



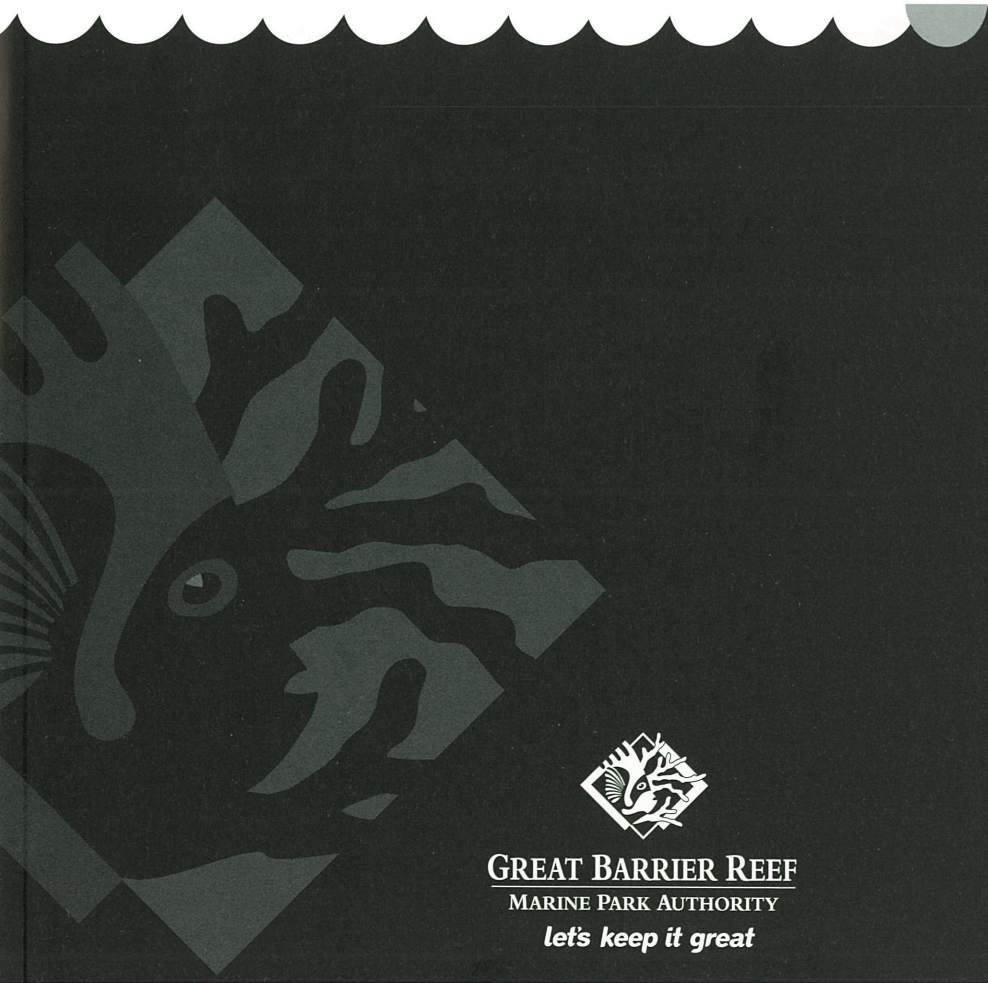
ANNUAL REPORT
2000-2001



GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

let's keep it great

ANNUAL REPORT
2000-2001



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

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GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

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Further information

The 2000-2001 Annual Report is accessible on the Authority's website. The site also includes supplementary information including a list of staff papers and Authority publications produced during the year. A detailed list of membership of relevant external committees can also be found under

www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/info_services/publications/annual_report/

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

29 August 2001

Senator the Hon Robert Hill
Minister for the Environment and Heritage
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

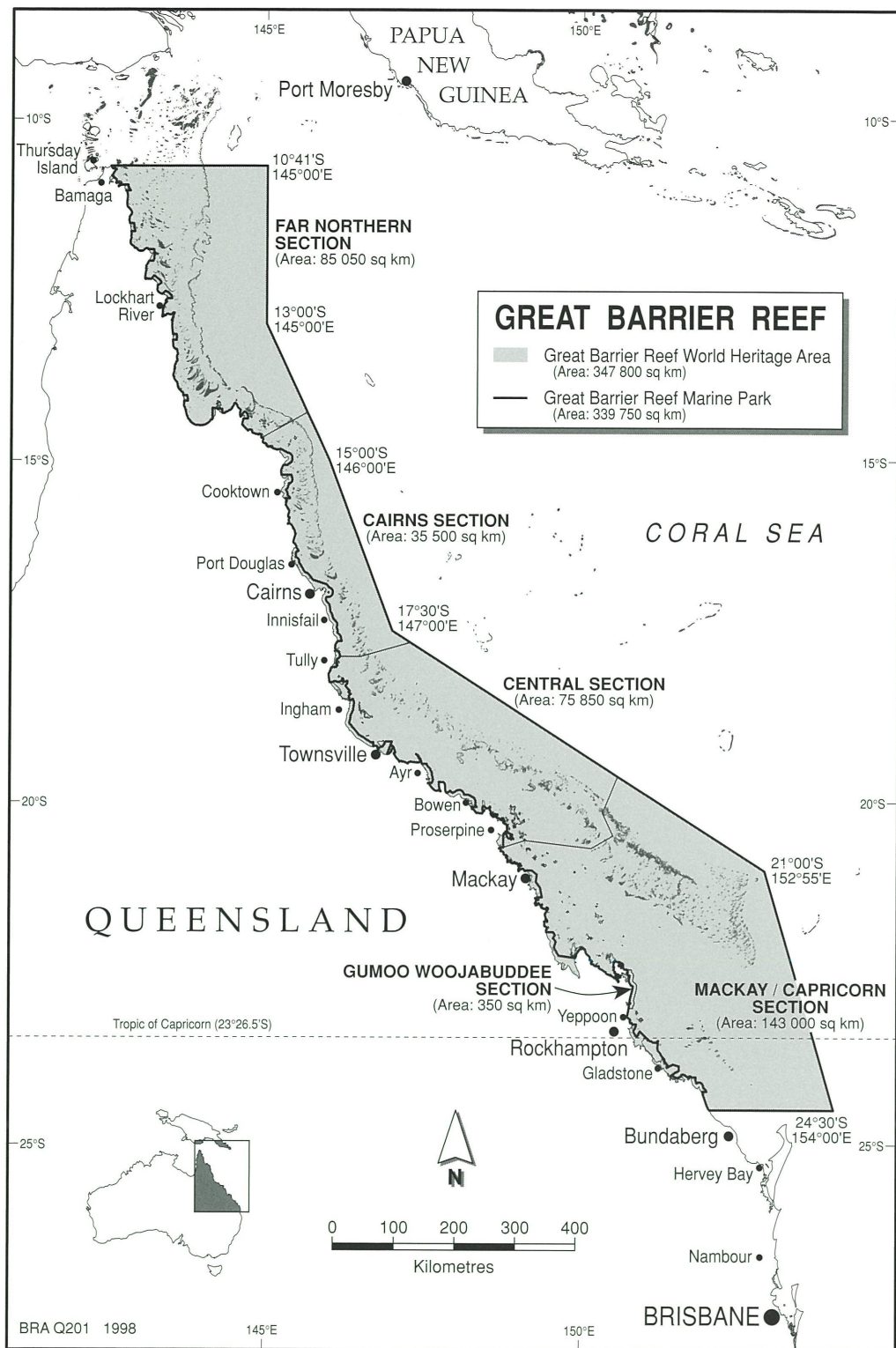
Dear Minister

In accordance with section 9 of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, I submit the Annual Report of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority for the year ended 30 June 2001.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Chadwick', with a large loop at the end.

Hon Virginia Chadwick
Chair



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

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GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

(REPORT *of* OPERATIONS

(MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This year the Authority has made progress managing key environmental issues that threaten the reef ecosystems and has further improved internal governance.

Major reforms have been achieved by the permanent capping and reduction in the level of trawl effort. The contribution of 10 million dollars from the Commonwealth Government towards a structural adjustment scheme was a major component of the plan. Progress was also made towards a management plan for the reef finfish fishery.

Water quality from the Great Barrier Reef catchment area is a major concern to inshore reef health. This year the Authority completed a number of reports based on the analysis of 15 years of research. The implementation of new regulations has improved our capacity to reduce the impact from aquaculture developments adjacent to the Reef.

The grounding of the Malaysian container vessel, the *Bunga Teratai Satu*, and the subsequent cleanup of Sudbury Reef was a major concern. I am proud of the world first collaborative effort we led with the ship's owners to remove toxic antifoulant paint from the site, thus speeding up the natural recovery of the Reef.

The scientific and technical aspects of our Representative Areas Program are highly developed and aim to further protect the Marine Park's 70 identified habitats. An extensive community consultation process is planned to ensure the views of stakeholders are considered in this process.

There is a continued focus on species protection with special emphasis on the Dugong Protection Program. This year the Authority published a basis for species conservation titled *Fauna and Flora of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area*.

The Tourism & Recreation Group increased its efforts to develop genuine industry partnerships. This has resulted in the introduction of the Whitsunday Bareboat Accreditation Program and ongoing work with the Tourism and Recreation Reef Advisory Committee (TRRAC) towards developing a new co-operative framework for sustainable tourism and recreation use in the Marine Park.

Twenty-eight coastal areas previously excluded from the original proposal for the Marine Park, have been gazetted this year. This has increased the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park area by 2 450km².

Streamlining permit assessment processes has resulted in speedy permit assessments and high quality work has been undertaken on a wide range of complex major project applications.

Liaison with stakeholders, user groups, other government agencies and local communities continues to be a high priority, with the Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) and the Reef Advisory Committees (RACs) in particular proving to be very effective.

Surveillance and enforcement in the Marine Park has continued to be a high priority with a 40 percent increase in prosecutions being recorded. Primary targets were line and trawl fishing in protected areas and illegal netting and hunting in Dugong Protection Areas.

Amendments to the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act and Regulations* have increased penalties for ship related and fishing offences and allowed for more effective management of shipping pollution, vessel sewage and fishing in line with community expectations.

The new Communication & Education Group has responsibility for public communication activities, managing publishing activities and school and community education and has allowed for more efficient use of the Authority's resources. It is also closely involved in creating an environment where important reef management messages can be distributed to the widest possible audience.

I take this opportunity to thank all management and staff for their dedication in ensuring that the Authority fulfils its charter 'to provide for the protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef in perpetuity through the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park'.



Hon Virginia Chadwick
Chair

(GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

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

(Enabling Legislation)

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

Regulations in force under the Act are the:

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

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

(The Minister)

During 2000-01, Senator the Hon Robert Hill held portfolio responsibility for the Authority as Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

Directions to the Authority from the Minister

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

Subsection 7(1B)(3) of the Act states that:

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

On 17 November 2000 the Minister responded to a brief prepared for him with the following direction in relation to the provision of reports concerning the declaration of new areas of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park:

'Pursuant to Section 7(2) I direct that you provide me with reports on the first four by the end of November 2000 and the remaining 10 by the end of March 2001.'

(Goal and Aims)

The Authority's goal is to provide for the protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef in perpetuity through the care and development of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

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

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

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

(Membership of the Marine Park Authority)

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

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

- Hon Virginia Chadwick
(full-time Chair and Chief Executive Officer from 19 July 1999);
- Mr John Lyons (part-time member - resigned 31 August 2000);
- Dr Evelyn Scott (part-time member); and
- Dr Glyn Davis (part-time member).

(Qualifications of Marine Park Authority Members)

Hon Virginia Chadwick was appointed as Chair of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in July 1999. She trained as a teacher and worked in Australia and the United Kingdom in both the school and TAFE systems. She entered the New South Wales Legislative Council in 1978 and served as Opposition Whip and Shadow Minister of various portfolios. Her Ministerial responsibilities have included Community Services, Education, TAFE, Training and Tourism. She was also the Minister assisting the Premier on Ethnic Affairs, Women and the Aged and chaired the GTE Reform Group. She has also served as President of the Legislative Council.

Mr John Lyons resigned on 31 August 2000, having served on the Authority since 28 April 1998. He is a Chartered Accountant who has been in private practice in Townsville since 1977. He holds a Bachelor of Economics from James Cook University and is a Fellow of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants, the Taxation Institute of Australia and the Australian Institute of Company Directors, as well as an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Dr Evelyn Scott was Chairperson of the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation until 31 December 2000. She played an instrumental role in the establishment of Aboriginal Legal Services, Housing Societies and Medical Services in Queensland. In 1977 she was a recipient of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal for her work in the advancement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. In April 2000, Mrs Scott was presented with an Honorary Doctorate from the Australian Catholic University for her work in the advancement of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the advancement of women and her tireless work for Reconciliation.

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

Mr Gregor Manson acted as Chair during periods of absence by Hon Virginia Chadwick from 4 to 11 October 2000 and 3 to 16 May 2001.



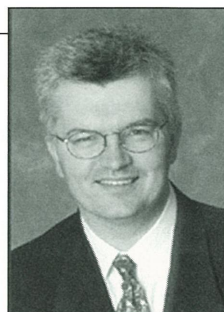
Hon Virginia Chadwick
full-time Chair and
Chief Executive Officer
from 19 July 1999



Mr John Lyons
part-time member
(Resigned 31 August 2000)



Dr Evelyn Scott
part-time member



Dr Glyn Davis
part-time member

Mr John Tanzer acted as Chair during a period of absence by Hon Virginia Chadwick from 17 to 25 May 2001.

During 2000-01, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority held two meetings, one of which was by telephone link-up.

Meeting	Date	Location	Attendance
MPA 181	8 November 2000	Canberra	Virginia Chadwick Evelyn Scott Glyn Davis
MPA 182	29 November 2000	Via Telephone Link-up	Virginia Chadwick Evelyn Scott Glyn Davis

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

From July 1998, GBRMPA was included in the new Commonwealth Insurable Risk Managed Fund known as Comcover. The Authority has Directors and Officers Liability Insurance cover through Comcover to the extent allowed under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*. The cover is for the Chair, Members of the Marine Park Authority and members of the Senior Management Team. The policy prohibits disclosure of the nature and limits of liability and the amount of member contribution.

(Audit Committee of the Authority)

Section 32 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act requires the directors of the Authority to establish and maintain an audit committee. The Authority established such a committee in September 1997. The following persons were members as at 30 June 2001:

- Mr Matt Pope, Chairperson, a practising Townsville barrister;
- Mr Barry Sheedy, member, an accountant practising in Mackay;
- Dr Glyn Davis, member, a permanent part-time member of the Marine Park Authority;
- Mr John Tanzer, member, an Executive Director on the Authority's staff;
- At its meeting on 8 November 2000 the Marine Park Authority appointed Mr Gregor Manson, member, an Executive Director on the Authority's staff.

During 2000-01, the Audit Committee held four meetings.

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
AC 13	18 September 2000	Townsville	Matt Pope, Barry Sheedy
AC 14	18 October 2000	Townsville	Matt Pope, Barry Sheedy, John Tanzer
AC 15	8 March 2001	Townsville	Matt Pope, Barry Sheedy, John Tanzer, Gregor Manson
AC16	26 June 2001	Townsville	Matt Pope, Barry Sheedy, John Tanzer, Gregor Manson

Functions of the Committee are set out in Appendix B.

Business activities of the audit committee concerned:

- Annual financial statements;
- Environmental Management Charge;
- Asset Disposal Policy;
- Fraud Control Policy;
- Enforcement and Prosecution Policy;
- Development of a Risk Management Plan;
- Reef HQ funding arrangements; and
- Various internal audit reports.

(Offices of GBRMPA)

GBRMPA has its principal office in Townsville. Two Authority staff engaged in essential Government and Parliamentary liaison tasks are located with Environment Australia in Canberra.

Staff (including the Townsville office, the staff of Reef HQ and the two located with Environment Australia) numbered 157 at 30 June 2001. There were a total of 139 ongoing employees and 18 non-ongoing employees (see Appendix D).

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

(Operational Structure)

GBRMPA's operational structure includes the Executive, four Critical Issues Groups and additional Service groups to ensure a tighter focus on clear internal reporting and accountability.

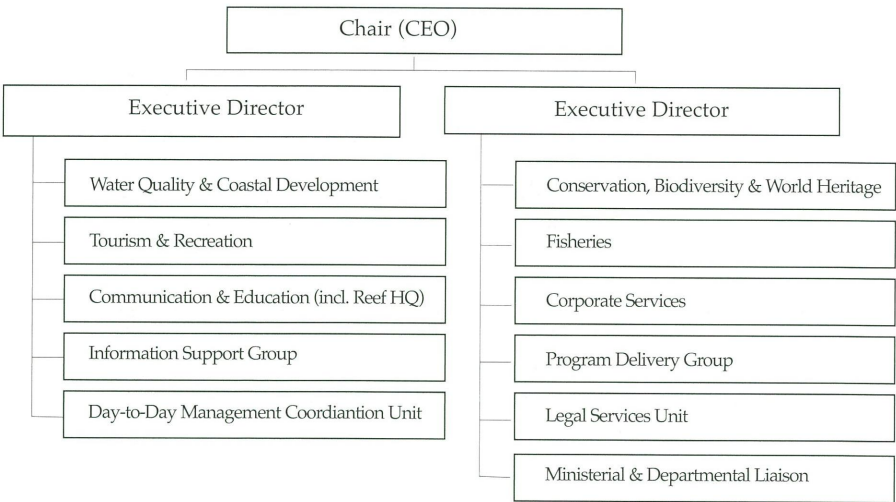


Figure 1. Operational structure at 30 June 2001

On 1 July 2000, the Communication and Education Coordination Group was established to:

- create awareness and enhance understanding of GBRMPA's role in providing for the protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef;
- increase awareness of GBRMPA's educational messages through Reef HQ and key national campaigns;
- increase awareness of GBRMPA's management and policy work nationally and internationally in line with the Authority's aim of extending its expertise; and
- establish a benchmark of GBRMPA's communication performance and measurement tools to evaluate progress.

The structure of this Group was altered from the original proposed structure to fit with operational requirements. The current structure is at Figure 2. (on following page)

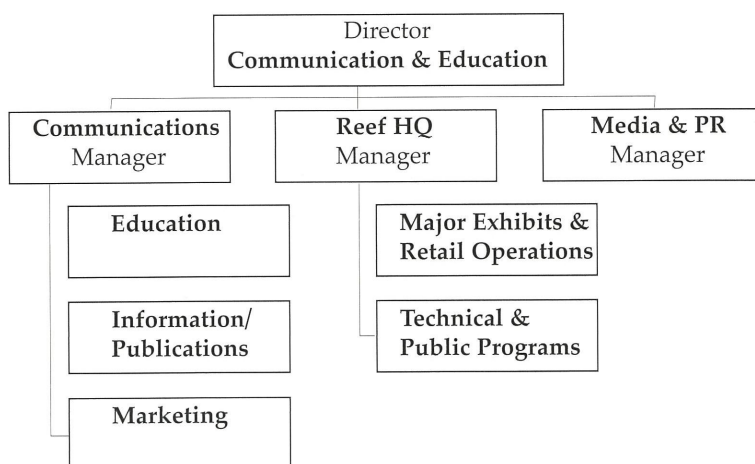


Figure 2. Structure of the Communication and Education Coordination Group

(Service Charter)

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

(Executive Group)

The Executive Group consists of the full-time Chair and two senior executives and their executive assistants, the Legal Services Unit, Ministerial and two Parliamentary Liaison Officers. The Executive Group of GBRMPA assists and advises the Chair in carrying out the functions of the Authority and provides a forum for discussing and coordinating programs, recommending priorities and direction, and reviewing program performance.

The two Executive Directors have been designated as Secretaries to the Authority. The Executive is based in Townsville with two Parliamentary Liaison Officers in Canberra.

(Subsidiaries)

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



Figure 3. External relationships

(Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council)

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

During 2000-01, the other members of the Council were: the Hon Jackie Kelly, MP, Commonwealth Minister for Sport and Tourism; the Hon Dean Wells, MLA, Queensland Minister for Environment and Heritage; and the Hon Merri Rose, MLA, Queensland Minister for Tourism and Racing and Minister for Fair Trading.

The Council met once during 2000-01, on 8 June 2001 in Cairns. The Hon Warren Entsch, MP, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and

Resources, represented the Hon Jackie Kelly, MP. The Hon Henry Palaszczuk, MLA, Queensland Minister for Primary Industries and Rural Communities, also attended the meeting to participate in discussions relating to his responsibilities for fisheries management.

(Great Barrier Reef Consultative Committee)

The Great Barrier Reef Consultative Committee, established by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act, is an independent advisory body for both the Minister and the Authority. Functions, membership and business activities of the Consultative Committee are detailed in Appendix C.

The Consultative Committee met twice during 2000-01.

Meeting	Date	Location
GBRCC 64	8-9 August 2000	Brisbane
GBRCC 65	5-6 December 2000	Townsville

EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS

EXECUTIVE

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

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

Performance Analysis

This is the third year of operation for the new organisational structure based around the four main critical issues identified for the conservation and management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park: Tourism and Recreation; Fisheries; Water Quality and Coastal Development; and Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage. Four service groups support the work of the Critical Issues Groups (CIGs). The Authority delivers its park management services through the Program Delivery Group, which deals with permitting and major impact issues and coordinates liaison with Indigenous peoples. Corporate Services ensures that the Authority maintains its administrative and financial standards and the Information Support Group ensures that the information needs of Authority officers and the public are met. The Day-to-Day Management Coordination Unit undertakes the important task of enforcement and field management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The new operational structure continues to evolve but has proven to be effective and efficient.

