

ATTACHMENT 1.
Reef Protection Interdepartmental Committee Science Panel

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ATTACHMENT 2

Terms of Reference

1. Review existing evidence for any decline in water quality of catchments draining to the Reef.
2. Review existing scientific evidence of the presence of land-based pollutants in Reef waters and of the nature and extent of the existing and potential impacts of any such land-based pollution.
3. Advise on methodology for developing scientifically sound and effective end-of-river targets to achieve the goals.
4. Evaluate the methodology and data used to set end-of-river targets contained in the GBRMPA Water Quality Action Plan.
5. Assess whether these targets are valid and appropriate for the above goals.
6. Assess whether the catchment risk classification contained in the GBRMPA Water Quality Action Plan is valid and appropriate for the above goals
7. Evaluate current research, and advise on capabilities, gaps and priority research needs, to:
 - assess water quality impacts;
 - quantify acceptable levels of pollution;
 - locate and quantify the sources of pollution;
 - reduce pollution from key sources; and
 - assess the effectiveness of actions to reduce pollution.
8. Advise on the most practical options for improving catchment water quality
9. Advise on the most practical options for reducing water quality impacts on the Reef.

ATTACHMENT 3

Definition of terms

Water Quality

Water quality is socially defined, depending on the desired use of that water. For the practical purposes of this report, water quality should be taken to mean the physical, chemical and biological characteristics that sustain aquatic ecosystems and water uses desired by humans. Altering water quality will result in a change in the structure and function of aquatic ecosystems, including the Reef.

Pollutants

Pollution is defined as a deleterious change in the chemical, physical and biological qualities of an ecosystem due to human activity. Pollutants are the substances, structures and species that cause the pollution.

The Reef (The Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area)

Reef waters were agreed as being those waters within the "World Heritage Area" and intertidal waters adjoining the World Heritage Area.