

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)



# S. 47E(d)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)



s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

# s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

**From:** s. 47F(1) [[mailto:s.47F\(1\)@aims.gov.au](mailto:s.47F(1)@aims.gov.au)]

**Sent:** Thursday, 21 April 2022 1:21 PM

**To:** Sutton, Dana <[Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au)>; s. 47F(1) @csiro.au

**Cc:** McCulloch, Luise <[Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au](mailto:Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au)>; Gillies, Shanan <[Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au](mailto:Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au)>; Caretaker <[Caretaker@industry.gov.au](mailto:Caretaker@industry.gov.au)>; Bennett, Helen <[Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au)>; [bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au](mailto:bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au); [Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au](mailto:Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au)

**Subject:** RE: Caretaker advice - CTK22-02807 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi Dana,

The simple answer is no. The more nuanced answer is that publication of the snapshot is routine, summarises and explains publicly available data, is annual and comes out around this time of the year.

Cheers

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

**Manager, Government Relations**

Australian Institute of Marine Science

Level 10 | 1 Constitution PI Canberra ACT 2601 | Australia

**Mob. s. 47F(1)**

s. 47F(1)@aims.gov.au | [www.aims.gov.au](http://www.aims.gov.au)



Australian Government



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OF MARINE SCIENCE

**From:** Sutton, Dana <[Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Thursday, 21 April 2022 1:14 PM

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**Cc:** McCulloch, Luise <[Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au](mailto:Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au)>; Gillies, Shanan <[Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au](mailto:Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au)>; Caretaker <[Caretaker@industry.gov.au](mailto:Caretaker@industry.gov.au)>; Bennett, Helen <[Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au)>; [bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au](mailto:bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au); [Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au](mailto:Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au)

**Subject:** FW: Caretaker advice - CTK22-02807 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

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Good afternoon s. 47F(1)

I refer to our recent discussions regarding the decision regarding the release of the Great Barrier Reef snapshot report by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA), in partnership with AIMS and CSIRO.

PM&C have written asking if there is a legislative obligation to publish the report by a certain date – see below.

Look forward to hearing from you

**Bronwen/Troy** – for your information given the discussions you have had with GBRMPA.

Kind regards

**Dana Sutton**

**General Manager**

Ministerial Liaison and Governance Branch

Strategic Policy Division

P 02 6276 1798 | 61798 | M **s. 47F(1)** | E [dana.sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:dana.sutton@industry.gov.au)

Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources [www.industry.gov.au](http://www.industry.gov.au)



### Acknowledgement of Country

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge First Nations Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

**From:** caretaker [<mailto:caretaker@pmc.gov.au>]

**Sent:** Thursday, 21 April 2022 12:50 PM

**To:** **s. 47F(1)** [@pmc.gov.au](mailto:@pmc.gov.au)

**Cc:** Sutton, Dana <[Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au)>; **s. 47F(1)** [@pmc.gov.au](mailto:@pmc.gov.au); Industry <[industry@pmc.gov.au](mailto:industry@pmc.gov.au)>; Fell, Anthea <[Anthea.Fell@pmc.gov.au](mailto:Anthea.Fell@pmc.gov.au)>; Caretaker <[Caretaker@industry.gov.au](mailto:Caretaker@industry.gov.au)>; [EnvironmentTeam@pmc.gov.au](mailto:EnvironmentTeam@pmc.gov.au); Rush, Peter <[Peter.Rush@pmc.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Rush@pmc.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Caretaker advice - CTK22-02807 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi **s. 47F(1)** and Dana

Could you please advise if there's a legislative authority for this report to be published by a certain date? If there isn't, it may be preferable to defer publication until after the end of the caretaker period.

Thanks very much.

Alex Philp

**Alex Philp | Assistant Secretary | Government Division**

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

[e.caretaker@pmc.gov.au](mailto:e.caretaker@pmc.gov.au) | [w.www.pmc.gov.au](http://www.pmc.gov.au) | [www.pmc.gov.au/resource-centre/government/guidance-caretaker-conventions](http://www.pmc.gov.au/resource-centre/government/guidance-caretaker-conventions)

Ngunnawal Country, One National Circuit Barton ACT 2600 | PO Box 6500 CANBERRA ACT 2600



The Department acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and emerging Elders and Traditional Custodians of Country, and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** s. 47F(1)  
**Received:** Tue Apr 19 2022  
**To:** Caretaker Mailbox <[caretaker@pmc.gov.au](mailto:caretaker@pmc.gov.au)>;  
**Subject:** Caretaker advice [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Hi <sup>s. 47F(1)</sup>

Thanks for your message and for chatting with me just now. I will refer you to the caretaker co-ord point in DISER in the first instance (Dana and team cc'd).

I have also cc'd in my colleagues in the caretaker team here in PM&C just in case there is any discrepancy between the advice Dana and her team provide and the advice DAWE has provided to GRBMPA. They should be able to help you navigate any complexities.

Regards

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1) | Senior Adviser  
Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology Section | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
p. s. 47F(1) | m. s. 47F(1)

---

**From:** s. 47F(1) (CorpAffairs, Black Mountain) <s. 47F(1)@csiro.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 April 2022 3:34 PM  
**To:** Industry Section <[Industry@pmc.gov.au](mailto:Industry@pmc.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** MPLO <[MPLO@csiro.au](mailto:MPLO@csiro.au)>  
**Subject:** Caretaker advice

Hi team

I'm seeking your advice on the best approach for the release of the Great Barrier Reef snapshot report which is due out this month. It is led by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA), in partnership with AIMS and CSIRO.

Apparently, DAWE has advised GRBMPA that they should provide a written brief to Minister Ley in advance of the report release, and alert the Shadow Minister on the day of release. They have also recommended that we and AIMS provide informal information to our Minister's office (Price).

I would like to confirm that you think this is an appropriate approach to take, particularly in respect of advice to parliamentarians during caretaker period.

Thanks for your advice.

Cheers

s. 47F(1)  
Manager Government Relations  
Corporate Affairs | CSIRO  
s. 47F(1) @csiro.au | s. 47F(1) | s. 47F(1)  
Black Mountain Science & Innovation Precinct, Clunies Ross St, Canberra ACT 2600

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# s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

**From:** s. 47F(1) [[mailto:s.47F\(1\)@aims.gov.au](mailto:s.47F(1)@aims.gov.au)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 April 2022 9:23 AM

**To:** Sutton, Dana <[Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au)>; s. 47F(1) @csiro.au

**Cc:** McCulloch, Luise <[Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au](mailto:Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au)>; Gillies, Shanan <[Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au](mailto:Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au)>;

Caretaker <[Caretaker@industry.gov.au](mailto:Caretaker@industry.gov.au)>; Bennett, Helen <[Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au)>;

[bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au](mailto:bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au); [Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au](mailto:Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au); Williamson, David <[David.Williamson@industry.gov.au](mailto:David.Williamson@industry.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Caretaker advice - CTK22-02807 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi Dana,

I haven't heard yet whether GBRMPA, AIMS and CSIRO have reached a decision, but I'll advise you if/when I have an update.