The Executive comprises the Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Hon Virginia Chadwick and the two Executive Directors, John Tanzer and Gregor Manson. The Chair is responsible for the overall strategic direction of the Authority, its governance, chairing the Marine Park Authority and managing the Organisation.

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

The Executive and the Directors of each of the major work areas form a Senior Management Team (SMT). The Senior Management Team is an important component of the management of the organisation and is responsible for developing policy direction, coordinating programs, internal communications and budget control. Senior managers are not only concerned with the day-to-day running of their own areas, but also with managing the intersections arising from the matrix structure. The members of the SMT and their areas of responsibility are shown in Figure 4.

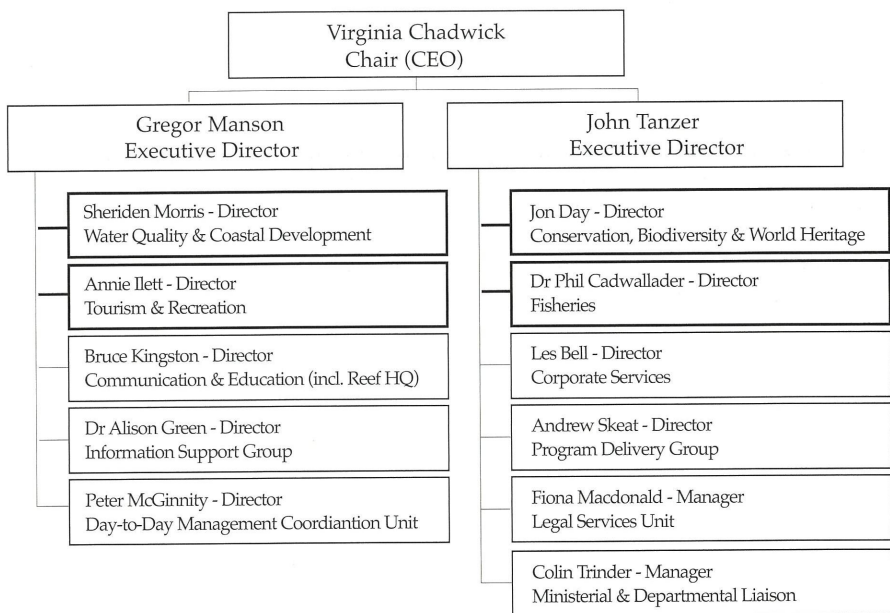


Figure 4. Operational structure and members of the Senior Management Team from May 2001.

The SMT, under the direction of the Chair, meets formally each fortnight and informally on alternate fortnights. In addition, it meets once a quarter over two days to review performance and set program and budget priorities.

Overall, this structure has worked well especially in ensuring a clear focus for the Organisation on those matters of most environmental significance. The work programs of the Authority are now focussed directly on addressing the major threats to the reef and ensuring its use is sustainable. Implementation of a framework to manage the impacts of aquaculture and trawling are two major outcomes facilitated by the focus on critical issues.

However the structure must continue to evolve and adjust to adapt to changing circumstances and emerging priorities that are inevitable when dealing with such a dynamic and complex resource as the Great Barrier Reef. During the year a new group introduced in the last year's report to manage the Communication and Education functions has become fully staffed and operational.

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

The Executive provided advice for Senate estimates committee meetings, preparation of parliamentary questions and conducted effective liaison with the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator the Hon Robert Hill and his office during the year.

The Authority's policies were reviewed internally during the year. Most of the policies of GBRMPA derive from past decisions of meetings of the Marine Park Authority. This year, the Authority largely completed a process which:

- has drawn together its existing policies;
- has identified matters for policy development and review; and
- has established a format and formal process for policy development.

The Executive has given significant attention to risk management and audit issues, which has resulted in improved confidence in the Agency's compliance with fiscal and governance issues.

GBRMPA continues to be recognised nationally and internationally in relation to the marine environment, natural resource and coral reef management. The Authority continued to participate actively in the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) with the Executive acting as a point of contact for ICRI. Staff presented to the Bali International Coral Reef Symposium, and presented papers to conferences of significance to marine protected area and scientific forums throughout the year.

Additionally, members of the Executive led the Australian delegation to the United Nations Forum on Oceans in New York. During the Forum, the Australian delegation raised important environmental issues relating to the establishment of Marine Protected Areas and the conservation of biodiversity on the high seas.

LEGAL SERVICES

The Legal Services Unit provides and coordinates the provision of legal advice and services to the Authority, and assists with policy development. In addition, the unit provides legal assistance to officers of the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) and the Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol (QBFP) relating to day-to-day management issues such as permit and enforcement matters. In general, the scope of the legal advice provided is very broad, covering diverse areas such as contracts, intellectual property, administrative law, international law and native title.

The unit is responsible for managing the preparation and amendment of legislation and liaison with external service providers, including the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department. The unit coordinates all litigation in which the Authority is involved and processes all Freedom of Information (FOI) requests. An additional legal officer joined the unit during this period.

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

1. Ensure timely and accurate legal advice is delivered to the Authority.
2. Ensure the Authority's interest in litigation is competently represented and, to the extent possible, ensure that the Authority's involvement in litigation is minimised.
3. Drive the timely progression of legislation subject to the constraints of the Government's legislative program.
4. Ensure that appropriate commercial legal support is provided to the Authority as required.
5. Ensure that competent legal support is provided for the Authority's corporate governance.
6. Ensure that the Legal Services Unit is managed effectively and competently.

(Performance Analysis

Significant achievements for the 2000-01 financial year include:

- the conduct of legal awareness training;
- provision of legal support for the defence of legal proceedings in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT), the Federal Court of Australia, the High Court of Australia, the Queensland Planning and Environment Court, and the Supreme Court of Queensland;

- providing legal support and managing the amendment of regulations, the Act, the Plans of Management, and the Zoning Plans;
- processing FOI requests; and
- providing an effective legal support for branch operations and the achievement of corporate objectives.

Legal Awareness

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

Training

The staff of the unit conducted internal training in relation to contracts and the legislative regime associated with the environmental management charge. Training relating to obligations under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act*, was also provided. Internal staff training facilitated the achievement of work programs in accordance with good administrative practice.

Litigation and Referrals

The staff of the unit managed 15 pieces of litigation over the course of the year - one in the High Court, 11 in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT), one in the Federal Court, one in the Queensland Supreme Court, and one in the Queensland Planning and Environment Court. The Authority received decisions in its favour in relation to two of these actions (including a three week appeal in the AAT). Two actions were successfully settled in the Authority's favour (including recovery of the Authority's legal costs), four actions were withdrawn by applicants, two actions against the Authority were struck out by the AAT, one action has been adjourned, and four actions are ongoing.

There were no comments by the Commonwealth Ombudsman relating to any permit decision of the Authority in 2000-01.

MINISTERIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY LIAISON

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

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

(Performance Analysis

Two staff are located within Environment Australia in Canberra. During the year, this unit was extensively involved in liaison and management of the Tandem Thrust Defence activities within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and in the development, formulation and coordination of Authority inputs to matters of environmental impact assessments undertaken by Environment Australia.

The unit also prepared briefing documents for Authority appearances before Parliamentary committees and provided the secretariat support for the meeting of the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council on 8 June 2001. The unit also provides a central point for all coordination requests from Environment Australia and Canberra-based Commonwealth Departments.

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

Through developing the Vision, Principles for Management and Corporate Values of the Authority, and with guidance from the 25-year Strategic Plan, a series of issues have been identified as being crucial for the wellbeing of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area and for the management of their use.

These key issues are:

- Conservation and biodiversity;
- World Heritage status;
- Water quality;
- Fisheries;
- Tourism and recreation;
- Coastal development;
- Shipping and ports; and
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander relationships.

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

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

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

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

CONSERVATION, BIODIVERSITY AND WORLD HERITAGE

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

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

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

1. Ensure the natural values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are maintained or enhanced, with particular emphasis on:
 - threatened species, the Region's unique fauna and flora, areas of high ecological value and critical habitats; and
 - the identification and protection of areas representing the range of biodiversity within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
2. Ensure the cultural values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park are maintained or enhanced.
3. Ensure the Authority's involvement within the Marine Park meets the obligations of the World Heritage Convention and other relevant international obligations (including the Convention on Biological Diversity, CITES, Ramsar and UNCLOS).

(Threatened Species)

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

(Performance Analysis)

Dugong Recovery and Conservation

Major efforts continued in regard to dugong conservation.

Management

- Continued close liaison with other government agencies regarding management actions including surveillance and enforcement, public awareness, and carcass and live stranding procedures.
- Coordinated a detailed inter-agency report on dugong conservation for a Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council meeting on 8 June 2001.
- Commented on the initial phase of a review of Queensland's wildlife legislation.

- Contributed to consideration regarding the permitting of commercial dugong watching in the GBRMP. A single permit has been issued on a trial basis.

Public Awareness and Education

- Distributed tide tables for local areas along the Queensland coast and stickers displaying the Marine Animal Hotline telephone number and messages to 'help look after our marine animals'.
- Provided many media releases and interviews.
- Delivered several presentations on dugong carcasses and conservation to Local Marine Advisory Committee meetings.
- Presented papers on GBRMP marine mammals, their conservation and use, at one international and two national professional conferences.

Research and Training

- Received final reports commissioned by the Authority into:
 - an analysis of dugong population trends between 1962-1999 as indicated by bycatch data from the Queensland Shark Control Program;
 - a November-December 1999 aerial survey of dugong numbers in the southern Great Barrier Reef south of Innisfail;
 - whether there is a seasonal distribution of dugong; and
 - the stomach contents of dugong carcasses from the Townsville- Hinchinbrook Region.
- Funded an aerial survey in November-December 2000 of dugong numbers between Innisfail and Cape York.
- Continued to fund contracts let in 1998-1999 on surveys of seagrass in the remaining unsurveyed Zone A Dugong Protection Areas (DPAs), conducted development of methods to estimate absolute abundance of dugongs, and documented Indigenous communities' knowledge of dugong ecology and behaviour.

Turtle Conservation

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

- chairing an inter-agency steering committee with QEPA and Environment Australia to develop a population model for the southern green turtle genetic breeding stock. This followed advice that the population may be in the early stages of a decline;
- continuing to work towards a Marine Turtle Conservation Policy by incorporating recommendations from the National Turtle Recovery Plan and considering human-related impacts specific to the GBRMP;
- writing and publishing a compendium of information about marine turtles in the

- GBRWHA (available on GBRMPA website); and
- managing a contract that assists the monitoring of green turtles in their feeding ground at Shoalwater Bay.

Whale and Dolphin Conservation

Implementation of the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Policy for the GBRMP is proceeding. Actions this year included:

- public notices issued warning commercial tour operators against start up investment in the swimming-with-dwarf minke whale industry; and
- educational information provided to commercial and recreational whale-watchers.

Marine Animal Stranding Responses

As endorsed by the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council, high priority continues to be given to responding to dugong carcass and live-stranding incidents. Thirty-seven carcasses were recovered in the GBRWHA in 2000-01 and their cause of death investigated. Results indicate that cause of death were as follows: 20 died from unknown causes, two from unidentified human-related causes, one was hit by a boat, one was caught in a net, one was tangled in a line with a mesh net, anchor and buoys, five died from natural cause from disease and seven from natural cause in the form of pneumonia. Nineteen dugongs were recovered in Zone A DPAs; one was recovered adjacent to Zone A DPAs and two were recovered adjacent to Zone B DPAs. Ten were recovered in Zone B DPAs.

Through a joint process with QEPA:

- an effective internal (government staff) and external (public) e-mail reporting network for stranding/carcasses was maintained;
- training and coordination meetings regarding live strandings and carcasses were conducted;
- assistance was provided at necropsies of carcasses in the Townsville region; and
- veterinary training dealing with marine animals occurred under the Authority's sponsorship.

Queensland Shark Control Program (QSCP)

The Authority liaises with the QSCP regarding its operations in the Cairns, Townsville and Mackay regions, to ensure that the level of non-target bycatch caught in nets set under the QSCP is minimal.

Other Species and General Conservation Issues

- A compendium of information and basis for the Species Conservation Program of the Authority was published under the title *Fauna and flora of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area* (also available on GBRMPA's website).
- The Species Conservation Unit provided comment on species conservation issues

through many other government processes including:

- on the text of a Threatened Species Awareness Course prepared on behalf of the Queensland Seafood Industry Training Council;
- on national marine species protection proposals and activities referred by Environment Australia under the EPBC Act (*see Appendix D*); and
- general bird conservation issues.

(Representative Areas Program)

The objectives of the Representative Areas Program (RAP) are to help:

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

The Program aims to maximise biodiversity protection while minimizing any economic, cultural or social impacts upon Traditional Owners, other users or other relevant parties.

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

(Performance Analysis)

Classification of Marine Diversity

The map of the marine biodiversity of the GBRWHA was refined, with public input and scientific review, and finalised for use in RAP. There are now 70 bioregions (30 reef and 40 non-reef bioregions). An independent review of the classification phase and bioregions found both to be of 'very high quality'.

Informing the Interested Public

During 2000-01, GBRMPA staff conducted an 'informal' consultation phase seeking input from and sharing information with stakeholders using:

- a printed questionnaire;
- two update brochures;
- public and community group presentations;
- media releases;
- newsletters;

- the Internet; and
- publication of the final bioregion maps.

GBRMPA is currently preparing to launch the first formal Community Participation phase of the Representative Areas Program.

Review of Existing Network of Highly Protected Areas

Although there are 135 no-take areas (including no-go areas) in the GBRMP, most are quite small varying from 0.04 - 800km² (only one is very large: 9 155 km²). The review also indicates that of the 70 bioregions, 38 currently have less than five per cent of the bioregion set aside as 'no take' areas or 'green' zones. Of these, 30 bioregions have less than three replicate 'no-take' areas. The RAP aims to increase the level of protection for biodiversity across the Marine Park, especially within the 38 bioregions with little or no green zones.

Table 1.

Number of bioregions which have the indicated percentage of area highly protected						
% protected	Zero 'no-take' areas	<1 - 5%	>5 - 15%	>15 -25%	>25%	Total
<i>Bioregion Type</i>						
Reef bioregions	1	8	9	3	9	30
Non-reef bioregions	13	16	4	3	4	40
Total	14	24	13	6	13	70

Identification of Candidate Areas

The biophysical operational principles developed by reef and non-reef experts and the Scientific Steering Committee help achieve the objectives of the program and have been approved for use within RAP. Their implementation within computer-assisted reserve selection software has been progressed. High priority biophysical datasets have been identified and prepared for use in the analytical process on the basis that they:

- help implement the operational principles;
- complement the information reflected in the bioregions;
- are comprehensive; and
- are reliable.

The analytical tool will enhance the transparency of RAP because it requires that the criteria and data used to help decision-making are well defined.

Selection of Candidate Areas

Social, economic, cultural and management feasibility principles have been developed by the Social, Economic and Cultural Steering Committee to help maintain cultural, social and economic values as well as optimise public understanding, acceptance and management effectiveness. The principles intend to maximise complementarity of any new zoning with human uses and values. Sixty layers of cultural, social, economic and management data are being collated to help implement these principles including:

- existing GBRMPA zoning and other management information;
- aggregate commercial fisheries data;
- recreational fishing data;
- other recreational use data;
- Native Title claims; and
- tourism use.

One of the newest datasets comprises information provided by the community and key stakeholders to GBRMPA staff during the informal community participation phase. This data shows extractive use areas and areas of high biodiversity value which stakeholders considered should or should not be in no-take areas.

The Marine Park will be rezoned as part of the program to ensure the protection of areas which represent all the differing marine habitat types. All biophysical, cultural, social, economic and management data will be combined with input from stakeholders and the public to assist in the development of new zone boundaries.

(Cultural Heritage)

GBRMPA is required by its own regulations to have regard to protect the cultural and heritage values of Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples when assessing permit applications. It is also important to protect, conserve and present the Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural heritage values in the GBRWHA.

GBRMPA has commenced work towards developing cooperative management agreements in conjunction with some Indigenous communities adjacent to the GBRWHA. Cultural information will also be used to assess the implications of alternative management models under the RAP.

(Performance Analysis)

Awareness-raising campaigns for threatened species were undertaken in a number of Indigenous communities. Because of the significance of dugong and turtle to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, conservation programs continue to take account of cultural sensitivities.

In recognition of the need to understand the range of cultural values people have for the Great Barrier Reef, GBRMPA is involved through the CRC Reef in a project reporting on the cultural values of the Marine Park. This research task will incorporate

consideration of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural values as they exist for the Great Barrier Reef.

(World Heritage)

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

Approximately 99.4% of the GBRWHA is comprised of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. However the following areas within the GBRWHA are not part of the Commonwealth Marine Park:

- most islands (many are Queensland National Parks and only a few are under Commonwealth control e.g. lighthouse stations);
- internal waters of Queensland (e.g. many deep bays or narrow inlets); nor
- a number of small coastal exclusions areas around ports or major centres (e.g. Cairns).

The protection of World Heritage values and attributes for the GBRWHA is a major responsibility of the Commonwealth. Maintenance of those values and attributes is an important consideration in the decision-making and management practices of the Authority.

(Performance Analysis)

- The World Heritage Bureau and the World Heritage Committee held their 24th annual meetings in Cairns during 27 November - 2 December 2000. During these meetings, displays and brochures provided information about the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area and a number of field components enabled delegates, many from other countries, to experience the Reef first-hand.
- A progress report on the 'Framework for Management for the GBRWHA' was provided to the November 2000 meeting of the World Heritage Bureau and Committee. The report provided updated actions against the five priority action areas identified by the Australian Committee for The World Conservation Union (IUCN), namely, Land and Coastal Catchment Issues; Fisheries; Shipping and Ship-sourced Marine Pollution; Representative Areas; and Resources for Research and Management).
- Approximately 29 referrals under the EPBC Act (see Appendix D) were assessed in relation to potential significant impacts on world heritage values within the GBRMP.

—(Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage Reef Advisory Committee)—

A Reef Advisory Committee (RAC) was established by the Authority to advise the Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage Group. The Committee comprises a total of 15 members, including an independent Chair. The RAC met on 10-11 August 2000, 12 December 2000 (by teleconference) and 13-14 February 2001.

The Committee has provided valuable guidance on a variety of matters, in particular the Representative Areas Program and the Species Conservation Program.

WATER QUALITY AND COASTAL DEVELOPMENT

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

GBRMPA has identified that the long term health of the near shore region of the GBRWHA is under threat from both land based runoff and shipping activities. Consequently an integrated approach to catchment management, coastal development and shipping involving all levels of government, industries and stakeholders, is required for the effective protection of water quality values in the GBRWHA.

Strategic Direction

There is an identified need to improve the water quality of the GBRWHA due to:

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

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

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

For the effective management and protection of the GBRWHA it is vital that the connectivity between the land and the sea is recognised by all government agencies, industries and stakeholders. Therefore the Water Quality & Coastal Development (WQ&CD) Group are determining the source, transport and effects of pollutants on the biota and ecosystems of the GBRWHA and also instigating mechanisms to minimise and ameliorate the adverse impacts of these pollutants primarily derived from shipping activities, catchment activities and coastal development.

(Performance Analysis

Monitoring Sources, Fates and Effects of Pollutants

GBRMPA continued to compile strong scientific evidence on the impacts of anthropogenic pollutants in the GBRWHA.

This included involvement of WQ&CD Group staff in the preparation of reports and publication of scientific papers on subjects such as:

- ENCORE: the effect of nutrient enrichment on coral reefs;
- a review of water quality issues influencing the habitat quality in Dugong Protection Areas;
- flood plumes in the Great Barrier Reef lagoon: Spatial and temporal trends;
- Marine Pollution Bulletin (Special Edition) Sources, Fates and Consequences of Pollutants in the GBR;
- long term chlorophyll monitoring in the Great Barrier Reef lagoon: *Status Report 2 1993-1999*;
- population and major land use in the Great Barrier Reef Catchment Area: spatial and temporal trends; and
- *Great Barrier Reef Water Quality: Current Issues* paper.

This work also led to the completion of 12 collaborative water quality research programs which will result in the publication of information relevant to identification of sources, fates and effects of pollutants in the GBRWHA.

WQ& CD staff also published 25 papers and presented information to scientific journals and symposium respectively on the Great Barrier Reef. Papers covered subjects such as:

- pesticide and herbicide residues in sediments and seagrasses from the GBRWHA and Queensland coast;
- spatial extent and effects of land-sourced pollution in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area;
- the impact of the herbicide diuron on photosynthesis in three species of tropical seagrass;
- water quality in the GBRWHA: past perspectives, current issues and new research directions;
- the occurrence and impact of herbicides in the Great Barrier Reef;
- antifoulant (copper and butyltin) concentrations in sediments from the Great Barrier Reef, Australia.

Presentations were also made to meetings of the Water Quality Reef Advisory Committee and to several Local Marine Advisory Committees on water quality issues.

