

# MECHANICS OF INFORMATION TRANSFER

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## Bibliography of the Great Barrier Reef Province

**PERIOD:** March 1977 - Sept 1977

**ORGANIZATION:** University of Sydney,  
Department of Geology and Geophysics

**PROJECT LEADER:** Dr E. Frankel

**SUPERVISOR:** Dr D. McMichael

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** GBRMPA - \$9,000

### OBJECTIVES

To compile for publication as complete a bibliography of the Great Barrier Reef Province as possible. The bibliography is to be indexed and cross-referenced and to include as many subjects and categories as is practicable.

### IMPLICATIONS/MANAGEMENT NEEDS

This project will collect the widely scattered literature on the Great Barrier Reef Province into a single, reasonably accessible listing.

### METHODOLOGY

A considerable amount of information had been previously collected and the immediate concern was to peruse and expand those topics in which that listing was lacking. These were principally the more popular fields (articles such as those published in "Skin Diver Magazine" for example), tourist information and literature sources, government reports and information, and the film index.

### STATUS

The bibliography has been published:

Frankel, E. 1978, *Bibliography of the Great Barrier Reef Province*. 204pp.  
Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra.

**Public Participation Methods and Program****PERIOD:** July 1977 - Nov 1977**ORGANIZATION:** MSJ Keys Young Planners Pty. Ltd.**PROJECT OFFICER:** Ms A. Wallace**SUPERVISOR:** Mr R. Williams**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** GBRMPA - \$10,000**OBJECTIVES**

To undertake a study of the nature of and processes for public participation which would be appropriate for consideration by the Authority, drawing on other studies and recent experience in Australia (Stage 1).  
To prepare a range of options for a co-ordinated participation program applicable to the development of zoning and management plans for the Capricorn/Bunker area (Stage 2).

**IMPLICATIONS/MANAGEMENT NEEDS**

The Authority feels that public participation procedures would educate and inform people about the comprehensive nature of the marine park concept and, by enabling them to understand how they can interact with the Authority, encourage their participation during several phases of the planning process.

**METHODOLOGY**

Steps involved in pursuing the first stage of the project were: (i) a briefing to, amongst other things, establish specific objectives and evaluation criteria and familiarize the consultant with relevant background details; and (ii) a review of participation techniques.

The work program for the second stage involved: (i) an inventory of the major resources for information gathering and distribution; (ii) identification of target groups; (iii) monitoring of current participation activities; (iv) designing a range of options for a co-ordinated participation program.

**STATUS**

The project has been completed.

A range of techniques that can be used in a public participation program are discussed. These are generally ordered in relation to the primary function which they serve, this being one of the following:

- (i) gathering of factual data and assessment of perceptions
- (ii) dissemination of information
- (iii) interaction with the community and evaluation of attitudes.

Included is a description of the techniques, a discussion of their appropriate uses, an assessment of their advantages and disadvantages, and the nature and levels of skills required to carry them out, as well as some indication of the likely cost.

MSJ Keys Young Planners Pty Ltd. 1977. Public Participation Program. Report to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

**LOCALITY:** Capricornia Section

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**Management Information Systems—Computer Needs**

**PERIOD:** March 1978 - April 1978

**ORGANIZATION:** James Cook University, Computer Centre

**PROJECT LEADER:** Mr D. Abel

**CONSULTATION AND LIAISON:** CSIRO Division of Computing Research  
Department of Administrative Services  
Queensland Government Computer Centre  
Australian Institute of Marine Science  
James Cook University Library

**PROJECT OFFICER:** Mr R. Kenchington

**SUPERVISOR:** Mr R. Williams

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** GBRMPA - \$1,500

**OBJECTIVES**

To evaluate the needs of the Authority for computer services, information network facilities, and the options available for meeting those needs.

**IMPLICATIONS/MANAGEMENT NEEDS**

The Authority has substantial management information needs which are essential to the fulfilment of its functions. These needs include collection, storage, retrieval and processing of information.

**METHODOLOGY**

In the course of the investigation to determine the Authority's information processing requirements and to recommend options, the consultant conferred with staff of GBRMPA, computing staff of relevant Australian and Queensland government departments, organizations such as CSIRO and AIMS, JCU library, and private computer firms and consultants.