Cheers

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

**Manager, Government Relations**

Australian Institute of Marine Science

Level 10 | 1 Constitution PI Canberra ACT 2601 | Australia

**Mob. s. 47F(1)**

[s. 47F\(1\)@aims.gov.au](mailto:s.47F(1)@aims.gov.au) | [www.aims.gov.au](http://www.aims.gov.au)



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**From:** Sutton, Dana <[Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Friday, 22 April 2022 3:04 PM

**To:** s. 47F(1) @aims.gov.au; s. 47F(1) @csiro.au

**Cc:** McCulloch, Luise <[Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au](mailto:Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au)>; Gillies, Shanan <[Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au](mailto:Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au)>;

Caretaker <[Caretaker@industry.gov.au](mailto:Caretaker@industry.gov.au)>; Bennett, Helen <[Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au)>;

[bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au](mailto:bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au); [Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au](mailto:Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au); Williamson, David <[David.Williamson@industry.gov.au](mailto:David.Williamson@industry.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Caretaker advice - CTK22-02807 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

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s. 47F(1) – Following our discussions, I just wanted to close the loop on this one.

I understand PM&C have spoken directly with GBRMPA and confirmed given there is no legislative authority for publication by a certain date, consistent usual practices, it would be preferable to defer publication until after the end of the caretaker period.

I understand CSIRO and AIMs were comfortable with that approach, noting it was a decision for GBRMPA.

Let me know if you would like to discuss further.

Kind regards

**Dana Sutton**

**General Manager**

Ministerial Liaison and Governance Branch

Strategic Policy Division

P 02 6276 1798 | 61798 | M s. 47F(1) | E [dana.sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:dana.sutton@industry.gov.au)

Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources [www.industry.gov.au](http://www.industry.gov.au)



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**From:** s. 47F(1) [[mailto:s.47F\(1\)@aims.gov.au](mailto:s.47F(1)@aims.gov.au)]

**Sent:** Thursday, 21 April 2022 1:21 PM

**To:** Sutton, Dana <[Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au)>; s. 47F(1) [@csiro.au](mailto:s.47F(1)@csiro.au)

**Cc:** McCulloch, Luise <[Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au](mailto:Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au)>; Gillies, Shanan <[Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au](mailto:Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au)>;

Caretaker <[Caretaker@industry.gov.au](mailto:Caretaker@industry.gov.au)>; Bennett, Helen <[Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au)>;

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**Subject:** RE: Caretaker advice - CTK22-02807 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi Dana,

The simple answer is no. The more nuanced answer is that publication of the snapshot is routine, summarises and explains publicly available data, is annual and comes out around this time of the year.

Cheers

s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1)

**Manager, Government Relations**

Australian Institute of Marine Science

Level 10 | 1 Constitution Pl Canberra ACT 2601 | Australia

**Mob. s. 47F(1)**s. 47F(1)@aims.gov.au | [www.aims.gov.au](http://www.aims.gov.au)**Australian Government****AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE  
OF MARINE SCIENCE****From:** Sutton, Dana <[Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au)>**Sent:** Thursday, 21 April 2022 1:14 PM**To:** s. 47F(1) @csiro.au; s. 47F(1) @aims.gov.au>**Cc:** McCulloch, Luise <[Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au](mailto:Luise.McCulloch@industry.gov.au)>; Gillies, Shanan <[Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au](mailto:Shanan.Gillies@industry.gov.au)>;Caretaker <[Caretaker@industry.gov.au](mailto:Caretaker@industry.gov.au)>; Bennett, Helen <[Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au](mailto:Helen.Bennett@industry.gov.au)>;[bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au](mailto:bronwen.jaggers@awe.gov.au); [Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au](mailto:Troy.Czabania@awe.gov.au)**Subject:** FW: Caretaker advice - CTK22-02807 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of AIMS.**DO NOT** click links or open attachments in unsolicited emails, call and confirm the content is safe with the sender first. To report any suspicious emails, use the Report Message outlook add-in or send to [helpdesk@aims.gov.au](mailto:helpdesk@aims.gov.au).

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PM&C have written asking if there is a legislative obligation to publish the report by a certain date – see below.

Look forward to hearing from you

**Bronwen/Troy** – for your information given the discussions you have had with GBRMPA.

Kind regards

**Dana Sutton****General Manager**

Ministerial Liaison and Governance Branch

Strategic Policy Division

P 02 6276 1798 | 61798 | M s. 47F(1) | E [dana.sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:dana.sutton@industry.gov.au)Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources [www.industry.gov.au](http://www.industry.gov.au)**Acknowledgement of Country**

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**OFFICIAL: Sensitive****From:** caretaker [<mailto:caretaker@pmc.gov.au>]**Sent:** Thursday, 21 April 2022 12:50 PM**To:** s. 47F(1) @pmc.gov.au>

**Cc:** Sutton, Dana <[Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au](mailto:Dana.Sutton@industry.gov.au)>; **s. 47F(1)** <[s.47f\(1\)@pmc.gov.au](mailto:s.47f(1)@pmc.gov.au)>; Industry <[industry@pmc.gov.au](mailto:industry@pmc.gov.au)>; Fell, Anthea <[Anthea.Fell@pmc.gov.au](mailto:Anthea.Fell@pmc.gov.au)>; Caretaker <[Caretaker@industry.gov.au](mailto:Caretaker@industry.gov.au)>; [EnvironmentTeam@pmc.gov.au](mailto:EnvironmentTeam@pmc.gov.au); Rush, Peter <[Peter.Rush@pmc.gov.au](mailto:Peter.Rush@pmc.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Caretaker advice - CTK22-02807 [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

Hi **s. 47F(1)** and Dana

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Thanks very much.

Alex Philp

**Alex Philp | Assistant Secretary | Government Division**

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

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----- Original Message -----

**From:** **s. 47F(1)**

**Received:** Tue Apr 19 2022

**To:** Caretaker Mailbox <[caretaker@pmc.gov.au](mailto:caretaker@pmc.gov.au)>;

**Subject:** Caretaker advice [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

### OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Hi **s. 47F(1)**

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I have also cc'd in my colleagues in the caretaker team here in PM&C just in case there is any discrepancy between the advice Dana and her team provide and the advice DAWE has provided to GRBMPA. They should be able to help you navigate any complexities.

