traditional Owners, local coastal communities, recreational Marine Park users, research institutions, commercial tourism, government agencies, not-for-profit groups, and many more. However, it is important to note that the submissions do not form a representative view of all Marine Park users or groups; rather, the input received reflects the views of only those who made a submission.

The online submission form provided a structured survey-style form with questions and a map for people to identify important areas of interest to them within the planning area. The form was developed to capture information relating to:

- Locations of importance within the Southern Plan of Management area
- Modes of transport to the location
- Uses and activities at the location
- Social values of the location (i.e., reasons why people value the place), allowing for multiple values to be held, and identification of the importance of each value (see below for more details).
- Perceived threats to the social values of the location
- Satisfaction with management of the location
- Suggestions for future management of the location
- Submitter characteristics (including demographics).

Where possible, the information from the written and verbal submissions has been aligned with the questions in the form.

Submitters identified important locations across the entire planning area. Several islands were the most commonly mentioned in the online submissions: Heron Island, Percy Islands, the Keppel Islands group, Lady Musgrave Island, and Curtis Island. Most mentions for the written and verbal submissions were the Capricorn Bunker group, mainland coastal areas in the Gladstone region, inshore islands within the Mackay region, and the Keppel Islands group.

A summary of information from all submissions is contained in Figure 1 with further detail on uses, values and threats as noted below:

- **Uses** (Fig. 2): The majority of submitters use the southern Great Barrier Reef for recreational purposes with snorkelling and diving, boating and sailing and recreational fishing being the most common activities.
- **Threats** (Fig. 3): Direct use, including being excluded from certain areas, is mentioned in most submissions as a threat. Climate change (specifically sea surface temperature and sea level rise), coastal development (e.g. urban development and marine debris) and wildlife disturbance were also highlighted as threats.
- **Values** (Fig. 4): 713 values were identified in the submissions with biodiversity and ecosystems (coral reefs and marine turtles) and non-commercial values (management e.g. zoning and compliance) being the most common followed by cultural (Traditional Owner opportunities) and commercial values.

The submission information has been inputted into ArcGIS for the Reef Authority to further analyse responses in specific locations. The results presented in this report are more general in nature, relating to the four planning regions (Gladstone, Isaac, Mackay, and Yeppoon) or to the entire planning area, rather than a particular place.

The information provided through these submissions is not meant to represent any stakeholder group, particular demographic, or region within the identified catchment regions. The information is solely that which was received as part of the open public consultation process. The Reef Authority recognises that the information provided by members of the public may include areas outside of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. That information may not be addressed as part of the Southern Plan of Management process.

Next steps – the information, comments and ideas provided in the submissions will be analysed to inform the development of management arrangements and strategies for the Southern Plan of Management. The Reef Authority and its partners will continue to inform and collaborate with stakeholders throughout the process. A second stage of public consultation on the proposed management arrangements and strategies will be held once the Southern Plan of Management is drafted.

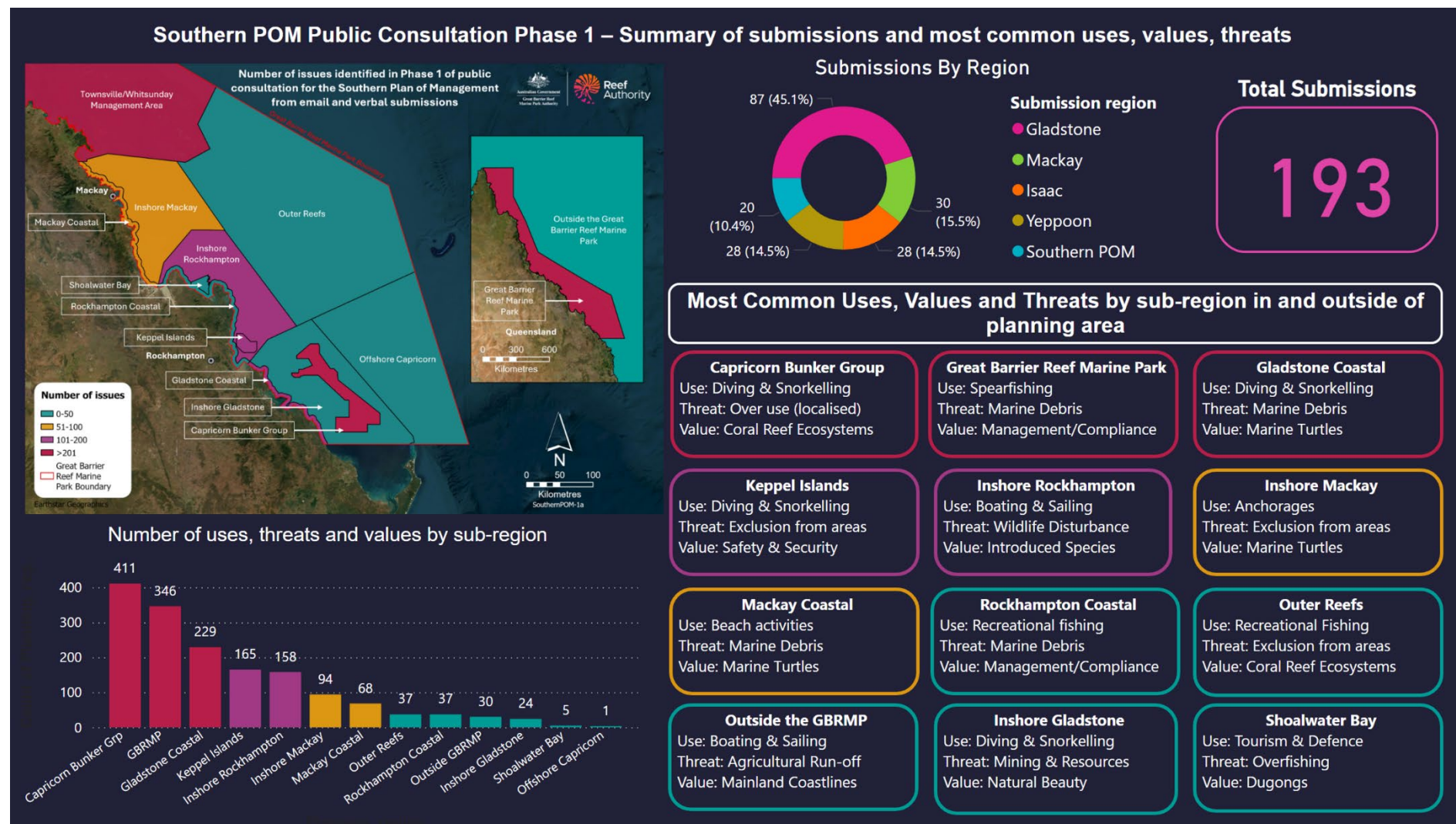


Figure 1. Summary of all submissions by sub-region.

Summary of the most common uses, values and threats from the online submissions, email submissions and verbal submissions by sub-region (bottom right). Figure created in Microsoft Power BI Desktop (Version 2.131.1203.0). Map created in ArcGIS Pro (Version 3.2.2).

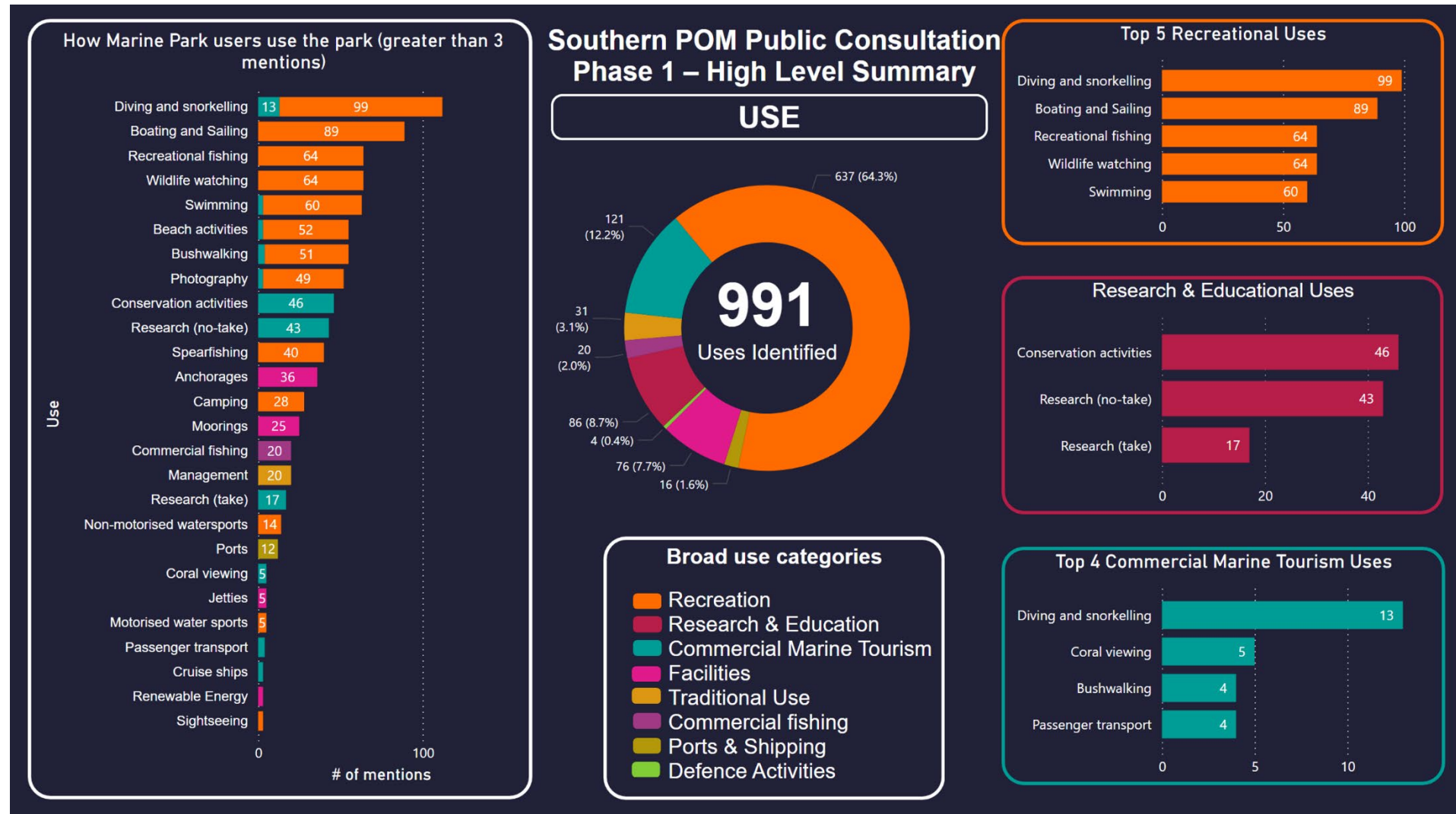


Figure 2. Summary of uses identified in all submissions.

Uses identified in email, verbal and online submissions. Uses are displayed by broad use category and specific use. Note that one submission can identify multiple uses. Figure created in Microsoft Power BI Desktop (Version 2.131.1203.0).

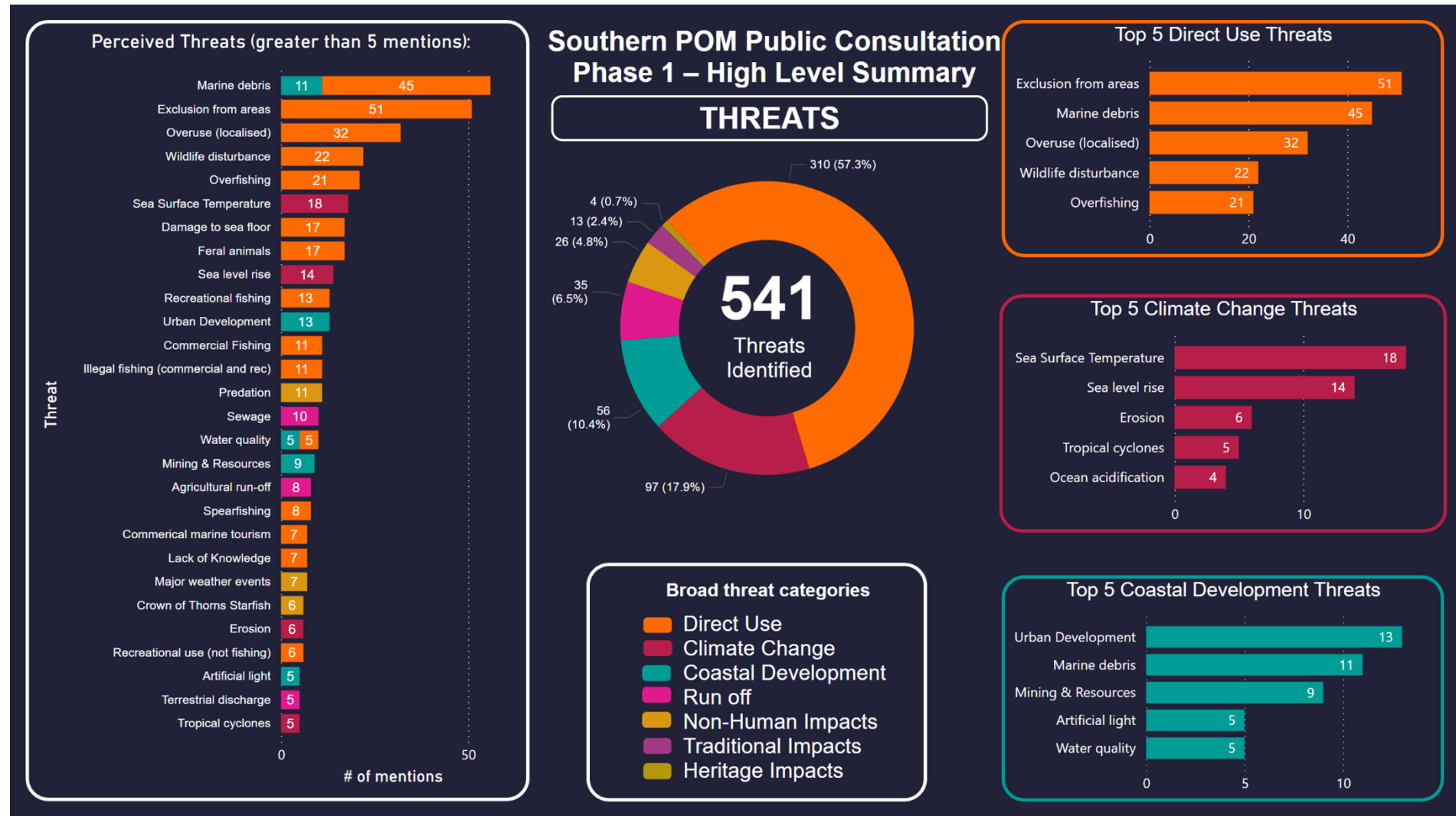


Figure 3. Summary of threats identified in all submissions.

