

# CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESEARCH IN THE GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK



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## 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1. CQUniversity has an ongoing commitment to improve practices and standards in all activities undertaken in the Marine Park to help protect the Great Barrier Reef. This procedure establishes the minimum requirements for the proper conduct of research within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, in all its manifestations, at CQUniversity, as agreed under the Memorandum of Understanding between the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and CQUniversity.

## 2 SCOPE

- 2.1 This procedure applies to CQUniversity researchers undertaking research activities within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.
- 2.2 This Code applies to all research disciplines and embraces principles contained in publications such as the [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975](#), [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019](#), [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003](#) and CQUniversity's [Code of Conduct for Research](#).

## 3 PROCEDURE

### Legal requirements

- 3.1 A summary of legal requirements and best environmental practices and standards for a range of activities, including the below research activities, can be found at the [Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority website](#):
- 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, and
  - yachting.
- 3.2 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.
- 3.3 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

### **Researcher responsibilities**

- 3.4 Researchers and personnel 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.
  - 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.
  - be familiar with all relevant requirements and restrictions applying to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act, Regulations, Zoning Plan and relevant Plans of Management.
  - 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.

### **Equipment and material requirements**

- 3.5 All vessels used for a research project must be clearly marked "Research Vessel" while being used for those activities in the Marine Park.
- 3.6 All equipment, including minor research aids, placed in the Marine Park for 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.
- 3.7 Within 30 days of concluding a research project in the Marine Park, all equipment and material used for a project must be removed from the Marine Park. If for any unforeseen circumstances the University is not able to remove the research equipment and material, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park 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.
- 3.8 When undertaking research in a part of the Scientific Research Zone in one 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:

LOCATION	APPROPRIATE PERSON
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

- 3.9 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

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

## 4 RESPONSIBILITIES

### Compliance, monitoring and review

- 4.1 The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) is responsible for monitoring, reviewing and ensuring compliance with this procedure.
- 4.2 Where there is any doubt about this procedure, or actions that might arise from it, advice may be obtained from the Research Division. Confidential advice may be sought from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research).

### Reporting

- 4.3 In line with the Memorandum of Understanding, the University will provide an annual report to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority outlining active projects and any publications arising from previous projects.

### Records management

- 4.4 Employees must manage records in accordance with the [Records Management Policy and Procedure](#). This includes retaining these records in a recognised University recordkeeping information system.
- 4.5 University records must be retained for the minimum periods specified in the University Sector Retention and Disposal Schedule on the [Queensland State Archives website](#). Before disposing of any records, approval must sought through the Records Management Office (email [records@cqu.edu.au](mailto:records@cqu.edu.au)).

## 5 DEFINITIONS

- 5.1 Terms not defined in this document may be in the University [glossary](#).

## 6 RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

[Code of Conduct for Research](#)

[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975](#) (Cwlth)

[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Operating Procedure](#)

[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 2019](#) (Cwlth)

[Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Zoning Plan 2003](#) (Cwlth)

Memorandum of Understanding between the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and CQUniversity

[Research in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Grievance Procedure](#)

## 7 FEEDBACK

7.1 Feedback about this document can be emailed to [policy@cqu.edu.au](mailto:policy@cqu.edu.au).

## 8 APPROVAL AND REVIEW DETAILS

Approval and Review	Details
Approval Authority	Research Committee
Advisory Committee to Approval Authority	N/A
Administrator	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
Next Review Date	22/01/2023

Approval and Amendment History	Details
Original Approval Authority and Date	Academic Board 1/12/2004
Amendment Authority and Date	Academic Board 6/03/2012; Academic Board 25/05/2016; Research Committee 22/01/2020.
Notes	