

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 211

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Agency

Programme: Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)

Topic: GBRMPA Key Findings Regarding the Impact of Dredging on the Great Barrier Reef

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Question Date: 18 November 2013

Question Type: Spoken

Senator Urquhart asked:

Senator URQUHART: Can you outline the key findings of recent work you have undertaken or contracted out regarding the impact of dredging on the Great Barrier Reef.

Dr Reichelt: There has been quite a bit of work over the last 12 months, particularly work related to the strategic assessment. There have been a number of reports published that relate to assessing relative impacts of dredged spoil disposal in the marine park in different locations. The reports also introduced some new modelling techniques for understanding the dispersion and incorporate longshore, different currents that had not been previously incorporated into the modelling. Those reports have all been completed and published. I am not sure what level of detail you would like. We could list for you the publications in a supplementary answer and on notice.

Answer:

The reports and studies listed below were recently undertaken for the strategic assessment and relate to the impacts of dredge spoil disposal on the Marine Park.

Improved Dredge Material Management for the Great Barrier Reef Region – Synthesis Report July 2013 <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/7beff474-15b0-4033-84d7-193d984fabb2/files/gbr-dredge-material-management.pdf>

Appendix A: Literature Review and Cost analysis of Land-based Dredge Material Re-use and Disposal Options July 2013 <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/7beff474-15b0-4033-84d7-193d984fabb2/files/gbr-dredge-material-management-appendixa.pdf>

Appendix B: Water Quality Review and Monitoring Framework July 2013 <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/7beff474-15b0-4033-84d7-193d984fabb2/files/gbr-dredge-material-management-appendixb.pdf>

Appendix C: Modelling of Bed Shear-Stress in the Vicinity of Queensland Trading Ports in the Great Barrier Reef Region July 2013 <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/7beff474-15b0-4033-84d7-193d984fabb2/files/gbr-dredge-material-management-appendixc.pdf>

Appendix D: Identification of Alternative Sites for the Placement of Dredge Material at Sea July 2013 <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/7beff474-15b0-4033-84d7-193d984fabb2/files/gbr-dredge-material-management-appendixd.pdf>

Appendix E: Modelling Sediment Migration from Current and Hypothetical Alternative Placement Sites July 2013 <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/7beff474-15b0-4033-84d7-193d984fabb2/files/gbr-dredge-material-management-appendixe.pdf>

Appendix F: Sensitive Receptors Risk Assessment July 2013 <http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/7beff474-15b0-4033-84d7-193d984fabb2/files/gbr-dredge-material-management-appendixf.pdf>