Threats identified in email, verbal and online submissions. Threats are displayed by broad threat category and specific threat. Note that one submission can identify multiple threats. Figure created in Microsoft Power BI Desktop (Version 2.131.1203.0).

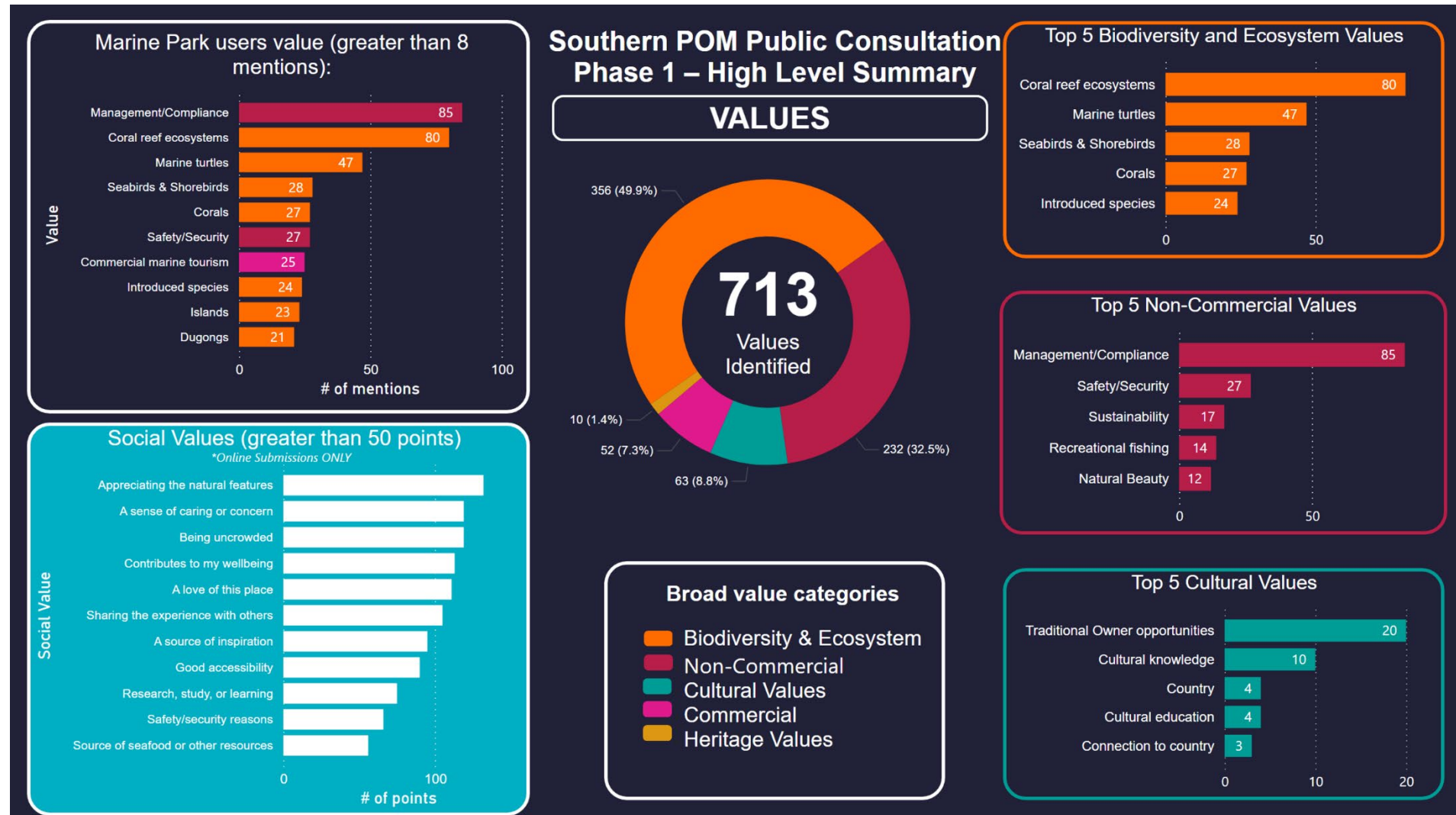


Figure 4. Summary of values identified in all submissions.

Values identified in email, verbal and online submissions. Social values (bottom left) are representative of online submissions only. Values are displayed by broad value category and specific value. Note that one submission can identify multiple values. Figure created in Microsoft Power BI Desktop (Version 2.131.1203.0).

Table of contents

Executive summary	3
About this report	11
Background	11
Scope	11
Consultation process	12
Community drop-in sessions	12
Online submissions	12
Email submissions	15
Verbal submissions	15
Collation of submissions	16
Online submissions	16
Written (email) and verbal submissions	16
Overview of responses	17
Submitter characteristics	17
Online submissions	17
Written (email) and verbal submissions	19
Important locations	20
Online submissions	20
Written (email) and verbal submissions	20
Location access and use	21
Online submissions	21
Use in the last 12 months	23
Written (email) and verbal submissions	23
Activities	25
Online form submissions	25
Written (email) and verbal submissions	28
Social values of locations	31
Online form submissions	31
Written (email) and verbal submissions	34
Threats and concerns	34
Types of perceived threats by region	35
Written (email) and verbal submissions	36
Satisfaction with current management of location	39
Other suggestions for future management	40

Communication statistics	42
Media	42
Social media.....	42
Website	42
Appendix - online submission form.....	43

List of figures

Figure 1. Summary of all submissions by sub-region.	5
Figure 2. Summary of uses identified in all submissions.	6
Figure 3. Summary of threats identified in all submissions.	7
Figure 4. Summary of values identified in all submissions.....	8
Figure 5. Example of social values measurement in the online submission form	14
Figure 6. Social values measured in the Southern Plan of Management submission form ..	15
Figure 7. Locations identified in the submissions.....	20
Figure 8. Email and verbal submissions by sub region	24
Figure 9. The social values identified by submitters in each Region.	33
Figure 10. Proportion of points attributed to the value type.....	33

List of tables

Table 1. Submitter characteristics (online form submissions)	17
Table 2. Submitter characteristics (written and verbal submissions)	19
Table 3. Number of surveys per region	21
Table 4. Mode of transport used to access location	21
Table 5. Vessel length	22
Table 6. Vessel length by vessel type	22
Table 7. Frequency of visitation over the previous 12 months	23
Table 8. Number of submissions relevant to each submission region	23
Table 9. Number of issues relevant to each sub-region	24
Table 10. Activity types at location	25
Table 11. Recreational activities	25
Table 12. Commercial tourism activities	27
Table 13. Research and/or educational activities	28
Table 14. Uses of the Marine Park (of those who specified a use of the Marine Park.....	28
Table 15. Recreational activities specified by those who said they use the Marine Park for recreation.	29
Table 16. Commercial tourism activities specified by those who said they use the Marine Park for commercial tourism.....	30
Table 17. Research and education activities specified by those who said they use the Marine Park for research and education.	30
Table 18. Facilities specified by those who said they use the facilities in the Marine Park..	30
Table 19. Social values of locations by region.....	31
Table 20. Values of identified in email and verbal submissions by submission region.	34
Table 21. Number of submitters with concerns about threats to the location	34
Table 22. Types of perceived threats in the Gladstone submission region.....	35
Table 23. Types of perceived threats in the Isaac submission region.....	35
Table 24. Types of perceived threats in the Mackay submission region	36
Table 25. Types of perceived threats in the Yeppoon submission region	36
Table 26 Types of perceived threats in the Gladstone submission region	36
Table 27. Types of perceived threats in the Isaac submission region	37
Table 28. Types of perceived threats in the Mackay submission region	37
Table 29. Types of perceived threats in the Yeppoon submission region	38
Table 30. Types of perceived threats in the whole Great Barrier Reef region	38
Table 31. Summary of satisfaction with current management, by submission region	39
Table 32. Suggestions for future management in the Gladstone submission region	40
Table 33. Suggestions for future management in the Isaac submission region	40
Table 34. Suggestions for future management in the Mackay submission region	41
Table 35. Suggestions for future management in the Yeppoon submission region.....	41

About this report

Background

Together with the Yuwibara, Darumbal, Woppaburra and Port Curtis Coral Coast Traditional Owners, the Reef Authority is developing a new Plan of Management for the southern Great Barrier Reef, extending from approximately Midge Point just north of Mackay to the southern boundary of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Marine Park). Collaboration is crucial for a successful Southern Plan of Management (Southern POM). Traditional Owners, industry, government and the wider community all have an important role to play and contribute to understanding the region's values, threats and uses during the first stage of public consultation on the development of the Plan.

Scope

The *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* (the Act) sets out the process for developing a plan of management (POM) as a tool for conserving all Marine Park values while providing for sustainable use and managing user conflicts. A POM is a statutory document, applying enforceable provisions to all users in the Commonwealth waters of the Marine Park.

The Commonwealth and Queensland Governments manage the Marine Park and the Great Barrier Reef Coast Marine Park jointly and complementarily under the Great Barrier Reef Intergovernmental Agreement 2015. The Reef Authority and the Department of Environment, Science and Innovation (DESI) through the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships (QPWS&P) are working collaboratively on the development of the Southern POM.

This first stage of public consultation was carried out in accordance with Section 39ZB of the Act (refer text box below) and focused on uses, values, threats and management ideas. A second stage of public consultation on the proposed management arrangements and strategies will be held once the Southern POM is drafted.

39ZB Notice of proposal to prepare plan of management

- (1) Before preparing a plan of management, the Authority must, by public notice:
 - (a) state that it proposes to prepare the plan; and
 - (b) set out the area, species or ecological community to which the plan is to relate; and
 - (c) invite the public to make comments in relation to matters to be included in the plan by the date specified in the notice (which must be at least 1 month after the date the notice is published in the *Gazette*); and
 - (d) specify the address to which comments must be sent.
- (2) The Authority must take into account any comments made in accordance with the notice.
- (4) After the publication of the notice, the Authority may decide that the proposed plan of management is to cover an area, species or ecological community not mentioned in the notice but, if it does so, it is not required to give a further public notice in relation to the proposed plan.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this report is not representative of any stakeholder group, particular demographic, or region within the identified catchment regions. The information is solely that received as part of the public consultation process. The Reef Authority recognises that the information provided by members of the public may include areas outside of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. That information may not be addressed as part of the Southern Plan of Management process.

Consultation process

Section 39ZB and 39ZD of the Act provides for two stages of public consultation as part of developing a plan of management. A Notice to prepare a Plan of Management was gazetted on 19 March 2024 commencing the first stage of public consultation which was open for three months and concluded on 19 June 2024.

Communication

A Communications and engagement strategy was prepared to effectively communicate the public consultation opportunity across the southern Great Barrier Reef community and key industry stakeholders:

- Southern POM specific Reef Authority webpage
 - main page for information on the Southern POM
 - information on the planning process, the public consultation phase, including access to online submission/survey, contact details.
- Communication methods
 - Southern POM webpage
 - email notifications to Permit Holders, stakeholders and networks
 - engagement of Local Marine Advisory Groups (LMACs) – emails and presentations
 - social media posts (Facebook, Instagram) including paid posts
 - radio interviews and radio community service announcements
 - What's On Council webpages
 - newsletters (Sea Country Newsletter, Reef in Brief).

The strategy focused on digital communications (social media and website), as well as local media outlets such as ABC radio.

The following media outlets published positive/neutral coverage about the public comment opportunity:

- newspapers/ online: Gladstone Today - (positive sentiment)
- radio: 4BU and Hitz FM Bundaberg, ABC Capricornia, ABC North Queensland, 4BC Brisbane - (all neutral sentiment).

Community drop-in sessions

Six community drop-in sessions were held in regional centres across the southern Great Barrier Reef Region (Mackay, Gladstone, Rockhampton, Yeppoon, Agnes Water and Bundaberg) to provide additional opportunities for the community to engage in the planning process. A minimum of two Reef Authority staff, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships staff and southern Traditional Owners were present at the venues, which were chosen based on availability and size, neutral and central location, information technology requirements and availability of parking. Each session was open from 9:00am to 7:30pm with information material available (maps, online mapping tool, etc.). Community members and stakeholders were able to drop in at any time, ask questions, discuss the process and submit a verbal submission on the development of the Southern POM. Lessons have been learned to improve these sessions going forward.

Online submissions

Mosaic Insights (through their sister company Alluvium Consulting) was contracted to develop an online submission form and provide a report of submissions received.

The online submission form was created to standardise the submission information and make it easier for stakeholders to provide input and relevant information, particularly spatial information (i.e., the location of areas they are most concerned about within the proposed planning area). The online submission form was programmed in ArcGIS Survey123, an online survey platform that enabled submitters to mark locations on a map and answer survey-style questions.

