

Supplementary Material

The Australian Coral Reef Society: the last 40 years of a century working with Australia's coral reefs

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Table 1. Milestones in the science, protection and management of Australia's coral reefs
(1922-2022)

1922	Great Barrier Reef Committee (GBRC) established, first meeting in Brisbane (Queensland).
1923	First investigation, geological reconnaissance of North Queensland. Second Pacific Science Conference, Melbourne and Sydney, Australia.
1926	Bore through Michaelmas Reef.
1928-29	Yonge expedition to Low Isles, Great Barrier Reef (GBR).
1933	First meeting to discuss anthropogenic damage to reefs.
1936	Steers geomorphological expedition.
1937	Bore through Heron Island Reef.
1952	First hut erected for Heron Island Research Station (HIRS).
1954	Australian Academy of Science founded. Second Low Isles Expedition.
1963	Extensive crown-of-thorns starfish (COTs) damage first reported from GBRC Chairman, R. Endean's surveys of 308 GBR reefs.
1964	Rockefeller Foundation grant for HIRS (US\$47 000). First Scientific Director appointed for HIRS.
1967	Head of Queensland National Party government Joh Bjelke-Petersen announced plans to mine Ellison Reef for limestone. 'Save the Reef' conservation campaign launched.
1968	H.S. Ladd Report to Queensland Government on conservation and controlled exploitation of GBR.
1969	Interim GBRC Council appointed by the Australian Government to establish the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS). First International Symposium of Coral Reefs, Mandapam Camp, India.
1970	Royal Commission into Petroleum Drilling on GBR (1970–74). HIRS jointly established by GBRC and The University of Queensland (UQ).
1971	Report of Joint Commonwealth-State Committee on COTs. 50th Anniversary of the GBRC, Brisbane "Early Street" Conference.
1972	AIMS temporary labs and offices established at Pallarenda quarantine station, Qld
1973	Agreement between HIRS Board and Roche Pharmaceuticals for building at HIRS. Second International Symposium on Coral Reefs organised by GBRC: Marco Polo Voyage, GBR. Royal Society/UQ expedition to Northern GBR.
1974	Report of National Estate Committee of Inquiry. AIMS opened at Cape Ferguson, North Queensland.
1975	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) established.
1977	Consortium of Reef Island Research Stations formed. Australian Marine Sciences and Technologies Advisory Committee established.
1978	A Coral Reef Handbook: A guide to the flora, fauna and geology of Heron Island and adjacent reefs and cays. Publication by GBRC. GBRC consult to GBRMPA on geology, geomorphology and biology of

	the Capricorn-Bunker Group.
1980	Assets of HIRS transferred to UQ.
1981	GBR declared a World Heritage Site.
1982	GBRC changed name to Australian Coral Reef Society (ACRS) First GBR Zoning Plan comes into effect (Capricorn Bunker group). Lord Howe Island Group declared a World Heritage Site
1987	Elizabeth and Middleton Reef Marine Nature Reserve established.
1993	Elevated Nutrients on Coral Reef Experiment (27 research groups).
1991	Shark Bay declared a World Heritage Site
1993	Australia's National Resource Assessment Commission Coastal Zone Inquiry.
1994	A 25-year strategic plan for the GBR World Heritage Area.
1997	75th Anniversary of ACRS - Heron Island Conference.
1998	The Whitsundays Plan of Management enacted. Dead coral limestone extraction in Moreton Bay, Queensland banned. Cairns Area Plan of Management enacted. Solitary Islands Marine Park, New South Wales established.
1999	Queensland East Coast Trawl Fishery mandates the use of Turtle Exclusion Devices to reduce bycatch.
2000	Lord Howe Island Marine Park declared.
2001	Far Northern GBR Section Zoning Plan in operation.
2003	Jurien Bay Marine Park, Western Australia established. GBRMPA Representative Areas Program for the GBR Marine Park Zoning Plan. Review of fishing on the GBR, buy-back of licences. GBRMPA release Reef Water Quality Protection Plan: For catchments adjacent to the GBR World Heritage Area. GBRMPA accredited the first Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreement to a conglomerate of six Giringun Traditional Owner groups (Djiru, Gulnay, Girramay, Bandjin, Warragamay and Nywaigi).
2008	The Great Barrier Reef: Biology, Environment and Management book – publication supported by ACRS.
2009	Two oil spills of significant threat to tropical marine environments. First GBR Outlook Report released by GBRMPA (subsequently released every 5 years).
2011	The Ningaloo Coast declared a World Heritage Site.
2012	Commonwealth Marine Reserve Network established.
2013	The Coral Sea Marine Park established.
2013	Abbot Point port expansion plan approved, marine scientists Port Development letter
2014	Queensland Ports Development Strategy released. Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan. Senate Inquiry into the Management of the GBR.
2015	Abbot Point Report from ACRS.
2016	ACRS science-based policy plan for Australia's coral reefs - Benefits of mangroves - science brief to Hon. Mark Butler MP.
2018	GBR Partnership established (Au \$444 Million for the GBR Foundation). Dampier Marine Park established.
2019	Houtman Abrolhos Islands National Park established.

2020	Draft Policy on the GBR Interventions under review.
2021	Great Barrier Reef black teatfish export discontinued, guidelines developed for sustainable domestic harvesting.
2022	'Making Waves: A Century of Australian Coral Reef Science' Centenary conference and exhibition at the Queensland Museum and University of Queensland, Brisbane

Supplementary table 2. Major climate change impacts and responses on Australian coral reefs

1928	First observations of coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef during the 1928-29 Yonge expedition to Low Isles
1998	Mass coral bleaching event, first mass event recorded on GBR.
2002	Mass coral bleaching event. The Townsville Declaration on Coral Reef Research and Management
2005	GBRMPA establish GBR Coral Bleaching Response Plan. ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies established.
2006	Mass coral bleaching event.
2009	Coral Reef Crisis Working Group and resulting statement released to media and ministers.
2016	Mass coral bleaching event. ACRS science-based policy plan for Australia's coral reefs - Comments on reef policy plans in the 2016 election. ACRS science-based policy plan for Australia's coral reefs - Discussion: Advancing Climate Action in Queensland.
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mass coral bleaching event. ▪ ACRS letter to Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull requesting immediate action to reduce carbon emissions to protect the GBR.
2020	Mass coral bleaching event.
2022	Mass coral bleaching event, first time in a La Niña year.