

WAMSI Conference 2011

NINGALOO RESEARCH PROGRAM

WAMSI Node 3

Managing and Conserving the Marine Estate: An Overview

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Environment and Conservation



western australian
marine science institution



Brief History

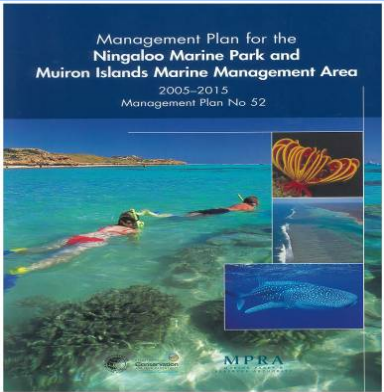


- Review of NMP management plan
- Controversy over SZ and coastal development
- WA Government allocated \$5M for research in 2005
- Significant co-investment by universities, AIMS, CSIRO,



Ningaloo Research Program

- NRP = WAMSI Node 3 and 'Ningaloo Cluster' + others



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MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Largest integrated coral reef research program in the Indian Ocean**
- **'Value for Money'** : \$5M to ~ \$35M;
150+ projects
- **Science knowledge base:** increased by over 10x
- **High Quality Science:** 55 papers published so far, many to come
- **Relevant Science:** 80% of mgt plan R&M strategies addressed

Condition of NMP?



- Marine biodiversity ‘hotspot’
- Biodiversity is mostly ‘undisturbed’ by human use
- SZs are broadly representative
- Some finfish, lobster and molluscs species are locally depleted
- Coastal ‘strip’ is highly disturbed in places



Primary Outcomes

- Greatly improved scientific understanding of NMP
(e.g. 10 x; Deepwater biodiversity, human use, MSE, WH listing etc)
- Enhanced capacity to manage human use and predict risks, incl. CC in NMP
(e.g. tourism, recreation, fishing, MSE etc)
- Improved capacity to determine efficiency and effectiveness of Government conservation and management programs in NMP
(e.g. MER indicators, protocols, MSE etc)

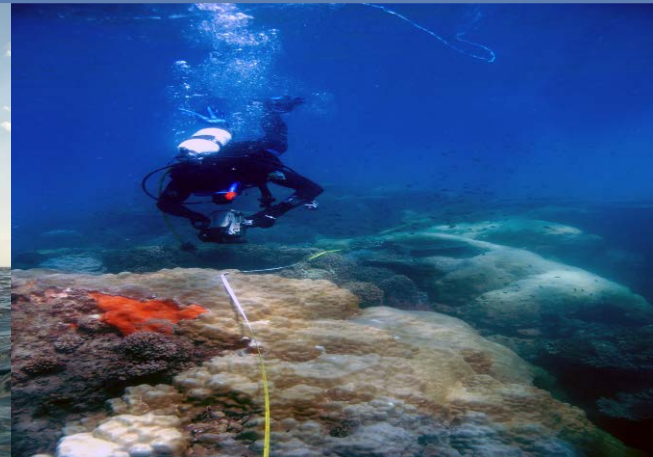
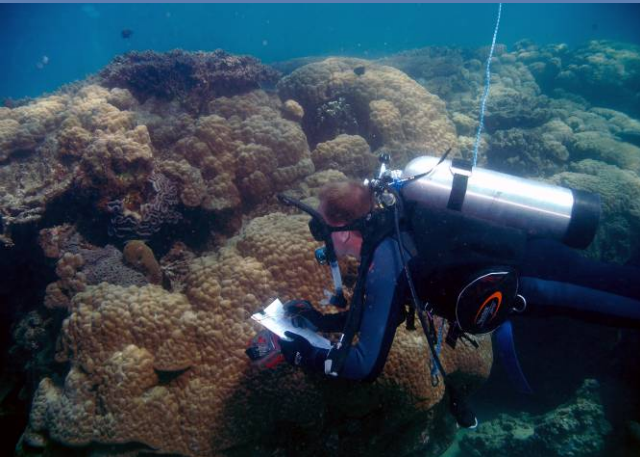
Primary Outcomes (cont.)

- Enhanced research effort in NMP
(e.g. IMOS, C-REEFs, ATAAMS, GA, Students)
- Improved tools to promote community understanding and support for Government conservation and management programs in NMP and in other WA MPAs
(e.g. Ningaloo Atlas, Websites, workshops, simple models, cartoons etc)
- Improved links and collaboration between State and Commonwealth agencies, universities, industry and NGOs
(e.g. Marine heatwave response, KMRP)

Secondary Outcomes

- Improved capacity to plan and manage other tropical marine parks and reserves in WA
- Improved capacity for knowledge transfer and uptake
- Increased capacity to respond to and mitigate the impacts of oil spills in NMP
- Enhanced marine scientific capacity (including student training) in Western Australia
- Enhanced regional economic benefits
- Enhanced knowledge economy benefits
- Improved knowledge base for environmental management by industry, NGOs and local community

Better Science Better Decisions?



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Scientists in the 'Cluster'
(MU, CSIRO)

WAMSI HQ
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