Management of coastal and catchment development activities adjacent to the GBRWHA

The management of most coastal and catchment activities is the responsibility of the Queensland Government, local governments, industry and individuals. GBRMPA's role in the past has been to ensure that development and assessment processes recognized and addressed potential impacts of their activities. In many instances this relied on largely voluntary compliance to industry Codes of Practice. This process has not delivered certainty with regard to protection of the values of the inshore GBRWHA. The WQ&CD Group worked to prepare strategies to move to a more comprehensive protection of water quality in this area.

The main achievements in developing and pursuing these strategies were:

- Input into Australian Water Quality Management Strategy including providing direction for Guidelines for Tropical Marine Waters.
- Working with the EIM Unit in preparing GBRMPA guidelines for assessment of Aquaculture, Dredging and Structures.
- Preparing document for internal review of island based sewage treatment plants in GBRWHA.
- Providing GBRMPA requirements for addressing water quality and coastal development issues to 10 Local Governments in the development of their new Planning Schemes under the Integrated Planning Act 1997.
- Participating in the development of the State and three Regional Coastal Management Plans.
- Participating in the development of four Regional Plans for Department of Local Government & Planning (which give direction to Local Government for addressing ecologically sustainable development in provisions in Planning Schemes).
- Organising two WQ&CD RAC meetings where policy direction, strategic work program and background documents on water quality and coastal development management were discussed.
- Providing GBRMPA comment to Queensland and Commonwealth assessment process for over 30 major projects in or adjacent to the GBRWHA. These included 17 referrals under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 for projects ranging from Impact Assessment Reports on Townsville Port Access Proposal, Cairns Esplanade redevelopment, Dalrymple Coal Terminal expansion and Herbert Master Land and Water Management Plan to 50 lot subdivision proposals adjacent to the GBRMP coast.

Water Quality

At the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council meeting on 8 June 2001 the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Hill, directed that GBRMPA prepare a Great Barrier Reef Water Quality Action Plan (the Action Plan). The Action Plan was to suggest end of catchment targets for all catchments adjacent to the GBRWHA and to identify the major catchment-based threats, identify priority catchments and sub-catchments in terms of potential risks, recommend specific targets (including pollution loads and concentrations) for individual river outflow water quality and for reef water quality and to suggest specific actions which need to be taken to improve the water quality entering the GBRWHA. This would include a timetable for implementation and arrangements for monitoring, reporting against the water quality targets and other information to the community.

GBRMPA has formed a committee of water quality experts with representatives from GBRMPA, the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS), the Australian Centre for Tropical Freshwater Research (ACTFR) and the CRC Reef to assist in identifying requirements to address the points above.

Aquaculture

GBRMPA introduced the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Aquaculture) Regulations 2000 and has now received approximately 30 notifications for new or upgrading aquaculture developments within the controlled area adjacent to the GBRWHA. The new regulations seek to ensure that a rigorous, open and transparent process of environmental impact assessment occurs for aquaculture proposals in areas adjacent to the GBR. The WQ&CD Group has had an important role in the development of discussion and background papers for aquaculture industry, developing GBRMPA's aquaculture assessment guidelines, in discussions with Queensland agencies on GBRMPA's requirements to process accreditation of Queensland's aquaculture assessment process and in discussions with Environment Australia regarding arrangement between Commonwealth agencies with an interest in aquaculture development. The State is also developing strategic plans for the location of further aquaculture developments adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef.

Legislative reform

GBRMPA continued to discuss its role with regard to Queensland's *Integrated Planning Act 1997* and has instituted an informal 'referral agency' status with Queensland Government departments and provided input into a Directory of State Interests to help guide local government in developing their Planning Schemes. The WQ&CD Group was involved in modifying the sewage provisions in the Act to introduce in conjunction with Queensland Agencies stronger regulation on ship sourced sewage and increased liabilities for ship sourced pollution and other boating activities.

Cooperative and integrated management

GBRMPA maintained its focus on developing partnerships with State agencies and local governments to maximise the relationship between Marine Park planning and land use planning. This year WQ&CD Group staff were invited to provide advice to the recently formed Regional Vegetation Management Committees. This will complement GBRMPA's representation in a range of forums for coastal planning and strengthen ties to industry representative bodies. The Water Quality Reef Advisory Committee (WQRAC) provided constructive comment on the Group's Business Plans and on specific policy issues. Much of the first few meetings of the WQRAC have been devoted to the presentation of information on the wide range of issues associated with management of water quality in the GBRWHA and its catchment.

One of the key strategies for water quality management is effective extension and education of stakeholders in the coastal areas adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef. The Group modified its strategic work program to place more emphasis on the communication of water quality issues, especially on the connectivity of ecosystems that drain into the Great Barrier Reef lagoon and their potential downstream impact on the marine environment. Part of this process includes education and awareness of farmers regarding downstream impacts of their activities.

Management of Shipping and Maritime Pollution Response

Shipping Management

The WQ&CD Groups strategies for addressing the management of shipping in the GBRWHA were to:

- take steps to minimize the risk of shipping accidents;
- develop response capacity in the event of an accident;
- reduce pollution entering the Park from shipping activities; and
- plan strategically to minimise impacts in the event of a shipping accident.

The main achievements in pursuing these strategies by the Group were:

- preparing GBRMPA's submission for the Review of Ship Safety and Pollution Prevention Initiatives;
- preparing a risk assessment on shipping incidents in the Marine Park with Qld agencies;
- developing a joint GBRMPA/DDM oil spill contingency plan;
- development of legislative changes to the Marine Park related to the discharge of sewage from vessels;
- developing Oil Spill Shoreline Assessment Guidelines;
- responding to the *Bunga Teratai Satu* grounding and coordinated cleanup;
- organising a workshop with relevant agencies for training staff in the use of the Shoreline Assessment Guidelines;
- organising training for staff in Incident Control Systems;
- preparing with Legal Services Unit, legislative changes to address environmental harm from shipping incidents in the Marine Park; and
- preparing a draft Memorandum of Understanding with Queensland Department of Transport (QDoT) and EPA for oil spill response responsibility and enforcement.

The oil spill risk assessment was completed, identifying accident 'hot spots' for the GBRWHA and measures to reduce the potential for accidents to occur within these areas. GBRMPA also completed Oil Spill Shoreline Assessment Guidelines for use by field staff, especially Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS).

Maritime Incident Response

This year saw one of the most significant shipping accidents in nearshore waters of the GBRMP. At Sudbury Reef just offshore from Cairns, the Malaysian vessel the *Bunga Teratai Satu* ran aground after failing to make a course change. Though the accident resulted in relatively minor damage to the Reef, it highlighted the problems of managing shipping within the Reef. GBRMPA allocated significant resources over a five month period to manage a successful clean-up operation.

This incident lead the Deputy Prime Minister and the Commonwealth Minister for Transport and Regional Services to set up a review into *Ship Safety and Pollution Prevention Measures in Torres Strait and the Great Barrier Reef*. The review was chaired by

the Australian Maritime Safety Authority and members of the review included the Chair of GBRMPA and the Manager of Maritime Services for Queensland Transport. The inquiry's report is due in late 2001 and its findings are likely to affect how GBRMPA manages shipping in the future.

FISHERIES

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

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

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

(Performance Analysis

A whole-of-ecosystem fisheries management approach is the clear direction of GBRMPA's fisheries policy. The Authority is working with Queensland and Commonwealth fisheries managers and stakeholder groups to achieve ecologically sustainable fisheries. To assist this process, a Fisheries Issues Group was established in 1998, comprised of staff with an extensive range of fisheries management and research expertise.

The group contributes to the fisheries management planning process with membership on Queensland and Commonwealth fisheries management advisory committees. The issues group also contributes to fisheries research and management through involvement in conferences, workshops and other internal and external working groups. Advice and direction is given to individual researchers.

Ecologically Sustainable Fishing

Following 15 months of negotiations between the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA), the Queensland Fisheries Service (QFS), the Queensland Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Queensland Seafood Industry Association (QSIA), an amended East Coast Trawl Fishery (ECTF) Management Plan came into force on 21 December 2000.

The Management Plan addressed many of the key outcomes of the 28th Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council Meeting. Most importantly, fishing effort was capped in the Queensland trawl fishery for the first time and operators were granted tradeable effort units based on their fishing history and vessel size. The effort limit initially imposed under the plan was 102 929 fishing days. This was based on the 1996 fishing level minus a 5% across-the-board reduction from industry. A \$20 million structural adjustment scheme for the fishery, which was half-funded by the Commonwealth Government, removed a further 10.86% of effort from the fishery. Provisions also exist under the plan upon trading of effort units/licences and vessel replacement for the further reduction of effort units, to compensate for effort creep in the fishery due to gear and technological advances.

The Management Plan also specifies that a review of the fishery must be carried out before 2004 to determine the ecological sustainability of the fishery. If this review shows that the fishery is not ecologically sustainable, further effort reductions will be required.

Phase 3 of research on the effects of line fishing in the Marine Park has commenced monitoring of stock recovery rates of reefs closed to fishing that were previously monitored while open to fishing. This will continue until 2005. The project also involves analysis of fish biology, life cycles, fishery economics, and the development of sustainability indicators for target species, bycatch and the impact of commercial fishing on tropical marine ecosystems. The study will provide Marine Park and fisheries managers with an evaluation of current and potential management strategies to ensure ecological sustainability. In the meantime, the Authority has worked with Queensland fisheries managers and stakeholder groups in developing new measures to protect stocks in the reef line and deep water rocky reef fisheries.

In 2000-01, GBRMPA contributed to the development of management and compliance arrangements for all fisheries in the Marine Park that are managed by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries (QDPI). GBRMPA also participated in the QDPI Foresight 2010 project. This ensured that strategic directions developed for the next 10 years will recognise and encompass the requirements of the Marine Park. These were in accordance with directions and objectives enunciated in GBRMPA's 25 year Strategic Plan.

Protection of Rare and Threatened Species

The revised East Coast Trawl Fishery (ECTF) Management Plan restricts the commercial take of trawlers to principal (i.e. target) and permitted (i.e. bycatch) species only. In order to reduce the incidental catch of non-target and non-bycatch species, the plan makes the use of turtle excluder and bycatch reduction devices mandatory throughout the fishery. The deepwater trawl fishery was given an exemption until the end of 2001 in order to improve the design of these devices for their specialised deepwater operations. The revised trawl plan also aims for a 40% reduction of non-target species taken and a 25% reduction in the amount of benthos taken.

Protection of Critical Habitats and Representative Areas

Marine protected areas are an important tool in safeguarding fish stocks and habitats. This strategy has included areas selected under the Authority's zoning plans and plans of management, and input to designation of fishing closures under Queensland fisheries legislation. In addition, the Authority has been active in addressing issues of land-based impacts on estuarine and coastal habitats. During 2000-01, GBRMPA has been active in obtaining information on fisheries resource use for utilisation in the Representative Areas Program. The involvement of fisheries stakeholders is essential to ensure biodiversity is protected while minimising the impact on commercial and recreational fisheries.

Under the revised ECTF Management Plan approximately 96 000 km² of additional grounds were closed to trawling. These new closures prevent the expansion of the trawl fishery into areas where historically there had been little or no trawling.

The Marine Park Authority is attempting to mitigate the impacts of fishing and tourism on fish spawning aggregation sites (FSAS) in the Marine Park to ensure the maintenance of FSAS and the aggregating fish that depend on them. One key component in the development of mitigation strategies is the ability of field assessment staff to identify FSAS characteristics for key species, identify fish behavioural characteristics during and outside spawning seasons and assess the potential impacts of human activities on FSAS. During October 2000, a training course was run by the Fisheries Issues Group on FSAS identification and assessment.

Equitable Access Recognising Traditional Needs

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

Integration of Fisheries and Ecosystem Management

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

Information Base

The revised ECTF Management Plan requires all trawl vessels to carry Vessel Monitoring System units. These units allow the movements of the trawl fleet to be monitored on a regular and individual basis. Analysis of this information will assist in understanding the dynamics of the trawl fleet. A new and improved trawl logbook has also been introduced, which provides for the recording of target and bycatch species and the accidental take of rare or threatened species.

Information is collated for core databases on the distribution of fishing catch and effort, fish spawning aggregation sites, and fisheries jurisdictional boundaries and closures. Supported by impact studies as well as biological and socio-economic research projects, this information provides a better understanding of spatial patterns of fishing effort and is essential to integrated fisheries and ecosystem management.

Community Awareness and Compliance

User groups and communities are consulted and involved in the development of Marine Park zoning and management plans and Queensland's fisheries regulations. A communication and education program further enhances public understanding and acceptance of the fishing regulations in the Marine Park management strategy.

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

Amendments to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act received royal assent from the Governor General on 21 June 2001. These amendments included provision to increase the maximum fines for illegal fishing contrary to Marine Park zoning provisions to

\$260 000 for an individual and \$1.1 million for a body corporate. GBRMPA's legislation will continue to be reviewed to streamline fisheries enforcement in the Marine Park. The Authority is also seeking to ensure that illegal fishing in the Marine Park is considered a serious fisheries offence under Queensland Fisheries Service (QFS) fisheries management plans, and that appropriate additional penalties, such as licence suspension, apply to offenders under Queensland management regulations.

Future management of the Queensland coral reef finfish fishery

The Queensland Fisheries Service is developing a management plan for the coral reef finfish fishery. This fishery occurs primarily within the GBRMP and includes commercial, recreational and tourist charter boat fishers. Given its Marine Park and World Heritage responsibilities, the Authority has a lead role in providing input into the development of the management plan for the fishery.

In July 2000, an independent expert panel was commissioned by the Authority to review the Queensland draft management plan and provide advice. The panel met with key representatives of stakeholder groups including GBRMPA, the Queensland Fisheries Service (QFS), commercial, recreational and charter fishing organisations, the World Wide Fund for Nature and scientists working on reef fish stocks. Having considered the panel's report, the Authority has proposed a suite of management measures for incorporation into a management plan for the fishery. These measures include:

- Qualifying criteria for commercial licences so that only those licences with a genuine dependence on the fishery in the agreed qualifying years are to be exempt from future possession limits.
- Transferable time units to be introduced for these commercial licence holders within the first two years of the management plan. Total allowable fishing effort to be based on scientific advice.
- Permanent closures to be evaluated as an integral part of the plan.
- To address local depletion risks, areas for reduced possession limits applying to all fishers to be designated within the first two years of the management plan.
- Total recreational possession limit to be reduced to 20 fish. Limits for individual species or where necessary for identification or compliance, species groups, to be set at five. Alternate limits for selected species may be evaluated where beneficial to fish stocks.
- The recreational possession limit to apply also for fishers on charter boats.
- Complete protection of barramundi cod, Maori wrasse and potato cod.
- Nine-day closures to apply throughout the fishery around the new moon in October, November and December to protect spawning aggregations.
- Maximum of two hooks per fishing line.
- Where necessary, revised size limits to apply for individual species in light of the latest scientific information.
- All fishers who are subject to possession limits to be allowed to head or fillet product only on the condition that all retained fish portions remain above the minimum size limit for that species. Skin must be kept on for identification purposes. Fish must be kept whole where a maximum size limit applies to that species.

(Fisheries Reef Advisory Committee)

A Fisheries Reef Advisory Committee (RAC) advises the Fisheries Critical Issues Group. The RAC comprises a total of 14 members, including an independent Chair. The Committee met on 29-30 March 2001 and again on 28-29 June 2001.

TOURISM AND RECREATION

Tourism is the principal commercial use of the Marine Park. During 2000-01, commercial tourism operators carried around 1.6 million visitors to the Marine Park (not including island transfer passengers), a similar figure to the previous year. Over 90 per cent of this tourism is centred within the Cairns and Whitsunday areas of the Marine Park.

Data from the Environmental Management Charge (EMC) returns indicate that while visitor numbers remained relatively stable over the last year, more vessel trips were recorded. This indicates a greater effort by existing operators and the establishment of new tourist operations in the Marine Park. Visitors are now being transported to the Marine Park on a greater number of vessels.

In response to increased demand for access to the Marine Park for the purposes of tourism and recreation, the Authority is developing a more strategic, reef-wide framework for managing tourism impacts. The aim is to effectively manage cumulative impacts of tourism use and to minimise displacement effects on other users.

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcomes

Maximise opportunity for tourism and recreation use of the Marine Park which is ecologically sustainable, equitable and efficient.

Strategic Objectives

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

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

Introduction of Plans of Management for the Cairns Area and the Whitsundays (in addition to the existing Zoning Plans) and simplified standard permits and policies, such as those for cruise ships using the Marine Park, all contribute to this strategic framework.

Integral to these policies and plans are tourism industry training and accreditation programs and the encouragement of best practice by industry.

Crucial to the success of this management approach is the strengthening of working relationships with the marine tourism industry.

(Performance Analysis

Management Planning

During 2000-2001, the Tourism and Recreation Group has been involved, through membership of the joint Authority/QPWS Implementation Working Group, in preparing a number of amendments to the Cairns Area and the Whitsundays Plans of Management.

These amendments are necessary to address some ongoing issues since the plans were last amended in October 1999. The proposed amendments include improved access arrangements for boutique cruise vessels, long-range rovers, support service operations and passenger transport operations; new permits for swimming-with-whales activities; contingency arrangements for site-dedicated tourism operators and provisions reflecting site planning outcomes.

Moorings Management and Allocation

During 2000-01, the Tourism and Recreation Group was part of the steering committee for the allocation of new moorings in the Cairns Area. As of 30 June 2001, many of the available moorings had been allocated, with the remaining allocations in final stages of assessment.

In December 2000, the Tourism and Recreation Group contributed to a series of site planning meetings in Cairns and Port Douglas, to determine the appropriate balance of private and public access opportunities at 12 locations in the Cairns Area. These meetings effectively resolved a number of outstanding site-based issues, assisting the Cairns mooring allocation process.

Reef-wide Policy

Bareboats

In early 2001, the Tourism and Recreation Group commenced development of a policy for the reef-wide management and use of bareboats in the Marine Park. This policy seeks to consolidate previous decisions of the Authority in relation to bareboats and complements current management arrangements in the Whitsundays.

As of 30 June 2001, a draft policy had been developed and preliminary consultation had

occurred with a range of stakeholders including QPWS, Queensland Transport and the marine tourism industry. The Authority anticipates a final bareboat policy by late 2001, following a period of public consultation.

On 28 June 2001, new regulations were passed giving effect to the Whitsunday bareboat accreditation program (see below). These regulations take effect from 1 January 2002 and have been developed with support from the local bareboat industry and community.

Moorings

During 2000/2001, the Tourism and Recreation Group progressed development of a policy for the reef-wide management and use of moorings in the Marine Park. This policy seeks to consolidate previous decisions of the Authority in relation to moorings and complements current management arrangements in the Whitsundays and Cairns Area.

As of 30 June 2001, a draft policy had been scoped and preliminary consultation had occurred with a range of stakeholders including QPWS, Queensland Transport and the marine tourism industry. The Authority anticipates a final moorings policy by late 2001, following a period of public consultation.

Draft regulations have also been prepared to support the standard mooring buoy requirements set out in the moorings policy. Standardising mooring buoys will assist in the recognition, use and management of moorings installed in the Marine Park, and will simplify compliance monitoring and enforcement.

Cruise Ships

The Tourism and Recreation Group has been leading a technical working group progressing a risk analysis for a proposed cruise ship anchorage in the Fitzalan Passage near Hamilton Island in the Whitsundays region. The technical working group comprises representatives of the Authority, QPWS, Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), Queensland Transport (QDoT), Royal Australian Navy Hydrographers, Reef Pilots and representatives of the cruise ship industry. The group last met on 30 November 2000.

Boutique Cruise Vessels

The Tourism and Recreation Group has been working with representatives of an emerging boutique cruise industry to improve access arrangements for boutique cruise vessels in the Cairns Area. Proposed amendments to the Cairns Area Plan of Management have been prepared to implement these arrangements.

Tourism in Protected Areas

The Authority is participating in a Queensland Government 'Tourism in Protected Areas' initiative, aimed at improving management of tourism in all of Queensland's protected areas. The Chair attended the Second Industry Forum on Improving Commercial Operations in Protected Areas held on 24 August 2000. The Tourism and Recreation Group represented the Authority on an intergovernmental steering committee and at two workshops focussing on improving management of tourism in Queensland's protected areas.

Training

The Great Barrier Reef Tourism Staff Certificate Course was conducted 36 times during the year by trainers predominantly based in the Port Douglas, Cairns, Townsville and Whitsundays areas. In total, 346 participants completed the courses and were issued certificates by the Authority. A number of large tourism operators and members of the dive industry have incorporated the course into their staff training programs.

Accreditation

A program for the accreditation of bareboat (self-sail) operations in the Whitsundays, based on the adoption of operating standards, has been established with significant industry involvement. At this time, about half of the 33 Whitsunday bareboat operations have voluntarily adopted the standards.

A key component of this program is the requirement for bareboat operations to employ appropriately qualified staff. To achieve this, a training course specifically for bareboat staff has been developed jointly by the industry and the Authority, with input from Queensland Transport. The course has been delivered through the Barrier Reef Institute of TAFE (Whitsunday Campus). Two hundred and four participants have completed the course, of which 70 are currently registered with the Authority as either bareboat briefers or radio operators.

Bareboat accreditation will assist in raising the profile and professionalism of the bareboat industry in the Whitsundays region, with flow-on benefits to the environment. Regulations supporting the Whitsunday bareboat accreditation requirements were gazetted 5 July and will become operational on 1 January 2002.

