

## Status of Reef 2050 Traditional Owner Driven Actions as at 12 June 2018

### Number of Actions: 27

The Department originally referred to 23 TO specific actions listed on page 31 of the [Investment Framework](#). This was inaccurately represented. It should have been 27. There is acknowledgement that Traditional Owners have an interest in and contribute to a number of other actions in the Reef 2050 Plan. We haven't yet analysed the rest of the actions in the plan to take into consideration the potential interest and opportunities for Traditional Owners.

Ecosystem Health (6)	Biodiversity (4)	Heritage (8)/(6) 3 complete 2 new MTR	Water Quality (1) (0) 1 PRINCIPLE	Community Benefits (3)	Economic Benefits (2)	Governance (5)/(3) 1 Complete 1 PRINCIPLE
Acknowledge Traditional Owners in new and existing policy and plans. [EHA1] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Where agreed through Traditional Owner engagement frameworks, apply traditional knowledge and customary use of biological diversity, including the use of community protocols in managing protected areas. [BA1] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Build capacity for the involvement of Traditional Owners and community members in cooperative management, planning and impact assessment. [HA1] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Identify and action opportunities for Traditional Owners, industry and community engagement in on-ground water quality improvement and monitoring programs. [WQA24] - <b>PRINCIPLE</b>	Review current mechanisms and processes to improve benefits to Traditional Owners engaged in sea country management. [CBA1] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Develop and implement an Indigenous Business Development Plan including a comprehensive review of baseline data, processes and systems to identify existing and potential economic benefits to Traditional Owners. [EBA1] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Convene a multi-sectoral Reef advisory committee to facilitate engagement with industry and the broader community regarding the implementation and review of the Plan. [GA2] - <b>COMPLETE</b>
Incorporate and prioritise Traditional Owner's planning into existing and future ecosystem policy and programs. [EHA2] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Work with Traditional Owner groups to identify biocultural resources within their sea country and develop plans of management for conservation and use of those resources. [BA2] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Work with and support Traditional Owners to collect, store and manage their own cultural heritage information. [HA2] - <b>ONGOING</b>	WQA24 has been superseded by the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef 2050 WQIP) and remains as a principle in the revised Plan. Action 3.5 in the Reef 2050 WQIP is about partnering with Traditional Owners, Indigenous Rangers and other groups to deliver on-ground water quality.	Work with Traditional Owners to identify world's best practice in agreement making, strategic planning, and management and implementation of Indigenous programs in relation to the Great Barrier Reef sea country estate. [CBA2] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Assist Traditional Owners to be business-ready and have improved capacity to generate economic benefits from use and management of their traditional estates. [EBA2] - <b>ONGOING</b>	When reviewing relevant agreements, policies, plans, strategies and programs ensure they support the Plan's outcomes and targets. For example: (d) support cross-cultural training in relation to Traditional Owner culture and perspectives. [GA7 (d)] - <b>ONGOING</b>
Support Traditional Owner stewardship activities that contribute to Reef health and resilience, including removing and, where possible, identifying the sources of marine debris. [EHA3] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Improve Traditional Owner engagement to strengthen participation in decision making at all levels relating to the conservation and cultural use of biodiversity. [BA3] - <b>ONGOING</b>	Improve engagement processes for assessment of cultural heritage values to inform decision making. [HA3] - <b>ONGOING</b>		Develop collaborative working arrangements with Traditional Owners which establish mutual trust and build Indigenous capacity. [CBA3] - <b>ONGOING</b>		Work with Traditional owners, industry, regional bodies, local governments, research institutions, and the community to inform delivery of local and regional actions [GA10] - <b>PRINCIPLE</b>
Develop further agreements with Traditional Owners addressing management of ecosystems within their	Work with Traditional Owners to build capacity to record and manage traditional ecological knowledge and	Update the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Heritage Strategy 2005 to more comprehensively address				Improve Traditional Owner participation in governance arrangements for protection

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traditional estates [EHA4] - <b>ONGOING</b>	prioritise research to address key Indigenous knowledge gaps. [BA4] - <b>ONGOING</b>	<p>Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage. [HA4] – <b>COMPLETE</b></p> <p><b>NEW WORDING</b></p> <p>MTR HA2 – Implement the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Commonwealth Heritage Listed Places and Properties Heritage Strategy 2018–21</i>.</p> <p>MTR HA3 – Finalise and implement the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Strategy for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park</i>.</p>				and management of the Reef. [GA11] - <b>ONGOING</b>
Develop, implement and coordinate a protocol and knowledge management system for recording, storing, protecting, and where appropriate, sharing of knowledge, innovations and practices; conserving and cultural use of bio cultural diversity; and use in decision-making [EHA5] - <b>ONGOING</b>		Develop impact assessment guidelines for cultural heritage values in the Great Barrier Reef Region [HA5] - <b>COMPLETE</b>				Prioritise and develop specific implementation plans and reporting protocols addressing the Plan's targets and actions in consultation with the community [GA12] – <b>ONGOING</b>
Implement on-ground activities to reduce the volume of debris generated in or entering the World Heritage Area, and undertake education and awareness raising activities to minimise the source and occurrence of marine debris [EHA 27] – <b>ONGOING</b>		Facilitate robust consideration of heritage values in planning processes, including development and associated activities. [HA6] - <b>ONGOING</b>				