Regards

**s. 47F(1)**

**s. 47F(1)** | Senior Adviser

Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology Section | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**p. s. 47F(1)** | **m. s. 47F(1)**

---

**From:** **s. 47F(1)** (CorpAffairs, Black Mountain) <**s. 47F(1)** <[@csiro.au](mailto:s.47f(1)@csiro.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 April 2022 3:34 PM

**To:** Industry Section <[Industry@pmc.gov.au](mailto:Industry@pmc.gov.au)>

**Cc:** MPLO <[MPLO@csiro.au](mailto:MPLO@csiro.au)>

**Subject:** Caretaker advice

Hi team

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Apparently, DAWE has advised GRBMPA that they should provide a written brief to Minister Ley in advance of the report release, and alert the Shadow Minister on the day of release. They have also recommended that we and AIMS provide informal information to our Minister's office (Price).

I would like to confirm that you think this is an appropriate approach to take, particularly in respect of advice to parliamentarians during caretaker period.

Thanks for your advice.

Cheers

**s. 47F(1)**

Manager Government Relations

Corporate Affairs | CSIRO

**s. 47F(1)** | [@csiro.au](mailto:csiro.au) | **s. 47F(1)** | **s. 47F(1)**

Black Mountain Science & Innovation Precinct, Clunies Ross St, Canberra ACT 2600

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---

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

---

**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 11 May 2022 8:21 AM  
**To:** 'GBRMPA Media'  
**Cc:** Media  
**Subject:** RE: Media query - Great Barrier reef - summer snapshot 2021-22 report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hey **s. 47F(1)**

Just gave your line and media line a call.

Saw the reporting this morning and noticed your snapshot was released yesterday.

I'm keen to drop our relevant Exec over here an email noting it was released (I'm guessing they may have seen the reporting), but I just wanted to check in first of all to see if a head's up already came out from GBRMPA to relevant DAWE Exec?

Can you give me a quick call back on the details below when you get a chance?

Cheers

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

Assistant Director | Environment Media | **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

Communication and Media Branch  
Corporate and Business Services Division  
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

---

**From:** Media <media@environment.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 4:16 PM  
**To:** 'GBRMPA Media' <media@gbbrmpa.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Media <media@environment.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Media query - Great Barrier reef - summer snapshot 2021-22 report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks for the heads-up **s. 47F(1)** - appreciate it.

Hoping the enquiries on this one stop soon for you guys.

Cheers

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

Assistant Director | Environment Media | **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

Communication and Media Branch  
Corporate and Business Services Division  
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

---

**From:** GBRMPA Media <[media@gbbrmpa.gov.au](mailto:media@gbbrmpa.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 3:56 PM



To: Media <[media.environment@awe.gov.au](mailto:media.environment@awe.gov.au)>

Subject: FW: Media query - Great Barrier reef - summer snapshot 2021-22 report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi <sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup>,

Just FYI.

Questions (below) from News Corp in regards to the release of the Reef Summer Snapshot 2021-22. The Reef Authority is yet to respond, however our approved statement sent to media last week is:

*“The Snapshot is a summary of conditions on the Reef during the summer. Reef health updates are published weekly during the summer and are available on the Reef Authority’s website at [gbrmpa.gov.au](http://gbrmpa.gov.au). Now that summer and the risk level for Reef health has decreased, Reef health updates will be published monthly.*

*While there is no due date or legislative requirement to publish the Snapshot at a particular time, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) and the CSIRO are working to publish the document as soon as practicable.”*

Cheers,

**s. 47F(1) - Media Manager**

Media | Strategic Policy and Partnerships

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

280 Flinders Street Townsville | PO Box 1379 Townsville QLD 4810

**Media hotline:** (07) 4750 0846 (day/ evening) | **Media inbox:** [media@gbrmpa.gov.au](mailto:media@gbrmpa.gov.au)

**P: s. 47F(1) | Email: s. 47F(1) [@gbrmpa.gov.au](mailto:@gbrmpa.gov.au)**



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**From:** s. 47F(1) [@news.com.au](mailto:@news.com.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 3:30 PM

**To:** GBRMPA Media <[media@gbrmpa.gov.au](mailto:media@gbrmpa.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Media query - Great Barrier reef - summer snapshot 2021-22 report

Good afternoon

I'm a reporter at News Corp's breaking newswire, following up the release of the Great Barrier Reef - summer snapshot 2021-22 report.

I had some questions for the Authority, please:



- Can you please advise when the report will be released?
- Why has it been delayed?
- Has the upcoming election affected the timing of the report's release?

Many thanks,

s. 47F(1)

Senior Reporter

HWT Tower 40 City Road Southbank VIC 3006

E s. 47F(1) @news.com.au W NewsCorpAustralia.com

---

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**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

**From:** s. 47F(1) @gbrmpa.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 12:35 PM  
**To:** Jagers, Bronwen (Agriculture)  
**Cc:** Czabania, Troy (Agriculture); Media; s. 47F(1) ; GBRMPA Media; s. 47F(1) (gbrmpa)  
**Subject:** FYI: Reef Snapshot report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Bronwen

As discussed, our media team have just received this request. I will ensure s. 47F(1) keep you in the loop on the response before it is sent.

Regards s. 47F(1)

s. 47F(1) JD, BSc (Hons)  
**Director – Science for Management**  
 Strategic Policy and Partnerships Branch  
 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority  
 280 Flinders Street | PO Box 1379 Townsville QLD 4810  
 Ph: s. 47F(1)  
 Mob: s. 47F(1)  
 Email: s. 47F(1) @gbrmpa.gov.au



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**From:** GBRMPA Media <media@gbrmpa.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 11:45 AM  
**To:** s. 47F(1) @gbrmpa.gov.au>  
**Cc:** s. 47F(1) @gbrmpa.gov.au>; s. 47F(1) @gbrmpa.gov.au>;  
 GBRMPA Media <media@gbrmpa.gov.au>; s. 47F(1) @gbrmpa.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Reef Snapshot report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi s. 47F(1),

s. 11C(1)(a) from AAP has been pursuing the Snapshot since before Easter and has touched base regularly with us. After several recent articles by s. 47F(1) (Nine Newspapers) and s. 47F(1) (SBS) she is now pressured to write on this today with the following angle and is seeking an official GBRMPA response to the questions below as soon as possible please.

