



A communique is prepared after each scheduled official meeting of the twelve Local Marine Advisory Committees (LMACs) to inform relevant stakeholders, including the public, of the business of the LMAC. The document forms part of the records of the meeting and its content is limited to matters raised in the meeting. Any inquiries should be referred to the relevant LMAC email address or [lmac@gbmpa.gov.au](mailto:lmac@gbmpa.gov.au).

## BOWEN - BURDEKIN LOCAL MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE 4 May 2016 - Ayr COMMUNIQUE

Members of the Bowen - Burdekin Local Marine Advisory Committee (LMAC) met in Ayr on 4 May 2016 as part of their official meeting schedule for the 2015 – 2018 LMAC term.

### Welcome

Joe Linton welcomed members to the meeting. He invited everyone to introduce themselves to the other members.

The initial part of the meeting was open to the public for a special presentation on coral bleaching. The general public were offered the option to stay for the rest of the meeting once the presentation was completed.

### Coral Bleaching

Nathan Cook, Tourism and Stewardship Manager from Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA), gave a presentation about coral bleaching.

In his presentation, he gave an overview of what a coral was and under what conditions bleaching occurred.

He presented graphs showing that February and March this year were the two hottest months on record since 1900 and maps showing sea surface temperatures

and accumulated heat stress on the Reef. The current forecast from the Bureau for May-October suggests that for all of those months, it will be warmer than average.

He explained how the recent surveys had been conducted with 991 aerial surveys and 63 reefs on seven transects. He explained that even though a coral shows signs of bleaching, the coral is not dead and may recover if the stress decreases.

Nathan explained how resilient corals can be. There were pictures of some reefs that have had corals severe impacts in previous years from cyclones and have recovered.

He finished the presentation by saying that a resilient reef will survive and it is up to everyone to do as much as possible to mitigate pressures both local and global.

### LMAC Shirts

Ivan Garrod has been able to obtain high resolution images of the Bowen Burdekin LMAC logo. These will be used for embroidery images to go onto sun safe shirts for the members to assist in promoting the LMAC and the work done as an LMAC member.

## Field Trip

The Bowen Burdekin LMAC members and their partners will be given the opportunity to take a tour of the region looking at the local wetlands and Lillysmare Lagoon.

The day trip will also include a visit to Pacific Reef Fisheries and have a tour of the facilities as well as a trip to a local cane

farm to look at the innovative practices that are occurring on the farm.

A bus will be hired for the day and transport everyone to the various venues.

## Next meeting

The next official meeting of the Bowen – Burdekin LMAC will be held in Bowen on 6 July 2016. This will be the sixth meeting of the 2015-2018 LMAC term.

### LMAC Membership

Ian Anderson (Member)	Recreational Fishing	Independent
Arthur Darwen (Member)	Agriculture	Independent
Stephen Darwen (Member)	Tourism	The Bowen Independent
Ivan Garrod (Member)	Conservation	Queens Beach Action Group
Joe Linton (Chair)	Recreational Boating	Independent
Tom Mullins (Member)	Agriculture	Independent
Mardi Mathieson		Secretariat

### Management Partners

Richard Quincey	World Heritage Partner	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Carolyn Thompson	World Heritage Partner	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
Nathan Cook	World Heritage Partner	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

### Observers

Alex Bojack  
Chloe Densley

### Apologies

Gordon Little (Member)	Recreation Fishing	Bowen Outdoor Supplies
Anne Mecklem (Member)	Tourism	Aussie Reef Dive
John Moloney (Member)	Aquaculture	Pacific Reef Fisheries
Anne Smith (Member)	Progress Association	Independent
Ross Lewis (Member)	Marine Rescue	Transport Services
Matt Quadrell (Member)	Commercial Fishing	Independent