

## Foreword

It is important for the conservation of the natural resources of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and for the long-term viability of the fishing industry that all fisheries in the Marine Park are ecologically sustainable.

This audit of the management of the trawl fishery in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park was undertaken at the request of the Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council.

In preparing the audit, the responsibilities and obligations of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* provided the foundation.

Recognising the significant improvements in the management of the trawl fishery in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in recent years, the intention of the audit is to contribute in a positive and constructive way to the process of continuous improvement.

The audit has been prepared in the interest of progressing the ecological sustainability of the trawl fishery, thereby achieving the stated objectives of fishers, fishery managers and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Virginia Chadwick', with a large, stylized initial 'V'.

Hon Virginia Chadwick  
Chair  
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority