

Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership

Independent Science Panel



Meeting 1
5 March 2013

Chair's report

- The Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership (GHHP) Independent Science Panel (ISP) held its first meeting in Gladstone on 5 March 2013.
- Central Queensland University hosted the meeting.
- The objectives of the meeting were to:
 - Review and provide comment on the GHHP ISP Terms of Reference, agree on GHHP ISP operations and to introduce the GHHP ISP Members;
 - Brief Members about GHHP and related activities; and,
 - Progress the GHHP ISP work program for calendar year 2013.
- The GHHP ISP reviewed the proposed Terms of Reference and suggests GHHP consider including an introductory paragraph that clearly states the ISP is primarily an advisory and review body of GHHP. An introductory paragraph will be provided by the ISP in an agenda paper to consider for inclusion at the next GHHP meeting.
- The Chairs of the Port Curtis Integrated Monitoring Program (PCIMP) and the Gladstone Ports Corporation Dredge Technical Reference Panel briefed the ISP on their activities, as did a member of the Independent review of the Port of Gladstone (Commonwealth). The Panel was also briefed about the activities of the Gladstone Ports Corporation Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Program (ERMP) from the ISP Chair.
- The ISP Chair and ISP Science Convenor participated in GHHP's "What is a healthy harbour?" Community Workshop held in Gladstone on the 4 March 2013 (the day before the ISP meeting). Both found it a very useful meeting and they briefed the GHHP ISP about science issues raised at the workshop.
- The GHHP ISP reviewed the work program in the stage one framework endorsed by GHHP at GHHP's November 2012 meeting and the key deliverables outlined in the GHHP ISP Terms of Reference provided by GHHP. The ISP agreed that the work program is achievable.
- The GHHP ISP noted GHHP would need to clearly outline a healthy harbour definition to enable the GHHP ISP's development of a Healthy Harbour Report Card option(s) for consideration by GHHP.
- The GHHP ISP agreed their 2013 activities should focus on:
 - Mapping and Synthesis: (Deadline - July 2013)
 - Mapping of existing research, monitoring and mitigation programs in Gladstone Harbour; and,
 - Undertake a synthesis of current understanding of the social, economic and biophysical drivers of Gladstone Harbour (including consideration of historical baselines, environmental values and water quality).
 - Conceptual Modelling: (Deadline – November 2013)
 - Develop a conceptual model of Gladstone Harbour based on the synthesis of current understanding of the drivers of the Harbour.

- Use the model to identify any monitoring and research duplication and/or knowledge gaps.
- Healthy Harbour Report Card design: (Deadline – November 2013)
 - Recommend report card_option(s) based on GHHP's definition of a healthy harbour and includes clear state indicators derived from an integrated monitoring program and research program to address knowledge gaps.
 - The research program will identify actions required to address any monitoring and/research issues to be addressed prior to implementing a Healthy Harbour Report Card for Gladstone Harbour.
- The GHHP ISP endorsed the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) undertaking the mapping and synthesis.
- The next meeting of the GHHP ISP will be held in April 2013. The focus of the meeting will be to review progress on the mapping and synthesis task and discuss the scope of the conceptual modeling task.