

NORTH WEST SHOALS TO SHORE RESEARCH PROGRAM SYMPOSIUM 2019



Informing the sustainable development of Australia's North West marine estate

Background:

The North West Shoals to Shore Research Program (NWSSRP) is a three year, \$20 million study of the North West Shelf. The program of 11 separate studies within four main themes is bringing together a multidisciplinary team of scientists, technical staff and industry experts.

Purpose:

This symposium marks the halfway point of the NWSSRP and provides an update on progress of work focusing on:

- Highlights
- Milestones and fieldwork completed
- Progress on activity
- Planned activity

Date:

Tuesday 19th February, 2019

Venue:

Indian Ocean Marine Research Centre Auditorium, Fairway, Crawley, WA

Time:

9am - 4:15pm

More information is available at www.aims.gov.au/nw-shoals-to-shore

Program: morning session

| Time | Program | Presenter |
|--|---|---|
| 0900 – 0905 | Welcome | Peter Farrell, Michaela Dommissie (AIMS) |
| 0905 – 0915 | Introduction to the NWSS Research Program | Paul Hardisty, AIMS CEO, Michaela Dommissie (AIMS) |
| 0915 – 0925 | Santos Introduction | Brett Darley, Executive Vice President, Offshore Australia (Santos Limited) |
| THEME 1 – Marine noise monitoring and impacts: Studies of the acute and chronic effects of seismic and vessel operations on fish and pearl oysters under real-world conditions | | |
| 0930 – 0950 | The development of experimental plans and site selection for a large-scale experiment to investigate the effect of marine seismic operations on demersal fish and pearl oysters | Mark Meekan (AIMS) |
| 0950 – 1015 | Experiment implementation and Project Execution | Mark Meekan, Miles Parsons (AIMS) |
| 1015 – 1030 | Morning Tea | |
| 1030 – 1045 | Sound and particle motion effects of marine seismic source at the pearl oyster and fish experiment locations – description of passive acoustic measurements before and during seismic source exposure | Rob McCauley (Curtin University), Miles Parsons (AIMS) |
| 1045 – 1105 | Monitoring of demersal and pelagic fishes exposed to marine seismic survey source – BRUVS, acoustic tagging and active acoustics | Conrad Speed, Miles Parsons (AIMS) |
| 1105- 1130 | Monitoring of pearl oysters exposed to marine seismic survey source – Immunology, biochemistry, physiology and genetics | Cecile Dang (DPIRD), Mark Meekan (AIMS) |
| 1130 – 1200 | Theme 1 Question & Answer Session | |
| 1200– 1230 | Lunch | |

Program: afternoon session

| Time | Program | Presenter |
|--|---|---|
| THEME 2 - Seabed habitats and biodiversity | | |
| 1230 – 1245 | Characterising the physical attributes and biodiversity of the ancient coastline at 125m depth contour Key Ecological Feature (KEF) | Karen Miller (AIMS) |
| 1245 – 1300 | Mapping the distribution of pearl oyster habitat offshore from Eighty Mile Beach and examining the role of deep populations as brood stock for shallow water fished populations | Karen Miller (AIMS) |
| 1300 – 1315 | Theme 2 Question and Answer Session | |
| THEME 3 – Protected and iconic species movements and threats | | |
| 1315 – 1330 | Understanding the distribution and biologically important areas for pygmy blue whales on the North West Shelf and overlap with potential threats | Michele Thums (AIMS) |
| 1330 – 1350 | Improving the ability to predict potential threats to hawksbill and green turtles by quantifying their movement, distribution and overlap with potential threats | Luciana Cerqueira Ferreira (AIMS) |
| 1350 – 1400 | Theme 3 Question and Answer Session | |
| THEME 4 – Spatial dynamics of isolated coral reef atolls | | |
| 1400 – 1430 | Coral reef communities at the Rowley Shoals, past, present and in the future. | James Gilmour, Ben Radford, Mathew Wyatt (AIMS) |
| 1430- 1500 | Applying new remote sensing to enhance monitoring and scalability | Ben Radford, James Gilmour, Mathew Wyatt (AIMS) |
| 1500- 1520 | Theme 4 Question and Answer Session | |
| 1520-1530 | Thank you and close | Michaela Dommissie (AIMS) |
| 1530-1615 | Light Refreshment | |