

Coming soon: August 2012

Marine Climate Change in Australia

Impacts and Adaptation Responses 2012 REPORT CARD

Your best source of information

The 2012 Marine Report Card has been prepared by over 80 of Australia's leading marine scientists. The Card and the accompanying web-based materials contain the most current state of knowledge on climate change impacts on Australia's marine environment. Material published since the 2009 Card has been included in over 15 physical and biological sections, and shows new evidence and greater confidence in the ocean changes. New biological sections include Marine Mammals and Microbes. Example findings include:



Ocean acidification: Reduced calcification in Southern Ocean zooplankton and in Great Barrier Reef corals suggest acidification has already begun to impact biological processes.



Marine mammals: Increasing water temperatures are likely to have a profound influence on the distribution of marine mammals; ranges of species currently associated with tropical to temperate waters are likely to expand southwards.



Marine reptiles: The extreme rainfall and flooding in Qld in 2010/2011 led to a dramatic increase in dead green turtles, many of which were malnourished.

Tropical fish: New research suggests that some fish species have a greater capacity to acclimate to rising temperatures than previously thought possible.

Macro-algae: Flora-wide changes at the tropical-temperate boundary on both coasts as well as median southward shifts of ~10-50 km per decade.



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The 2012 card also includes detailed information on the responses to climate impacts, including development of observational systems for observing the state of the ocean and the biology, and providing a range of adaptation options that are being considered by managers and policy makers responsible for ocean management.

Release details:

- > August 18, 2012 – the National Recreational Fisheries Conference, Gold Coast.
- > Register to receive notification of the launch details and a copy of the card at: www.oceanclimatechange.org.au



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