Publications

The Chair launched the Tourism Operators Handbook for the Great Barrier Reef in Cairns on 1 March 2001. The Handbook is a plain-English user's guide that brings together in one document, the relevant management provisions and standards for best environmental practice when operating in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

The Tourism and Recreation Group managed development of the Handbook, with guidance from a steering committee that included representatives of the marine tourism industry, QPWS and the Marine Park Management Coordination Unit. Members of the marine tourism industry have welcomed the Handbook, with over 500 copies being sold or distributed during 2000-01.

The Tourism and Recreation Group also developed two Guides to the Great Barrier Reef in September 2000. *The Cruise Ship Guide* and the *Superyacht Guide* were specifically aimed at use of the Reef by large vessels and addressed both management strategies and the most appropriate way to conduct activities in the Marine Park with minimal impact.

Tourism and Recreation Reef Advisory Committee (TRRAC)

The TRRAC was established to provide expert advice to the Authority on policy development relevant to the Tourism and Recreation Group's objectives. The Committee, comprised of 18 members, met four times in 2000-01 (31 August-1 September 2000, 7-8 December 2000, 22-23 March 2001 and 14-15 June 2001) and focussed on developing advice on improving the management of tourism and recreation use of the Marine Park. The TRRAC made significant progress during 2000-01 on developing a new cooperative framework for sustainable use and management of tourism and recreation opportunities in the Marine Park.

(SERVICE GROUPS

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

- Program Delivery
- Information Support
- Corporate Services
- Communication and Education Coordination.

PROGRAM DELIVERY

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

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

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

(Performance Analysis

Environmental Management Systems (Permits)

During the year the Authority received 911 applications for permission to conduct activities in the GBRMP. A total of 990 permits comprising 1 006 permissions were

granted for a range of activities. A further 79 permits were transferred between operators during the year. QPWS, as delegates of the Authority, issued a total of 170 permits for collecting, moorings and educational permits during the year. Twenty two requests for reconsideration of Authority permit decisions were processed.

GBRMPA and QPWS adopted a new streamlined joint permit assessment process as a longer term solution to processing applications in a more efficient manner. Under the new system, a significant improvement in processing times has been achieved. Approximately 75 - 80% of routine applications are now processed within eight weeks.

The requirement for Native Title notification of all GBRMP permits continues to restrict the Authority's ability to process applications in less than eight weeks. An initiative of the streamlined assessment process was the implementation of a joint GBRMPA/QPWS Native Title notification process. The Chair exercised delegations under section 7A of the GBRMP Act and approved the Authority staff providing assistance to Queensland by conducting Native Title notification on its behalf for joint Marine Parks permits.

As a result of implementing provisions of the Cairns Area Plan of Management relating to new moorings, the Authority received 157 applications for moorings in the Cairns Section.

Work has commenced on the development of a new database to improve the efficient operation of the permits system. Spatial Vision have been contracted to design the new web-based system which is expected to be fully operational by early 2002. The new system will provide an improved mechanism for dissemination of information relating to permits.

Table 2.

Permissions granted since 1996-7 for activities related to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park					
Permission Type	1996-1997	1997-1998	1998-1999	1999-2000	2000-2001
Tourism programs	311	352	204	432	502
Research programs	160	152	105	170	114
Education programs	44	46	63	61	69
Moorings	35	25	1	30	113
Collecting	60	54	69	66	103
Traditional hunting	57	52	35	17	1
Sea dumping	0	0	2	2	1
Offshore structures	17	14	3	8	8
Removal of dangerous animals	14	12	5	23	20
Waste discharge	8	6	1	2	2
Tourist facilities	6	8	3	6	5
Land based aquaculture	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2
Other activities	42	58	24	43	71
Total permissions granted	754	779	515	860	1011

Environmental Impact Management

Major Projects

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

During the year over 70 major developments were considered by GBRMPA; 50 assessments were completed in 2000-01 which exceeded our projected performance. These include: large, complex projects such as Nelly Bay Boat Harbour (Townsville), Keswick Island marina and airport (Mackay) and several offshore pontoon structures.

Additional work has been associated with the implementation of the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Aquaculture) Regulations 2000*. The Regulations relate to the discharge of waste from aquaculture facilities adjacent to the GBRWHA. Thirty notifications for aquaculture developments adjacent to the GBRWHA were received by GBRMPA in 2000-01.

Planning

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

Cairns Area and Whitsundays Plans of Management

Plans of Management for the Cairns Area and Whitsundays, gazetted on 22 June 1998, have been progressively implemented.

Hinchinbrook Area

Work has continued on the Hinchinbrook Plan of Management. Interim Management Arrangements will remain in place until this plan is finalised. The Hinchinbrook Plan of Management will be a statutory plan for GBRMP areas in the Hinchinbrook region. Preparation of the Plan is being undertaken in association with development of a complementary Queensland management plan being developed by the QPWS. Both plans will aim to address issues in the Hinchinbrook Island area, renowned for its wilderness qualities.

Extensions to the Marine Park

Proposals for 28 extensions to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park were prepared for consideration by the Federal Executive Council. This process included detailed discussion with relevant stakeholders and the Queensland Government. All 28 areas were incorporated into the Marine Park during the year.

Far Northern Section

A revised Zoning Plan, prepared as an outcome of the review of the Far Northern Section, was approved by both Houses of Parliament in 2000. The Plan has yet to become operational.

The Far Northern Section is regarded as the most remote and biologically diverse of all Marine Park sections. The management intent is primarily the protection of biodiversity, recognition of the interests of Indigenous peoples adjacent to the section, the maintenance of the remote and undeveloped character of the region, and the provision for ecologically sustainable use.

Gumoo Woojabuddee Section

The Gumoo Woojabuddee Section, situated adjacent to the central Queensland coast in the Shoalwater Bay region, was proclaimed in 1998 in response to the recommendations of the 1993-1994 Commonwealth Commission of Inquiry into the Shoalwater Bay. Preparation of a zoning plan for the Section continued during the year and is expected to be tabled in Federal Parliament during the 2001-2002 financial year. The plan is aimed at conserving the natural values of the area including dugong habitat while allowing for a diverse range of uses including recreational and commercial fishing and the operation of the Shoalwater Bay Defence Training Area.

Local Marine Advisory Committees

Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) were established by the Authority in 1999 at nine regional coastal communities along the Queensland coast; Cooktown, Port Douglas, Cairns, Mission Beach, Hinchinbrook, Townsville, Whitsunday, Mackay and Gladstone. There are currently eight LMACs operating following the decision by the Cooktown Committee not to stay within the LMAC structure in August 2000.

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

LMACs consist of volunteers. Members usually have an interest in marine resource issues and may be independent, or represent a constituent group. Each LMAC is chaired by a member who is charged with the task of monitoring the representativeness of the committee and recruiting additional members from existing and emerging interest groups. The committees are funded by the Authority to meet every two months.

An annual meeting of the LMAC Chairs held in April 2001 enabled members to discuss the progress of their work programs, local issues and ongoing projects with each other and with GBRMPA staff. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss achievements in light of an evaluation report. The report found that LMAC members and GBRMPA staff were satisfied with the communication link provided by the LMAC structure, but were concerned about expectations and achievable outcomes.

Indigenous Cultural Liaison Unit

Indigenous peoples live in all communities adjacent to the GBRMP coast. In total, there are more than 40 recognised language groupings traditionally affiliated with the area and a significant number of people with historical association.

To assist all areas of the Authority to deal with Indigenous issues, a four person unit operates within the Program Delivery Group. This Indigenous Liaison Unit provides strategic support and assistance to the four Critical Issues Groups and liaises directly with Indigenous representatives outside the government.

Following a request from the Ministerial Council, the Indigenous Liaison Unit assisted in the drafting of a costed strategy for cooperative management, involving Indigenous communities and managing agencies. The proposed strategy was presented to State and Federal Ministers on 8 June 2001. Ministers have requested that agencies focus on Indigenous Ranger proposals and local agreements.

At a local scale, continued support has been provided for arrangements for management of turtle and dugong hunting at Hope Vale. The Hope Vale Community developed a hunting management plan in 2000 which has received widespread attention. Support was provided to Giringun Elders, the Reference Group from Cardwell, and Darumbal Noolar-Murree Corporation in Rockhampton to increase involvement in day-to-day management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Indigenous Liaison staff also presented lectures at James Cook University summer school courses and participated in the cross-cultural induction training for new Authority staff and visiting guests.

Liaison with Defence on Activities in the GBRWHA

GBRMPA maintained a central coordinating role in liaison with the Department of Defence regarding its activities in the World Heritage Area. GBRMPA and the Department of Defence worked cooperatively to ensure that no significant environmental impact occurred as a result of exercise Tandem Thrust, which involved over 20 000 personnel and heavy equipment in activities around the Shoalwater Bay region.

INFORMATION SUPPORT GROUP

The Information Support Group works as a service group for all areas of the Authority, particularly the Critical Issues and Support Groups.

It comprises the following areas:

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

Major activities this year included:

- publication of a comprehensive list of research priorities for the management of the Marine Park and World Heritage Area;

- science and technology based support for the Representative Areas Program;
- coordination of a mini-symposium entitled *Managing the World's Largest Coral Reef Ecosystem* for the 9th International Coral Reef Symposium; and
- damage assessment and monitoring of the Sudbury Reef ship grounding and cleanup.

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

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

— (Performance Analysis

Research and Monitoring Coordination (R&MC)

It is the role of R&MC to ensure that management decisions are based on the best available scientific information. During 2000-2001, the unit continued to fulfil its six major functions of:

- identifying key information needs and research priorities;
- commissioning relevant research;
- coordinating the monitoring and control of impacts of major developments;
- disseminating research results;
- reporting on the status of the GBRWHA; and
- supporting training of postgraduate students.

The members of the unit maintain scientific expertise within GBRMPA necessary for understanding and interpreting this information.

Identifying Key Information Needs and Research Priorities -A New Approach

In 2000-2001, R&MC continued its new proactive approach to identifying information needs and setting research priorities for managing the GBRMP and World Heritage Area. GBRMPA's first comprehensive list of research and information needs was finalised and is now available on the GBRMPA web site at:
http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/info_services/science/research_priorities/index.html

This list has been used to ensure that research commissioned by GBRMPA (see below) is based on key needs for critical issues management.

Commissioning Research

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

Coordinating the Monitoring and Control of Impacts of Major Developments

A major task undertaken by R&MC was the ongoing implementation of the Impact Monitoring Program (part of the Environmental Impact Management Plan) for the Nelly Bay Harbour development on Magnetic Island. An Impact Monitoring Program is also being prepared for a development at Keswick Island.

Disseminating Research Results

In 2000-2001, GBRMPA hosted 27 presentations which were attended by a total of approximately 730 people, as part of the GBRMPA Seminar Series. This series disseminates the latest research information to researchers and managers in the Townsville area.

In 2000-2001, R&MC published two research publications. Details can be found on the Authority's web site. Another important tool for disseminating research results is the *Reef Research* newsletter. One edition of *Reef Research* was published in 2000-2001 and R&MC continues to receive positive feedback from the newsletter's readership. The most recent edition of *Reef Research* and back issues from 1996 onwards are also available on the Authority's web site at:
http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/info_services/publications/reef_research/.

Reporting on the Status of the GBRWHA

During 1999-2000, R&MC built on the success of the *State of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area* 1998 report. The entire report is available on the world wide web at:
http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/info_services/publications/sotr/.

The development of a set of environmental indicators for the GBRWHA has progressed. The final set of environmental indicators will form an integral part of continuing *State of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area* reporting.

Crown-of-thorns Starfish

The Authority is increasingly active in assisting the tourism industry in planning and ameliorating the impacts on tourism sites, of crown-of-thorns starfish outbreaks. Limited programs of permitted killing or removal of crown-of-thorns starfish can be undertaken by scientists and tourism operators to protect designated small areas of reef. Some uncertainty exists concerning the role of human activities in increasing the severity or frequency of outbreaks. The two human impacts most commonly proposed as possibly being linked to crown-of-thorns starfish outbreaks are overfishing and degraded water quality resulting from poor land use practices. These issues are the subject of management attention because they are of environmental concern, irrespective of the role they may play in any continuing starfish outbreaks. Populations of adult crown-of-thorns starfish between Innisfail and Townsville are currently high; many mid-shelf reefs are once again experiencing active outbreaks. Although populations of adults have diminished between Cooktown and Cairns, populations of juveniles are still high in at least some locations.

Coral Bleaching

As a result of a research collaboration between GBRMPA, the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), an early warning system for coral bleaching has been designed and implemented. A network of automatic weather stations has been established with permanent stations located at Agincourt Reef, Myrmidon Reef, Hardy Reef, Davies Reef, Cleveland Bay and Keppel Bay. Early warning will assist in the monitoring and reporting of coral bleaching, ensure that local-scale extra sources of stress on corals are avoided and keep Marine Park users informed.

Staff from the Authority are also involved with a research collaboration with AIMS and CSIRO's Atmospheric Research Division to undertake a risk assessment of coral bleaching and the effects of climate change. The two main areas of focus are designing and testing a regional scale climate model for the Great Barrier Reef and assessing the ability of corals to adapt to climate change.

In the summer of 2000-1, early warnings were received of stressful conditions and mild symptoms of coral bleaching at Myrmidon Reef. Fortunately these adverse conditions abated just in time, thus avoiding a widespread bleaching event.

Supporting Training of Postgraduate Students

In 2000-2001, the Authority awarded a total of \$9 783 to nine postgraduate students as Augmentative Research Grants. In addition, GBRMPA provided further support to postgraduate students through seven grants under the Australian Research Council's Strategic Partnerships with Industry, Research and Training scheme.

Other Functions

R&MC has provided social science support to GBRMPA's Representative Areas Program (RAP) by:

- providing technical advice as part of the RAP Social, Economic and Cultural Advisory Committee;
- developing survey instruments and workshop methods for gathering information about community links and associations with the Great Barrier Reef; and
- identifying, obtaining and applying appropriate social, economic and cultural data from secondary sources.

R&MC played an important role in support of the environmental response to the ship grounding at Sudbury Reef. R&MC staff were instrumental in the initial impact assessment and had lead responsibility for developing and implementing technical aspects of the cleanup program, including site planning, project design and risk assessment. R&MC staff also played a key role in on-site supervision of the cleanup effort, and in media representation of the issue.

In conjunction with the Environmental Impact Management Unit, R&MC provides ongoing support to the Environmental Research Ethics Advisory Committee (EREAC). The EREAC met three times during 2000-2001 in Townsville. The Committee was established to ensure that research conducted in the GBRWHA meets appropriate ethical standards relating to environmental impacts in the World Heritage Area.

Information Technology (IT)

Evaluating the effectiveness of outsourcing continued to be a major focus for the IT Unit, as did complying with the Government Online strategies during 2000-2001. Significant resources were utilised in these areas, with the Unit successfully meeting the Government Online timelines. Outsourcing is still under review following the release of the Humphries Report and other changes to Government policy on this matter.

Assessing and Prioritising User Needs

The IT Strategic Plan, which aims at addressing priority user needs, has been implemented. IT training courses were developed and modified to meet the increased requirements of the changing staff profile, the increasing complexity of software packages and the demands of a sophisticated professional staff. There continues to be a very high demand for IT training because of the number of temporary and contract staff.

Effective User Support to Improve Productivity

Streamlined help desk procedures and supporting software have been developed to ensure effective user support. Software and user procedures are being constantly refined to improve responsiveness to support needs.

A software audit was undertaken enabling more effective planning for future software upgrades.

Effective Information Systems to Meet Authority Needs

The outsourcing evaluation resulted in limited resources being available to address all the Information Systems requirements identified during the early 2000 needs analysis. However, significant progress was achieved in many areas including the Research Priorities database being placed online and the transition to an upgraded version of the database software.

The internal intranet has been redeveloped and relaunched to facilitate better access to information and ease of use. There is an increasing reliance on the intranet for corporate information and communication.

Effective Accessible Network and Technical Services

A new server was installed to replace four older generation servers. The main building was recabled and new switches installed to provide faster and more reliable access for the increasing demands being placed on the network.

Network and server availability continues to be maintained at a very high level.

Information Coordination and Analysis (ICA)

The Information Coordination and Analysis group (ICA) has responsibility for spatial data analysis and presentation including Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Cartography and Remote Sensing. This year saw ICA substantially increase its GIS requests activities, make significant progress toward re-mapping of the reef and provide major support for the Critical Issues Groups.

Support for Critical Issues Groups

Support for groups within the Authority was highly effective, especially for the Conservation, Biodiversity and World Heritage Group's Representative Areas Program, the Fisheries Issues Group, and Program Delivery.

Reef Mapping Project

This project aims to produce accurate and detailed maps of the entire Marine Park. This year, satellite coverage and ground control points were completed over the Marine Park. Recent advances in global positioning systems, combined with helicopter transport reduced the cost and time required for ground control point collection. GBRMPA can now (for the first time) produce 1:250,000 scale maps directly from its GIS databases, making a vital contribution to the Representative Areas Program.

Reef Naming

The Anniversary Reef Group was named to recognise the 25 years since the

establishment of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. Within this group, individual reefs have been named: Judith Wright Reef, Saville-Kent Reef, and Banfield Reef. In a separate case, a group of reefs was named after the Bandjin people, a local Indigenous group.

Outlook

The next financial year will see a major focus on spatial analysis and information to support the community participation phase of the Representative Areas Program. ICA will also support the new Protected Environment Management (permits) system by providing spatial information. The reef-mapping project will move into its classification stage, producing revised maps of reefs with much increased detail and accuracy.

Library Services

Library Services continue to adjust to meet the identified needs of the Organisation. A major review of the serials collection resulted in cancellations of many subscriptions. This resulted in a large increase in requests for electronic table of contents of a wide range of journal titles and an increase in requests for interlibrary loans. Feedback has been positive. Demand for Library Services has remained steady.

Developing GBRMPA Library Collection

New acquisitions to the Library Collection fell due to budget restraints. All groups were surveyed on their use of the serials collection. Subscriptions to over 80 serial titles were cancelled which resulted in an expenditure reduction of over 40%. Where possible, the paper issue of the title was replaced by an electronic table of contents. These were then offered to staff as an alternate method of access to the information. The Library online catalogue, *Horizon*, continues to provide a reliable service. The Library is preparing for the latest upgrade in the near future.

Reference Service

Library REVEAL and ALERT services continued to be efficient and effective in keeping staff up-to-date on relevant issues. Some existing ALERTs were cancelled and new ones established in response to the new demands. These services are offered electronically via e-mail. With interlibrary loan request forms available electronically on the Intranet, the request process is fast and streamlined. Access to electronic journals has been increasing. *Library Links*, an electronic newsletter providing relevant and interesting links to web based resources, continues to be distributed bi-monthly.

Image Collection

The Business Plan for the GBR Image Collection has been accepted by the Executive. The digitising project continued with 7 000 images scanned in 2000-01. Corporate Powerpoint presentations relied heavily on the digitised images from the Image Collection Catalogue available on both the intranet and internet. The quality, variety and number of images used in presentations at the International Coral Reef Symposium in Bali in October 2000 reflects the value of the GBR Image Collection to the Authority.

REEF Bibliographic Database

REEF is a bibliographic database managed by GBRMPA, which is commercially available both in CD format and via the Internet through Informit. REEF indexes journal articles, books, maps, videos, and CDROMs, which describe or illustrate some aspect of the Great Barrier Reef. Successful outsourcing arrangements for article indexing continue; records now include a short abstract. This adds to the quality of this nationally recognised database. Database updates met all deadlines for 2000-01.

Training and Advisory Services

Following downsizing and a review, the Training and Advisory Services unit was disbanded. Staff from the unit were reassigned to other areas within the Authority.

CORPORATE SERVICES

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

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

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

Strategic Objectives

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

Major Achievements

- Outcomes and outputs-based budget framework further developed to meet Government financial reporting requirements.
- New tax system implemented without incident with all reporting requirements met and input credits managed.
- Migrated to new financial system with smooth transition and increased reporting capacity.
- Developed new assets management reporting framework.
- Provided detailed submission on future aquarium funding and management arrangements.
- Undertook risk assessment and development of risk management plan.
- Completed fraud control plan to meet APS requirements.
- Introduced several corporate governance related guidelines including guidelines for project management and the employment of contractors.
- New Human Resource Management system extended to provide additional services and information.
- New Certified Agreement with staff finalised for three year period with significant productivity improvements and benefits to staff.
- Further development of consultative arrangements through the Authority Consultative Group.
- Completion of 12 important Human Resources guidelines and policies.
- Increased levels of training in performance management, workplace diversity, OH&S and other key Australian Public Service (APS) subject areas.
- Authority Strategic Plans for the periods 2000-01 to 2002-2003 developed and published.
- Development of Work Level Standards to meet APS requirements and Authority needs.
- Workplace diversity program put in place.
- Building and refurbishment program for main office complex completed within agreed timeframe and budget.
- Identification of OH&S issues and acceptance of strategy for resolution of outstanding issues.
- A sound EMC (Environmental Management Charge) compliance framework maintained with client reviews undertaken in the Whitsunday, Capricorn coast and Gladstone areas.
- Human Resource Management Unit staffing structure reviewed and revised structure put in place.
- Introduction of electronic funds transfer for certain payment categories.
- High quality Secretariat services provided to Authority Committee structure and management of additional workload associated with the establishment of four Reef Advisory Committees.

