

CODE OF CONDUCT – RESEARCH IN THE GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK

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1 PURPOSE

The Code of Conduct for Research in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, hereafter the Code, aims to have an ongoing commitment to improve those practices and standards in all activities undertaken in the Marine Park to help protect the Great Barrier Reef.

It is the responsibility of all University researchers to ensure that they are familiar with the Code and that they act according to it. Failure to observe the Code may result in disciplinary action.

Where there is any doubt about the Code or about actions that might arise from it, advice may be obtained in the first instance from the Research Division. Confidential advice may be sought from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

2 SCOPE

The Code has relevance to all disciplines and embraces principles as contained in publications such as the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003*, the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*, the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983* and CQUniversity's [Code of Conduct for Research](#).

3 EFFECTIVE DATE 22 June 2016

4 LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003

5 PARENT POLICY

There is no parent policy.

6 PROCEDURE

The purpose of this document is to establish the minimum requirements for the proper conduct of research within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, in all its manifestations, at CQUniversity.

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Legal Requirements

6.1 A summary of the Legal Requirements and Best Environmental Practices and Standards have been prepared for a range of activities and can be found at the [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority website](#).

These also apply to research activities:

- Anchoring

- Bird Watching
- Boating
- Collecting
- Diving and Snorkelling
- Dugong Watching
- Fishing
- Moorings
- Motorised Water Sports
- Reef Walking
- Spear Fishing
- Turtle Watching
- Waste Disposal
- Whale and Dolphin Watching
- Yachting

Researchers must adhere to these environmental practices and standards, and ensure that other personnel involved in project work, are informed of, and comply with, these practices and standards.

- 6.2 Researchers must recognise that these practices and standards may change and/or be updated and/or extended over time, and must ensure that all other personnel involved in project work, are informed of, and comply with, any such changes, updates or extensions

MOU Requirements

- 6.3 Researchers must at all times carry the 'Letter of Authorisation' while working within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. The letter of authorisation serves as an indication to compliance officers that researchers and/or other personnel are undertaking research under the auspices of an accredited educational or research institution for the purposes of the Zoning Plan. If a letter of authorisation is not able to be produced when required, the researcher or other personnel is liable to be prosecuted for contravention of the Zoning Plan.
- 6.4 Researchers must recognise that the Marine Park is a multiple use Marine Park, be aware of other users (e.g., tourists, traditional owners, commercial fishers, etc.) in any area where research is being conducted and minimise the potential for negative interactions whenever possible.
- 6.5 Researchers and other personnel must be familiar with all relevant requirements and restrictions applying to the Zoning Plan, the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*, relevant Plans of Management, and the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983* as relevant to the researchers' program.
- 6.6 Researchers and other personnel must lodge, in an appropriate curated museum collection within Australia, a portion of any new taxonomic material (including all holotypes and at least half the number of paratypes of new species) collected as part of a research project in the Marine Park.
- 6.7 All vessels used in connection with the research must be clearly marked "Research Vessel" while being used for those activities in the Marine Park.
- 6.8 All equipment, including minor research aids, placed in the Marine Park in connection with a research project must be clearly marked with the name, institution and research project duration or, in the event that this information cannot be placed on the equipment, the researcher must record a dGPS or GPS location for the equipment. The GPS location should be lodged with the Director - Environmental Impact Management, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, on placement of the apparatus.
- 6.9 All research activities must be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the laws in force from time to time in the State of Queensland
- 6.10 Within 30 days of concluding the research project in the Marine Park, all equipment and material used in connection with the project must be removed from the Marine Park. If for any unforeseen circumstances the Institution is not able to remove the research equipment and material, the Authority must be notified, in

writing, within the 30 day period providing reasons for the delay and providing a timetable for removal of the equipment and material.

- 6.11 When undertaking research in a part of the Scientific Research Zone in the vicinity of the locations listed below, the researcher must discuss the study sites with the appropriate person (as specified), and comply with any approved Environmental Management Plan for conducting research in that area:

| <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>APPROPRIATE PERSON</u> |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Day Reef SR-14-2001 | Co-Directors, Lizard Island Research Station |
| Yonge Reef SR-14-2002 | Co-Directors, Lizard Island Research Station |
| MacGillivray Reef SR-14-2003 | Co-Directors, Lizard Island Research Station |
| Lizard Island Reef SR-14-2004 | Co-Directors, Lizard Island Research Station |
| North Direction Reef SR-14-2005 | Co-Directors, Lizard Island Research Station |
| Green Island Reef SR-16-2006 | Manager, Monkman Research Station |
| Orpheus Island north SR-18-2007 | Manager, Orpheus Island Research Station |
| AIMS SR-19-2008 | Director, Australian Institute of Marine Science |
| Heron Island Reef east SR-23-2009 | Station Manager, Heron Island Research Station |
| One Tree Island Reef SR-23-2010 | Resident Officer, One Tree Island Research Station |

Recommendations

- 6.12 CQUniversity encourages researchers and other personnel to learn more about the tradition, culture and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and to respect the values and many special cultural and heritage sites of traditional owners throughout the Marine Park.

Reporting and Publications

- 6.13 Researchers must submit annual reports for projects operating over 12 months and a completion report on conclusion of the project.
- 6.14 Researchers must submit a copy of any publication(s) arising from work conducted in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park with the Research Division.

7 RESPONSIBILITIES

Compliance, Monitoring and Review

- 7.1 The University has determined that the Research Division shall be responsible for establishing and reviewing policy guidelines for the proper conduct of research within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

Reporting

- 7.2 The Memorandum of Understanding requires the university to prepare an annual report to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, outlining active projects, and any publications arising from previous projects.

Records Management

- 7.3 All records relevant to this document are to be maintained in a recognised University recordkeeping system.

8 DEFINITIONS

Refer to the University [glossary](#) for the definition of terms used in this policy and procedure.

9 RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

Related Policy Document Suite

[Code of Conduct – Research in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park](#)
[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Operating Procedure](#)
[Research in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Grievance Procedure](#)

Related Legislation and Supporting Documents

[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975](#)
[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulation 1983](#)
[Memorandum of Understanding between the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and CQUniversity](#)
[CQUniversity Code of Conduct for Research](#)

| Approval and Review | Details |
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