

NERP Tropical Ecosystems Hub Project Factsheet

Prioritising management actions for Great Barrier Reef islands

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Project summary

Managers of the Great Barrier Reef's (GBR) 900 islands face difficult decisions when it comes to investing in conservation management. Where should they invest limited funds to achieve the best outcomes? This project aims to address this problem by developing a decision making framework for investing cost-effectively in management actions across the GBR islands.

Why this research is needed

The GBR faces a number of pressures including climate change, invasive species, fishing, industry and tourism. In the face of these threats, environmental managers need a framework with specific objectives to guide their conservation investments.

Research-user focus

The project will deliver outcomes that are useful to a range of stakeholder organisations including state and Australian Government bodies, the tourism sector and conservation planners/managers. Research-user organisations include the Queensland Government, the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA).

Project Partners:



Brown boobies at Gannet Cay.



Weeds on Magnetic Island.

Outcomes

Working closely with GBRMPA and the Queensland Government, this project will develop a cost-effective approach for prioritising management actions across GBR islands. The approach will be broad-based and include pest control, adjustment of fire regimes, biosecurity measures and monitoring. A decision-support tool with GIS capability will help managers to identify management priorities within and between islands.

Find this project at www.nerptropical.edu.au
Theme 3: Managing for Resilient Tropical Systems
Program 9: Decision support systems for GBR managers
Project: 9.3

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