Resource Management

The alignment of the program structure to report on outputs and outcomes was further refined during the year with the majority of positions within the Authority being staffed

on a continuing basis. (Details of staffing as at 30 June 2001 are shown in Appendix E). The output groups developed for the 2000-01 portfolio budget statements provide an appreciation of the focus of the Authority's activities.

Corporate governance remained a high priority during the year and steps were taken to enhance compliance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.

Environmental Management Charge (EMC)

In 2000-01, the amount of the EMC collected by the Authority was \$6.0 million.

A review of compliance with EMC statutory requirements conducted during 1999-2000 recommended the introduction of a structured control framework. A sound compliance framework, which incorporates educational and client review elements has been introduced and a significant number of client reviews have been undertaken over the last two years. The staff within the EMC Unit are providing ongoing advice and guidance to clients to ensure that they are conversant with their statutory obligations. Continuing development and improvement of the compliance framework remained a high priority during the 2000-2001 financial year.

The Authority is using EMC revenue to fund research, provide user education and manage the Great Barrier Reef.

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

Payroll Services

Payroll services are delivered through an external bureau service with data input from the Human Resources Unit. This strategy is a cost-effective approach which was introduced without complication or incident. The new Human Resource Management Information system is starting to provide valuable information in areas such as training and Occupational Health & Safety.

These modules are being introduced to provide an important source of human resource data for strategic planning and future human resource management purposes.

Employee Development

During 2000-01, the Authority spent \$83 732 in providing learning and development opportunities for employees. This covered a wide range of activities including leadership, communication and negotiation skills, project management, performance management, Information Technology plus an array of relevant technical training. A review of the structure of the Human Resources Unit, the introduction of a new Human Resource Management Information system and the appointment of staff to key positions has provided an opportunity to plan a strategic approach to employee development.

Equal Employment Opportunity and Workplace Diversity

The Authority recognises the contribution made by its employees by providing a participative, consultative work environment. This enables employees to contribute to program development and decision-making processes within the statutory framework of the responsibilities and powers of the Authority. The Authority Workplace Diversity Plan has been completed and implementation has commenced. Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) data for the Authority's staff is provided in Appendix D.

The peak consultative mechanism between management and employees is the Authority Consultative Group (ACG). This group comprises a mix of management representatives and elected employee representatives. The ACG is scheduled to meet formally every three months with further opportunity to meet monthly. In addition to these formal meetings, elected representatives and management meet on an informal basis to consider issues as they arise. The number of management and employee representatives has been increased from three to five, giving the group a total of 10 active participants.

At each formal meeting of the ACG the following standing agenda items are discussed:

- Staffing and other resources
- Finances
- Workplace Diversity
- Accommodation
- Employee learning and development
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Employee recruitment and selection activity
- Information Technology

Other issues discussed by the ACG include:

- all changes to Human Resource Management guidelines;
- certified Agreement updates;
- work level standards; and
- review of Authority positions.

Workplace Diversity outcomes for the year include:

- Inclusion in GBRMPA Certified Agreement 2000-2003 of a number of family friendly and employee choice initiatives. These include flexible work hours, time-off in lieu of overtime arrangements, Purchased Leave, Home Based Work, part-time employment.
- Maintaining access to part-time work, particularly for female employees returning to work after periods of Maternity Leave.
- Sustained high level of use of Study Assistance by EEO target group members.
- Increased access by staff to timely and comprehensive information on employment related issues through the use of GBRMPA Intranet.
- Inclusion of a Carers' Room as part of the management offer for the certified agreement 2000-2003.

- Inclusion of Maternity Leave at half pay as part of the management offer for the certified agreement 2000-2003.
- Development of a Disability Action Plan.
- Completion of a Workplace Diversity Plan.
- Increase in the representation of women in the workplace. The percentage of female employees has increased from 49% in 1998-1999 to 55% in 1999-2000.

Accommodation

The refurbishment of the main office building was undertaken during 2000-01. This refurbishment program has resulted in attractive, modern and OH&S compliant accommodation. Refurbished conference room facilities have been provided by the building owner. The new facade provides a modern, professional presence for the Authority. Leasing arrangement has also been negotiated for the Kelleher Place building which has been utilised by the Authority to house parts of the organization for approximately seven years.

Access and Equity

The Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) continued to operate effectively along the coastline adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef. They provided valuable advice and input to Authority decisions. These Committees provide access at the local level, providing an opportunity for people to identify regional issues and to have input into development of policy responses to problems facing the Marine Park. The LMACs have developed detailed work programs which identify regional issues of importance, as well as broader issues of concern throughout the GBRMP. New members representing different interest groups are encouraged in the interests of access and equity.

The Authority's relationship with Indigenous people is important. All major planning exercises for the Marine Park now include processes for consultation with Indigenous communities. During 2000-01, the major focus for consultation was on development and delivery of conservation programs relating to dugongs and turtles and the Representative Areas Program. The Authority is working with the Queensland Government and Indigenous communities to develop strategies for the co-management of marine and coastal areas.

Internal and External Scrutiny

Contracts for the provision of internal audit and evaluation services continued with Pacific Bridge Pty Ltd. The other provider of contract services, Audit Victoria, withdrew from the contract following a change of administrative arrangements within the Office of the Victorian Auditor-General. The Authority has secured capable, efficient and professional compliance and performance audit services.

In line with the Commonwealth Government's increased focus on accountability and corporate governance, audit activity has concentrated on areas of high risk and the adequacy of existing control frameworks. Internal Audits were undertaken in the following areas of operation during the 2000-01 financial year:

- Environment Management Charge;
- Risk Management;
- Payroll services;
- Revenue;
- Budget management; and
- Asset Management.

The external audit of the Authority's 2000-01 Financial Statements was undertaken by Arthur Andersen under contract to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO).

The Auditor-General's report of the Financial Statements of Commonwealth Entities for 1999-2000 (Audit Report No. 23 of 2000-2001) was tabled in Federal Parliament during 2000-01.

The internal Audit Committee was mindful of the recommendations made in other reports from the ANAO and has considered steps to facilitate the implementation of relevant recommendations.

During 2000-01, there were no external reviews that related specifically to GBRMPA.

Human resource management decision making by the Authority during 2000-2001 was regarded as sound. There were no actions relating to the appealable selection processes and no comments were made by the Commonwealth Ombudsman in relation to human resource management activities. There were no other external reviews of human resource management decisions during this period.

COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION COORDINATION

Strategic Direction

Broad Outcome

Improved Australia-wide profile and community understanding of the GBRMP and GBRWHA and its management.

Strategic Objectives

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

(Performance Analysis

Created in July 2000, the new Communication & Education Coordination Group has brought together under one umbrella the existing roles of Reef HQ, the publishing activities of the Authority, the Public Information Unit, community education and extension programs and the media and public affairs activities to create a co-ordinated and enhanced facility for improving GBRMPA's Australia-wide profile.

By the end of the first half of this financial year, virtually all of the positions within the newly created Group had been filled and significant steps had been taken to develop strategies commensurate with the Group's aims. A number of protocols and processes have also been developed and implemented to ensure that the resources of the Group, both human and financial are used to best effect.

To allow for the most efficient use of Authority resources, some parallel activities between Reef HQ and GBRMPA have been combined and refocused.

- The Education unit of the C&E Group is now responsible for both Reef HQ day-to-day education activities as well as the broader community education activities of the Authority.
- The Marketing unit similarly has taken on the role of developing new and innovative strategies for improving Reef HQ's effectiveness in the North Queensland tourism market, while also being responsible for the development of community information activities within the Authority and managing the public communications for major programs such as Representative Areas.

The Education Unit, while maintaining the popular and valuable schools education program in the Townsville region, has also been responsible for integrating the programs developed at Reef HQ into educational programs which can be delivered into schools throughout the country. Initially video-conferencing will be the predominant method for delivery, although substantial preliminary works have already taken place to capitalise on the internet as a mode of education delivery in the near future. This innovative solution will also offer GBRMPA cost recovery opportunities through commercial sponsorship arrangements.

The Marketing Unit has already undertaken further commercial research into the markets for Reef HQ, allowing the development of a detailed marketing strategy focused on increasing Reef HQ's effectiveness within the North Queensland tourism market. They have also commenced a program of enhanced on-the-ground marketing and promotions activities within Townsville to ensure that the facility attracts visitors already in the city.

Additionally, a Publications Officer now manages the Authority's publishing requirements through outsourcing to specialist suppliers throughout Queensland. This allows the Authority to use the most cost-effective and timely means of production depending on individual requirements. By focusing all of the Authority's publication needs through the one officer, opportunities for greater efficiencies (shared publications, reduced duplications etc.) has become immediately evident.

The Public Information Unit has undertaken an audit of the large array of publications held by the Authority and has implemented processes for more streamlined and cost effective methods of managing the constant calls upon the Authority for information on a wide array of issues. To further reduce the costs of supplying information to the public both in Australia and overseas, the Public Information Unit is currently developing an e-commerce compatible database which will allow for much of the regularly requested material to be directly accessible on the internet, and, where appropriate, sold to recoup publication costs.

Media interest has been consistently strong throughout the year, reaching a peak during the Sudbury Reef grounding, refloating and reef restoration activities. This event in particular tested many of the processes and plans of the Authority and has allowed for much better informed strategic planning to take place. The Authority has embarked upon a program of developing a much more pro-active media position in the broader community, engaging media in its various communities with information and story ideas suitable to their medium. The Group has been specifically tasked with ensuring the Authority is relevant in communities far wider than the traditional North Queensland region it has regularly worked within.

An intranet based staff newsletter has also been established and published on a monthly basis. *Breefs* has been well received by staff of the Authority, informing them of major Great Barrier Reef issues as well as the human interest aspects familiar to any organisation.

2000-01 was a challenging year for Reef HQ, increased petrol prices and the Sydney Olympics combining to substantially drop North Queensland tourist numbers. The combined effects of these issues, all through the peak tourist season, meant a drop in visitations from 89 840 in 1999-2000 to 81 274 in 2000-01.

Reef HQ continues to provide efficient and effective educational experiences. Visitors are able to understand the value of the GBRMP and GBRWHA through information and activities that encourage sustainable use. Reef HQ seeks to inspire everyone to look after the Great Barrier Reef.

Interpretive Program

Following the revision of Interpretive Program in 1999-2000 the Reef HQ *Interpretation Manual for Reef Guides* was updated to incorporate the latest information on the new exhibits and background material for talks and tours. This Manual facilitates improvements in both the information content and the conservation messages passed on to the public and together with ongoing regular training ensures high quality of talks and tours are delivered.

School holiday programs complement Reef HQ exhibits and activities themes, and incorporate reef conservation and management messages. Reef HQ's mascot, *Lucky T Turtle* has been actively involved in the success of these school programs. Over 5 400 Reef HQ members enjoyed a variety of activities including *Night Magic*, held in July and January that proved very popular.

Education

The Reef HQ Education Program continued to play a major role in raising reef awareness in the formal education sector through a updating of program materials and an expansion of program areas. Total student visitation numbers remained on par with last year, with over 10 000 students visiting the facility. In addition, over 1 000 students nationally were able to access the Reef-VIDEOLINQ program via video conferencing. Reef HQ is the only aquarium in the world involved in this type of program.

Reef HQ Education staff have regularly delivered educational programs to students in Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania through the Reef-VIDEOLINQ program.

Exhibits and Exhibit Development

During the year existing exhibits were upgraded including *Pieces of the Reef*, *The Stone Fish Trap*, *The Sea Turtle Centre* and *The Contact Zone*. New computer based interactive exhibit components were commissioned, including a specimen identification station interpreting the biodiversity of a coral reef community and an electronic survey determining visitor understanding of the Great Barrier Reef.

The number of sea turtles rehabilitated at the *Sea Turtle Centre* exhibit significantly increased, likely reflecting greater public awareness following the establishment of the 'Marine Animal Hotline'.

Community Support

Volunteers continue to play a crucial role in Reef HQ operations through providing assistance to Reef HQ visitor services, education, functions and events, promotions, administration, exhibits, outreach and research programs. To better support the contemporary issues the Authority is managing the initial six week training program and ongoing monthly education programs for volunteers were fully revised.

The 200 Reef HQ Volunteers contributed over 20 000 hours of service, equivalent to 12 full-time staff. The retention rate for volunteers exceeds 60% with some 20% of current volunteers cumulative service exceeding 1 000 hours. The Student Volunteer Program continues to grow with 26 Grade 10 students undertaking training, mostly provided by the previous year's student volunteer team. In addition to becoming role models for facilitating environmental education in their own schools the Student Volunteers naturally relate more effectively to members of their age group for running the Reef HQ after school, excursion, evening, holiday and weekend activities for children.

Reef HQ Volunteers have been prominent on the local International Year of the Volunteer (IYV) Steering Committee and developing partnerships with other community groups in organising activities for the IYV. The Reef HQ Volunteers won the category of *General Tourism Services* at the 2001 North Queensland Tourism Awards and Student Volunteers won a *Special Commendation* at the 2001 Townsville City Council Environmental Excellence Awards.

(DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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

Strategic Direction

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

Strategic Objectives

The strategic objectives of the Program were set out in the annual business plan and can be summarised as follows:

- Protection of the integrity of the Great Barrier Reef by maximising compliance with the legislation.
- To undertake management activities that are necessary to ensure Great Barrier Reef natural and cultural values are preserved.
- Coordinated programs of education, extension and public contact activities that provide information about conservation and management to park users and the broader community.
- Provision of appropriate facilities that are maintained to an acceptable standard and are enjoyed and widely utilised by visitors to the Great Barrier Reef.
- Coordination and administration of day-to-day management through programming, reporting and evaluation to ensure continual improvements in efficiency and accountability, and through staff management practices that develop individuals and promote teamwork to encourage innovation, creativity and improved performance.

(Performance Analysis

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

Compliance and Enforcement

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

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

The Program responded to 420 reports of infringements; a 49% increase on infringements detected in 1999-2000. One hundred and twenty two matters were prosecuted under core Commonwealth and State provisions. The most significant prosecutions were as a result of the grounding of the vessel *Bunga Teratai Satu*. One hundred and fifty five infringements are still under investigation or awaiting assessment by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Surveillance and enforcement of Dugong Protection Areas received high priority, both through normal operations and participation in the Commonwealth Enforcement Initiative. During the year 53 illegal nets were seized from Dugong Protection Areas and 23 matters prosecuted.

Program staff conducted 1 703 days of vessel patrols in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park with 52% focussed on compliance and public contact activities. The Queensland Water Police, Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol and Day-to-Day Management also conducted additional vessel patrols through joint patrol collaboration and the Commonwealth-funded Enforcement and Compliance Initiative.

Aerial surveillance undertaken by Coastwatch continued to provide regular coverage of the World Heritage Area, focusing on Marine National Park and Preservation zones. Coastwatch provided reports of 27 marine parks infringements that were investigated by Program enforcement officers. Coastwatch also participated in the Commonwealth's Enforcement Initiative, in particular the provision of forward aerial surveillance for inter-agency special operations. The Australian Customs National Marine Unit also provided vessel support for operations undertaken in known high-risk periods in the remoter sections of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Management of Natural and Cultural Resources

The Program continued to undertake its responsibilities for resource management including recurrent activities of fire management, weed and problem animal control, and rehabilitation of degraded sites.

Implementation of the monitoring review has enabled a consistent approach to supporting high priority monitoring activities. Results of monitoring the recovery of the Reef following the stranding of the vessel *Peacock* have been analysed. The final report will be available in early 2001-2002.

Animal stranding incident response procedures continues to be refined. Staff who provide assistance with strandings were trained during the year. Emphasis was placed on response procedures, the conduct of necropsies and the taking of biological samples.

Oiled wildlife response training was conducted for staff and volunteers likely to be involved in coordinating and supervising oiled wildlife incidents. Training included development of local contingency arrangements for the collection, staging, cleaning and rehabilitation of oiled wildlife.

Two hundred and thirty three marine animal strandings were responded to including 50 dugongs and 19 cetaceans. Of note was the stranding of a female Bryde's whale at Trinity Bay, Cairns. This stranding and subsequent death from ingestion of plastic materials was used to raise awareness about the impacts of plastic in the Marine Park.

Maintenance of the reef protection systems comprising 68 public moorings and 15 marked 'no anchoring' areas continued throughout the year. The planning for installation of 40 additional public moorings and 13 reef protection markers is being progressed. Installation of the additional moorings is being made possible through funding allocated by the National Moorings Program.

Visitor Facilities and Services

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

- opening of the joint Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service Reef and National Parks Information Centre in September 2000;
- upgrading of the Heron Island Information Centre (a collaboration between P&O Resorts, GBRMPA and Day-to-Day Management Program);
- opening of a public information kiosk at Abel Point Marina, Airlie Beach;
- upgrading priority signage in a number of locations within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area;
- construction of the Spion Kop boardwalk and lookout on South Molle Island (State capital works managed by the Program);
- priority rehabilitation works for walking tracks and fencing on Long, Magnetic, Dunk and Gold Islands;
- completion of extensions to campground toilets on Lady Musgrave Island; and
- development of the Whitsunday Commercial Camping Program including accelerated maintenance schedules for implementation in July 2001.

Enhanced information products and displays were produced including:

- community service announcements about marine park requirements and zoning (funded by the Commonwealth Enforcement Initiative);
- information brochures to provide up-to-date information to marine park users on a range of topics including zoning provisions and public moorings in the Whitsundays;
- park information displays for Fitzroy Island and Cooktown marina; and
- tide timetables incorporating information on the Animal Strandings Hotline.

Community volunteers have been making an invaluable contribution to marine parks management for many years. This assistance has continued over the past 12 months.

Program Management

The Day-to-Day Management Strategy and Operations Groups comprise senior staff from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service. These groups continued to provide strategic direction, priorities, and practical strategies for achieving these priorities. This culminated in the finalisation of the Three-Year Business Strategy. Commencing 2001-2002, the Strategy represents a fresh and exciting direction for the Program.

A number of improvements were made to programming, reporting and accountability. These included:

- enhanced operational planning including refinements to business planning processes and systems to support these processes;
- refinement of required reporting regimes including reports to Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service; and
- implementation of a standardised field activity reporting system and database.

Refinements to asset management practices continued with a review of vessel operations commenced. Three vessels, including the vessel *Capri*, were replaced. Purchased in 1991, the *Capri* has covered enough miles in its 10 years of service to complete at least one circumnavigation of the world. Replacement of outboard motors and necessary vessel equipment was also achieved which further enabled effective vessel operations. The proposed review of Program assets and development of an Assets Management Strategy has been incorporated into a broader Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service assets management review and will extend this project into 2001-2002.

The Day-to-Day Management training program was successfully implemented with 608 participants taking part in 48 courses. Training courses for Program staff were convened throughout the Great Barrier Reef Region. Places were also made available to other staff from Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Queensland Environmental Protection Agency and Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and other external participants who are involved in various aspects of Great Barrier Reef Marine Park management. The 2000-01 program concentrated on Program priorities with emphasis on incident response management, compliance and enforcement.

(Future Outlook)

The Day-to-Day Management Program will continue to build on its achievements over recent years, recognising a commitment to continuous improvement, and the requirement for high quality and professional service delivery. The Program will continue to evolve to meet the priorities and new initiatives of Governments. A number of new initiatives are foreshadowed over the next three years and include:

- inclusion of new areas into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Queensland marine and national parks;
- increasing engagement with Indigenous people in managing the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park; and
- revenue generation.

Over the next three years it is proposed that priorities for the Program will be focussed upon:

1. Resource Protection:

- Compliance with protected areas requirements (e.g. marine national park and preservation zoning and national parks legislation).
- Protection of key areas for vulnerable species (e.g. Dugong Protection Areas, turtle and sea bird nesting sites).
- Essential works for protection of key high use sites, including anchor damage mitigation (markers and moorings program), cultural site protection (e.g. Nara Inlet rock art site, historic lighthouse), and facilities to protect high use sites.
- Priority feral animal and weed control and ecological burning programs.

2. Public information programs necessary to support the above.

3. Maintenance of essential management infrastructure and priority visitor facilities.

4. Development and implementation of transparent processes to review the effectiveness and appropriateness of the Day-to-Day Management Program.

(FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

Details of the Authority's financial operations are provided in the Financial Statements at Appendix H. An overview of the Authority's financial operations follows.

Total appropriation for 2000-01 of \$20.8m was \$662,000 less than 1999-2000. This was due to the reversal of accrual budgeting provisions following changes to accounting policies for Reef HQ, the cessation of one-off funding and other minor adjustments in the 2000-01 Budget. Subsequent reconsideration of the accounting treatment of Reef HQ as an Authority asset has resulted in the reinstatement of supplementation from the 2001-02 Budget.

Revenue from independent sources was more than in 1999-2000 primarily due to recovery of costs involved in the independent monitoring of the Nelly Bay Harbour development. Despite the re-badging and increased marketing of the Reef HQ admission sales were down on previous years.

The operating expense of managing the Marine Park in 2000-01 was \$30.6 million, an increase of 7% from 1999-2000. Employee expenses increased due to a new Agency Certified Agreement and variations in staffing levels. Expenses for suppliers were similar to the previous year with additional resources allocated to surveillance and enforcement, legal expenses and an increase in the contribution to the new Cooperative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area.