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		Consolidate Reef heritage data and identify priorities for protective action [HA7] - <b>COMPLETE</b>				
		Further identify, map, monitor and report on key Reef heritage values and sites, including comprehensive maritime surveys in priority sections of the Reef [HA11] - <b>ONGOING</b>				

### Mid-Term Review treatment of actions listed above

- There are 27 Actions in the Reef 2050 Plan that were driven by Traditional Owners and are the key focus of our project. There are however 29 actions listed above. This is because 2 additional governance actions are considered important to Traditional Owners (GA10 and GA12) and so are included for discussion in this review.

### Reef 2050 Joint Team advised through MTR 2018 Draft Report negotiations that:

- 23 Traditional Owner Actions remain ongoing in the Revised Reef 2050 Plan (out of the 29 actions listed above).
- Two Traditional Owner Actions have been elevated to Principles in how we manage the Reef: WQA24 and GA10
- Four Traditional Owner Actions have been marked as complete and therefore have been removed from the revised Plan:
  - HA4: The Commonwealth Heritage Listed Places and Properties Heritage Strategy 2018-2021 and accompanying suite of documents was approved by the Australian Heritage Council and Department of the Environment and Energy in January 2018.
  - HA5: The guidelines were published in 2017 and can be found here: <http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/zoning-permits-and-plans/permits>.
  - HA7: The Commonwealth Heritage Listed Places and Properties Heritage Strategy 2018-2021 and accompanying suite of documents was approved by the Australian Heritage Council and Department of the Environment and Energy in January 2018.
  - GA2: The Reef 2050 Advisory Committee has been established. This action was marked as complete in the 2016 Annual Report.

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Further the Reef 2050 Joint Team advised through MTR 2018 Draft Report negotiations the following Actions will replace the completed actions above:

Existing	Proposed Replacement or other Treatment through MTR	RRRC Led Consortium Advice
<p>HA4: <b>Update the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Heritage Strategy 2005 to more comprehensively address Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage. [HA4]</b></p>	<p>MTR HA2 – Implement the <i>Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Commonwealth Heritage Listed Places and Properties Heritage Strategy 2018—21</i>.</p> <p>MTR HA3 – Finalise and implement the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority’s <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Strategy for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park</i>.</p>	<p>Agreed to move from HA4 to MTR HA2 and MTR HA3</p>
<p>HA5: <b>Develop impact assessment guidelines for cultural heritage values in the Great Barrier Reef Region [HA5]</b></p>	<p>NIL:</p> <p>This action is considered complete by the Joint Team by the publication of the GBRMPA guidelines and under other pieces of policy and legislation. Remaining components can be considered under HA6.</p>	<p>RRRC led Consortium do not agree, however revised wording for new MTR Action below:</p> <p><b><u>RRRC led Consortium recommend: MTR (Replace HA5) Implement impact assessment guidelines for Indigenous heritage values in the Great Barrier Reef Region to ensure effective protection and proper consideration of Traditional Owner advice</u></b></p> <p>Justification: This action is not restricted to application by the Authority only. It is applied across the jurisdiction of the Reef 2050 Plan. RRRC led Consortium advises that whilst GBRMPA Guidelines are completed, Traditional Owners articulate ongoing problems with (effectiveness) impact assessments and permitting processes within the Marine Park and related catchment areas (ie Region). Whilst improvements are being realised for Woppaburra Traditional Owners (Keppel Islands) significant problems persist for other Great Barrier Reef Traditional Owners. Traditional Owners seek impact assessments for both land and sea (across <b>both</b> Commonwealth and State jurisdictions) be made to account as an <b>effective process</b> that properly considers their decision-making processes, advice and increases protection of their values. At present, with the Guidelines in place, this is not happening outside of the specific Woppaburra Guidelines. Traditional Owners are looking to their partners to ensure that benefits of impact assessment practices for Indigenous cultural heritage values in the Great Barrier Reef Region demonstrate effectiveness - not simply that a product has been developed.</p>