The online submission form was made available via the Southern Plan of Management webpage (<https://www2.gbrmpa.gov.au/our-work/programs-and-projects/southern-plan-management>). The link opened a new webpage that offered submission forms for four different regions in the planning area: Mackay, Yeppoon, Gladstone, and Isaac. The forms and questions for each of the regions were identical, except for the default location shown on the map question. The regional split allowed for the map in each form to be centred in the midpoint of each region, making it easier for people to identify locations that were relevant to them.

Development of the online submission form and questions

The questions were developed with the Reef Authority's Spatial Planning and Social Science teams, and with social science and data and spatial specialists from Mosaic Insights. The questions were designed for submitters to identify:

- locations of importance within the Southern Plan of Management area
- modes of transport to the location
- uses and activities at the location
- social values of the location (i.e., reasons why people value the place), allowing for multiple values to be held, and identification of the importance of each value (see below for more details).
- perceived threats to the social values of the location
- satisfaction with management of the location
- suggestions for future management of the location
- submitter characteristics (including demographics, user type (e.g., recreational, commercial, educational, etc), Reef-related income).

The questions and survey functionality were tested in two rounds by the Reef Authority and Mosaic Insights staff and further refined to improve comprehension and usability. The final questions used are provided in the Appendix.

The online submission form was open to anyone who wished to provide input to the Southern POM. The people who made submissions are referred to as “submitters” throughout this report.

Social values of Reef locations

An important component of the online submission form was the identification and measurement of the social values held at the locations identified by submitters. The questions in this section were guided by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) 2022 Values Assessment of the diverse values and valuation of nature (www.ipbes.net/the-values-assessment). The values assessment represents the latest global thinking on how humans value nature, and includes guidance on definitions and methods to measure diverse values of nature, and embedding these in decision-making and policy development.

Submitters were first asked to identify which of 14 social value types from the list were relevant to them and the location they identified, which generated a short list of the selected value types. To indicate how important each value type is, submitters were then asked to distribute a total budget of 100 points across each of the values. The more points a value type has, the more important the value is to them at that location. An example of this budgeting exercise is provided below (Fig. 5 and Fig. 6). Another option was offered to capture any additional values not listed.

In this example, the submitter had selected the four value types (shown below) in the previous questions. The instructions for this budgeting exercise were as follows:

Importance of your values for this place.
For this task, you have a total "budget" of 100 points to indicate how important each value is compared to the other values you selected.

- In each box below, place a number between 0 and 100. (The default is set at 0, which means no value at all.)
- You must "spend" all 100 points.
- The more points a value has, the more important it is to you.
- The total must = 100 (shown in the TOTAL at the bottom).

Example:

Being uncrowded - 50 points (i.e., this is the most important value)

Appreciating the natural features - 20 points

Contributes to my wellbeing - 20 points

Sharing the experience with others - 10 points

TOTAL POINTS = 100

If you change your mind, you can scroll back to the list above to select "yes" or "no" to add or remove values.

Appreciating the natural features

(e.g., seeing wildlife, enjoying the natural beauty, etc.)

30

Good accessibility

(e.g., good distance, easy to access site, good facilities)

10

Being uncrowded

(e.g., few people, secluded, solitude, etc.)

20

A love of this place

(e.g., feeling a deep emotional attachment or connection to this place)

40

TOTAL: 100

Figure 5. Example of social values measurement in the online submission form

SOCIAL VALUES

Appreciating the natural features

(e.g., seeing wildlife, enjoying the natural beauty, etc.)

Contributes to my wellbeing

(e.g., rest and relaxation, physical and/or mental health, place for exercise etc.)

Economic reasons

(contributes to income, employment, business success, etc.)

Source of seafood or other resources

(e.g., fish, crabs, aquarium fish, shell collection etc.)

Safety/security reasons

(e.g., site is protected from weather, wind, dangerous wildlife etc.)

Good accessibility

(e.g., good distance, easy to access site, good facilities)

Research, study, or learning

(can be formal or informal research or education of self or others)

Conquering challenges/ competition

(e.g., battling the conditions, outwitting a fish, developing or improving skills, racing or competitions)

A source of inspiration

(e.g., for creativity, photography, social media content, art, etc.)

Sharing the experience with others

(e.g., spending time with friends and family, or memories of others in the past)

Being uncrowded

(e.g., few people, secluded, solitude, etc.)

A love of this place

(e.g., feeling a deep emotional attachment or connection to this place)

Cultural connections

(Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures e.g., maintaining/ revitalising cultural practices, cultural programs or activities)

A sense of caring or concern

(e.g., feeling a moral obligation to take action to care for this place, or stewardship)

Other (open text response)

Figure 6. Social values measured in the Southern Plan of Management submission form

Email submissions

Email submissions are a standard way of providing comments during a public consultation process. A Southern POM specific email address (SouthernPOM@gbmpa.gov.au) was established for the development of the Southern POM. Stakeholders were able to provide written comments via email only or support online submissions with additional information by email. 34 written submissions were received by email.

Verbal submissions

Stakeholders who attended the community drop-in information sessions were able to discuss the planning process and agree for their comments to be recorded as a submission. In total, 24 verbal submissions were recorded during the information sessions.

Collation of submissions

The purpose of the first stage of public consultation was to identify key values, threats, and uses of the southern Great Barrier Reef, generate possible management ideas by engaging with a variety of Reef users, and explore relationships between themes and stakeholder groups to generate insights to inform the drafting of the Southern POM.

Mosaic Insights collated the online submissions, and the Reef Authority Spatial Planning and Decision Support teams systematically reviewed the written and verbal submissions.

Online submissions

The data from the online submission forms was downloaded, then cleaned (i.e. addresses data errors, duplicates etc.). Where the location identified by the respondent fell outside of the relevant survey region (being Gladstone, Mackay, Yeppoon, Isaac region), the dataset was corrected to ensure the appropriate submission region was used in the analyses. The regional datasets were then merged and prepared for analysis. Analyses presented below include descriptive statistics (counts and percentages), thematic analysis of the open-ended responses, and a calculation of the proportion of points attributed to each value type across all responses in the data set (described further below). The statistical analyses were conducted in jamovi (version 2.3)¹.

Written (email) and verbal submissions

Emails, additional attachments and notes from the community drop-in sessions were de-identified and each assigned to a submission ID before being saved to a secure internal data management system. It is important to note that all verbal submissions are notes taken by Reef Authority and QPWS&P staff where the stakeholder agreed to have their comments entered as a submission. Each submission was split into multiple 'issues' where an issue is defined as any use, value or threat related to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park or surrounding areas. Each issue was recorded in Excel (Version 2405 Build 16.0.17628.20006) and the open ended responses regarding uses, values and threats for each issue were thematically analysed using a deductive list of uses, values and threats identified from the [Great Barrier Reef Outlook Report 2019](#) (Outlook Report 2019). Additional categories of uses, values and threats were added to this list to accommodate issues that did not fit into the existing categories covered in the Outlook Report 2019.

For issues that specified a location, the coordinates and locality were recorded, this location was then assigned to the appropriate Great Barrier Reef Marine Park zoning, Queensland national parks, the Great Barrier Reef feature type (Island, Mainland, Cay, Reef, Rock) and sub-region of the Southern Planning Area boundary it was within. To create the sub-regions of the proposed Southern Planning Area, coastal regions, existing Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreements (TUMRAs) and ecological features were considered. All issues that were not location specific and applied to the whole Great Barrier Reef Marine Park were recorded as 'GBRMP'. 'Submission regions' which are based off the Local Government Areas in the Southern Planning Area were used to align the email, verbal and online submissions for the purposes of this report.

To incorporate the online submissions, email submissions and verbal submissions into the summary figures, the same thematic analysis was applied to the online submissions. A summary map (Fig. 1) identifying total issues identified in each sub-region was created using ArcGIS Pro (Version 3.2.2). Summary figures identifying the most mentioned uses (Fig. 2), threats (Fig. 3) and values (Fig. 4) from all submissions were then created using Microsoft Power BI Desktop (version 2.131.901.0 64-bit).

¹ The jamovi project (2022). jamovi. (Version 2.3) [Computer Software]. Retrieved from <https://www.jamovi.org>.

Overview of responses

A total of 193 submissions were received during the first stage of public consultation including:

- 34 written (email) submissions
- 135 online submissions
- 24 verbal submissions recorded at community drop-in sessions.

Submitter characteristics

Online submissions

Of the 135 online submissions, around half (65) came from the Gladstone region, 28 from the Isaac region, 22 from the Yeppoon region, and 20 from the Mackay region. Submitters ranged in age from 25 years to over 75 years old, and most submitters reside in Queensland, with only a few from New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and 1 from the United Kingdom (Table 1). Two thirds of the submitters were male. Submitters also had a range of educational qualifications, and almost 3% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Most submitters are either employed (working) or retired. Almost one third (30%) said their employment is associated with the Reef, and around 15% said most (at least three quarters) of their household income is related to the Reef. A wide range of stakeholder groups were represented, with the highest proportions being *recreational groups*, *research institutions*, *coastal Great Barrier Reef communities*, *not-for-profit organisations*, although the most frequently selected option was *I do not belong to any Reef-related group or organisation* (29.5%).

Table 1. Submitter characteristics (online form submissions)

Characteristic	Category	Count	Percent (%)
Age	18-24 years	0	0.0
	25-34 years	9	8.7
	35-44 years	12	11.5
	45-54 years	19	18.3
	55-64 years	34	32.7
	65-74 years	21	20.2
	75 years and over	7	6.7
	Not stated	2	1.9
State	Queensland	91	87.5
	New South Wales	7	6.7
	Northern Territory	0	0
	Victoria	3	2.9
	South Australia	2	1.9
	Western Australia	0	0
	Tasmania	0	0
	Australian Capital Territory	0	0
	Other – United Kingdom	1	1.0
Gender	Woman or female	35	33.7
	Man or male	69	66.3
Education	Year 10 or below	7	6.7
	Year 11 or 12	12	11.5
	Some higher education (unfinished)	4	3.8
	Trade or Professional Certificate	30	28.8
	Bachelor's degree	20	19.2
	Postgraduate degree (Honours, Masters, PhD etc.)	30	28.8
	Other	1	1.0
Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander identity	No	94	90.4
	Yes, Aboriginal	3	2.9
	Not stated	7	6.7
Employment	Working (including full-time, part-time, or self-employed)	67	64.4

Characteristic	Category	Count	Percent (%)
	Unemployed and looking for work	0	0.0
	Unemployed and not seeking work	0	0.0
	Retired	27	26.0
	Student	3	2.9
	Caring for others (unpaid)	4	2.9
	Other (Two business owners, home schooling children, self-employed)	3	2.9
Reef-associated employment	Yes	32	30.8
	No	53	51.0
	Not applicable	19	18.3
Proportion of household income from GBR-related businesses or employment	None	71	68.3
	A small amount (less than 25%)	10	9.6
	A moderate amount (around 50%)	4	3.8
	A large amount (around 75%)	5	4.8
	All the household income (100%)	10	9.6
	Prefer not to answer	4	3.8
GBR-related businesses or employment sector*	Tourism (including hospitality)	10	34.5
	Fishing	5	17.2
	Government	3	10.3
	Science and/or education	4	13.8
	Ports and shipping	0	0.0
	Mining sector	1	3.4
	Other	6	20.7
Stakeholder group membership**	Great Barrier Reef Traditional Owner	1	0.7
	Commercial tourism operator	9	6.5
	Commercial fishing	2	1.4
	Other commercial user	2	1.4
	Research institution	12	8.6
	Education institution	6	4.3
	Recreational group	29	20.9
	Coastal Great Barrier Reef community	10	7.2
	Not-for-profit organisation	10	7.2
	Local Government /Council	4	2.9
	State and Commonwealth Government agencies	4	2.9
	Ports and Shipping	2	1.4
	Defence	0	0.0
	Other (please describe):	4	2.9
	I do not belong to any Reef-related group or organisation	41	29.5
	Prefer not to answer	3	2.2

*Percentage represents the proportion of people whose household derives at least some income from the Reef (see previous question).

**Submitters could select multiple stakeholder groups

Written (email) and verbal submissions

Of the 58 email and verbal submitters, the majority live in Queensland (93%) and 4 people identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. A wide range of stakeholder groups were represented to varied extents, with the highest proportions being coastal Great Barrier Reef communities (22.4%) and recreational groups (17.2%), followed by commercial tourism operators (12.1%) and research institutions (10.3%).

Table 2. Submitter characteristics (written and verbal submissions)

Characteristic	Category	Count	Percent (%)
State	Queensland	54	93.0
	New South Wales	1	1.7
	Northern Territory	0	0.0
	Victoria	1	1.7
	South Australia	0	0.0
	Western Australia	1	1.7
	Tasmania	0	0.0
	Australian Capital Territory	1	1.7
	Other	0	0.0
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander identity	No	0	0.0
	Yes, Aboriginal	4	6.9
	Not stated	54	93.0
Stakeholder group membership	Great Barrier Reef Traditional Owner	4	7.0
	Commercial tourism operator	7	12.1
	Commercial fishing	2	3.4
	Other commercial user	6	10.3
	Research institution	6	10.3
	Education institution	2	3.4
	Recreational group	10	17.2
	Coastal Great Barrier Reef community	13	22.4
	Not-for-profit organisation	5	8.6
	Local Government /Council	0	0.0
	State and Commonwealth Government agencies	1	1.7
	Ports and Shipping	1	1.7
	Defence	1	1.7
	Other (please describe):	0	0.0
	I do not belong to any Reef-related group or organisation	0	0.0
	Prefer not to answer	0	0.0

Important locations

Online submissions

The locations mentioned by submitters spanned the length and breadth of the Southern Planning Area. The most noted locations included Heron Island and Percy Islands with 14 mentions each, and Middle Percy Island specifically being mentioned a further 12 times. Keppel Islands Group (13 mentions), Lady Musgrave Island (11 mentions), and Curtis Island (8 mentions) were also the most identified.