**STATUS**

The project has been completed.

This report includes the following:

- (1) Identification of present and future areas of management information needed by the Authority.
- (2) Identification of sources of information outside the Authority which should be integrated with the Authority's information.
- (3) Examination of methods of information collection, processing, storage and retrieval relevant to the Authority's information needs.
- (4) Identification of the options available for meeting those information needs, including the use of computer-based systems.
- (5) Recommendation of options open to the Authority including the identification of relative advantages, costs and staff requirements of the various options; each option to include estimates of time for implementation.

James Cook University of North Queensland, Computer Centre. 1978. Evaluation of information needs and computer services for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. Report to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

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**Evaluation of Library Requirements for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority****PERIOD:** 1978**ORGANIZATION:** James Cook University, Library**PROJECT OFFICER:** Ms J. Carter**SUPERVISOR:** Mr R. Williams**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** GBRMPA - \$1,500**OBJECTIVES**

To evaluate the library requirements of the Authority and how these requirements may be met.

**IMPLICATIONS/MANAGEMENT NEEDS**

This project is essential to the establishment of a library for GBRMPA.

**METHODOLOGY**

The study involved the collection of information on the subject nature and type of library holdings available in Townsville and on the services which other libraries in Townsville would be able to provide on a fee for service basis or for no charge to the Authority.

Information available and collected was analysed to provide guidelines and cost estimates where relevant on: (i) the subject nature and type of holdings to be purchased by the Authority; (ii) the acquisition, cataloguing and loans procedures to be used by the Authority; (iii) the financial administration of the library; (iv) the housing of the collection; (v) the hardware equipment necessary to house the collection and facilitate library operations in general; and (vi) the staffing requirement.

**STATUS**

The project has been completed.

James Cook University of North Queensland, Library. 1978. Evaluation of library requirements for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. Report to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

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**Australian Marine Research in Progress****PERIOD:** Dec 1981 - Sept 1982**ORGANIZATION:** Victorian Institute of Marine Sciences**PROJECT LEADER:** Mr J. Thompson**CONSULTATION & LIAISON:** CSIRO, Central Information and Library Editorial Service  
Department of Science & Technology (DOST)  
Ms H. Penridge, JCU**PROJECT OFFICER:** Dr A. Gilmour**SUPERVISOR:** Dr A. Gilmour**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** GBRMPA - \$4,000; AMSTAC-FAP - \$8,100**OBJECTIVES**

To develop a system for the computer based storage and retrieval of information on marine research projects in Australia (Australian Marine Research in Progress). To produce a first hard copy run of AMRIP.

**IMPLICATIONS/MANAGEMENT NEEDS**

This project is designed to produce a current summary of on-going research in the Great Barrier Reef Region (and elsewhere), which is readily accessible and readily updated.

**METHODOLOGY**

Nationally distributed questionnaires on Research in Progress were used in the following steps in the development of the first run of AMRIP: (i) editing and classification; (ii) data entry; (iii) drafting indexes and output format; (iv) software modifications/development; (v) printing of 1000 copies.

**STATUS**

The first hard copy of AMRIP has been published.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Victorian Institute of Marine Sciences, Department of Science and Technology, 1982 *Australian Marine Research in Progress*. 532pp.

**PERIOD:** May 1982 - Dec 1982

**ORGANIZATION:** CSIRO, Division of Computing Research  
GBRMPA

**PROJECT LEADER:** Dr D. Abel

**SUPERVISOR:** Dr A. Gilmour

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** GBRMPA -\$6,000

**OBJECTIVES**

To produce an on-line, interactive bulletin of research-related information. This is a pilot study.

**IMPLICATIONS/MANAGEMENT NEEDS**

This project should eventually result in a readily accessible up-to-date source of information being available on all research activities relating to the Great Barrier Reef Region and other areas of Australia.

**METHODOLOGY**

The development of specifications for the bulletin was undertaken and software to produce the bulletin is being prepared. Potential users are being surveyed to evaluate potential use before implementation.

**STATUS**

Computing has begun and will be completed when certain CSIRONET software becomes available.