Who did GBRMPA initially consult in relation to caretaker provisions, and who responded and when?

- Can AAP see whatever correspondence GBRMPA had with any part of the government in relation to the release of the Snapshot, including inquiries about how caretaker provisions might affect that?
- The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet has said agency heads have ultimate responsibility for the operations of their agency during the caretaker period. Does this mean that questions around caretaker obligations played no part in the delayed release?

Cheers,

s. 47F(1)

**From:** s. 11C(1)(a) <[@aap.com.au](mailto:@aap.com.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 11:02 AM  
**To:** GBRMPA Media <[media@gbmpa.gov.au](mailto:media@gbmpa.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Reef Snapshot report

Hi Gregg,

Thanks for your time on the phone just now.

I am hoping for a statement today from GBRMPA explaining the reasons for the Reef Snapshot report being delayed.

I'm sure you recall I've been asking about it for some time with the delay put down to a range of issues including frustrating delays in Canberra, caretaker complications, a desire to simultaneously release the Snapshot and the final weekly Summer Reef Health update, and issues around the Snapshot's finalisation.

My questions as follows:

- Who did GBRMPA initially consult in relation to caretaker provisions, and who responded and when?
- Can AAP see whatever correspondence GBRMPA had with any part of the government in relation to the release of the Snapshot, including inquiries about how caretaker provisions might affect that?
- The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet has said agency heads have ultimate responsibility for the operations of their agency during the caretaker period. Does this mean that questions around caretaker obligations played no part in the delayed release?

Many thanks.

s. 11C(1)(a)



Australian Associated Press

s. 11C(1)(a) <[@aap.com.au](mailto:@aap.com.au)> | [www.aap.com.au](http://www.aap.com.au)

M s. 11C(1)(a)

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**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

**From:** GBRMPA Media <media@gbmpa.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 3:56 PM  
**To:** Media  
**Subject:** FW: Media query - Great Barrier reef - summer snapshot 2021-22 report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

**OFFICIAL**

Hi <sup>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</sup>,

Just FYI.

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*“The Snapshot is a summary of conditions on the Reef during the summer. Reef health updates are published weekly during the summer and are available on the Reef Authority’s website at [gbmpa.gov.au](http://gbmpa.gov.au). Now that summer and the risk level for Reef health has decreased, Reef health updates will be published monthly.*

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Cheers,

**s. 47F(1) - Media Manager**

Media | Strategic Policy and Partnerships

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

280 Flinders Street Townsville | PO Box 1379 Townsville QLD 4810

**Media hotline:** (07) 4750 0846 (day/ evening) | **Media inbox:** [media@gbmpa.gov.au](mailto:media@gbmpa.gov.au)

**P: s. 47F(1) | Email: s. 47F(1) [@gbmpa.gov.au](mailto:s.47F(1)@gbmpa.gov.au)**



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- Can you please advise when the report will be released?
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- Has the upcoming election affected the timing of the report's release?

Many thanks,

**s. 47F(1)**

Senior Reporter

HWT Tower 40 City Road Southbank VIC 3006

**E s. 47F(1)** [@news.com.au](mailto:news@news.com.au) **W** NewsCorpAustralia.com

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**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

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**From:** Media  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 4:16 PM  
**To:** 'GBRMPA Media'  
**Cc:** Media  
**Subject:** RE: Media query - Great Barrier reef - summer snapshot 2021-22 report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks for the heads-up **s. 47F(1)** - appreciate it.

Hoping the enquiries on this one stop soon for you guys.

Cheers

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

Assistant Director | Environment Media | **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

Communication and Media Branch  
Corporate and Business Services Division  
Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

---

**From:** GBRMPA Media <media@gbrmpa.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 3:56 PM  
**To:** Media <media.environment@awe.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Media query - Great Barrier reef - summer snapshot 2021-22 report [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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# s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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**From:** Margaret Johnson <margaret.johnson@gbrmpa.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 10 May 2022 5:28 PM  
**To:** paula.perrett@awe.gov.au; 'NICHOLS Elisa' <Elisa.Nichols@des.qld.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Reef Health Snapshot and Aerial Bleaching results [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

**OFFICIAL:Sensitive**

Hi Elisa and Paula

The Reef Authority, AIMS and CSIRO has just released the [Reef Snapshot 2021-2022](#). It is live on our website with other content.

This short, easy-to-read booklet provides a joint high-level summary on the health status of the Reef. Note: it is best viewed as a two-page spread.

The snapshot provides a summary of the conditions faced by the Reef this summer and what this means for corals. The document also highlights some of the work being undertaken by the three agencies to better understand Reef health and protect coral, and important actions people can take to help the Reef. The snapshot sets the scene for the more comprehensive annual reports that are published mid-year as part of the AIMS Long-term Monitoring Program and the Marine Monitoring Program managed by the Authority.

The Aerial Bleaching Map and Results will also be released shortly on our website alongside the snapshot as part of the final Summer Reef Health update.

If you have any questions regarding the Snapshot, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Regards  
Margaret

**Margaret Johnson**  
**General Manager – Strategic Policy and Partnerships**  
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority  
Phone: 02 6274 1922; Mobile: s. 47F(1)  
Email: [margaret.johnson@gbrmpa.gov.au](mailto:margaret.johnson@gbrmpa.gov.au)

Classification: OFFICIAL:Sensitive  
Classified by: [Josh.Thomas@gbrmpa.gov.au](mailto:Josh.Thomas@gbrmpa.gov.au)

s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

S. 47E(d)

S. 47E(d)

s. 47E(d); s. 47F(1)

S. 47E(d)



# REEF SNAPSHOT

## SUMMER 2021-22



Australian Government

Great Barrier Reef  
Marine Park Authority



Australian Government



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE  
OF MARINE SCIENCE



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***We acknowledge the continuing sea country management and custodianship of the Great Barrier Reef by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Owners, whose rich cultures, heritage values, enduring connections and shared efforts protect the Reef for future generations.***

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ISBN 978 0 6450437 0 9

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This publication should be cited as:

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Australian Institute of Marine Science, and CSIRO 2022, *Reef snapshot: Summer 2021-22*, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville.

Cover image: John Brewer Reef, March 2022, © Matt Curnock 2022. Inside images: Page 2 © Australian Institute of Marine Science 2022; Page 6 © Australian Institute of Marine Science (Marie Roman) 2022, © Commonwealth of Australia (GBRMPA) 2020, © Mars Incorporated 2021, © Commonwealth of Australia (GBRMPA) 2022.