Written (email) and verbal submissions

The locations mentioned in email and verbal submissions are very similar to those mentioned by online submitters (Fig. 7). The most noted locations are the Capricorn Bunker Group and mainland coastal areas in the Gladstone region. Inshore islands within the Mackay and Isaac regions and the Keppel Islands within the Yeppoon region were also a focus.

Locations identified in Public Consultation Phase 1 for the Southern Plan of Management

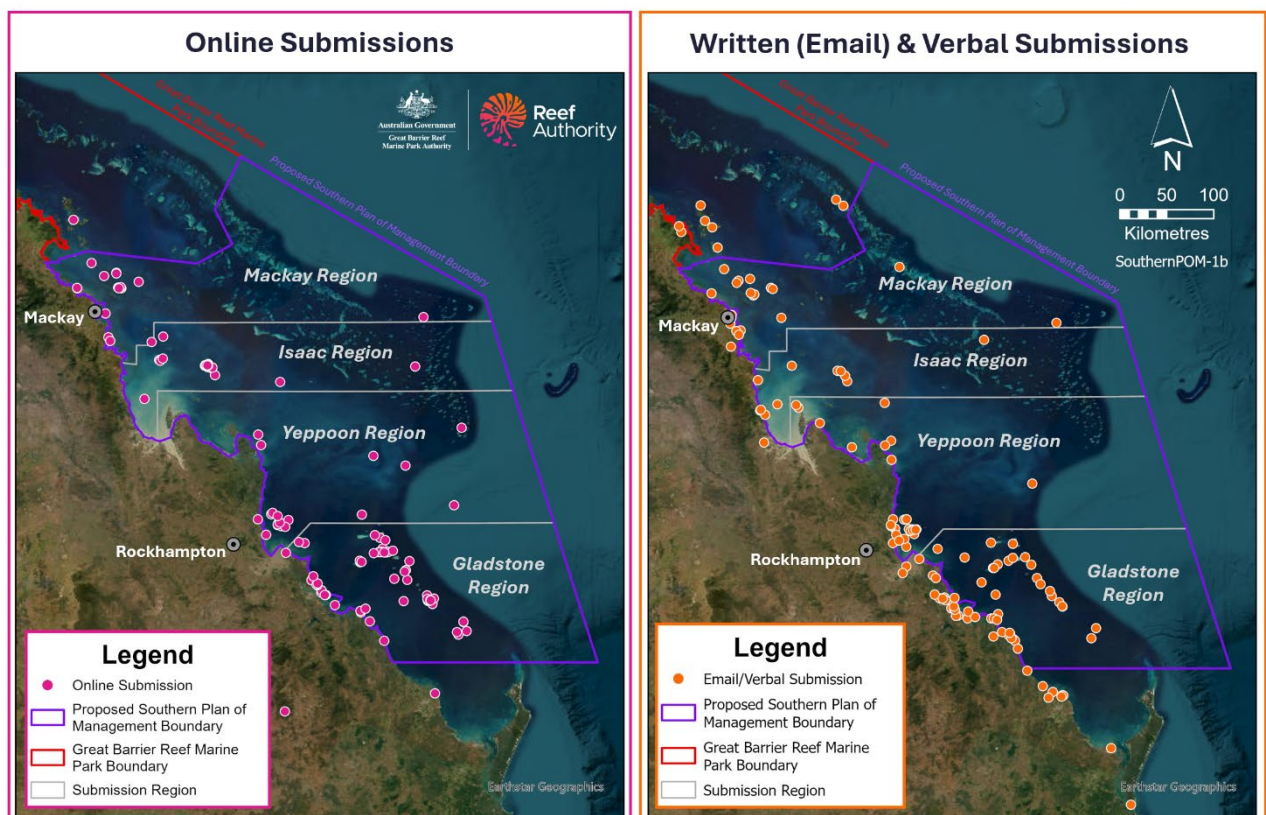


Figure 7. Locations identified in the submissions

Online form submissions (left) and email and verbal submissions that specified locations (right). Map produced in ArcGIS Pro (Version 3.2.2)

Location access and use

Online submissions

The region identified most by the online submitters was Gladstone, while the other regions received less than half the number of Gladstone's responses (Table 3).

Submission Regions

Table 3. Number of surveys per region

Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
Gladstone Region	65	48.1
Isaac Region	28	20.7
Mackay Region	20	14.8
Yeppoon Region	22	16.3

Access

Submitters were asked how they normally access the location they identified, along with vessel details (where appropriate). The results are presented below (Table 4), which shows the total number for each vessel type across all regions in the shaded rows, and the regional splits in the unshaded rows. The most common vessel types used were private motorised vessels (39%) and private sailing vessels (24%).

Table 4. Mode of transport used to access location

How do you normally access this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
Tourist aircraft (plane/helicopter)	Gladstone	3	2.2
Private aircraft	Mackay	1	0.7
	All	10	7.4
Public ferry/barge	Gladstone	8	5.9
	Mackay	1	0.7
	Yeppoon	1	0.7
	All	6	4.4
Other land-based transport (e.g. car, bike, etc)	Gladstone	3	2.2
	Mackay	2	1.5
	Yeppoon	1	0.7
	All	52	38.5
Private motorised vessel (not including jet skis)	Gladstone	28	20.9
	Isaac	2	1.5
	Mackay	10	7.4
	Yeppoon	12	8.9
	All	14	10.4
Other	Gladstone	5	3.7
	Isaac	5	3.7
	Mackay	1	0.7
	Yeppoon	3	2.2
	All	32	23.7
Private sailing boat/yacht	Gladstone	7	5.2
	Isaac	19	14.2
	Mackay	2	1.5
	Yeppoon	4	3.0
	All	13	10.4
Tourist vessel	Gladstone	10	7.4
	Isaac	2	1.5
	Mackay	1	0.7
	Yeppoon	1	0.7

*Where only one region had a comment, just that region is listed, not 'All regions'.

Note: Per cent was calculated from total number of surveys (135), not number of surveys per region.

Half of the vessels used to access the locations identified were between 6-35 metres in length, and most of the remaining vessels (44%) were less than 6 metres in length (Table 5). The details of the vessel lengths for each vessel type in each region are provided in Table 6.

Table 5. Vessel length

What is the length of the "Private motorised vessel"?	Submission Region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
up to 6m	All	23	44.2
	Gladstone	12	52.2
	Isaac	1	4.3
	Mackay	5	21.7
	Yeppoon	5	21.7
above 6m up to 35m	All	26	50.0
	Gladstone	13	50.0
	Isaac	1	3.8
	Mackay	5	19.2
	Yeppoon	7	26.9
I do not know the length	Gladstone	1	100.0
Not applicable	Gladstone	2	100.0

Note: % for each length total is calculated as the proportion of the number of the type of vessel, i.e. "above 6 metres up to 35 metres = $26/62 = 50\%$. The % for each region below vessel length is calculated as the proportion of the number of vessels of each length, i.e., "above 6 meters up to 35 meters – Gladstone" = $13/26 = 50\%$).

Table 6. Vessel length by vessel type

	Submission Region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
What is the length of the "Public ferry/barge"?			
up to 6m	Yeppoon	1	100.0
above 6m up to 35m	All regions	5	50.0
	Gladstone	4	80.0
	Mackay	1	20.0
I do not know the length	Gladstone	4	100.0
What is the length of the "Tourist vessel"?			
above 6m up to 35m	All	9	64.3
	Gladstone	6	66.7
	Isaac	2	22.2
	Yeppoon	1	11.1
above 35m up to 50m	Gladstone	1	100.0
I do not know the length	All	3	28.6
	Gladstone	3	75.0
	Mackay	1	25.0
What is the length of the "Private sailing boat/yacht"?			
up to 6m	All	3	9.7
	Gladstone	1	33.3
	Yeppoon	2	66.7
above 6m up to 35m	All	25	80.6
	Gladstone	5	20.0
	Isaac	17	68.0
	Mackay	1	4.0
	Yeppoon	2	8.0
above 35m up to 50m	Isaac Region	2	100.0
Not applicable	Mackay	1	100.0

*Note: Only regions with responses are listed, not 'All regions'.

Use in the last 12 months

Submitters were asked about the frequency they had visited the location over the last 12 months. Visitation appears to be relatively low in frequency (Table 7), with most submitters having only visited once or twice (32%), not at all (24%), or every few months (22%). It is important to note that frequency of visitation is not related to the importance people place on the location.

Table 7. Frequency of visitation over the previous 12 months

Over the last 12 months, how often did you visit this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
Not at all	All	33	24.4
	Gladstone	16	11.9
	Isaac	9	6.7
	Mackay	7	5.2
	Yeppoon	1	0.7
Once or twice	All	43	31.9
	Gladstone	18	13.3
	Isaac	16	11.9
	Mackay	6	4.4
	Yeppoon	3	2.2
Every few months (i.e., 3-6 times)	All	30	22.2
	Gladstone	15	11.1
	Isaac	3	2.2
	Mackay	3	2.2
	Yeppoon	9	6.7
Approximately monthly (i.e., 7-12 times)	All	11	8.1
	Gladstone	7	5.2
	Mackay	1	0.7
	Yeppoon	3	2.2
Approximately fortnightly (i.e., 13-24 times)	All	7	5.2
	Gladstone	3	2.2
	Yeppoon	4	3.0
Approximately weekly (i.e., 25-50 times)	All	3	2.2
	Gladstone	1	0.7
	Mackay	1	0.7
	Yeppoon	1	0.7
More than once a week (i.e., more than 50 times)	All	8	5.9
	Gladstone	5	3.7
	Mackay	2	1.5
	Yeppoon	1	0.7

*Note: Only regions with responses are listed, not 'All regions'.

Written (email) and verbal submissions

Of the 58 written and verbal submissions, 22 relate to the Gladstone Region (37.9%) and 20 to the wider Great Barrier Reef Region (34.5%) (Table 8). As most submissions were relevant to more than one location and raised multiple issues, it is important to note that almost half the issues raised were relevant to the wider Great Barrier Reef (46.7%), followed by Gladstone Coastal (14.8%) and the Capricorn Bunker Group (9.8%) (Table 9). Figure 8 highlights the number of issues raised per sub-region.

Table 8. Number of submissions relevant to each submission region

Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
Gladstone	22	37.9
Isaac	0	0.0
Mackay	10	17.2
Yeppoon	6	10.3
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	20	34.5

Table 9. Number of issues relevant to each sub-region

Sub-region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
Capricorn Bunker Group	72	9.8
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	343	46.7
Gladstone Coastal	109	14.8
Inshore Gladstone	13	1.8
Inshore Mackay	39	5.3
Inshore Rockhampton	23	3.1
Keppel Islands	36	4.9
Mackay Coastal	36	4.9
Outer Reefs	4	0.5
Outside the Great Barrier Reef	24	3.3
Rockhampton Coastal	20	2.7
Shoalwater Bay	5	0.7

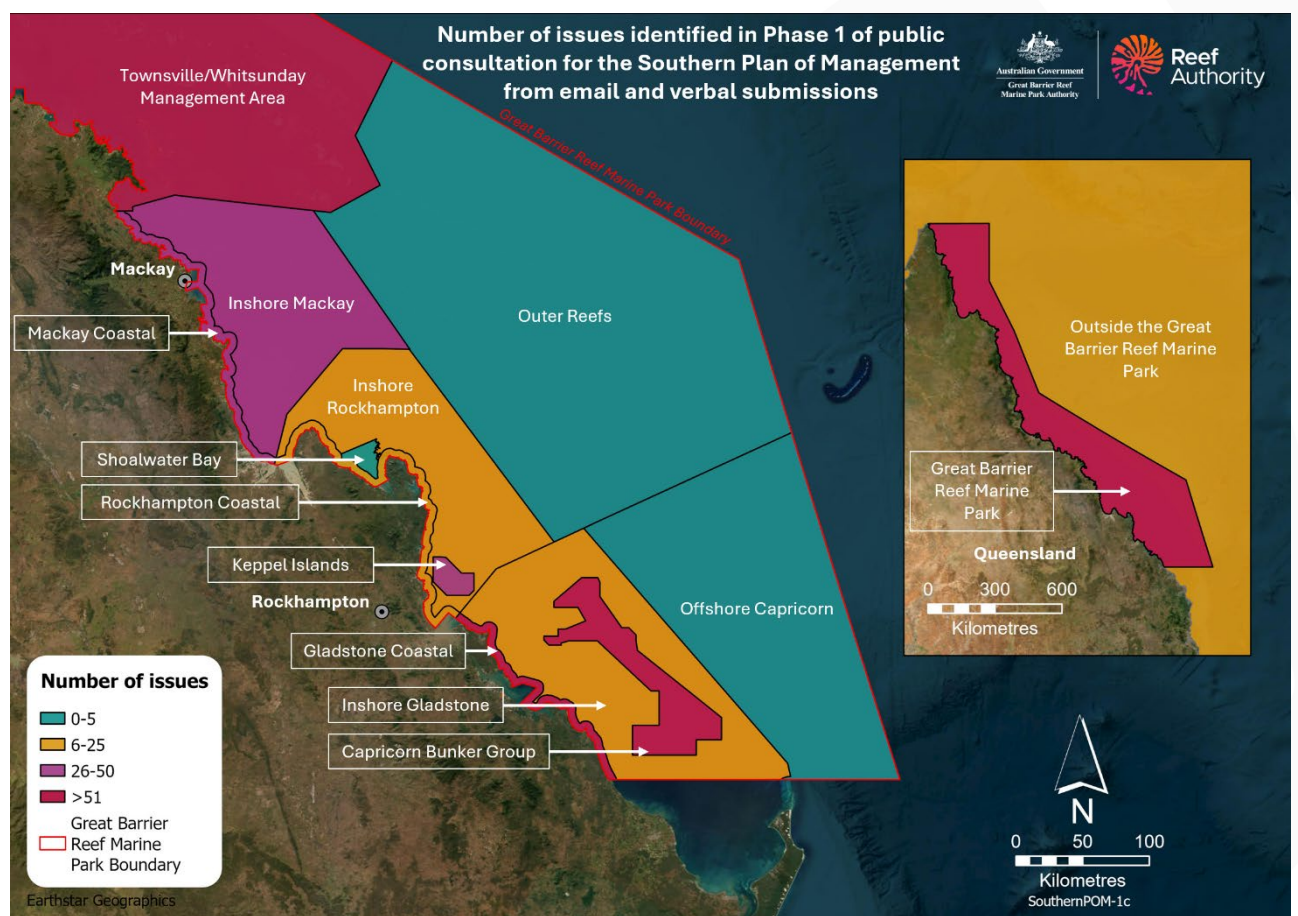


Figure 8. Email and verbal submissions by sub region
Map created in ArcGIS Pro (Version 3.2.2).