In the 2001-02 Budget, announced on 22 May 2001, the Government agreed to funding of \$4.9m for Reef HQ to enhance the facility for visitors and to ensure that health and safety standards are maintained. As part of the refurbishment it is anticipated that a number of assets will be replaced. This is shown in the write down of assets as at 30 June 2001.

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

Whilst the Authority recognised that emerging issues such as mooring allocations, the permits task force, aquaculture and fisheries issues would require additional resources, the impact of AAT matters, the write down of assets, the disposal of assets and depreciation of Reef HQ has resulted in a higher than anticipated deficit from ordinary activities of (\$1.642m).

The reduction in cash is the result of capital expenditure on the refurbishment of the Authority's offices and operational expenses.

Receivables from the Commonwealth reflect the accrual of the Special Appropriation. Liabilities decreased due to a partial repayment of loans and other supplier liabilities being discharged during the year.

The outcome of the 2000-01 Financial Year will be taken into account in revising the 2001-02 Authority Budget.

Table 3. Financial and Staffing Resources Summary

RESOURCES FOR GBRMPA OUTCOME

OUTCOME	Column 1	Column 2	Variation	Budget
<i>Protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef.</i>	Budget	Actual	Column 2	2001-2002
	2000-01	2000-01	minus	
	\$'000	\$'000	Column 1	\$'000

Price of Departmental Outputs

Output Group 1.1 -Conservation, Biodiversity & World Heritage

1.1.1	Natural and cultural values protected and World Heritage obligations are met	1,401	1,455	54	1,486
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.1</i>		1,401	1,455	54	1,486

Output Group 1.2 - Water Quality & Coastal Development

1.2.1	Minimal degradation of GBR by water pollution and coastal development	1,119	1,658	539	2,002
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.2</i>		1,119	1,658	539	2,002

Output Group 1.3 - Fisheries

1.3.1	Ecologically sustainable fisheries in the GBRWHA	1,240	1,177	-63	1,220
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.3</i>		1,240	1,177	-63	1,220

Output Group 1.4 -Tourism & Recreation

1.4.1	Enhanced tourism and recreation opportunities in the Marine Park	706	1,021	315	1,113
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.4</i>		706	1,021	315	1,113

Output Group 1.5 -Park Management

1.5.1	Field management of the Marine Park	10,770	11,329	559	10,974
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continued over page . . .

Table 3. Financial and Staffing Resources Summary *(continued)*

RESOURCES FOR GBRMPA OUTCOME				
OUTCOME <i>Protection, wise use, understanding and enjoyment of the Great Barrier Reef.</i>	Column 1 Budget 2000-01 \$'000	Column 2 Actual Expenses 2000-01 \$'000	Variation Column 2 minus Column 1	Budget 2001-2002 \$'000
Output Group 1.5 -Park Management <i>(continued)</i>				
1.5.2 Planning and Impact Management of the Marine Park	2,555	4,275	1,720	3,557
1.5.3 Liaison with indigenous groups & community advisory committees	493	567	74	657
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.5</i>	13,818	16,171	2,353	15,188
Output Group 1.6 - Information for Park Management				
1.6.1 Scientific & technical information available for management	3,977	4,418	441	4,267
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.6</i>	3,977	4,418	441	4,267
Output Group 1.7 - Communication & Education				
1.7.1. Improved Australia-wide profile and community understanding of GBRMPA critical issue group achievements	4,595	4,833	238	6,475
<i>Sub-total Output Group 1.7</i>	4,595	4,833	238	6,475
	26,856	30,733	3,877	31,751

Staff Years (Number)	2000-01	2001-02
	167	170



GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

(APPENDICES

(APPENDIX A:

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

(5: Object of this Act)

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

(6: Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority)

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

(7: Functions of the Authority)

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

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

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

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

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

(APPENDIX B:

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY AUDIT COMMITTEE OBJECTIVE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

(Objective)

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

(Powers and Functions)

The functions and responsibilities of the Audit Committee are to:

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

(APPENDIX C:

GREAT BARRIER REEF CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

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

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

The committee has prepared a short paper on its role. This paper, and summary documents of the Committee meetings are available on request from the Secretariat.

Membership of the GBRCC was:

Mr Harry Bonanno	Queensland Cane Growers Council
Cr Greg Breckell	Local Government Association of Queensland Inc
Mrs Irene Butterworth	Girudala Council of Elders (Whitsundays)
Hon Virginia Chadwick	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Mr Robert Crick	Commonwealth Department of Industry, Science and Tourism
Mr Tony Fontes	Whitsunday Coastal Advisory Committee
Mrs Bernice Kelly	Direct Employment Service Inc
Mr Ted Loveday	Queensland Commercial Fishermen's Organisation
Prof Helene Marsh (Chair)	James Cook University
Mr John Millward	Cairns Marine Tourism Operators Association
Ms Margaret Moore	World Wide Fund for Nature Australia
Mr Peter Neville	Queensland Department of Primary Industries, Fisheries and Forestry
Ms Suzette Pelt	Whitsundays Bareboat Charter Operators' Association

Dr Russell Reichelt	CRC Reef Research Centre
Sir Sydney Schubert	Association of Marine Parks Tourism Operators
Mr Alan Turnbull	Queensland Sport and Recreational Fishing Council (Sunfish)
Mr Terry Wall	Queensland Department of Premier and Cabinet

(**Business Activities**)

The committee has been working through its strategic work plan. Additionally, the following topics have been considered:

- Water Quality
- Representative Areas Program
- Perceived Threats to the Integrity of the GBRWHA
- Management Plans: Statutory Instruments or Policy
- Communication with Local Stakeholders about the Challenge of Managing the Great Barrier Reef as a World Heritage Area
- Governance of GBRMPA

(APPENDIX D:

ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE (*Section 516A Environment Protection And Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*)

The Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) came into force on 16 July 2000, introducing an assessment and approval process for certain actions. The main objective of the EPBC Act is to provide protection for matters of national environmental significance. These are identified as:

- World Heritage Properties
- Ramsar Wetlands
- Threatened species and ecological communities
- Migratory species
- Commonwealth marine areas
- Nuclear actions; and
- Additional matters prescribed by regulation (these may include Constitutional Powers previously used as triggers).

The EPBC Act has implications for actions in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. Other objectives of the EPBC Act include the promotion of ecologically sustainable development and biodiversity conservation through cooperative approach with state governments to implement Australia's international obligations. This includes recognition of the role of Indigenous peoples and their knowledge for biodiversity conservation and ecologically sustainable development.

The EPBC Act (s.43) allows for an action to be taken without an EPBC Act approval in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park if a person is authorised to take the action under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*, Regulations, Zoning Plans or Plans of Management including through a permission, approval, authority or permit. There are a number of matters in relation to the EPBC Act that are relevant to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

An example of a relevant environmental matter may be where a proponent has applied initially to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority for permission for an activity that is inside the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and entails a project that may have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance. In these cases the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority must seek the advice of the Commonwealth Minister for Environment and Heritage under the EPBC Act.

A second example is where the proponent has applied initially to Environment Australia (EA) for permission for an activity that is outside the Great Barrier Reef

Marine Park, where the project may have a significant impact on a matter of national environmental significance. In these cases EA may ask the GBRMPA for advice. In the last financial year EA sought advice on 29 projects. Of these projects, 9 may require a Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority permission, being undertaken in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park or in the 'controlled area' with respect to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Aquaculture) Regulation 2000. The other proposals were adjacent to the boundary of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and had potential to adversely affect values of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority is bound by statutory tools, including legislation, policies and plans which ensure any permitted activities in the Marine Park are ecologically sustainable.

Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) objectives and principles are directly addressed in the Authority's Goal, Aims and the Annual Strategic Work Programs. All four Critical Issue Groups have the ESD principles within their broad objectives, with several major programs (specifically fisheries, and the representative areas program) directly referring to ecological sustainability and the protection of biological diversity.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's environmental impact assessment process includes scoping, assessment, implementation and audit monitoring and is regarded as world's best practice. In providing advice on development issues adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, the Authority generally seeks to have the same standards of assessment as would apply within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The Authority provides comments in respect of a range of development activities adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area under the *Queensland Integrated Planning Act 1997* (some 30-50 developments annually) and in doing so encourages proponents to contact EA for advice on the implication of EPBC Act for their proposals. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority also provides advice to EA on permit issues relating to threatened species.

(APPENDIX E:

CORPORATE INFORMATION

(Diversity)

Table 4. Employees of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority as at 30 June 2001

	ONGOING EMPLOYEES					NON-ONGOING EMPLOYEES				
	Female		Male		Total	Female		Male		Total
	F/T	P/T	F/T	P/T		F/T	P/T	F/T	P/T	
Classification										
APS1	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	2
APS2	14	1	4	0	19	1	0	0	0	1
APS3	10	1	8	0	19	3	0	0	1	4
APS4	12	0	2	0	14	1	0	0	0	1
APS5	7	1	9	0	17	1	1	0	0	2
APS6	11	2	17	0	30	0	0	3	0	3
EXEC1	6	3	13	0	22	0	0	1	0	1
EXEC2	4	0	12	0	16	0	0	0	0	0
SES 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
SES 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
CEO	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total	64	9	66	0	139	8	2	7	1	18

Total number of employees = 157

(APS-Australian Public Service Officer; Exec-Executive Level; SES-Senior Executive Service; CEO-Chief Executive Officer)

Table 5. Representation of EEO groups within salary levels as at 30 June 2001.

Classification						
	Women	NESB1	NESB2	NESB	ATSI	PWD
APS1(4)	3 (75%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
APS2(20)	16 (80%)	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	2 (10%)	3 (15%)	1 (5%)
APS3(23)	14 (60.8%)	1 (4.3%)	1 (4.3%)	2 (8.6%)	1 (0%)	1 (4.3%)
APS4(15)	13 (86.7%)	0 (0%)	1 (6.7%)	0 (0%)	1 (6.3%)	3 (20%)
APS5(19)	10 (52.6%)	4 (21%)	5 (26.3%)	3 (15.8%)	3 (15.8%)	0 (0%)
APS6(33)	13 (39.4%)	4 (12.1%)	3 (9.0%)	4 (12.1%)	0 (0%)	1 (3%)
EXEC1(23)	9 (39.1%)	2 (8.7%)	1 (4.3%)	3 (13%)	0 (0%)	1 (4.3%)
EXEC2(16)	4 (25%)	0 (0%)	1 (6.2%)	1 (6.2%)	0 (0%)	1 (6.2%)
SES1(1)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
SES2(2)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
CEO(1)	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Total	83 (59.7%)	12 (8.6%)	13 (9.3%)	15 (10.7%)	8 (5.7%)	8 (5.7%)

(NESB1-Non-English Speaking Background, second generation (Mother); NESB2-Non-English Speaking Background (Father); NESB-Non-English Speaking Background, first generation; ATSI-Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; PWD-People with a disability)

(Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S))

A new Occupational Health and safety position was created in the latter part of the financial year and an appointment was made in June 2001. The new OH&S Officer will ensure early intervention and a preventative approach to OH&S issues. During the year the positions of Workplace Delegate and Deputy Delegate became vacant and were filled following an election. GBRMPA also has an active OH&S Committee which has an important role in the management of OH&S issues within the agency.

The Occupational Health and Safety Committee held several meetings during 2000 - 2001 and discussed the following issues:

- Office refurbishment
- Staff security
- General OH&S training
- Policy overview
- Scientific dive standards
- Office lighting
- Comcare reporting
- Building access and safety
- Incident reporting
- Emergency procedures
- First aid

In addition to these meetings, several other OH&S issues were resolved. A number of these issues involved adapting workstations to meet personal requirements. Employees with an identified need have been issued with additional ergonomic aids and approved furniture to correct these problems. As part of the office refurbishment, employees have been issued with new ergonomic workstations and associated ergonomic furniture and aids.

Arrangements were made for GBRMPA to fund professional staff from the Commonwealth Rehabilitation Service to conduct ergonomics training and undertake individual workstation assessments. These assessments and the purchase of additional ergonomic aids/furniture will continue throughout 2001-2002.

During the year the Authority continued to provide all employees with the Employee Assistance Program. This provides employees and their families with access to counselling and advice on a wide range of work related and non-work related issues. It is designed to provide a significant contribution to improving the working life of employees.

A total of five workers' compensation claims were lodged throughout 2000-2001, all being of a relatively minor nature with little or no time lost. Action has been taken to minimise the effects of these incidents and to prevent further incidents occurring.

OH&S training, covering the following topics, was undertaken by GBRMPA employees during 2000-2001:

- First Aid Certificate
- Emergency Resuscitation
- Senior First Aid
- Management of Hazardous Chemicals
- Occupational Health and Safety at Sea
- Advanced Oxygen Equipment Resuscitation
- Workstation Ergonomics

—————(Consultants and Competitive Tendering and Contracting)—————

External consultants are engaged to gain access to specialist technical, professional, research and management expertise in relation to specific tasks. Consultants are utilised where circumstances require that Authority resources be augmented or that work be carried out independently.

During 2000-01, 107 consultancy contracts were used. Total expenditure on consultancy services was \$2.525 million. Further information on consultancy services is available from GBRMPA.

A large proportion of research is now outsourced principally through financial contribution of \$13.2 million over seven years, commencing in 1999-2000, to the CRC Reef Research Centre. Field management of the Marine Park is implemented through day-to-day management programs, the majority of which are carried out by Queensland Government agencies.

Advertising and Marketing Creative Agencies

The Best Picture Show Company	\$ 1687.00
Sign Time	\$ 1422.30
Bread & Butter Advertising	\$ 1958.00
Graphic Gesture	\$ 2167.00
Photoline	\$ 2667.50
McGregor Consulting	\$ 2838.20
Shopfront PR Company	\$ 3066.00
Peter Lynch Designs	\$15 026.00
Grafik Switch	\$16 881.55
Adbreak Advertising and Design	\$29 465.85

Market Research and Polling Organisations

AEC Group	\$ 6408.60
James Cook University	\$ 3760.40

Direct Mail Organisations

Local Attractions	\$ 1506.05
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Media Advertising Organisations

AIS Media/Starcom	\$ 264 210.37
Townsville Enterprise Limited	\$ 17 320.44
Paradise Outdoor Advertising	\$17 160.00
DMG Regional Radio	\$15 763.00
Museum of Tropical Queensland	\$14 767.80
NQ Newspaper Company Ltd	\$10 030.05
Telecasters Australia Limited	\$ 8294.60
Australian Posters	\$ 8222.50
Pacific Access	\$ 5050.43

Media Advertising Agencies

Adshel	\$ 3377.00
NLD Australia	\$ 2871.00
Oz Experience	\$ 2240.00
North Australian Publishing	\$ 2238.50
Ten Queensland	\$ 2060.00
Win Television	\$1749.00
PDC Directories	\$ 969.50

(Freedom of Information)

Documents available for purchase (including bulk-purchase) through selected outlets

- Nomination of the Great Barrier Reef by the Commonwealth of Australia for inclusion in the World Heritage List, GBRMPA, 1981.
- *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* and Regulations.
- Companion Map to Great Barrier Reef.
- Maps of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
- Research reports and workshop proceedings.
- Various information brochures, books, posters and audiovisual productions.

Documents available free of charge for single copies from the Authority's Townsville office

- Strategic Plan
- Environmental Management Charge information booklets
- Zoning Plans and Zoning Plan Introductory Guides
- Selected maps of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
- Media releases and communiques
- Newsletters e.g. *Reef Research*
- Information brochures, bulletins and leaflets
- Plans of Management.

Facilities for Access

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

Members of the public may make inquiries on FOI matters and inspect documents to which access has been granted at either office. Business hours are 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.,

Monday to Friday. Formal requests for access to documents must be directed to the offices listed in the following section. Information about facilities for access by disabled persons can be obtained by contacting the FOI Officer at the Townsville office.

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

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

(FOI Procedures and Initial Contact Points)

Inquiries may be made in writing, by telephone or in person at the official FOI access points listed below. It is also suggested that inquirers provide a telephone number.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

2-68 Flinders Street		PO Box 1379
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810	or	TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810
Telephone (07) 4750 0700		
Facsimile (07) 4772 6093		

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Ground Floor		
John Gorton Building		
King Edward Terrace	or	GPO Box 791
PARKES ACT 2600		CANBERRA ACT 2601
Telephone (02) 6274 1922		
Facsimile (02) 6274 1509		

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

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

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

Director of Corporate Services
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
PO Box 1379
TOWNSVILLE QLD 4810

(APPENDIX G:

ABBREVIATIONS

AAT	Administrative Appeals Tribunal
AIMS	Australian Institute of Marine Science
ANAO	Australian National Audit Office
APS	Australian Public Service
CRC Reef Research Centre(or CRC Reef)	Cooperative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation
DDM	Day-to-day Management
DPA	Dugong Protection Area
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
EMC	Environmental Management Charge
EREAC	Environmental Research Ethics Advisory Committee
FOI	Freedom of Information
GBRMP	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park
GBRMPA	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
GBRWHA	Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area
GIS	Geographic Information System
ICA	Information Coordination and Analysis
ICLU	Indigenous Cultural Liaison Unit
IT	Information Technology
INTROMARC	International Tropical Marine Resource Centre

ITMEMS	International Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management Symposium
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
LMAC	Local Marine Advisory Committee
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OH&S	Occupational Health and Safety
QBFP	Queensland Boating and Fisheries Patrol
QDPI	Queensland Department of Primary Industries
QEPA	Queensland Environmental Protection Agency
QFS	Queensland Fisheries Service
QPWS	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
QSIA	Queensland Seafood Industry Association
RAC	Reef Advisory Committee
RAP	Representative Areas Program
R&MC	Research and Monitoring Coordination
SMT	Senior Management Team
TASU	Training and Advisory Services

(APPENDIX G:

COMPLIANCE INDEX

This Annual Report has been prepared using the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Orders 1998* and the Requirements for Annual Reports approved by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit under subsections 63(2) and 70(2) of the *Public Service Act 1999* (May 2000).

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GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

— (APPENDIX H:

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

In our opinion, the attached financial statements give a true and fair view of the matters required by Schedule 1 to the Commonwealth Authorities (Financial Statements 2000-2001) Orders made under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* for the year ended 30 June 2001.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Authority.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'E. Scott', positioned above a horizontal line.

EVELYN SCOTT
Member

13 September 2001

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'V. Chadwick', positioned above a horizontal line.