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<p>HA7: <b>Consolidate Reef heritage data and identify priorities for protective action [HA7].</b></p>	<p>This action is considered by Joint Team to be addressed by a combination of HA1; HA3 and partly superseded by MTR HA3 and MTR GA4</p> <p>MTR HA3 – Finalise and implement the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority’s <i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Strategy for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park</i>.</p> <p>MTRGA4, which states: <i>Develop and implement an Integrated Monitoring and Reporting program that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>facilitates adaptive management for the Reef that is effective, efficient and evolving;</i></li> <li>• <i>enables timely and suitable responses by Reef managers and partners to emerging issues and risks; and</i></li> <li>• <i>enables the evaluation of whether the Reef 2050 Plan is on track to meet its outcomes, objectives and targets</i></li> </ul>	<p>RRRC led Consortium do not agree. Strongly advise to retain as ongoing by adding additional point to new MTRGA4 (see below).</p> <p>This action is applied across the jurisdiction of the Reef 2050 Plan. Two projects under RIMReP that underpin this Action are in the final stages of their design phase, notably: 1) Program Design Indigenous Heritage Indicators and 2) the Data Management System Project 4 (DMS4 Protocol; Guidelines and Data Sharing Agreements). These projects are scheduled for completion by 30 June 2018 and without doubt are critical to establish purposeful data standards, ethical and culturally appropriate sourcing of data and information that is required for synthesis and analysis for the purpose of improved management and protection. It is extremely premature to deem this action completed simply because two projects have started to establish foundational systems/procedures to <b>source/negotiate</b> information that is structured to meet specified data standards. There is insufficient/limited (if any) reef wide Indigenous heritage data generated/stored to date that meets specified data standards (based on required uses ie currently being designed under RIMREP/e-Atlas) that would satisfy the process of ‘consolidation’. Nor is there sufficient reef wide Indigenous heritage data stored and/or maintained now that would establish management ability to comprehensively identify and prioritise for protective action. MTR GA4 is not currently adequate to effectively cover off on this Traditional Owner Action. It requires addition of a specified point about Indigenous heritage data.</p> <p>Recommend addition to MTR GA4 to include as a fourth point:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Identify, negotiate and consolidate Great Barrier Reef Traditional Owner heritage data and identify priorities for protective action</u></b></li> </ul>
<p>WQA24: <b>Identify and action opportunities for Traditional Owners, industry and community engagement in on-ground water quality improvement and monitoring programs. [WQA24] -</b></p>	<p><b>PRINCIPLE</b> Advised to be covered by implementation of other Traditional Owner led actions such as HA1, HA3; and to be superseded by the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (Reef 2050 WQIP). Action 3.5 in the Reef 2050 WQIP is about partnering with Traditional Owners, Indigenous Rangers and other groups to deliver on-ground water quality; as well as</p>	<p>Water Quality remains a very important matter for Traditional Owners of the Great Barrier Reef. If this treatment is agreed there will be no specific water quality action for Traditional Owners in the revised Reef 2050 Plan (head document); concerns exist that the reclassification of this Action will demote the critical importance of this action to Traditional Owners in the primary document by redirection through the Reef 2050 WQIP.</p>

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	Action 7.6 including building cultural reporting capacity in regional report cards.	RRRC Led Consortium advice remains that at this stage it is best unchanged until further broad scale consultation with GBR Traditional Owners can inform on appropriate treatment.
GA2: <b>Convene a multi-sectoral Reef advisory committee to facilitate engagement with industry and the broader community regarding the implementation and review of the Plan. [GA2].</b>	Continued implementation of GA11: <i>Improve Traditional Owner participation in governance arrangements for protection and management of the Reef</i> addresses the feedback provided by the RRRC.	<p>Partial agreement. Propose new MTR for GA2</p> <p>The RRRC led Consortium acknowledges the comprehensive review of the Plan in 2020 will investigate effectiveness of existing governance arrangements and memberships to inform future improvements. However, the RRRC led Consortium proposes an interim treatment that looks to ensure Traditional Owners of the GBR will be <u>effectively engaged in the process of implementation and review of the Plan's multi-sectoral RAC</u>. This is to address the fact that the current Indigenous RAC member is independently appointed and not representative.</p> <p><b><u>MTR (to replace GA2) Revise the multi-sectoral Reef Advisory Committee to facilitate better engagement with Traditional Owners regarding the implementation and review of the Plan's RAC.</u></b></p>
GA10: <b>Work with Traditional owners, industry, regional bodies, local governments, research institutions, and the community to inform delivery of local and regional actions [GA10] -</b>	<b>PRINCIPLE</b> GA10 will remain a 'principle' in the revised Plan. This is a principle for how GBRMPA operates within the Marine Park. Implementation of GBRMPA related activities will be through well-established engagement channels i.e. Tourism Reef Advisory Committee, Indigenous Reef Advisory Committee, 12 Local Marine Advisory Committees, targeted consultation, public consultation, Reef Guardians etc. This action is also addressed through other Traditional Owner related actions such as HA1, HA3, GA11 and GA12.	<p>Whilst concern exists that the reclassification of this Action will simply result in lack of any strategy for implementation it is agreed that the collective action of the Reef 2050 Plan together with related actions, including the re-classification of GA12 as ongoing, will provide sufficient coverage.</p> <p>RRRC Led Consortium would like to better understand from the Reef 2050 Joint Team how the effective implementation of Principles will be accountable through Reporting and Review points.</p>