



Media Release
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2009 Annual MTSRF Conference

Hundreds of questions about the Great Barrier Reef, the Wet Tropics and the Torres Strait will be answered in April when some of the findings of more than sixty scientific studies will be presented by the Marine and Tropical Sciences Research Facility (MTSRF).

The 2009 Annual MTSRF Conference, organised by the Reef and Rainforest Research Centre (RRRC), will be held from April 28-30 at Rydges Southbank, Townsville.

RRRC Managing Director Sheriden Morris said researchers, end users and interested members of the public are welcome to attend the free conference.

“The MTSRF is a solution-science consortium of researchers and end users working together on the problems facing north Queensland’s key environmental assets – the Great Barrier Reef, Wet Tropics rainforests and their catchments, and the Torres Strait,” she said. “All of this MTSRF-funded research is freely available to everyone.”

The three-day program includes research findings on:

- shark catches;
- revegetation of rainforests;
- economic impact of climate change on the north Qld tourism industry;
- the effects of flood plumes in water catchments
- the economic value of liveaboard dive tours;
- effects of climate change on sea turtles; and
- forecasting the risk of exposure to venomous jellyfish.

The annual conference aims to showcase the many achievements of the MTSRF to date and to facilitate interactions among researchers and end users.

Acknowledging that many people were too busy to attend all three days of the conference, Sheriden said that RRRC would be distilling the scientific findings into a series of two-hour presentations aimed specifically at the tourism industry, agri/business sector, government agencies, environment groups and the general public.

“These short, sharp ‘Essential Science’ sessions will be delivered in Townsville on 15th May and in Cairns on 20th May,” she added. “Contact us on enquiries@rrrc.org.au to register for these sessions.”

