



Reef 2050 Plan

Reef 2050 Advisory Committee - Communique 10 August 2021

The Reef 2050 Advisory Committee (RAC) held its nineteenth meeting today via videoconference, chaired by the Honourable Penelope Wensley AC. The RAC is one of two advisory bodies for the Reef 2050 Plan, established in 2015, to facilitate engagement with industry and the broader community on the implementation and review of the Reef 2050 Plan and provide strategic advice to the Australian and Queensland governments on Reef policy matters.

The RAC was pleased to welcome the Australian Government Minister for the Environment, the Honourable Sussan Ley MP and Queensland Government Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Youth Affairs, the Honourable Meaghan Scanlon MP. Minister Scanlon drew Committee members' attention to the new financial commitments made by the Queensland Government to protect the environment and the GBR Reef and climate programs. Minister Ley outlined recent developments in relation to the World Heritage Committee meeting and the decision not to place the GBR on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

RAC members noted the plans to invite a World Heritage Centre/IUCN Reactive Monitoring Mission to assess the state of conservation of the GBR, and the requirement for the Australian Government to present an updated State Party report on the state of conservation of the GBR World Heritage Area by February 2022 for consideration at the June 2022 WHC meeting. The RAC looked forward to contributing to these processes.

RAC members expressed concern at the delay in releasing the revised Reef 2050 Plan and urged that it be made available as soon as possible. Members expressed a keen interest in moving forward with implementation of the revised Plan.

Both Ministers took the opportunity to express warm appreciation to RAC members for their contribution to the Committee and their commitment to the Reef 2050 Plan.

RAC members also welcomed and received a presentation from the Queensland Chief Scientist, Professor Hugh Possingham.

The RAC received updates on:

- Development of a Reef 2050 Traditional Owner Implementation Plan from RAC member Ms Chrissy Grant.
- Scientific processes and consultation steps to inform the 2022 review of the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan.

RAC Members are: The Association of Marine Park Tourism Operators (AMPTO), the Queensland Seafood Industry Association (QSIA), Traditional Owner groups in the GBR, Queensland Resources Council (QRC), Queensland Farmers Federation (QFF), AgForce, CANEGROWERS, Natural Resource Management Regions Queensland, Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ), the Australian Committee of the International Union of the Conservation of Nature (AIUCN), the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS), CAREFISH, CSIRO, the Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF), Local Marine Advisory Committees, Queensland Conservation Council (QCC), Queensland Ports



Association and the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF).
AgForce was not represented at the meeting.