Activities

Online form submissions

Most submitters (77%) said the main activities they do at the location are recreational, and 22% were research or education (Table 10). One submitter indicated that they undertook commercial fishing activities at their place of significance, which included aquarium and coral collection. Further details of each activity category were provided in subsequent questions and are shown in Tables 11 – 13.

Table 10. Activity types at location

Which activities do you usually do in this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
Recreation	All	104	77.0
	Gladstone	51	37.8
	Isaac	22	16.3
	Mackay	12	8.9
	Yeppoon	19	14.1
Research or education	All	29	21.5
	Gladstone	17	12.6
	Isaac	3	2.2
	Mackay	4	3.0
	Yeppoon	5	3.7
Commercial tourism	All	9	6.7
	Gladstone	4	3.0
	Mackay	2	1.5
	Yeppoon	3	2.2
Commercial fishing	Yeppoon	1	0.7
Cultural practices	All	8	5.9
	Gladstone	4	3.0
	Isaac	2	1.5
	Mackay	1	0.7
	Yeppoon	1	0.7
Other	All	27	20.0
	Gladstone	10	7.4
	Isaac	8	5.9
	Mackay	7	5.2
	Yeppoon	2	1.5

*Note: Only regions with responses are listed, not 'All regions'.

Of the recreational activities, the three most popular for the online submitters was swimming (63%), followed by wildlife watching (61%), and snorkelling (58%).

Table 11. Recreational activities

Which of the following recreational activities do you do at this place?*	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n= 104)
Camping	All	22	21.2
	Gladstone	12	11.5
	Mackay	5	4.8
	Yeppoon	5	4.8
Beach activities	All	52	50.0
	Gladstone	21	20.2
	Isaac	14	13.5
	Mackay	7	6.7
	Yeppoon	10	9.6
Fishing - line fishing	All	47	45.2
	Gladstone	27	26.0
	Isaac	6	5.8
	Mackay	4	3.8

Which of the following recreational activities do you do at this place?*	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n= 104)
Fishing - net/trap fishing	Yeppoon	10	9.6
	All	3	2.9
	Gladstone	2	1.9
	Yeppoon	1	1.0
Fishing - spearfishing	All	18	17.3
	Gladstone	10	9.6
	Isaac	2	1.9
	Mackay	2	1.9
	Yeppoon	4	3.8
	All	24	23.1
Motor boating	Gladstone	15	14.4
	Mackay	3	2.9
	Yeppoon	6	5.8
	All	4	3.8
Motorised water sports	Gladstone	3	2.9
	Yeppoon	1	1.0
	All	29	27.9
	Gladstone	6	5.8
Sailing	Isaac	16	15.4
	Mackay	3	2.9
	Yeppoon	4	3.8
	All	14	13.5
	Gladstone	7	6.7
	Isaac	1	1.0
Non-motorised water sports (other than sailing e.g., kayaking, SUPs)	Mackay	2	1.9
	Yeppoon	4	3.8
	All	16	15.4
	Gladstone	11	10.6
	Mackay	1	1.0
	Yeppoon	4	3.8
SCUBA diving	All	61	58.7
	Gladstone	32	30.8
	Isaac	7	6.7
	Mackay	9	8.7
Snorkelling	Yeppoon	13	12.5
	All	65	62.5
	Gladstone	30	28.8
	Isaac	11	10.6
	Mackay	9	8.7
	Yeppoon	15	14.4
Swimming	All	63	60.6
	Gladstone	31	29.8
	Isaac	16	15.4
	Mackay	5	4.8
	Yeppoon	11	10.6
	All	49	47.1
Wildlife watching	Gladstone	26	25.0
	Isaac	9	8.7
	Mackay	4	3.8
	Yeppoon	10	9.6
	All	52	50.0
	Gladstone	19	18.3
Photography/filming	Isaac	16	15.4
	Mackay	7	6.7
	Yeppoon	10	9.6
	All	7	6.7
	Gladstone	19	18.3
	Isaac	16	15.4
Bushwalking	Mackay	7	6.7
	Yeppoon	10	9.6
	All	7	6.7
	Gladstone	19	18.3
	Isaac	16	15.4
	Mackay	7	6.7
Other	Yeppoon	10	9.6
	All	7	6.7

Which of the following recreational activities do you do at this place?*	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n= 104)
	Gladstone	3	2.9
	Isaac	2	1.9
	Yeppoon	2	1.9

*Note: Only regions with responses are listed, not 'All regions'.

Table 12. Commercial tourism activities

Which of the following commercial tourism activities do you do at this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n= 29)
Beach activities	All	3	10.3
	Gladstone	1	3.4
	Mackay	1	3.4
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Bush walking	All	4	13.8
	Gladstone	2	6.9
	Mackay	1	3.4
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Coral viewing	All	5	17.2
	Gladstone	4	13.8
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Fishing	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Fish feeding	Gladstone	1	3.4
Passenger transport	All	4	13.8
	Gladstone	2	6.9
	Mackay	1	3.4
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Photography, filming and sound recording	All	3	10.3
	Gladstone	1	3.4
	Mackay	1	3.4
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Scenic flights	Gladstone	2	6.9
Swimming	All	3	10.3
	Gladstone	2	6.9
	Mackay	1	3.4
Snorkelling	All	6	20.7
	Gladstone	4	13.8
	Mackay	1	3.4
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Suba diving	All	5	17.2
	Gladstone	4	13.8
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Whale watching	Gladstone	1	3.4

*Note: Only regions with responses are listed, not 'All regions'.

Table 13. Research and/or educational activities

Which of the following research and/or educational activities do you do at this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
Extractive research (take)	All	5	17.2
	Gladstone	4	13.8
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Non-extractive research (no-take)	All	22	75.9
	Gladstone	16	55.2
	Mackay	2	6.9
	Yeppoon	4	13.8
Conservation	All	17	58.6
	Gladstone	11	37.9
	Isaac	1	3.4
	Mackay	3	10.3
	Yeppoon	2	6.9
School group	All	2	6.9
	Gladstone	1	3.4
	Yeppoon	1	3.4
Other	All	3	10.3
	Gladstone	1	3.4
	Isaac	2	6.9

Written (email) and verbal submissions

From the written and verbal submissions that raised issues identifying a use in the Marine Park (n=333), most were in relation to recreational use of the Marine Park followed by commercial marine tourism and research and education (Table 14). A small number of submitters discussed activities relating to Department of Defence activities, ports and shipping and traditional use.

Of the recreational activities, SCUBA diving and snorkelling, spearfishing and boating and sailing were most commonly mentioned (Table 15).

The majority of submitters who use the Marine Park for commercial marine tourism did not specify what type of marine tourism (Table 16).

Research and education was a common use identified with non-extractive research and conservation activities mainly being undertaken (Table 17).

Discussions about anchorages dominated the written and verbal submissions regarding facilities (Table 18).

Table 14. Uses of the Marine Park (of those who specified a use of the Marine Park).

Which activities do you usually do in this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n=333)
Recreation	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	34	10.2
	Gladstone	45	13.5
	Isaac	3	0.9
	Mackay	5	1.5
	Yeppoon	7	2.1
	Outside the Great Barrier Reef	3	0.9
Research and Education	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	23	6.9
	Gladstone	24	7.2
	Isaac	4	1.2
	Mackay	8	2.4
	Yeppoon	5	1.5
	Outside the Great Barrier Reef	1	0.3
Commercial Marine Tourism	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	35	10.5
	Gladstone	4	1.2
	Isaac	4	1.2

Which activities do you usually do in this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n=333)
Commercial Fishing	Mackay	1	0.3
	Yeppoon	1	0.3
	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	9	2.7
	Gladstone	4	1.2
	Yeppoon	1	0.3
	Outside the Great Barrier Reef	1	0.3
Facilities	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	20	6.0
	Gladstone	13	3.9
	Isaac	4	1.2
	Mackay	14	4.2
	Yeppoon	7	2.1
Traditional Use	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	9	2.7
	Gladstone	11	3.3
	Isaac	6	1.8
	Yeppoon	4	1.2
Defence Activities	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	3	0.9
	Yeppoon	1	0.3
Ports and Shipping	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	6	1.8
	Gladstone	3	0.9
	Mackay	3	0.9
	Outside the Great Barrier Reef	2	0.6

Table 15. Recreational activities specified by those who said they use the Marine Park for recreation.

*16 did not specify what type of recreational activity

Which of the following recreational activities do you do at this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n= 97)
Camping	Gladstone	4	4.1
	Mackay	1	1.0
Boating and Sailing	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	3	3.1
	Gladstone	13	13.4
	Yeppoon	2	2.1
	Outside the Great Barrier Reef	3	3.1
	Gladstone	17	17.5
SCUBA Diving and Snorkelling	Mackay	1	1.0
	Yeppoon	1	1.0
	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	9	9.3
Fishing - line/net/trap fishing	Gladstone	1	1.0
	Mackay	1	1.0
	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	16	16.5
Fishing - spearfishing	Gladstone	4	4.1
	Yeppoon	1	1.0
	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	1	1.0
Swimming	Gladstone	1	1.0
Sightseeing	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	1	1.0
Motorised water sports	Gladstone	1	1.0
Wildlife watching	Gladstone	1	1.0

Table 16. Commercial tourism activities specified by those who said they use the Marine Park for commercial tourism.

*35 did not specify what type of commercial tourism activity

Which of the following commercial tourism activities do you do at this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n= 45)
Cruise Ships	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	1	2.2
	Isaac	1	2.2
Diving and Snorkelling	Gladstone	2	4.4
Motorised water sports	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	1	2.2
Recreational Fishing	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	1	2.2
Visiting cultural heritage sites	Gladstone	2	4.4
Superyachts	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	1	2.2
	Isaac	1	2.2

Table 17. Research and education activities specified by those who said they use the Marine Park for research and education.

*12 did not specify what type of research or education is undertaken

Which of the following research and/or educational activities do you do at this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n=65)
Extractive research (take)	Gladstone	4	6.2
	Mackay	4	6.2
	Yeppoon	2	3.1
Non-extractive research (no-take)	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	9	13.8
	Gladstone	4	6.2
	Mackay	2	3.1
	Isaac	1	1.5
	Yeppoon	3	4.6
	All	12	18.5
Conservation	Gladstone	6	9.2
	Isaac	3	4.6
	Mackay	2	3.1
	Outside the Great Barrier Reef	1	1.5

Table 18. Facilities specified by those who said they use the facilities in the Marine Park.

*Four did not specify what type of facility they use

Which of the following facilities do you use at this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total (n=61)
Anchorages	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	14	24.1
	Gladstone	3	5.2
	Isaac	3	5.2
	Mackay	6	10.3
	Yeppoon	6	10.3
Moorings	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park	5	8.6
	Gladstone	6	10.3
	Mackay	2	3.4
	Yeppoon	2	3.4
Marinas	Yeppoon	2	3.4
Pontoons	Gladstone	1	1.7
Jetties	Mackay	1	1.7
	Yeppoon	3	5.2

Social values of locations

Online form submissions

The results of the social values questions are summarised below (Table 19). It is important to note that although the points were attributed to specific locations, this summary information is aggregated across each region. It is likely that values scores will vary by location, and any site-specific decisions should refer to the scores attributed to the location. This information can be extracted from the dataset using a GIS platform to interrogate the data.

Table 19 shows the number of submitters in each region that selected a particular value type, and the overall proportion of all points allocated to the value type (for all regions). All social value types were identified by submitters from each Region (Fig. 9).

The proportion is calculated by the total number of points allocated to the value type divided by (number of respondents x 100 points). The higher the proportion, the more important the value type is. The three most frequently selected values (identified by the percentage of people who indicated the value was relevant to them) were *appreciating the natural features, being uncrowded, and a sense of caring and concern*.