VIRGINIA CHADWICK
Chairperson

13 September 2001

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
for the year ended 30 June 2001

	Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
Revenues from ordinary activities			
Revenues from government	5(a)	20,854,904	21,517,220
Interest	5(b)	214,834	271,834
Revenue from Reef HQ shop trading	5(c)	412,827	517,137
Reef HQ revenues	5(d)	1,251,877	1,379,674
Other miscellaneous revenues	5(e)	2,098,497	1,081,579
Proceeds from disposal of assets	5(f)	46,919	4,711
Payments from Queensland Government for day-to-day management	9(a),(c)	<u>4,410,001</u>	<u>4,303,000</u>
Total revenues from ordinary activities		29,289,859	29,075,155
Expenses from ordinary activities			
Employees	6(a)	10,113,242	9,325,031
Suppliers	6(b)	10,384,558	10,222,414
Depreciation and amortisation	6(c)	587,197	518,937
Write-down of assets	6(d)	129,586	29
Grants	7	25,283	18,744
Cost of goods sold			
from Reef HQ shop trading	5(c)	210,323	286,314
Disposal of assets	5(f)	104,335	229,201
Payments to Queensland Government for day-to-day management	9(a),(b)	<u>9,302,027</u>	<u>8,466,000</u>
Total expenses from ordinary activities		30,856,551	29,066,670
Borrowing costs expense	8	<u>74,925</u>	<u>58,915</u>
Net operating deficit from ordinary activities		(1,641,617)	(50,430)
Extraordinary item			
Recognition of controlled assets	1(k)	<u>-</u>	<u>8,488,724</u>
Net surplus/(deficit)		<u>(1,641,617)</u>	<u>8,438,294</u>
Net surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Commonwealth		<u>(1,641,617)</u>	<u>8,438,294</u>
Net credit to asset revaluation reserve		<u>-</u>	<u>488,490</u>
Total revenues, expenses and valuation adjustments recognised directly in equity		<u>-</u>	<u>488,490</u>
Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with owners as owners		<u>(1,641,617)</u>	<u>8,926,784</u>

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
as at 30 June 2001

	Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
ASSETS			
Financial assets			
Cash	10(a)	417,766	3,882,973
Receivables	10(b)	2,705,582	2,110,590
Capital use charge receivable		<u>126,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total financial assets		<u>3,249,348</u>	<u>5,993,563</u>
Non-financial assets			
Buildings and improvements to leased property	11(a)	8,875,182	8,350,208
Plant and equipment	11(b)	1,184,724	1,165,184
Other	11(d)	87,631	94,472
Inventories		<u>119,626</u>	<u>134,285</u>
Total non-financial assets		<u>10,267,163</u>	<u>9,744,149</u>
Total assets		<u>13,516,511</u>	<u>15,737,712</u>
LIABILITIES			
Interest bearing liabilities			
Advances from the Department of Finance & Administration (DOFA)	12	<u>687,831</u>	<u>959,092</u>
Total interest bearing liabilities		<u>687,831</u>	<u>959,092</u>
Provisions			
Employees	13	<u>2,363,382</u>	<u>2,238,735</u>
Total provisions		<u>2,363,382</u>	<u>2,238,735</u>
Payables			
Suppliers	14(a)	1,342,853	1,738,521
Other	14(b)	<u>704,585</u>	<u>729,887</u>
Total payables		<u>2,047,438</u>	<u>2,468,408</u>
Total liabilities		<u>5,098,651</u>	<u>5,666,235</u>
EQUITY			
Capital	15	1,103,988	1,103,988
Reserves	15	12,145,585	12,145,585
Accumulated (deficits)	15	<u>(4,831,713)</u>	<u>(3,178,096)</u>
Total equity		<u>8,417,860</u>	<u>10,071,477</u>
Current liabilities		3,612,880	4,117,463
Non-current liabilities		1,485,771	1,548,772
Current assets		3,456,605	6,222,320
Non-current assets		10,059,906	9,515,392

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

	Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received:			
Appropriations		20,559,000	21,199,000
Permit assessment fees		298,324	194,210
Interest		238,067	263,903
Reef HQ admission fees		930,250	1,049,131
GST recovered from taxation office		602,804	-
Payments from Queensland Government for day-to-day management		4,410,001	3,638,000
Environmental Management Charge		6,050,652	5,810,866
Other		<u>2,170,447</u>	<u>1,615,241</u>
Total cash received		35,259,545	33,770,351
Cash used:			
Grants		(25,283)	(18,744)
Employees		(10,186,256)	(8,971,144)
Suppliers		(11,361,386)	(9,773,484)
Borrowing costs		(74,925)	(64,760)
Payments to Consolidated Revenue Fund		(6,000,000)	(5,380,000)
Payments to Queensland Government for day-to-day management		<u>(9,302,027)</u>	<u>(8,466,000)</u>
Total cash used		(36,949,877)	(32,674,132)
Net cash from operating activities	16	<u>(1,690,332)</u>	<u>1,096,219</u>
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received:			
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment		46,919	4,705
Cash used:			
Purchase of plant and equipment		<u>(1,412,533)</u>	<u>(575,984)</u>
Net cash from investing activities		<u>(1,365,614)</u>	<u>(571,279)</u>
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Cash used:			
Capital use paid		(138,000)	(948,960)
Repayments of debt		<u>(271,261)</u>	<u>(276,075)</u>
Net cash from financing activities		<u>(409,261)</u>	<u>(1,225,035)</u>
Net (decrease) in cash held		(3,465,207)	(700,095)
Cash at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>3,882,973</u>	<u>4,583,068</u>
Cash at the end of the reporting period	10(a)	<u>417,766</u>	<u>3,882,973</u>

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS
as at 30 June 2001

BY TYPE	2001 \$	2000 \$
CAPITAL COMMITMENTS		
Plant and equipment ¹	<u>75,806</u>	<u>102,290</u>
Total capital commitments	<u>75,806</u>	<u>102,290</u>
OTHER COMMITMENTS		
Operating leases ²	2,340,544	2,615,782
Other commitments ³	<u>1,005,003</u>	<u>983,031</u>
Total other commitments	<u>3,345,547</u>	<u>3,598,813</u>
COMMITMENTS RECEIVABLE	<u>(311,032)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net commitments	<u><u>3,110,321</u></u>	<u><u>3,701,103</u></u>
BY MATURITY		
All net commitments		
One year or less	1,432,671	1,395,083
From one to five years	1,677,650	2,221,820
Over five years	<u>-</u>	<u>84,200</u>
Net commitments	<u><u>3,110,321</u></u>	<u><u>3,701,103</u></u>
Operating lease commitments		
One year or less	523,762	488,014
From one to five years	1,604,004	2,043,568
Over five years	<u>-</u>	<u>84,200</u>
Net operating lease commitments	<u><u>2,127,766</u></u>	<u><u>2,615,782</u></u>

NB: Commitments are GST inclusive where relevant.

¹ Plant and equipment commitments are primarily purchase orders for software.

² Operating leases included are effectively non-cancellable and comprise

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

³ As at 30 June 2001, other commitments comprise amounts payable under contracts for consultancy services and purchase orders for other services and supplies.

Commitments to the Co-operative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (CRC Reef) are not included above and are disclosed at Note 21.

In addition, the Authority sub-leases the Reef HQ building from the Great Barrier Reef Wonderland Association Incorporated for a nominal amount payable if demanded.

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF CONTINGENCIES
as at 30 June 2001

	2001 \$	2000 \$
CONTINGENT LOSSES		
Costs	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>
	<u><u>30,000</u></u>	<u><u>30,000</u></u>

The amount is an estimate of legal costs which may be payable.

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

Note Description

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of accounting

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

The statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Schedule 1 to Orders made by the Finance Minister for the preparation of Financial Statements in relation to financial years ending on or after 30 June 2001;
- Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations issued by Australian Accounting Standards Boards;
- Other authoritative pronouncements of the Boards; and
- Consensus Views of the Urgent Issues Group.

The statements have been prepared having regard to:

- Statements of Accounting Concepts; and
- The Explanatory Notes to Schedule 1 issued by the Department of Finance and Administration; and
- Guidance Notes issued by that Department.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with historical cost convention, except for certain assets which, as noted, are at valuation. No allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or on the financial position of the Authority.

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

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

(b) Changes in accounting policies

The accounting policies used in the preparation of these financial statements are consistent with those used in 1999-2000.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

(c) Reporting by Outcomes

A comparison of Budget and Actual figures by outcome specified in the Appropriation Acts relevant to the Authority is presented in Note 2. Any intra-government costs included in the figure 'net cost to Budget outcomes' are eliminated in calculating the actual budget outcome for the Government overall.

(d) Revenue

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

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

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

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

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

Revenues from Government - Output Appropriations

Appropriations for outputs are recognized as revenue to the extent they have been received into the Authority's Bank account or are entitled to be received by the Authority at year end.

(e) Employee Entitlements

Leave

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

The liability for annual leave reflects the value of total annual leave entitlements of all employees at 30 June 2001 and is recognised at its nominal amount.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

The non-current portion of the liability for long service leave is recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at 30 June 2001. In determining the present value of the liability, attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

Separation and redundancy

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

Superannuation

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

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

(f) Leases

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

Where a non-current asset is acquired by means of a finance lease, the asset is capitalised at the present value of minimum lease payments at the inception of the lease and a liability for lease payments recognised at the same amount. Lease payments are allocated between the principal component and the interest expense. Leased assets are amortised over the period of the lease. As at 30 June 2001 the Authority had no finance leases.

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

(g) Borrowing costs

All borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

(h) Cash

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

(i) Financial Instruments

Accounting policies for financial instruments are stated at Note 23.

(j) Acquisition of Assets

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

(k) Buildings and leasehold improvements, Plant and Equipment

Asset recognition threshold

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

Extraordinary items

The Reef HQ building (formerly the Great Barrier Reef Aquarium) was funded as a Commonwealth-State Bicentennial project, through the Great Barrier Reef Wonderland Association Incorporated. The building is sub-leased by the Authority from the Association for a period of 75 years, the end date for the lease being in the year 2061. Under the terms of the sub-lease agreement the Authority is responsible for the maintenance of the building as necessary and for all expenses and revenue in relation to its operation. Consequently, the value of the building is shown as an asset in the Authority's accounts.

In 1998/99 the accounting treatment was reviewed and as a result the value of the building was removed from the Authority's accounts in the 1998/99 financial year. In the 1999/2000 financial year that decision was reviewed and it was determined that the Reef HQ building and associated plant and equipment should be accounted for as an asset in the Authority's accounts. The net result of the entries required following that decision was disclosed in the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2000 as 'Recognition of controlled assets'.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

Revaluations

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

Other plant and equipment assets are to be revalued in the 2001/2002 financial year. Any assets which would not be replaced or are surplus to requirements are valued at net realisable value. All valuations are independent.

Recoverable amount test

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

In the 2001-2002 Budget, announced on 22 May 2001, the Government agreed to funding of \$4.9m for Reef HQ to enhance the facility for visitors and to ensure that health and safety standards are maintained. As part of the refurbishment it is anticipated that a number of assets will be replaced within the next twelve months. Each identified asset has been written down to its net recoverable amount as at 30 June 2001. The net effect of the write down of these assets is \$129,586 and is disclosed in the Statement of Financial Performance.

Depreciation and Amortisation

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

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

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

	2001	2000
Buildings	50 years	50 years
Leasehold improvements	Lease term	Lease term
Plant and equipment	3 to 20 years	3 to 20 years

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

(l) Inventories

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

(m) Taxation

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

(n) Capital Usage Charge

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

(o) Comparative Figures

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

(p) Insurance

From July 1998 the Authority has been included in the new Commonwealth Insurable Risk Managed Fund known as Comcover. This includes insurance cover for the operation of Reef HQ.

(q) Day-to-day Management Advances

Except for expenditure on fixtures upon land owned by or under the direct control of the Commonwealth or the Authority, advances to the Queensland Department of the Environmental Protection Agency for day-to-day management are fully expensed in the year of payment (refer to note 9 for details of the day-to-day management items).

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

2. REPORTING BY SEGMENTS AND OUTCOMES

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

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

Reporting by Outcomes for 2000-2001	Sub-outcome	
	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000
Total net administered expenses	-	-
Add: Net cost of entity outputs	19,533	22,497
Outcome before Abnormal/extraordinary items	19,533	22,497
Abnormal/extraordinary items	-	-
Net cost to Budget Outcome	19,533	22,497
Total assets deployed as at 30/6/01	5,578	13,391

3. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

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

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

4. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

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

The Authority has been preparing specifications for a Project Manager to be appointed and finalising the concepts for the future of the facility. In undertaking this project it is likely that some existing assets will be disposed of before the end of their original estimated useful lives.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

5. OPERATING REVENUES

(a) Revenues from government

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Appropriations:		
Operational	10,149,000	11,463,000
Special Appropriation	6,295,904	5,698,220
Commonwealth contribution to day-to-day management: refer Note 9(c)	<u>4,410,000</u>	<u>4,356,000</u>
Total	<u>20,854,904</u>	<u>21,517,220</u>

Special Appropriation: The Authority, as agent for the Commonwealth, collects an Environmental Management Charge (EMC). Amounts collected are paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund and then paid back to the Authority as a Special Appropriation. The amount shown above represents actual amounts received through Special Appropriation plus an accrual for amounts applicable to the financial year ended 30 June 2001 but received after that date and due to be paid to the Authority as Special Appropriation.

(b) Interest

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Term deposits	51,170	49,147
Bank accounts	<u>163,664</u>	<u>222,687</u>
Total	<u>214,834</u>	<u>271,834</u>

(c) Reef HQ shop trading results

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Shop Sales	412,827	517,137
Less: Cost of goods sold		
Opening Stock	131,785	146,679
Purchases	209,835	271,420
Less: Closing Stock	117,208	131,785
Less: Special credit for Wholesale Sales Tax	<u>14,089</u>	<u>-</u>
Cost of goods sold	<u>210,323</u>	<u>286,314</u>
Gross profit from shop trading	<u>202,504</u>	<u>230,823</u>

(d) Reef HQ revenues

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Admission fees	930,250	1,049,131
Donations and sponsorships	7,423	8,864
Membership program	72,483	87,393
Research and consultancy contracts	-	2,328
Other	<u>241,721</u>	<u>231,958</u>
Total	<u>1,251,877</u>	<u>1,379,674</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

(e) Other miscellaneous revenues	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Project revenue	129,388	413,436
Sale of Authority education and information materials	35,252	38,233
Permit assessment fees	298,325	194,210
Payments from the EPA: refer Note 9(a) for - other receipts	50,835	47,753
Cost recovery	1,395,976	172,280
Other	<u>188,721</u>	<u>215,667</u>
Total	<u>2,098,497</u>	<u>1,081,579</u>
(f) Proceeds and expenses from disposal of assets:	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Non-financial assets - Buildings, leasehold improvements, plant and equipment		
Revenue (proceeds) from disposal	46,919	4,711
Expense from disposal	<u>104,335</u>	<u>229,201</u>
Total	<u>(57,416)</u>	<u>(224,490)</u>

6. OPERATING EXPENSES - GOODS AND SERVICES

(a) Employee expenses	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Basic remuneration for services provided	9,948,775	8,794,149
Separation and redundancy	<u>118,417</u>	<u>463,429</u>
Total remuneration	10,067,192	9,257,578
Other	<u>46,050</u>	<u>67,453</u>
Total	<u>10,113,242</u>	<u>9,325,031</u>

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

The Authority contributes to the Commonwealth Superannuation (CSS) and the Public Sector (PSS) superannuation schemes which provide retirement, death and disability benefits to employees. Contributions to the schemes are at rates calculated to cover existing and emerging obligations. Current contribution rates are 18.9% of salary (CSS) and 10.1% of salary (PSS). An additional 3% is contributed for employer productivity benefits.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

(b) Suppliers expenses	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Supply of goods and services	9,874,544	10,087,316
Operating lease rentals	<u>510,014</u>	<u>135,098</u>
Total	<u>10,384,558</u>	<u>10,222,414</u>

(c) Depreciation	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	<u>587,197</u>	<u>518,937</u>
Total	<u>587,197</u>	<u>518,937</u>

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

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Buildings	250,403	233,532
Leasehold Improvements	77,518	40,519
Plant and Equipment	<u>259,276</u>	<u>244,886</u>
Total allocated	<u>587,197</u>	<u>518,937</u>

(d) Write-down of assets	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Financial assets:		
Receivables for goods and services	-	29
Non-financial assets:		
Buildings, plant & equipment written down to net recoverable amount: ref: Note 1(k)	<u>129,586</u>	-
Total	<u>129,586</u>	<u>29</u>

7. OPERATING EXPENSES - GRANTS

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

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Augmentative Research Grants	9,783	9,490
Grants to Voluntary Community Groups	2,500	2,500
Grants to universities	<u>13,000</u>	<u>6,754</u>
Total	<u>25,283</u>	<u>18,744</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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8. BORROWING COSTS EXPENSES

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Finance charges on lease liabilities	-	5
Interest on Advances from DOFA	<u>74,925</u>	<u>58,910</u>
Total	<u>74,925</u>	<u>59,915</u>

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

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
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- . expenditure on day-to-day management to be in accordance with an annually agreed program; and
- . the Authority to administer funds provided by the Commonwealth and Queensland for these purposes.

(b) Expenditure on day-to-day management for 2000-2001 was \$9,302,027 (1999-2000 \$8,466,000).

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

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Commonwealth Government appropriation:		
Recurrent and Post Initial		
Capital Programs: ref: Note 5(a)	4,410,000	4,356,000
Queensland Government contribution	4,410,001	4,303,000
From other sources	<u>216,125</u>	<u>182,028</u>
Total	<u>9,036,126</u>	<u>8,841,028</u>

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

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Funds available 1 July	537,860	162,832
Plus Revenue received	9,036,126	8,841,028
Less Expenditure	<u>9,302,027</u>	<u>8,466,000</u>
Funds available 30 June	<u>271,959</u>	<u>537,860</u>

Included in the amount of funds available at 30 June 2001 is an amount of \$165,291 relating to Permit Application Assessment Fees yet to be transferred to the Day-to-day Management Bank Account from the Authority's Operations Bank Account.

(e) Financial statements for day-to-day management which have been prepared by the EPA and audited by the Queensland Auditor-General are at Note 25.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

10. FINANCIAL ASSETS

(a) Cash	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Reef HQ Account	-	121,151
Day-to-day Management Account	106,668	537,860
Cash on hand	26,499	18,451
Authority Operations Account	<u>284,599</u>	<u>3,205,511</u>
	<u>417,766</u>	<u>3,882,973</u>

Cash held at 30 June was held as follows:	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and deposits at call	391,267	2,929,192
Term deposits	-	935,330
Cash on hand	<u>26,499</u>	<u>18,451</u>
	<u>417,766</u>	<u>3,882,973</u>

(b) Receivables	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Trade Debtors	783,125	550,253
Amounts receivable from the Commonwealth	<u>1,826,111</u>	<u>1,530,206</u>
	2,609,236	2,080,459
Less: Provision for doubtful debts	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
	2,608,236	2,079,459
Other debtors	3,309	31,131
GST Receivable	<u>94,037</u>	<u>-</u>
Total receivables	<u>2,705,582</u>	<u>2,110,590</u>

Receivables (gross) are aged as follows:

Not overdue	2,486,033	2,076,470
Overdue by:		
- less than 30 days	23,958	1,936
- 30 to 60 days	4,238	4,545
- 60 to 90 days	99,280	2,639
- more than 90 days	<u>93,073</u>	<u>25,000</u>
Total receivables (gross)	<u>2,706,582</u>	<u>2,110,590</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

11. NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

	2001 \$	2000 \$
(a) Buildings and Leasehold Improvements		
Buildings and Improvements to leasehold property - at 30 June 2000 valuation	10,860,048	11,154,740
Accumulated depreciation	<u>3,016,205</u>	<u>2,919,279</u>
	<u>7,843,843</u>	<u>8,235,461</u>
Buildings and Improvements to leasehold property- at Net Recoverable Amount	12,087	-
Accumulated depreciation	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>12,087</u>	<u>-</u>
Improvements to leasehold property - at cost	1,088,321	419,560
Accumulated depreciation	<u>69,069</u>	<u>304,813</u>
	<u>1,019,252</u>	<u>114,747</u>
Total Buildings and Leasehold Improvements	<u>8,875,182</u>	<u>8,350,208</u>
(b) Plant and Equipment		
Plant and equipment - at 30 June 2000 valuation	806,956	902,255
Accumulated depreciation	<u>316,419</u>	<u>361,349</u>
	<u>490,537</u>	<u>540,906</u>
Plant and equipment - at Net Recoverable Amount	5,449	-
Accumulated depreciation	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>5,449</u>	<u>-</u>
Plant and equipment - at cost	2,092,956	1,932,314
Accumulated depreciation	<u>1,404,218</u>	<u>1,308,036</u>
	<u>688,738</u>	<u>624,278</u>
Total Plant and Equipment	<u>1,184,724</u>	<u>1,165,184</u>

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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(c) Analysis of Property, Plant and Equipment

TABLE A: Movement summary 2000-01 for all assets irrespective of valuation basis

Item:	Buildings and Leasehold Improvements \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Total \$
Gross value			
as at 1 July 2000	11,574,300	2,834,569	14,408,869
Additions	1,072,740	292,892	1,365,632
Disposals	(406,406)	(132,115)	(538,521)
Write-downs	(260,853)	(109,310)	(370,163)
Transfer between categories	(19,325)	19,325	-
Gross value			
as at 30 June 2001	<u>11,960,456</u>	<u>2,905,361</u>	<u>14,865,817</u>
Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortisation			
as at 1 July 2000	3,224,092	1,669,385	4,893,477
Depreciation/ Amortisation charge for assets held 1 July 2000	274,431	231,810	506,241
Depreciation/ Amortisation charge for additions	53,490	27,466	80,956
Adjustment for write-downs	(164,184)	(76,394)	(240,578)
Adjustment for disposals	(313,262)	(120,923)	(434,185)
Adjustment for transfers	10,707	(10,707)	-
Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortisation			
as at 30 June 2001	<u>3,085,274</u>	<u>1,720,637</u>	<u>4,805,911</u>
Net book value			
as at 30 June 2001	8,875,182	1,184,724	10,059,906
Net book value			
as at 1 July 2000	8,350,208	1,165,184	9,515,392

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
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TABLE B: Summary of balances of assets at valuation as at 30 June 2001

Item:	Buildings and Leasehold Improvements \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Total \$
As at 30 June 2001			
Gross value	10,860,048	806,956	11,667,004
Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortisation	<u>3,016,205</u>	<u>316,419</u>	<u>3,332,624</u>
Net book value	<u>7,843,843</u>	<u>490,537</u>	<u>8,334,380</u>
 (d) Other non-financial assets		2001	2000
		\$	\$
Other prepayments		<u>87,631</u>	<u>94,472</u>
Total		<u>87,631</u>	<u>94,472</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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12. INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Advances from Department of Finance and Administration (DOFA)	<u>687,831</u>	<u>959,092</u>
Total	<u>687,831</u>	<u>959,092</u>

Advances from DOFA as at 30 June are payable as follows:

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Payable:		
Within one year	333,710	326,560
Within one to two years	354,121	306,697
Within two to five years	-	325,835
Total	<u>687,831</u>	<u>959,092</u>

13. PROVISIONS

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Employees		
Salaries and wages	168,929	187,268
Separation and redundancy	-	139,618
Provision for long service leave	1,183,805	1,038,413
Provision for annual leave	1,003,097	856,662
Other	<u>7,551</u>	<u>16,774</u>
	<u>2,363,382</u>	<u>2,238,735</u>

14. PAYABLES

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
(a) Suppliers		
Trade creditors	<u>1,342,853</u>	<u>1,738,521</u>
(b) Other		
Current liabilities		
Revenue received in advance	176,537	265,832
Amounts owed to the Commonwealth	508,490	457,838
Other	<u>19,558</u>	<u>6,217</u>
	<u>704,585</u>	<u>729,887</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
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15. EQUITY