This snapshot draws on various types of information, including:

Climate time series data (<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/change>)

Cyclone wave damage predictions ([www.nature.com/articles/srep26009](http://www.nature.com/articles/srep26009))

eReefs GBR1 rivers 2.0 model data ([http://dapds00.nci.org.au/thredds/catalogs/fx3/catalog.html?dataset=gbr1\\_2.0\\_rivers](http://dapds00.nci.org.au/thredds/catalogs/fx3/catalog.html?dataset=gbr1_2.0_rivers))

Eye on the Reef program data ([www.gbrmpa.gov.au/our-work/eye-on-the-reef](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/our-work/eye-on-the-reef))

Long-term Monitoring Program survey reports ([www.aims.gov.au/docs/research/monitoring/reef/latest-surveys.html](http://www.aims.gov.au/docs/research/monitoring/reef/latest-surveys.html))

ReefTemp data ([www.bom.gov.au/environment/activities/reeftemp/reeftemp.shtml](http://www.bom.gov.au/environment/activities/reeftemp/reeftemp.shtml))

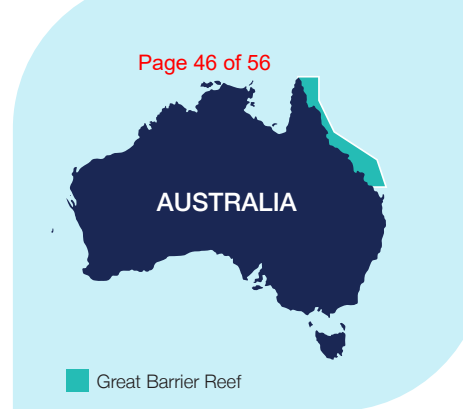
Aerial survey methods (<https://www.aims.gov.au/docs/research/monitoring/reef/sops.html>)

# About this snapshot

Summer is a critical time for the health of coral. This snapshot provides a summary of conditions on the Great Barrier Reef (the Reef) throughout summer, how these conditions impact coral and actions underway to help coral reefs. The snapshot focuses on coral. The health of other habitats or species are not assessed, although they may be added in future snapshots.

Each year, towards the end of summer, the snapshot is prepared by the three main Australian Government agencies responsible for Reef management and science: the Great Barrier Marine Park Authority (Reef Authority), Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS), and CSIRO.

This snapshot is based on the latest information available at the time of writing. It does not take the place of ongoing rigorous reporting by all agencies. It sets the scene for the more comprehensive reports released later in the year, such as the mid-year Long-term Monitoring Program reports by AIMS and reports from the Marine Monitoring Program managed by the Reef Authority.



## Summary for 2021-2022

- Above average water temperatures led to a mass coral bleaching event late in the summer. Bleaching was observed over a large spatial area and varied in severity, with some areas being heavily bleached, whilst others showed no signs of bleaching.
- Cyclone Tiffany was the only tropical cyclone that tracked across the Reef. Its potential to cause widespread catastrophic damage to reefs was assessed as low.
- While there was heavy rainfall in some catchments, flood levels in waterways near the Reef were generally not major or sustained.
- Crown-of-thorns starfish remain at outbreak or potential outbreak levels in parts of the northern, central and (particularly) southern regions of the Reef. The Crown-of-thorns Starfish Control Program continues to work in all three regions to cull starfish down to non-outbreak levels.
- Compared to previous summers, cumulative impacts were limited this summer, with one major pressure, a marine heatwave, dominating.

## Coral monitoring programs

AIMS has been monitoring the length and breadth of the Reef for more than 35 years.

The Long-term Monitoring Program is the most comprehensive record of coral reef condition available for the Reef, with a focus on the long-term trends in coral decline and recovery. There are 93 representative reefs that are routinely monitored as part of the program.

A further 32 inshore reefs are monitored as part of the Marine Monitoring Program.

Additional observations are gathered by the multiple organisations and people contributing to the Eye on the Reef Program, including through the Reef Joint Field Management Program.



# What has the Reef experienced?

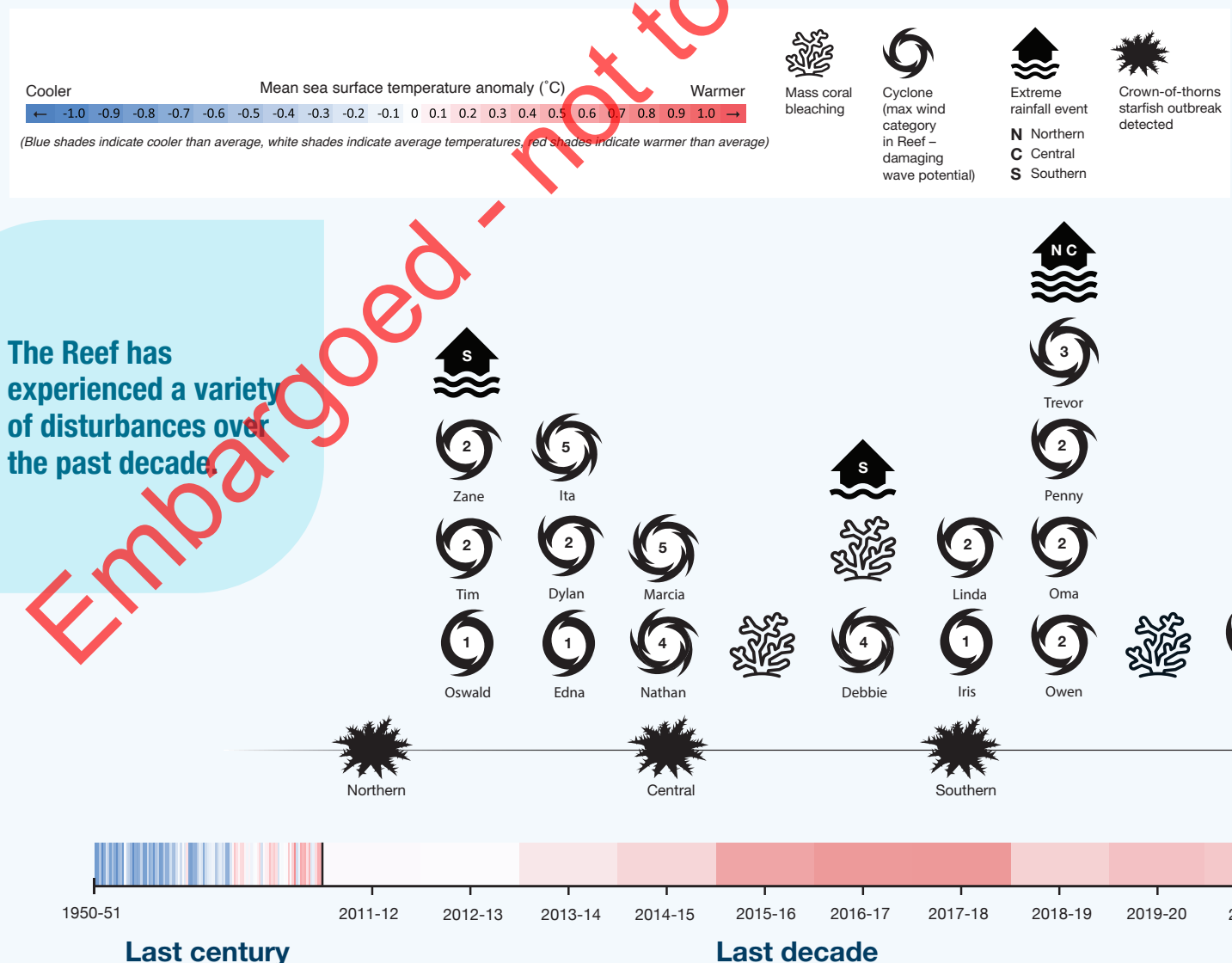
Just like any natural system, the Reef goes through cycles of disturbance and recovery. Given the Reef is very large, disturbances affect it at a range of local and regional scales. This means conditions on the Reef can be variable across different locations.