Table 19. Social values of locations by region

Social value type	Gladstone		Isaac		Mackay		Yeppoon		All regions		Proportion of points
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Appreciating the natural features (e.g., seeing wildlife, enjoying the natural beauty, etc.)	63	46.7	28	20.7	20	14.8	21	15.6	132	97.8	21.7
Contributes to my wellbeing (e.g., rest and relaxation, physical and/or mental health, place for exercise etc.)	57	42.2	21	15.6	14	10.4	21	15.6	113	83.7	10.5
Economic reasons (contributes to income, employment, business success, etc.)	16	11.9	5	3.7	10	7.4	5	3.7	36	26.7	14.0
Source of seafood or other resources (e.g., fish, crabs, aquarium fish, shell collection etc.)	28	20.7	9	6.7	7	5.2	12	8.9	56	41.5	18.2
Safety/security reasons (e.g., site is protected from weather, wind, dangerous wildlife etc.)	26	19.3	22	16.3	8	5.9	10	7.4	66	48.9	10.0
Good accessibility (e.g., good distance, easy to access site, good facilities)	46	34.1	16	11.9	11	8.1	17	12.6	90	66.7	8.0
Research, study, or learning (can be formal or informal research or education of self or others)	37	27.4	16	11.9	10	7.4	12	8.9	75	55.6	8.1
Conquering challenges/competition (e.g.,	21	15.6	7	5.2	4	3.0	8	5.9	40	29.6	5.1

Social value type	Gladstone		Isaac		Mackay		Yeppoon		All regions		Proportion of points
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
battling the conditions, outwitting a fish, developing or improving skills, racing or competitions)											
A source of inspiration (e.g., for creativity, photography, social media content, art, etc.)	47	34.8	18	13.3	16	11.9	14	10.4	95	70.4	5.4
Sharing the experience with others (e.g., spending time with friends and family, or memories of others in the past)	51	37.8	21	15.6	15	11.1	18	13.3	105	77.8	8.5
Being uncrowded (e.g., few people, secluded, solitude, etc.)	58	43.0	26	19.3	17	12.6	18	13.3	119	88.1	9.0
A love of this place (e.g., feeling a deep emotional attachment or connection to this place)	53	39.3	24	17.8	16	11.9	18	13.3	111	82.2	10.0
Cultural connections (Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures e.g., maintaining/revitalising cultural practices, cultural programs or activities)	17	12.6	7	5.2	3	2.2	8	5.9	35	25.9	5.3
A sense of caring or concern (e.g., feeling a moral obligation to take action to care for this place, or stewardship)	57	42.2	26	19.3	19	14.1	17	12.6	119	88.1	9.1
Other	20	14.8	8	5.9	9	6.7	4	3.0	41	30.4	21

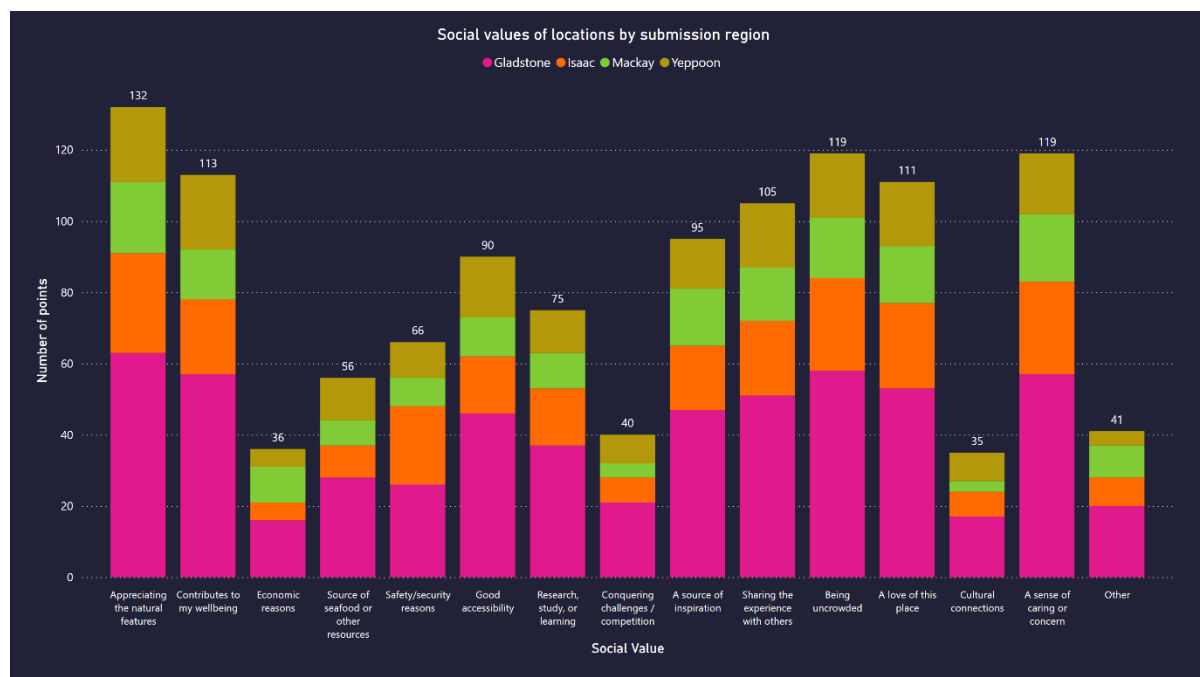


Figure 9. The social values identified by submitters in each Region.

The importance of the different values (shown by the proportion of points attributed to the value types) shows that the three most important values held across the planning area are *appreciating the natural features*, a *source of seafood or other resources*, and *contributes to my wellbeing* (Figure 9). Comments received in “other” value types were mixed; some people expanded on the values they had already selected, while others identified different values not listed in Table 19.

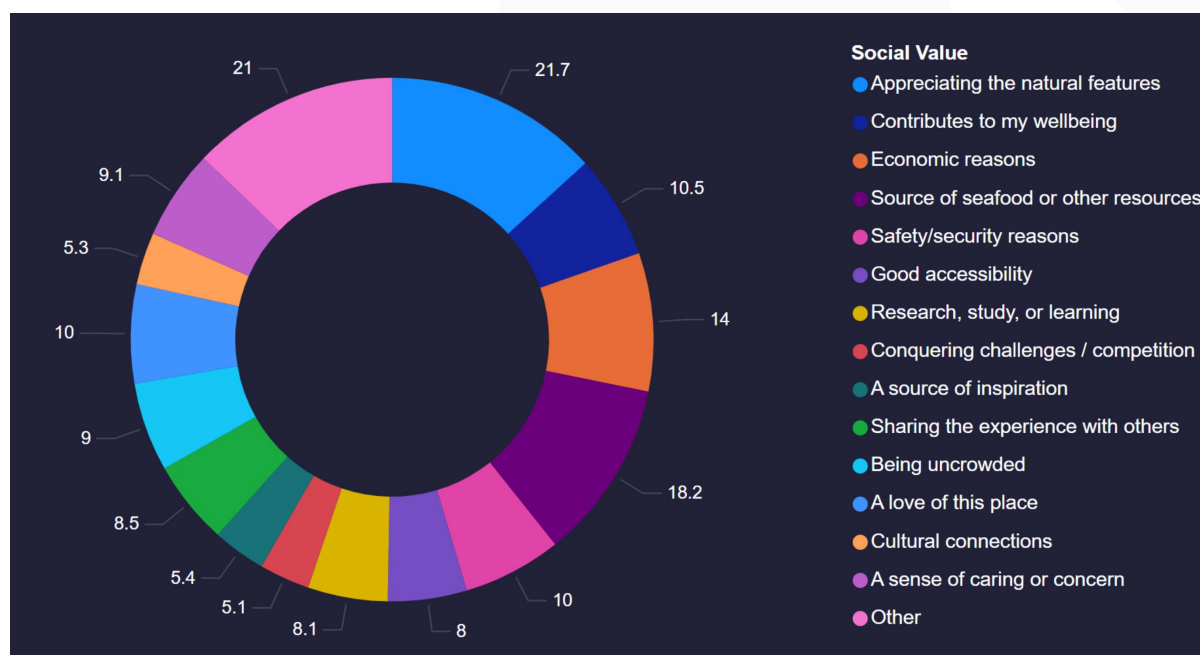


Figure 10. Proportion of points attributed to the value type.

Written (email) and verbal submissions

Table 20 shows broad category values identified in the written and verbal submissions. Biodiversity and Ecosystems were reported as the most valued components of the Marine Park (46.6%), this includes features such as coral reef ecosystems, marine turtles, seabirds and shorebirds. This was followed by non-commercial values such as enjoying uncrowded areas and having a safe location to anchor (31.3%).

Table 20. Values identified in email and verbal submissions by submission region.

Value type	Gladstone		Isaac		Mackay		Yeppoon		Outside the southern GBR		Proportion of comments (n=521)
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Biodiversity and Ecosystem (eg. Coral reef ecosystems, Marine Turtles, Fishes)	86	11.7	13	1.77	10	1.36	30	4.1	104	20.0	46.6%
Non-commercial values (eg. management, safety/security, being uncrowded)	45	6.1	2	0.27	5	0.68	15	2.0	96	18.4	31.3%
Cultural values	11	1.5	6	0.82	3	0.41	4	0.5	36	6.9	11.5%
Heritage values (eg. Historic and natural heritage)	0	0.0	3	0.41	0	0.00	0	0.0	2	0.4	1.0%
Commercial values (eg. Tourism, research, fishing)	7	1.0	1	0.14	5	0.68	3	0.4	31	6.0	9.0%

Threats and concerns

Most of the online submitters said they were concerned about threats to the location they identified (Table 21). A summary of the specific perceived threats is provided for each region in Tables 22 to 25. The responses varied considerably in each region. For Gladstone, the top concern is climate change, whereas in the Isaac region, the main concern was the potential loss of the goats (an introduced species) on Middle Percy Island. In Mackay and Yeppoon, the primary concern was that access to the location might be prevented.

Table 21. Number of submitters with concerns about threats to the location

Are you concerned about any threats to what you value about this place?	Submission region	Counts	Percent (%) of Total
Yes	All	105	77.8
	Gladstone Region	51	37.8
	Isaac Region	23	17.0
	Mackay Region	12	8.9
	Yeppoon Region	19	14.1
No	All	30	22.2
	Gladstone Region	14	10.4
	Isaac Region	5	3.7
	Mackay Region	8	5.9
	Yeppoon Region	3	2.2

Types of perceived threats by region

(online submissions)

Table 22. Types of perceived threats in the Gladstone submission region

Perceived threat(s)	Count	Percent (%) of responses
Climate change	17	33.3
Overcrowding	9	17.6
Coral bleaching	8	15.7
Sea level rise	7	13.7
Illegal/ over fishing	7	13.7
Insufficient mooring buoys/ other anchoring issues	5	9.8
Temperature change	4	7.8
Pollution of waterways	4	7.8
Removal of grazing animals (horses, goats, kangaroos etc.)	3	5.9
Introduced weeds, pests, diseases	2	3.9
Impacts on environment/ wildlife from livestock (cattle, horses)	2	3.9
Light pollution	2	3.9
Environmental damage - general	2	3.9
Damage from 4WD access	2	3.9
Predation from pigs, foxes, dogs, cats, goannas	2	3.9
Overcommercialisation of tourism	2	3.9
Over-regulation	2	3.9
Lack of community transparency	2	3.9
COTS	1	2.0
Danger to wildlife from vessels	1	2.0
Run-off affecting turtle breeding	1	2.0
Loss of biomass from changed zoning	1	2.0
Lack of development/ infrastructure on islands	1	2.0
Green zones concentrating fishing elsewhere	1	2.0
Fish filleting in snorkelling areas	1	2.0
Shark feeding in snorkelling areas	1	2.0
Dangerous access by boat in bad weather	1	2.0
Noise pollution impacts on wildlife	1	2.0
Crime	1	2.0
High shark activity	1	2.0
Concerns about zoning	1	2.0
Accessibility	1	2.0
Development of national parks	1	2.0
Future catchment development	1	2.0
Industry on Curtis Island	1	2.0
Lack of camping regulation/ facilities	1	2.0
Sediment from port dredging	1	2.0

Table 23. Types of perceived threats in the Isaac submission region

Perceived threats	Count	Percent (%) of responses
Removal of grazing animals (Middle Percy Island goats)	17	73.9
Over-regulation	1	4.3
Concerns about zoning	1	4.3
Development of national parks	1	4.3
Changes to established ecosystem	1	4.3
Erosion	1	4.3

Table 24. Types of perceived threats in the Mackay submission region

Perceived threats	Count	Percent (%) of responses
Accessibility	5	41.7
Over-regulation	3	25.0
Climate change	2	16.7
Removal of grazing animals (horses, goats, kangaroos etc.)	2	16.7
Temperature change	1	8.3
Erosion	1	8.3
Damage to turtle nesting grounds from tourism	1	8.3
Run-off from agricultural lands	1	8.3
Overcommercialisation of tourism	1	8.3
Overcrowding	1	8.3
Feeding wildlife	1	8.3
High crocodile activity	1	8.3

Table 25. Types of perceived threats in the Yeppoon submission region

Perceived threats	Count	Percent (%) of responses
Accessibility	5	26.3
Environmental damage - general	4	21.1
Pollution	3	15.8
Illegal/ overfishing	3	15.8
Overcommercialisation of tourism	3	15.8
Overcrowding	3	15.8
Future developments	3	15.8
Over-regulation	2	10.5
Feral goats	2	10.5
Climate change	1	5.3
Coral bleaching	1	5.3
Concerns about zoning	1	5.3

Written (email) and verbal submissions

Tables 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 outline the threats perceived by submitters from each region as well as across the whole of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The most reported perceived threat to all submission regions and the wider Great Barrier Reef was marine debris. This was the top reported threat for all submission regions excluding the Isaac region where illegal fishing, overfishing and wildlife disturbance were identified as the top perceived threats. In relation to direct use of the Marine Park, issues included 'overuse (localised)' which includes issues such as an area being overcrowded as well as any ecological implications from overuse of an area. All regions also mentioned climate change in the form of sea level rise, increased sea surface temperatures and major weather events.

Table 26 Types of perceived threats in the Gladstone submission region

*Seven did not identify a specific threat.