Item	Capital		Accumulated results		Special Purpose Reserves		Asset Revaluation Reserve		Other Reserves		Total Reserves		TOTAL EQUITY	
	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	%
Balance 1 July	1,103,988	1,103,988	(3,178,096)	489,665	200,000	500,000	3,569,542	-	8,376,043	-	12,145,585	500,000	10,071,477	2,093,653
Operating Result Surplus/(Deficit)	-	-	(1,641,617)	8,438,294	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,641,617)	8,438,294
Net Revaluation Increases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	488,490	-	-	-	488,490	-	488,490
Transfers to/(from) Reserves	-	-	-	300,000	-	(300,000)	-	-	-	-	-	(300,000)	-	-
Capital Use Charge	-	-	(12,000)	(948,960)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(12,000)	(948,960)
Recognition of controlled assets	-	-	-	(11,457,095)	-	-	-	3,081,052	-	8,376,043	-	11,457,095	-	-
Changes in Accounting Policies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance 30 June	1,103,988	1,103,988	(4,831,713)	(3,178,096)	200,000	200,000	3,569,542	3,569,542	8,376,043	8,376,043	12,145,585	12,145,585	8,417,860	10,071,477

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

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

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Operating deficit	(1,641,617)	(50,430)
Depreciation	587,197	518,937
Write-down of assets	129,586	29
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	104,335	224,490
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase) in Receivables	(594,992)	(658,555)
Decrease in Inventories	14,659	12,394
Decrease in Other Assets	6,841	198,066
Increase in Employee Liabilities	124,647	155,108
Increase / (Decrease) in Suppliers	(395,668)	1,099,135
(Decrease) in Other Liabilities	(25,320)	(402,512)
(Decrease) in Lease Liabilities	-	(443)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	<u>(1,690,332)</u>	<u>1,096,219</u>

17. REPAYMENT OF ADVANCES FROM DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

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

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

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

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
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18. REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS AND EXECUTIVES

(a) Remuneration - Members of the Authority

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Aggregate amount of superannuation payments in connection with the retirement of Members:	17,183	14,959
Other remuneration received, or due and receivable, directly or indirectly, by Members of the Authority:	<u>163,513</u>	<u>159,052</u>
Total remuneration received, or due and receivable, directly or indirectly, by Members of the Authority:	<u>180,696</u>	<u>174,011</u>

The number of Members of the Authority whose remuneration was within the specified bands are as follows:

	2001	2000
\$Nil - \$10,000	2	1
\$10,001 - \$20,000	1	2
\$140,001 - \$150,000	-	1
\$160,001 - \$170,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
	4	4

(b) Remuneration - Senior Executives of the Authority

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Income received, or due and receivable, by Senior Executives:	699,696	361,037

The number of executive officers of the Authority whose total fixed remuneration received, or due and receivable, directly or indirectly, from the Authority, fell within each band of income after \$100,000 is:

	2001	2000
\$100,001 - \$110,000	4	-
\$140,001 - \$150,000	1	1
\$150,001 - \$160,000	1	-
\$210,001 - \$220,000	-	1

The \$210,001 - \$220,000 bracket includes an aggregate amount of separation and redundancy payments totalling \$101,864 paid in the 1999-2000 year.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
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The remuneration disclosed includes all officers concerned with or taking part in the management of the Authority during 2000-2001 except the Chairperson. Details in relation to the Chairperson have been incorporated into Note 18(a) Remuneration - Members of the Authority.

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

(a) Authority Members

The Members of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority during the financial year were:

Hon Virginia Chadwick (full-time Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer);
Mr John Lyons (part-time Member until 31 August 2000);
Dr Evelyn Scott (part-time Member);
Dr Glyn Davis (part-time Member).

(b) Remuneration

Information on remuneration of Authority Members is disclosed at Note 18.

(c) Superannuation

The aggregate amount of superannuation payments paid to the Public Sector (PSS) superannuation scheme in connection with the retirement of Members was \$17,183 (1999-2000: \$14,959).

(d) Authority Members' interest in contracts

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

20. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
Remuneration to the Auditor-General for auditing the financial statements for the reporting period	41,400	39,520

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

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

The Co-operative Research Centre for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (CRC Reef) was established to provide strategic scientific information, education and training to enhance reef-based industry and management of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. As at 30 June 2001, the Authority's commitment to the CRC Reef, in cash contributions, 'in kind' contributions and amounts payable from EMC collections was:

				2001	2000
	Cash	In Kind	EMC	\$	\$
Within one year	665,000	420,000	1,240,000	2,325,000	2,325,000
From one to two years	665,000	420,000	1,240,000	2,325,000	2,325,000
From two to five years	1,995,000	1,260,000	3,720,000	6,975,000	6,975,000
More than five years	-	-	-	-	2,325,000
	<u>3,325,000</u>	<u>2,100,000</u>	<u>6,200,000</u>	<u>11,625,000</u>	<u>13,950,000</u>

22. CASH BONDS

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

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30 June 2001

	2001
	\$
Cash at bank 1 July 2000	52,273
RECEIPTS	
Interest	<u>1,793</u>
	54,066
PAYMENTS	
Return of Bonds	<u>8,000</u>
Cash at bank 30 June 2001	<u>46,066</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

23. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) Terms, conditions and accounting policies

Financial Instrument	Notes	Accounting Policies and Methods (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)	Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms & conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows)
Financial Assets		Financial assets are recognised when control over future economic benefits is established and the amount of the benefit can be reliably measured	
Cash at Bank and Deposits at Call	10(a)	Deposits are recognised at their nominal amounts. Interest is credited to revenue as it accrues.	Temporarily surplus funds, mainly from monthly drawdowns of appropriations, are placed on deposit at call with the Authority's bank. Interest is earned on the daily balance at the prevailing daily rate and is paid monthly.
Term Deposit	10(a)	The deposit is recognised at the nominal amount. Interest is credited to revenue as it accrues.	No funds were held on term deposit at 30 June 2001.
Receivables for goods and services	10(b)	These receivables are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any provision for bad and doubtful debts. Provisions are made when collection of the debt is judged to be less rather than more likely.	Credit terms are nett 28 days (1999-00: 28 days).
Amounts receivable from the Commonwealth	10(b)	The amount receivable is recognised at the nominal amount due as at 30 June 2001. The amount arises from EMC collections due to be paid into Consolidated Revenue and then paid to the Authority as Special Appropriation.	The EMC is collected each quarter by the Authority as agent for the Commonwealth.
Other Debtors	10(b)	These amounts represent interest accrued on deposits with banks.	Interest is received monthly.
GST Receivable	10(b)	These amounts represent the refund due from the Australian Taxation Office.	Refund is received following lodgment of the monthly Business Activity Statement.
Capital use charge receivable		This amount represents the credit due to the Authority from the Department of Finance and Administration.	The credit is due to the Authority within 6 months of the end of the financial year.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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23. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

Financial Instrument	Notes	Accounting Policies and Methods (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)	Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms & conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows)
Financial Liabilities		Financial liabilities are recognised when a present obligation to another party is entered into and the amount of the liability can be reliably measured	
Advances from the Department of Finance and Administration (DOFA)	12	Liabilities are recognised at the present value of the outstanding principal plus accrued interest unpaid as at reporting date.	Advances received for the purposes of the Great Barrier Reef Aquarium are being repaid by annual instalments. Interest on the outstanding principal is charged at the long-term bond rate. At 30 June 2001 the applicable rate was 6.24%. An advance was received in 1998-99 to offset the costs of redundancies and is being repaid over four years. At 30 June 2001 the applicable rate was 6.24%.
Finance lease liabilities		Liabilities are recognised at the present value of the minimum lease payments at the beginning of the lease. The discount rates used are estimates of the interest rates implicit in the lease.	At reporting date the Authority had no finance leases.
Trade creditors	14	Creditors and accruals are recognised at their nominal amounts, being the amounts at which the liabilities will be settled. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods and services have been received.	Settlement is usually made in 30 days.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

23. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

(b) Interest rate risk

Financial Instrument	Notes	Floating Interest Rate		Fixed Interest Rate 30 day terms		Non-Interest Bearing		Total		Effective Interest Rate	
		00-01	99-00	00-01	99-00	00-01	99-00	00-01	99-00	00-01	99-00
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	%
Financial Assets (Recognised)											
Cash at Bank & Deposits at Call	10(a)	391,267	2,929,192					391,267	2,929,192	3.00	4.85
Cash on Hand	10(a)					26,499	18,451	26,499	18,451	n/a	n/a
Term Deposit	10(a)			-	935,330			-	935,330	n/a	5.37
Receivables for Goods & Services	10(a)					782,125	549,253	782,125	549,253	n/a	n/a
Amounts Received from the Commonwealth	10(b)					1,826,111	1,530,206	1,826,111	1,530,206	n/a	n/a
Other Debtors	10(b)	3,309	31,131					3,309	31,131	3.00	4.85
GST Receivable	10(b)					94,037	-	94,037	-	n/a	n/a
Capital Use Charge Receivable						126,000	-	126,000	-	n/a	n/a
Total Financial Assets (Recognised)		394,576	2,960,323	-	935,330	2,854,772	2,097,910	3,249,348	5,993,563		
Total Assets								13,516,511	15,737,712		

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

23. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

Financial Instrument	Notes	Floating Interest Rate		Fixed Interest Rate 1 year or less		Non-Interest Bearing		Total		Effective Interest Rate	
		00-01	99-00	00-01	99-00	00-01	99-00	00-01	99-00	00-01	99-00
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	%
Financial Liabilities (Recognised)											
Advance from DOFA	12	471,503	644,076					471,503	644,076	6.24	6.27
Advance from DOFA	12	216,328	315,016					216,328	315,016	6.24	6.27
Trade Creditors	14(a)					1,342,853	1,738,521	1,342,853	1,738,521	n/a	n/a
Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised)		687,831	959,092			1,342,853	1,738,521	2,030,684	2,697,613		
Total Liabilities								5,098,651	5,666,235		

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

23. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont.)

(c) Net Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

		2000-01		1999-00	
Financial Assets	Note	Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value	Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash at Bank and					
Deposits at Call	10(a)	391,267	391,267	2,929,192	2,929,192
Cash on Hand	10(a)	26,499	26,499	18,451	18,451
Term Deposit	10(a)	-	-	935,330	935,330
Receivables for goods and services	10(b)	782,125	782,125	549,253	549,253
Amounts receivable from the Commonwealth	10(b)	1,826,111	1,826,111	1,530,206	1,530,206
Other Debtors	10(b)	3,309	3,309	31,131	31,131
GST Receivable	10(b)	94,037	94,037	-	-
Capital use charge receivable		126,000	126,000	-	-
Total Financial Assets (Recognised)		3,249,348	3,249,348	5,993,563	5,993,563
		2000-01		1999-00	
Financial Liabilities (Recognised)	Note	Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value	Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Advance from DOFA	12	471,503	471,503	644,076	644,076
Advance from DOFA	12	216,328	216,328	315,016	315,016
Trade creditors	14(a)	1,342,853	1,342,853	1,738,521	1,738,521
Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised)		2,030,684	2,030,684	2,697,613	2,697,613

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

(d) Credit Risk Exposures

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

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

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

24. EMPLOYEE EQUIVALENTS

	2001	2000
The number of full-time equivalents employed for the year:	167	158

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

	Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
Revenues from ordinary activities			
Appropriations from State Government		4,501,014	4,383,000
Funding from Commonwealth Government for day-to-day management		4,197,841	4,383,000
Other		113,586	85,809
Gain on disposal of assets		53,780	2,781
Total revenues from ordinary activities		8,866,221	8,854,590
Expenses from ordinary activities			
Employee expenses		5,073,134	5,073,437
Supplies and services		3,256,599	3,227,823
Depreciation	2	507,172	926,280
Assets written off or scrapped		6,021	..
Loss on disposal of assets		23,295	..
Total expenses from ordinary activities		8,866,221	9,227,540
NET SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)		0	(372,950)
Increase (decrease) in asset revaluation reserve	9	..	23,245
Net amount of each revenue, expense, valuation or other adjustment not disclosed above recognised as a direct adjustment to equity	9	(19)	(624,952)
Total revenues, expenses and valuation adjustments recognised directly in equity		..	(601,707)
Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with owners as owners		(19)	(974,657)

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2001

	Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash	3	424,292	(2,803)
Receivables	4	102,880	400,064
Other	5	82,410	41,966
Total current assets		609,582	439,227
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	4,111,273	3,945,105
Total non-current assets		4,111,273	3,945,105
TOTAL ASSETS		4,720,855	4,384,332
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	7	91,761	58,392
Unearned Revenue	8	303,173	
Total current liabilities		394,934	58,392
TOTAL LIABILITIES		394,934	58,392
NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		4,325,921	4,325,940
EQUITY			
Retained surpluses	9	3,687,137	3,687,152
Reserves			
- Asset revaluation reserve	9	638,784	638,788
Total equity		4,325,921	4,325,940

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT (continued)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

	Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriations from State Government		4,501,014	4,383,000
Payments from Commonwealth Government for day-to-day management		4,801,014	4,083,000
Other		136,446	4,138
GST collected on sales		23,581	..
GST input tax credits received		183,740	..
Outflows:			
Employee costs		(5,059,923)	(5,042,563)
Supplies and services		(3,250,458)	(3,201,863)
GST paid on purchases		(240,276)	(2,625)
GST remitted to ATO		(19,148)	..
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	10	<u>1,075,990</u>	<u>223,087</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of property, plant and equipment		133,019	5,777
Outflows:			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(781,914)	(395,946)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>(648,895)</u>	<u>(390,169)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		427,095	(167,082)
Cash at beginning of financial year		(2,803)	164,279
Cash at end of financial year	3	<u>424,292</u>	<u>(2,803)</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT (continued)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS
AS AT 30 JUNE 2001

NOTE 1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of Accounting

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

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

(b) Funding from the Commonwealth Government

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

(c) Acquisition of Assets

The cost method of accounting is used for the initial recording of all acquisition of assets.

Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

(d) Property, Plant and Equipment

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

(e) Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment

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

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

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

(f) Revaluations of Non-Current Physical Assets

Australian Accounting Standard AAS 38 *Revaluation of Non-Current Assets* came into effect from 1 July 2000.

AAS 38 requires that all non-current physical assets are to be measured at either fair value or cost.

Queensland Treasury's policy *Recording and Valuation of Non-Current Physical Assets in the Queensland Public Sector* requires land, buildings, infrastructure and heritage and cultural assets to be recorded at fair value and other plant and equipment to be recorded at cost. Assets are currently valued on the deprival value basis under the transitional provisions of AAS 38. A comprehensive revaluation of assets will be undertaken during 2001-02 and land, buildings and infrastructure assets will be recorded on the fair value basis. All other plant and equipment will be measured on the cost basis.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT (continued)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 JUNE 2001

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment assets currently having an estimated value greater than the revaluation threshold of \$250,000 and an estimated useful life of three years or more are required to be revalued. A comprehensive revaluation of non-current physical assets is performed at five year intervals with annual indexation between the full valuations. Vessels were independently valued during 1996-97 by Casagrande registered valuers. No annual index has been applied for 2000-01 as the index was incorrectly applied in 1999-00 which had the effect of doubling the revaluation for that year, this did not however result in any material misstatement of the assets or asset revaluation reserve.

Buildings and Infrastructure

A comprehensive revaluation of buildings and infrastructure is performed at five year intervals with interim revaluations otherwise performed on an annual basis. A revaluation threshold of nil has been set for this class of asset. Buildings and Infrastructure assets were valued during the 1995-96 financial year by Casagrande registered valuers. The annual index has not been applied for 2000-01 as the index was incorrectly applied in 1999-00 which had the effect of doubling the revaluation for that year, this did not however result in any material misstatement of the assets or asset revaluation reserve.

(g) **Payables**

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

(h) **Employee Entitlements**

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

(i) **Gains and Losses**

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

	2001 \$	2000 \$
NOTE 2 DEPRECIATION EXPENSE		
Depreciation expense for the financial year was charged in respect of:		
Plant and equipment	219,094	268,412
Vessels	139,702	482,119
Buildings and Infrastructure	148,376	175,749
	<u>507,172</u>	<u>926,280</u>
NOTE 3 CASH		
Unexpended funds	413,765	(10,383)
Imprest Accountable Advances	1,100	1,100
Accountable Advances - Travel	9,427	6,480
	<u>424,292</u>	<u>(2,803)</u>
NOTE 4 RECEIVABLES		
Trade Receivables	43,720	97,439
Monies owing from the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	..	300,000
GST Input Tax Credits	59,160	2,625
	<u>102,880</u>	<u>400,064</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT (continued)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 JUNE 2001

	2001	2000
	\$	\$
NOTE 5 OTHER CURRENT ASSETS		
Prepayments	82,410	41,966
	<u>82,410</u>	<u>41,966</u>
NOTE 6 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Buildings and Infrastructure		
- At cost	31,285	403,793
- Accumulated depreciation	(507)	(42,549)
- At valuation	2,048,758	1,644,965
- Accumulated depreciation	(728,103)	(537,685)
Work In Progress	90,491	4,127
Vessels > \$250,000		
- At cost	330,534	4,972
- Accumulated depreciation	(408)	(6)
- At valuation	4,443,341	4,438,369
- Accumulated depreciation	(3,012,032)	(2,872,732)
Plant and equipment		
- At cost	2,368,329	2,547,079
- Accumulated depreciation	(1,460,415)	(1,645,228)
Total Property, Plant and Equipment - Net Book Value	<u>4,111,273</u>	<u>3,945,105</u>
NOTE 7 PAYABLES		
Trade creditors	87,328	58,392
GST payable	4,433	
	<u>91,761</u>	<u>58,392</u>
NOTE 8 UNEARNED REVENUE		
Funding from the Commonwealth Government not yet earned	303,173	..
	<u>303,173</u>	<u>..</u>
NOTE 9 CHANGES IN EQUITY		
	<i>Retained Surpluses</i>	<i>Asset Revaluation Reserve</i>
	2001	2000
Opening balance	3,687,152	4,685,054
Adj. to work in progress opening balance		(624,952)
Adj. to correct closing reported balances for 2000	(15)	
Interim revaluation		(4)
Net surplus or deficit	0	23,245
Closing balance	<u>3,687,137</u>	<u>3,687,152</u>
		<u>638,788</u>

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT (continued)

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 JUNE 2001

	2001 \$	2000 \$
NOTE 10 RECONCILIATION OF NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) TO NET CASH (USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net Surplus / Deficit	0	(372,950)
Non-cash items:		
Depreciation	507,172	926,280
Net Gain on disposal of assets	(30,485)	(2,781)
Stock write-on's and other asset adjustments	..	2,747
Assets written off/scrapped	6,021	..
Change in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/Decrease in receivables	297,184	(376,785)
(Increase)/Decrease in other assets	(40,444)	6,536
Increase/(Decrease) in payables	33,369	40,039
Increase/(Decrease) in unearned revenue	303,173	..
Net cash (used in) provided by operating activities	<u>1,075,990</u>	<u>223,087</u>

NOTE 11 COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no known commitments or contingent liabilities of a significant nature at 30 June 2001 (2000: Nil).

NOTE 12 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) Terms, Conditions and Accounting Policies

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

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

(b) Interest Rate Risk Exposure

No exposure to interest rate risk exists at 30 June 2001.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT *(continued)*

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
AS AT 30 JUNE 2001

(c) Credit Risk Exposure

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

(d) Net Fair Values

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

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

Recognised Financial Instruments

Trade Receivables and Trade Payables

The carrying amount approximates fair value.

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT (*continued*)

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

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

- (a) the statements together with the other information and notes to and forming part thereof are in agreement with the accounts of the Environmental Protection Agency; and
- (b) the receipt and expenditure of monies and the control and management of assets were in accordance with the approved programs and in accordance with the aforementioned agreements and previous agreements executed between the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments with regard to day to day management; and
- (c) in our opinion -
 - (i) the prescribed requirements in respect of the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
 - (ii) statements have been drawn up so as to present a true and fair view of the transactions and cash flows of the Environmental Protection Agency in relation to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park for the period 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001, and of the financial position as at 30 June 2001.



H. McLoughlin
Manager (Financial Services)

Date: 13/08/01



J. Purtil
Director-General

Date: 14/8/01

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2001

25. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT (*continued*)

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park for the year ended 30 June 2001 comprising the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows, Notes to and forming part of the accounts and certificates given by the Director-General of the Environmental Protection Agency and the person responsible for financial administration of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

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


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

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

Audit Opinion

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

- the prescribed requirements in respect of the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- the statements have been drawn up so as to present a true and fair view in accordance with the prescribed accounting standards and other prescribed requirements of the transactions of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park for the financial year ended 30 June 2001 and of the financial position as at the end of that year.


O C CLARE
Delegate of the Auditor-General of Queensland



Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane



(APPENDIX I:

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority for the year ended 30 June 2001. The financial statements comprise:

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

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

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

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

GPO Box 707 CANBERRA ACT 2601
Centenary House 19 National Circuit
BARTON ACT
Phone (02) 6203 7300 Fax (02) 6203 7777

Audit Opinion

In my opinion,

- (a) the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2000-2001) Orders; and
- (b) the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2000-2001) Orders, of the financial position of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority as at 30 June 2001 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

Australian National Audit Office



Edward M. Hay
Group Executive Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra
20 September 2001



GREAT BARRIER REEF
MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

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