Reef monitoring before summer showed the Reef was in a 'recovery window' with coral cover increasing across all three regions. However, during summer coral bleaching was observed at multiple reefs across all three regions, confirming a mass bleaching event. This was the fourth bleaching event since 2016 and the first one during a La Niña year, where conditions are typically cooler. It is important to note that bleached corals are alive, but stressed. Low or moderately bleached corals have a higher likelihood of recovering, provided there are minimal impacts in the following years. Severely bleached corals have higher mortality rates. Underwater surveys following this stress event will be critical to understanding the fate of bleached coral.

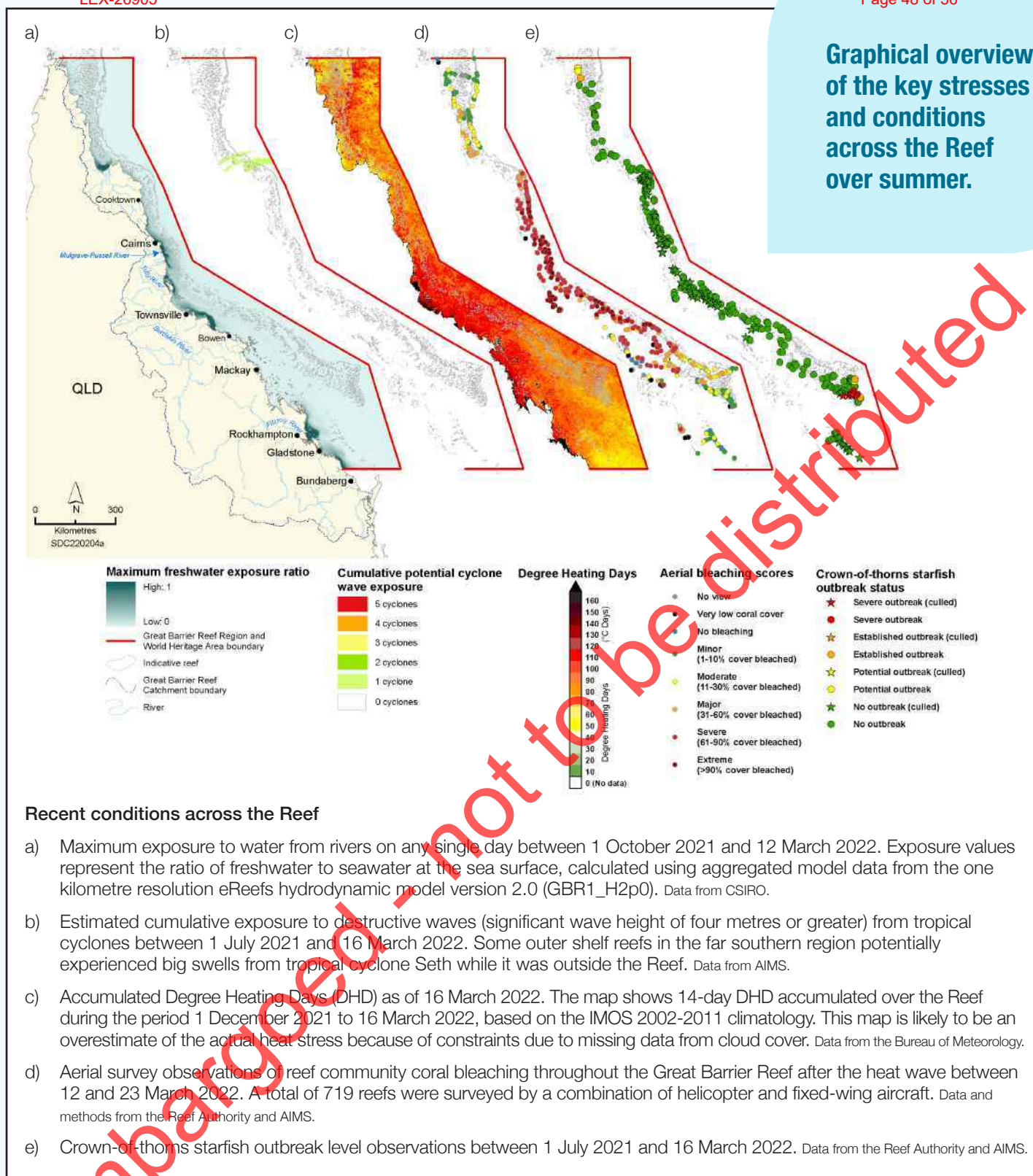
Climate change remains the greatest threat to the Reef. It influences weather patterns and the ocean's temperature, pH level and currents, as well as intensifying the effects of other threats. Climate change is escalating, and the Reef is already experiencing the consequences of this. Unfortunately, the events that cause disturbances on the Reef are becoming more frequent, leaving less time for coral recovery.