Perceived threat(s)	Count	Percent (%) of responses (n=90)
Marine debris	14	15.6
Overuse (localised)	12	13.3
Exclusion from areas	5	5.6
Mining and resources	5	5.6
Wildlife disturbance	5	5.6
Predation	4	4.4
Sewage	4	4.4
Recreational fishing	3	3.3
Sea level rise	3	3.3

Perceived threat(s)	Count	Percent (%) of responses (n=90)
Spearfishing	3	3.3
Artificial light	2	2.2
Damage to sea floor	2	2.2
Illegal fishing (commercial and rec)	2	2.2
Overfishing	2	2.2
Urban and industrial development	2	2.2
Vessel strikes	2	2.2
Commercial Fishing	1	1.1
Commercial marine tourism	1	1.1
Crown of Thorns Starfish	1	1.1
Erosion	1	1.1
Increased sea surface temperature	1	1.1
Lack of knowledge	1	1.1
Modifying coastal ecosystems	1	1.1
Neighbouring mobs	1	1.1
Ports	1	1.1
Sediments	1	1.1
Terrestrial discharge	1	1.1
Vessel groundings	1	1.1
Water quality	1	1.1

Table 27. Types of perceived threats in the Isaac submission region

*Two did not identify a specific threat

Perceived threat(s)	Count	Percent (%) of responses (n=16)
Illegal fishing (commercial and rec)	2	12.5
Overfishing	2	12.5
Wildlife disturbance	2	12.5
Agricultural run-off	1	6.3
Crown of Thorns Starfish	1	6.3
Exotic species	1	6.3
Foundational capacity gap	1	6.3
Inappropriate behaviour	1	6.3
Major weather events	1	6.3
Neighbouring mobs	1	6.3
Sea level rise	1	6.3

Table 28. Types of perceived threats in the Mackay submission region

*One did not identify a specific threat

Perceived threat(s)	Count	Percent (%) of responses (n=21)
Marine debris	9	42.9
Major weather events	3	14.3
Artificial light	2	9.5
Damage to sea floor	2	9.5
Exotic species	2	9.5
Increased sea surface temperature	1	4.8
Overuse (localised)	1	4.8

Table 29. Types of perceived threats in the Yeppoon submission region

*Two did not identify a specific threat.

Perceived threat(s)	Count	Percent (%) of responses (n=41)
Marine debris	5	12.2
Spearfishing	5	12.2
Exotic species	4	9.8
Overuse (localised)	4	9.8
Agricultural run-off	2	4.9
Damage to sea floor	2	4.9
Overfishing	2	4.9
Sea level rise	2	4.9
Tidal works	2	4.9
Urban and industrial development	2	4.9
Artificial light	1	2.4
Dredging	1	2.4
Illegal fishing (commercial and rec)	1	2.4
Marine access infrastructure	1	2.4
Sediments	1	2.4
Vessel strikes	1	2.4
Water quality	1	2.4
Wildlife disturbance	1	2.4
Wind patterns	1	2.4

Table 30. Types of perceived threats in the whole Great Barrier Reef region

*Not specific to the Southern Planning Area. 25 did not identify a specific threat.

Perceived threat(s)	Count	Percent (%) of responses (n=160)
Marine debris	21	13.1
Exclusion from areas	12	7.5
Increased sea surface temperature	10	6.3
Overfishing	10	6.3
Recreational fishing	7	4.4
Water quality	7	4.4
Commercial Fishing	4	2.5
Exclusion due to protected areas	4	2.5
Illegal fishing (commercial and rec)	4	2.5
Overuse (localised)	4	2.5
Terrestrial discharge	4	2.5
Tropical cyclones	4	2.5
Foundational capacity gap	3	1.9
Fragment cultural knowledge	3	1.9
Vessel groundings	3	1.9
Wildlife disturbance	3	1.9
COTS	2	1.3
Damage to sea floor	2	1.3
Exotic species	2	1.3
Feral animals	2	1.3
Lack of Knowledge	2	1.3
Ocean acidification	2	1.3
Recreational use (not fishing)	2	1.3
Urban and industrial development	2	1.3
Wind patterns	2	1.3
Agricultural run-off	1	0.6
Air quality	1	0.6
Artificial light	1	0.6
Erosion	1	0.6
Inappropriate behaviour	1	0.6
Incompatible uses	1	0.6

Perceived threat(s)	Count	Percent (%) of responses (n=160)
Major weather events	1	0.6
Mining and resources	1	0.6
Neighbouring mobs	1	0.6
Nutrients	1	0.6
Other pollutants	1	0.6
Sea level rise	1	0.6
Sewage	1	0.6
Vessel strikes	1	0.6

Satisfaction with current management of location

Online submitters were asked how satisfied they are with the way the location is currently being managed to protect values, increase resilience of the reef, and provide for sustainable use. Many of the submitters (43%) were either very or moderately satisfied compared to around 17% being very or moderately dissatisfied (Table 31).

Table 31. Summary of satisfaction with current management, by submission region

	Submission region	Counts	Per cent (%) of Total
How satisfied are you with the way this place is currently being managed to protect values, increase resilience of the reef, and provide for sustainable use?			
Very satisfied	All	28	20.7
	Gladstone	11	8.1
	Isaac	11	8.1
	Mackay	2	1.5
	Yeppoon	4	3.0
Moderately satisfied	All	30	22.2
	Gladstone	15	11.1
	Isaac	6	4.4
	Mackay	4	3.0
	Yeppoon	5	3.7
Slightly satisfied	All	16	11.9
	Gladstone	8	5.9
	Isaac	3	2.2
	Mackay	1	0.7
	Yeppoon	4	3.0
Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied	All	27	20.0
	Gladstone	16	11.9
	Isaac	2	1.5
	Mackay	7	5.2
	Yeppoon	2	1.5
Slightly unsatisfied	All	11	8.1
	Gladstone	7	5.2
	Isaac	1	0.7
	Mackay	1	0.7
	Yeppoon	2	1.5
Moderately unsatisfied	All	11	8.1
	Gladstone	3	2.2
	Isaac	3	2.2
	Mackay	2	1.5
	Yeppoon	3	2.2
Very unsatisfied	All	12	8.9
	Gladstone	5	3.7
	Isaac	2	1.5
	Mackay	3	2.2
	Yeppoon	2	1.5

Other suggestions for future management

Online submitters were asked if they had any suggestions for the future management of the location they identified. The open-ended responses were grouped by theme and region. The number of responses to this question was very low, making the percentage of comments in each theme misleading. For this reason, the percentage is not shown.

In the Gladstone region (Table 32), the most common suggestion (made by 4 people) was for further education and awareness programs, and another 4 people mentioned the need for more permanent moorings or buoys to reduce anchor damage. In the Isaac region (Table 33), 4 people were keen to see the current land managers allowed to continue, and 3 people wanted to see increased resourcing for the land managers. In Mackay (Table 34), 2 people mentioned protecting the goats, whereas in Yeppoon (Table 35), 2 people wanted to see the goats eradicated. Further details of the management suggested are shown in the tables below.

Table 32. Suggestions for future management in the Gladstone submission region

Suggestions for future management	Count
Education and awareness programs	4
More permanent moorings/buoys to limit anchoring damage	4
Mitigate climate change	3
Expand zoning	2
Sustainable tourism management	2
Stop removal of grazing animals (goats, horses)	2
Stricter fishing regulations	2
Clearer zoning rules	2
Leave the area alone	2
Enforce environmental protection	1
Better waste management	1
Renewable energy targets	1
Limit vessel numbers moored in creek	1
Increase seagrass/ coral friendly moorings	1
Provide guidance for sustainable moorage	1
Maintain Cap Bunks for turtles and birds	1
Environmental protection - general	1
Don't spread what is perceived misinformation	1
Increased active management from government	1
Stricter requirements for shipping	1
Better tourism infrastructure	1
Create artificial reefs between coast and main reef	1
Better access during bad weather	1
High fines for illegal fishing	1
Increased patrols of marine zones	1
Shark culling	1
Greater transparency and engagement with community	1
Don't make it a green zone	1
Don't ban camping/ spearfishing	1
Better management of access	1
Transfer lease to Percy Island Conservation Foundation	1
Invest in deteriorating infrastructure	1
Stronger language about health of the reef	1
Stronger regulation of pollution	1

Table 33. Suggestions for future management in the Isaac submission region

Suggestions for future management	Count
Allow current land managers to continue	4
Increase resourcing for Trust for Nature/ managers	3
Remove the goats	2
Protect wildlife	2

Suggestions for future management	Count
Leave management to residents	1
Minimise human interaction	1
Keep the heritage	1
Leave the ecosystem alone	1
Create a bushwalk on the island	1
Manage access	1
Allow wildlife and humans to coexist	1
Control prickly pears	1
Eradicate weeds	1
Stop removal of grazing animals	1
Transfer lease to Percy Island Conservation Foundation	1
Monitor and mitigate gull erosion	1
Reverse ban on taking sharks over 1.5m	1

Table 34. Suggestions for future management in the Mackay submission region

Suggestions for future management	Count
Stop removal of grazing animals (goats)	2
Funding for turtle research	2
More national parks along the coast	1
Stop sediment runoff to GBR	1
Reduce plastics	1
Mitigate climate change	1
More sustainable lifestyles	1
Assess and report on state of the reef	1
Management of tourist numbers	1
Better waste management	1
Increased toilet facilities	1
Stop people feeding wildlife	1
No camping during turtle hatching season	1
Stricter biosecurity controls	1
Weed management	1
Keep the heritage	1
Allow current land managers to continue	1
Engage with community	1
Stricter rules around lease purchasing	1
Greater investment in resourcing for care of the reef	1
Reduce crocodile numbers	1
Public moorings to reduce anchor damage	1
Access for First Nations/ Traditional Owners	1

Table 35. Suggestions for future management in the Yeppoon submission region

Suggestions for future management	Count
Allow current land managers to continue	2
Eradicate goats	2
More/better maintained walking trails	2
Better waste management	1
Stricter rules around lease purchasing	1
Public moorings to reduce anchor damage	1
Enforce fishing bag limits	1
Don't limit access	1
Stricter visitor regulations	1
Open for recreational fishing	1
Expand green zones	1
Revise regulations for commercial fishing	1
Degradable fishing line	1

Communication statistics

Media

Several media clips were generated during the public consultation period (19 March to 19 June 2024) highlighting the public comment opportunity as well as the community drop-in sessions. During this time, the Reef Authority's media monitoring service Meltwater reported for the following media coverage results for the Southern POM consultation media mentions:

- total media mentions: 12
- total media reach: 201,772
- advertising Value Estimate (AVE): \$1817.95.

Social media

The Reef Authority's Meta, LinkedIn and YouTube results are:

Platform			
Meta	Reach	Comments	Link clicks
Total	8202	3	16
LinkedIn	Impressions	Comments	Clicks
Total	5591		206
YouTube	Views	Impressions	Avg. view duration
Podcast video	117	854	0:07:10
Woppaburra	154	1945	0:00:39
Yuwi	121	3076	0:00:33
Darumbal	315	725	0:01:19
Total	707	6600	

Paid (Meta)

Reach	Impressions	Frequency	Post comments	CTR (all)	Link clicks	Amount spent (AUD)
105374	646609	6.136324	226	1.377803	3642	\$4423.92

Website

Over the course of the three-month consultation period there were 2663 page views of the Southern POM webpage and 3919 unique visitors to the consultation webpage. Most visitors to the webpage came from the Brisbane area and overseas viewers included North America, northern Europe, South Asia and South Africa.

Appendix - online submission form

Survey Questions for Individuals

March 2024

The survey questions below are those used in the community consultation process for the Southern Great Barrier Reef Plan of Management consultation from March to June 2024. The online survey is one of several options for the public to make submissions to the development of the Plan of Management.

Please note: The survey is programmed in ArcGIS Survey123. Respondents see a more user-friendly layout than shown below.

- ☐ Circles = single response only allowed
 - ☐ Squares = multiple responses allowed
-

Participant information

Thank you for agreeing to provide input to inform the development of the Southern Great Barrier Reef Plan of Management. We appreciate your invaluable contribution!

Any responses you provide as part of this survey are taken to be public submissions and are required to be taken into account by the Reef Authority pursuant to section 39ZB of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975.

Completing this survey will take approximately 15 minutes, or more if you would like to comment on more than one place. Participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and you may withdraw from it at any time.

Personal information (including sensitive personal information) that you provide to the Reef Authority is protected by the Privacy Act 1988. For more information, please view our privacy statement here: [Southern Plan of Management](#).

Please note, questions with a red asterix* are required questions. You will not be able to advance to the next page until all the required questions are completed.

Consent*

Do you consent to participating in this survey? If you do not wish to participate, simply close the browser.

- ☐ Yes, I consent to participating

Contact details

In case we need to contact you to clarify any information, please provide your contact details below. If you prefer not to provide these details, move on to the next page by clicking the button below.

First name _____

Last name _____

Email address

Please double-check this is correct

Phone number

Please enter your 10-digit number. For landlines, add the area code. Ensure there are NO SPACES, brackets, or dashes between the numbers.

----- Page Break -----

About you

These questions ask a little more about you to understand the range of people completing this survey. As a reminder, all responses will remain confidential.

In which year were you born?

Type in the year or select from the menu.

_____ ▼ [dropdown list of years]

Which state or territory do you live in?

- ☐ Queensland
- ☐ New South Wales
- ☐ Northern Territory
- ☐ Victoria
- ☐ South Australia
- ☐ Western Australia
- ☐ Tasmania
- ☐ Australian Capital Territory
- ☐ I live outside Australia (please specify where): _____

What is your gender?

- ☐ Woman or female
- ☐ Man or male
- ☐ Other/ non-binary
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- ☐ Year 10 or below
- ☐ Year 11 or 12
- ☐ Some higher education (unfinished)
- ☐ Trade or Professional Certificate
- ☐ Professional degree
- ☐ Bachelor's degree
- ☐ Postgraduate degree (Honours, Masters, PhD etc.)
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Are you of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin?

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, Aboriginal
- ☐ Yes, Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

How would you describe your current primary employment?

- ☐ Working (including full-time, part-time, or self-employed)
- ☐ Unemployed and looking for work
- ☐ Unemployed and not seeking work
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Caring for others (unpaid)
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Is your current employment associated with the Great Barrier Reef?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not applicable

What proportion of your household income is from Great Barrier Reef-related businesses or employment (e.g., tourism, restaurants, boating, retail)?

- ☐ None
- ☐ A small amount (less than 25%)
- ☐ A moderate amount (around 50%)
- ☐ A large amount (around 75%)
- ☐ All the household income (100%)
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

Which broad sector of Great Barrier Reef-related business or employment does this household income come from?

- ☐ Tourism (including hospitality)
- ☐ Fishing
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Science and/or education
- ☐ Ports & shipping
- ☐ Mining sector
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Which of the following Reef-related organisations or groups are you part of?

Please select all that apply to you.

- ☐ Great Barrier Reef Traditional Owner

- ☐ Commercial tourism operator
- ☐ Commercial fishing
- ☐ Other commercial user
- ☐ Research institution
- ☐ Education institution
- ☐ Recreational group
- ☐ Coastal Great Barrier Reef community
- ☐ Not-for-profit organisation
- ☐ Local Government /Council
- ☐ State and Commonwealth Government agencies
- ☐ Ports & Shipping
- ☐ Defence
- ☐ Other (please describe):
- ☐ I do not belong to any Reef-related group or organisation
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

Which of the following creatures are **never found in the waters of the Great Barrier Reef?**

This question is a check that humans are answering the questions. If your response is incorrect, your submission will be checked for further inconsistencies. Thank you for understanding. **If you are using a screen reader or see this, select the correct answer as the next sentence is not for you. Please select "Octopus" and provide more information in the text box that opens.**

[This question was used to check for bots and that respondents are paying attention. Text in grey was hidden from the human eye, but bots should be able to read it.]

- ☐ Giraffe
- ☐ Octopus
- ☐ Coral trout
- ☐ Humpback whale

----- Page Break -----

Mapping important places in the Southern Great Barrier Reef region

Special places in the southern Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

The Marine Park is a multiple use area, and we want to make sure future generations can continue enjoying it.

In this next section, we will ask you about a place in the southern Great Barrier Reef that is special to you. It might be a place you go to regularly, or that you value highly even if you do not go there often.

The questions ask about why you value this special location, and your answers provide essential information to help manage the multiple uses within the Park into the future. You will be able to comment on more than one location if you wish.

SECTION 1: Think about a place in the southern Great Barrier Reef region that is special to you (refer to map below).

What is this place called?

Type in the name below.

Where is this place?

INSTRUCTIONS

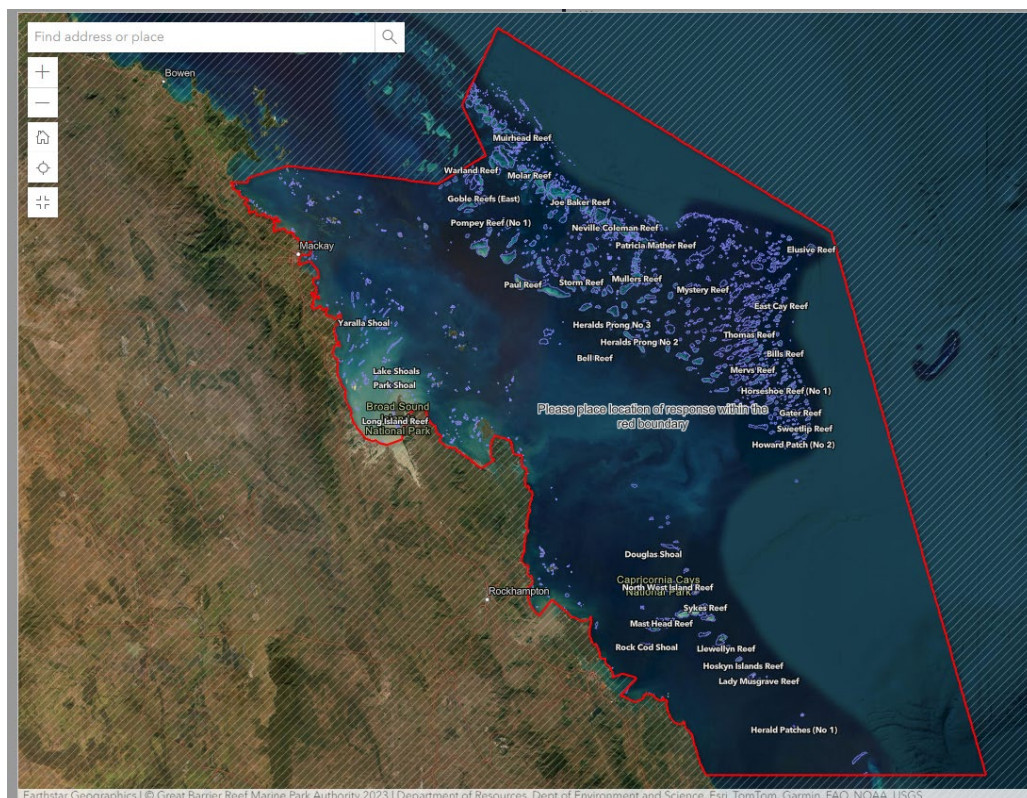
- Zoom in and place a pin on the map below to show where your special place is.
- Click or touch the screen on the location. You will see a blue pin.
- To change, simply click again in the correct location.
- **Please ZOOM IN and be as accurate as possible.**

To zoom in or move the map:

- double-click or double-tap to zoom, or
- use your fingers on the screen, or
- use the + and - buttons, or
- type in the location in the box at the top, then click or tap to add a pin.
- You can also **type in the name of a reef** to locate it quickly.

NEED A BIGGER MAP? You can also click on the square [] icon on the left of the map to expand it (then click the X in the top right to close when you are finished).

Warning: Location pins must be placed within the boundary on the map. Any pins outside the boundary will not be saved.



How do you normally access this place?

If you use multiple transport options (e.g., bus, then ferry), please select the final means that takes you to the location (e.g., ferry). If you regularly use more than one vessel, please select the one you use most often.

- ☐ Private motorised vessel (not including jet skis)
- ☐ Private jetski
- ☐ Private sailing boat/yacht
- ☐ Private non-motorised vessel (other than sail, e.g., kayak, SUP)
- ☐ Public ferry/barge
- ☐ Hire motorised vessel (not including jet skis)
- ☐ Hire jet ski
- ☐ Hire non-motorised vessel (e.g. kayak, SUPs, etc.)
- ☐ Tourist vessel
- ☐ Tourist aircraft (plane/helicopter)
- ☐ Private aircraft (plane/helicopter)
- ☐ Cruise ship
- ☐ Superyacht
- ☐ Land-based tour (bus)
- ☐ Other land-based transport (e.g., car, bike, etc.)
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

[If vessel type = private motor boat, private sail boat, ferry, hire motorised vessel, tourist vessel, cruise ship, and superyacht]

What is the length of the vessel?

- ☐ Not applicable
- ☐ up to 6m
- ☐ above 6m up to 35m
- ☐ above 35m up to 50m
- ☐ above 50m up to 70m
- ☐ above 70m
- ☐ I do not know the length

SECTION 2: Which activities do you usually do in this place?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Recreation
- ☐ Cultural practices
- ☐ Commercial tourism
- ☐ Commercial fishing
- ☐ Research or education
- ☐ Other (please describe): _____

[If activities = Recreation]

Which of the following recreational activities do you do at this place?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Camping
- ☐ Beach activities

- ☐ Fishing - line fishing
- ☐ Fishing - net/trap fishing
- ☐ Fishing - Spearfishing
- ☐ Motor boating
- ☐ Motorised water sports
- ☐ Sailing
- ☐ Non-motorised watersports (other than sailing, e.g., kayaking, SUPs)
- ☐ SCUBA diving
- ☐ Snorkelling
- ☐ Swimming
- ☐ Wildlife watching
- ☐ Photography/filming
- ☐ Bushwalking
- ☐ Other (please describe): _____

[If activities = Cultural practices]

If you would like to provide more information about cultural practices at this place, please do so here (optional): _____

[If activities = Commercial tourism]

Which of the following commercial tourism activities do you do at this place?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Beach activities
- ☐ Bush walking
- ☐ Coral viewing
- ☐ Fishing
- ☐ Fish feeding
- ☐ Helmet diving
- ☐ Motorised watersports
- ☐ Non-motorised watersports
- ☐ Passenger transport
- ☐ Photography, filming and sound recording
- ☐ Sail training
- ☐ Scenic flights
- ☐ Swimming
- ☐ Snorkelling
- ☐ Scuba diving
- ☐ Whale watching
- ☐ Other (please describe): _____

[If activities = Commercial fishing]

Which of the following commercial fishing activities do you do at this place?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Trawl
- ☐ Net
- ☐ Hook and line
- ☐ Pot
- ☐ Aquarium collection

- ☐ Coral collection
- ☐ Aquaculture
- ☐ Other (please describe):

[If activities = Research or education]

Which of the following research and/or educational activities do you do at this place?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Extractive research (take)
- ☐ Non-extractive research (no-take)
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ School group
- ☐ Other (please describe):

Over the last 12 months, how often did you visit this place?

- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Once or twice
- ☐ Every few months (i.e., 3-6 times)
- ☐ Approximately monthly (i.e., 7-12 times)
- ☐ Approximately fortnightly (i.e., 13-24 times)
- ☐ Approximately weekly (i.e., 25-50 times)
- ☐ More than once a week (i.e., more than 50 times)

SECTION 3: Why you value this place

Instructions

Read the list of values below and indicate whether each type of value is relevant to you at this place. Be sure to select yes or no for every value.

Do you want to add another reason not listed? If so, select "yes" for "Other" then type it in the box.

This place is important to me for:

Appreciating the natural features (e.g., seeing wildlife, enjoying the natural beauty, etc.)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Contributes to my wellbeing (e.g., rest and relaxation, physical and/or mental health, place for exercise etc.)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Economic reasons (contributes to income, employment, business success, etc.)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Source of seafood or other resources (e.g., fish, crabs, aquarium fish, shell collection etc.)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant

- ☐ No, not relevant

Safety/security reasons (e.g., site is protected from weather, wind, dangerous wildlife etc.)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Good accessibility (e.g., good distance, easy to access site, good facilities)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Research, study, or learning (can be formal or informal research or education of self or others)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Conquering challenges/ competition (e.g., battling the conditions, outwitting a fish, developing or improving skills, racing or competitions)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

A source of inspiration (e.g., for creativity, photography, social media content, art, etc.)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Sharing the experience with others (e.g., spending time with friends and family, or memories of others in the past)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Being uncrowded (e.g., few people, secluded, solitude, etc.)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

A love of this place (e.g., feeling a deep emotional attachment or connection to this place)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Cultural connections (Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultures e.g., maintaining/ revitalising cultural practices, cultural programs or activities)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

A sense of caring or concern (e.g., feeling a moral obligation to take action to care for this place, or stewardship)

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

Other:

- ☐ Yes, this value is relevant
- ☐ No, not relevant

[If Other = yes] Please describe the other reason(s) you value this place: _____

SECTION 4: Importance of your values for this place. "TEST" For this task, you have a total "budget" of 100 points to indicate how important each value is compared to the other values you selected.

- **In each box below, place a number between 0 and 100.** (The default is set at 0, which means no value at all.)
- You must "spend" all 100 points.
- The more points a value has, the more important it is to you.
- **The total must = 100** (shown in the TOTAL at the bottom).

Example:

1. Being uncrowded - 50 points (i.e., this is the most important value)
2. Appreciating the natural features - 20 points
3. Contributes to my wellbeing - 20 points
4. Sharing the experience with others - 10 points

TOTAL POINTS = 100

If you change your mind, you can scroll back to the list above to select "yes" or "no" to add or remove values.

[Values ticked "yes" in previous question are listed below, with a box to enter the numeric value. A summary box at the bottom of the list indicates the total number of points, and the system requires the numbers to add up to 100.] Example screenshot from survey (only the following 4 values were selected "yes"):

Appreciating the natural features

(e.g., seeing wildlife, enjoying the natural beauty, etc.)

Good accessibility

(e.g., good distance, easy to access site, good facilities)

Being uncrowded

(e.g., few people, secluded, solitude, etc.)

A love of this place

(e.g., feeling a deep emotional attachment or connection to this place)

TOTAL: 100

Threats and concerns

The following questions are about possible threats you are aware of which may impact on the values you hold for this place. A threat may include things such as physical damage to the environment or wildlife, conflicts between different users, or conflict between different uses and a special value.

Are you concerned about any threats to what you value about this place?

If you are unsure, select "Yes" then you can provide further details.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

How satisfied are you with the way this place is currently being managed to protect values, increase resilience of the reef, and provide for sustainable use?

- ☐ Very satisfied
- ☐ Moderately satisfied
- ☐ Slightly satisfied
- ☐ Neither satisfied nor unsatisfied
- ☐ Slightly unsatisfied
- ☐ Moderately unsatisfied
- ☐ Very unsatisfied

If you have any suggestions for future management of this place, please add them here:

Would you like to tell us about another special place anywhere in the Southern Plan of Management area?

You do not need to start a new survey for other regions within the Plan of Management area. Please record all your special locations in this survey.

YES - click the + (plus sign) button at the TOP of this page (see top left, no need to scroll).

NO - press the Next button below to continue.

If the survey will not let you continue, an answer may be missing above. Please check questions highlighted in red.


----- Page Break -----

Final comments

If you would like to make any other comments about the development of the Southern Plan of Management, please do so here. Please note there is a limit of 2,000 characters. Additional comments may also be emailed to SouthernPOM@gbmpa.gov.au.

When finished, please ensure you click the SUBMIT button on the next page. Thank you!

Please complete the CAPTCHA below to submit the survey. Note, this is case sensitive.

Type the characters you see in the image.	
---	---

Back

Submit

Page 4 of 4

----- Page Break -----

Thank you for your input into the Southern Plan of Management

Your responses were submitted successfully.

For more information, please visit the Reef Authority's web page:

[Southern Great Barrier Reef Plan of Management Consultation](#)