## Four key stresses on coral reefs

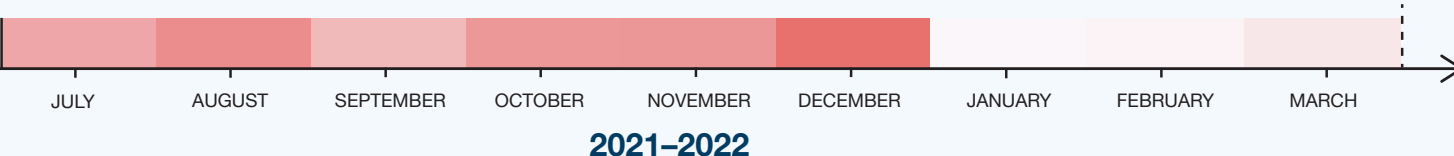
- Above average sea temperatures:** An increase of only one degree Celsius above the average maximum sea temperature for four weeks can trigger coral bleaching and potentially death. The level of bleaching risk is assessed by the number of Degree Heating Days, a measure of the accumulation of heat stress over a period of time.
- Cyclones and storms:** Powerful waves generated during cyclones can seriously damage habitat, particularly coral reefs.
- Flood plumes:** When large volumes of fresh, muddy water flow from the catchment into the ocean after intense or prolonged rainfall, it is called a flood plume. Flood plumes affect water quality, mainly by reducing clarity due to increased sediments and nutrients within the water. This can affect coral health.
- Crown-of-thorns starfish:** Crown-of-thorns starfish are a native coral predator, but when populations reach outbreak status (approximately 15 starfish per hectare), they eat coral tissue faster than corals can grow.



## Graphical overview of the key stresses and conditions across the Reef over summer.



Ongoing crown-of-thorns starfish outbreak southern region





# What does this mean for coral?

Between September and March, routine in-water surveys were conducted on the Reef to help us understand how corals have been faring in different regions during the summer. The Reef's water temperatures warmed unseasonably early in December and continued to accumulate heat late into the summer until the end of March. This prolonged heatwave prompted targeted Reef-wide aerial surveys of coral bleaching in the second half of March. Aerial surveys are an important method to provide a broad assessment of coral bleaching across a large area. The percentage of bleached shallow-water corals (in the top six metres) within the healthy coral community was recorded. In-water surveys, undertaken after the summer heatwave, supplement the aerial surveys and will be important to fully assess the extent of community level bleaching across the Reef. The information below summarises the current coral condition up to the end of March 2022. More comprehensive analyses and summaries will be available later in the year and a timeline of key monitoring reports appears on the back page of this snapshot. References for the information below are on the inside cover

## Northern



The northern region includes coral reefs from Cape York down to Cooktown.

**In-water surveys** (September to October): Overall, hard coral cover within the northern region continued to recover from recent declines caused by mass coral bleaching, cyclones and crown-of-thorns starfish. Hard coral cover increased at most reefs, although a few experienced slight declines since last surveyed. On average, surveys conducted this summer found high levels (30 to 50 per cent) of reef-wide hard coral cover in the Cape Grenville and Princess Charlotte Bay areas. However, within the Cooktown-Lizard Island area, coral cover was only moderate (10 to 30 per cent).

Within the Cape Grenville area, an incipient outbreak of crown-of-thorns starfish was detected at one reef, with potential outbreaks at two other reefs.

**Aerial bleaching surveys** (March): Many communities were dominated by temperature-tolerant massive *Porites* sp., some of which showed signs of bleaching at the more impacted sites in the southern Princess Charlotte Bay. The pattern of shallow-water coral community bleaching varied from minor (1 to 10 per cent) to severe (60 to 100 per cent). Severity generally increased from the northern tip of Cape York down towards Princess Charlotte Bay. Coral cover and the community composition were important factors influencing bleaching severity throughout this region.

## Central



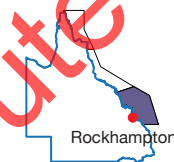
The central region includes reefs from Cooktown, south to the southern Whitsundays. This summer, reefs off Townsville and the Whitsunday areas were sampled. Survey data from Cairns, Innisfail and Cape Upstart areas were not yet available.

**In-water surveys** (January to March): Overall, both the Townsville and Whitsunday areas had high levels of reef-wide hard coral cover (30 to 50 per cent). All reefs surveyed within the Townsville area increased in coral cover (since last surveyed), as did the majority of reefs surveyed within the Whitsunday area. There was variable bleaching across the central reefs, ranging from no bleaching to severe levels.

Overall, there were low levels of crown-of-thorns starfish within the central region, with starfish recorded at two surveyed reefs within the Whitsunday area.

**Aerial bleaching surveys** (March): Surveys of inshore, mid and outer-shelf reefs from Lizard Island to Townsville had increasing tabular *Acropora* corals on the shallow reef flats and crests. *Acropora* corals are more sensitive to heat and are therefore more susceptible to bleaching. The pattern of bleaching varied from major (30 to 60 per cent bleached) to severe on the shallow parts of reefs from Cooktown to the Whitsundays. The most severe bleaching occurred on inshore and offshore reefs between Townsville and the Whitsundays.

## Southern



The southern region includes reefs from the southern Whitsundays area down to the Capricorn-Bunker area and out to Swain Reefs.

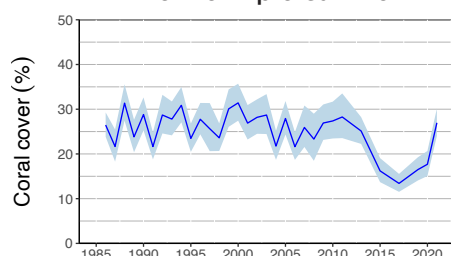
**In-water surveys** (December to January): Overall, reef-wide hard coral cover was high within the Pompey area. However, over half the surveyed reefs only had moderate coral cover. Since last surveyed, hard coral cover increased slightly at all reefs, except one. Crown-of-thorns starfish were present at two surveyed reefs, with a potential outbreak occurring at one of them.

Overall, hard coral cover was very high (50 to 75 per cent) in the Capricorn Bunker area, with slight increases at all surveyed reefs (since last visited). Low densities of crown-of-thorns starfish were recorded at one surveyed reef.

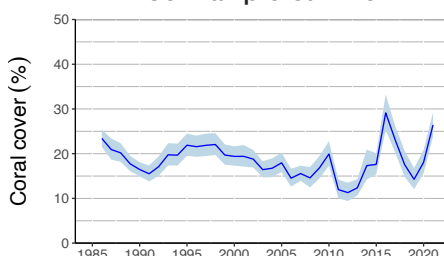
The Swain Reefs area had moderate hard coral cover overall, but it had declined since last surveyed. The overall decline reflected decreases at over half the reefs surveyed. Coral cover at the other reefs remained stable, however these reefs have not yet recovered from declines caused by previous crown-of-thorns outbreaks. Starfish were found at almost two-thirds of surveyed reefs.

**Aerial bleaching aerial surveys** (March): Within the southern region, the pattern of bleaching was highly variable, with shallow-water corals responding differently to heat stress depending on their location. Some areas, particularly around the Capricorn Bunker area, showed no signs of bleaching, whilst major and severe community bleaching was observed offshore of Mackay (southern Whitsundays).

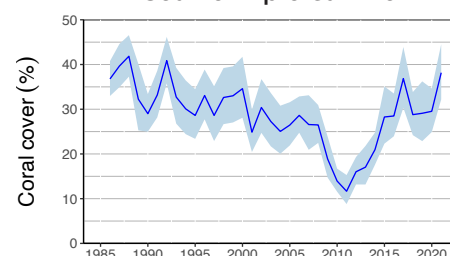
Northern: pre-summer



Central: pre-summer



Southern: pre-summer



Trend in coral cover for the northern, central and southern regions from 1985 to June 2021. Data from AIMS.

# What are we doing to help coral?

Supporting coral reef resilience and recovery is vital. A combination of preventative and restorative actions, as well as ongoing research and management, are needed to protect coral and the species and communities that depend on it. Below are three examples of actions taken to help protect the Reef.

## Understanding the Reef

Scientists are diving into the details of the 'how, when and where' of natural reef recovery. The research is part of the Australian Government's Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program and focuses on understanding the details of coral and community changes, identifying what limits natural recovery and adaptation, and how this differs between regions. Each year a team of more than 20 scientists collect fine-scale information from 70 locations on 16 reefs throughout the Reef. Information is collected using a range of tools, including high-resolution 3D mapping, and will help assess the likely success and effectiveness of restoration approaches. Understanding heat stress on corals over a large area is also critical. This summer, the Reef Authority, together the Australian Institute of Marine Science, undertook aerial surveys across 719 reefs to record community-level bleaching. These large-scale monitoring projects are critical to informing management decisions and investigating large-scale restoration solutions (over 100's and 1000's of square kilometres).



Diver with 3D mapping cameras

## Trialling restoration techniques

In November 2020, the Reef Joint Field Management Program partnered with industry, tourism and Traditional Owners to undertake a small-scale (200 square metres) restoration project at Green Island Reef. The reef was in poor condition after a series of impacts. Coral fragments, lying loose on the seabed, were collected from nearby healthier reefs and secured onto 'reef-stars' (small metal structures designed to support living coral) and hard substrate using 'coral-clips'. By May 2021, coral cover had increased from 15 per cent to almost 25 per cent at the site and fish species had increased by 25 per cent. By November 2021, coral cover and the number of fish species continued to increase, with biannual monitoring occurring at the site for five years. These types of projects can assist natural recovery processes in small, high-value areas of reef, such as popular tourist sites or areas of high ecological value.



Before and after stars installation

## Strengthening Reef management

Management and protection of the Reef is based on strong foundations with a comprehensive Zoning Plan, cutting edge compliance, and strong partnerships. The Reef Authority and partners are enhancing Reef resilience through innovation, management, regulation and in-field programs, such as the Crown-of-thorns Starfish Control Program. Reducing the impact of crown-of-thorns starfish predation is one of the most scalable and feasible direct management interventions to improve the Reef's health and resilience. Innovative technology is being used to maximise control effectiveness, including improving lethal injection technology and planning control efforts. Science, mathematical modelling and remote sensing data, are used to identify and strategically target culling to 'priority reefs'. These reefs support 99 per cent of the Reef tourism activity and are also areas well connected by water currents, with currents dispersing crown-of-thorns starfish and coral larvae between reefs. Targeting 'priority reefs' is thus important to Reef-wide coral recovery.



Snorkeller removing a crown-of-thorns starfish



# What can you do?

## See the Reef. Love the Reef. Protect the Reef.

The Reef is big, beautiful and diverse and its astounding biodiversity continues to inspire people. Like all reefs around the world, the Reef faces challenges and is under pressure. Actions taken now, big or small, will matter. Regardless of where you live, you can take actions at home and work. Actions include reducing your electricity, recycling, reusing plastics and reducing your emissions when getting around, such as walking or riding instead of driving. These all contribute to a healthy marine environment. We want you to be inspired by the Reef and tell others how they can help, as together, we can all make a difference. We ultimately want everyone to see the Reef, love the Reef and most importantly, protect the Reef.

Visit [gbrmpa.gov.au](http://gbrmpa.gov.au) for actions you can take to help love the Reef.

## Understand and follow protection rules for the Reef.

Measures like zoning (e.g. access restrictions), permits, no anchoring areas, and extraction limits protect the Reef for the long-term. Before heading out to the Marine Park, ensure you know your zones by using tools such as the free Eye on the Reef app. By taking a little extra care when anchoring and using moorings where available, you will help protect this delicate underwater landscape.

## Reef health monitoring

Each year, data on the health of the Reef's corals are collected, analysed, and shared. The timing of data collection periods, report releases and related workshops is shown below.

Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun
Marine Monitoring Program surveys (inshore reefs)	Long-term Monitoring Program surveys (mainly mid and outer shelf reefs)		Marine Monitoring Program surveys (inshore reefs)
Eye on the Reef (surveys/submissions)			
Long-term Monitoring Program annual summary report (annual)	Pre-summer workshop (annual)		Post-summer Reef snapshot (annual)
Marine Monitoring Program reports (annual)			



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**s. 22(1)(a)(ii)**

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**Subject:** Reef health update briefing [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting  
  
**Start:** Wed 20/04/2022 11:30 AM  
**End:** Wed 20/04/2022 12:00 PM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative  
  
**Recurrence:** (none)  
  
**Organizer:** **s. 47F(1)** (gbrmpa)

**OFFICIAL**

Dear Reef health communicators

We invite you to attend a final briefing on Reef health conditions for the 2021–22 summer.

Next week we will release the *Reef Snapshot*, which provides a summary of Reef health conditions over the summer. The Snapshot is developed jointly by the Reef Authority, the Australian Institute of Marine Sciences (AIMS) and CSIRO.

This will be issued in conjunction with the last weekly Reef health update this summer. Monthly Reef health updates will continue to be provided on our website until November–December when weekly updates will resume.

We hope you are available to join us for this briefing.

In the meantime, please have a happy and safe Easter — and a restful break.

Kind regards  
**s. 47F(1)**

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Microsoft Teams meeting

**s. 47E(d)**



s. 47E(d)

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