



CAN-011-Coral Conservation-Worlds Oceans

NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program Goals & Objectives

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5.6.13

This page provides background and information on the Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP) threat-based working groups: Climate Change, Fishing Impacts, and Land-based Sources of Pollution. It also contains info on the cross-cutting International Working Group.

[Background Information on the Threat-based Working Groups](#)

[Climate Change Working Group](#)

[Fishing Impacts Working Group](#)

[Land-based Sources of Pollution Working Group](#)

[International Working Group](#)

[Outcomes: Final Reports](#)

Background Information on the Threat-based Working Groups

In 2007, the CRCP underwent an [External Review](#) by a panel of recognized experts in coral reef resource science and management to provide an independent assessment of the CRCP's effectiveness in meeting its goals and to suggest recommendations for future improvement. In response to the [panel's report](#), (pdf, 1.09 mb), the CRCP developed a [Roadmap for the Future](#) (pdf, 247 kb), laying out new principles and priorities for the future of the Program. According to this new [Roadmap](#), the primary objective of the CRCP will be to address strategic coral reef management needs and the CRCP will narrow its focus by emphasizing efforts on understanding and addressing the top three global and national threats to coral reef ecosystems: climate change impacts, fishing impacts, and impacts from land-based sources of pollution.

In order to implement the proposed changes, the CRCP put into place three working groups to provide recommendations on the strategic goals and objectives the Program should work towards in the next 5-20 years in order to effectively address each of these top three threats. These threat-based working groups were established in October of 2008. In addition, a cross-threat International Working Group was established.

- Outcomes: goals and objectives put forward by these working groups will drive the development of targeted projects to address each threat over the long term and will influence project funding decisions
- Timeline: October 2008 - May 2009
- Membership: approximately 15 individuals each; NOAA and non-NOAA topic experts, chaired by NOAA staff

Read the [charge to the working groups](#) (pdf, 27 kb) to learn more about the specific composition of, instructions to, timeline for, and process and responsibilities of the three working groups.



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The working groups delivered their draft goals and objectives in late March. The draft goals and objectives of the working groups were available for public comment through April 24, 2009. Comments received were forwarded to the appropriate working groups for consideration as the groups worked to complete the final goals and objectives documents.

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Climate Change Working Group

Working Group Co-Chairs: Mark Eakin and Chad McNutt

Working Group Coordinator: Britt Parker, Alternate: John Tomczuk

[Membership List \(pdf, 44 kb\)](#)

Meeting Minutes: [10-29-2008 \(11.2 kb\)](#) [11-25-2008 \(pdf, 12 kb\)](#) , [12-9-2008 \(pdf, 15 kb\)](#) , [1-7-2009 \(pdf, 32.7 kb\)](#) , [1-28-2009 \(pdf, 15 kb\)](#)

[Final Climate Change Working Group Priority Strategic Goals and Objectives \(pdf, 81.7 kb\)](#)

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Fishing Impacts Working Group

Working Group Co-Chairs: Jim Bohnsack and Gerry Davis

Working Group Co-Coordinators: Jen Koss and Anita Pritchett

[Membership List \(pdf, 18 kb\)](#)

Meeting Minutes: [10-29-2008 \(pdf, 16 kb\)](#) , [11-20-2008 \(pdf, 17.7 kb\)](#) , [12-10-2008 \(pdf, 19.8 kb\)](#) , [1-14-2009 \(pdf, 24.9 kb\)](#)

[Final Fishing Impacts Working Group Priority Strategic Goals and Objectives \(pdf, 139 kb\)](#)

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Land-based Sources of Pollution Working Group

Working Group Chair: Billy Causey

Working Group Coordinator: Beth Dieveney

[Membership List \(pdf, 16 kb\)](#)



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Meeting Minutes: [10-20-2008 \(pdf, 13 kb\)](#), [11-3-2008 \(pdf, 19.3 kb\)](#), [11-17-08 \(pdf, 16.2 kb\)](#), [12-1-2008 \(pdf, 20 kb\)](#), [12-15-2008 \(pdf, 19 kb\)](#), [1-12-2009 \(pdf, 17.6 kb\)](#)

[Final Land-Based Sources of Pollution Working Group Priority Strategic Goals and Objectives \(pdf, 75.1 kb\)](#)

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International Working Group

The CRCP external review panel recommended that the CRCP (1) increase participation in international coral reef conservation efforts, (2) build and strengthen international partnerships, and (3) strengthen NOAA international leadership. To achieve these goals, the CRCP has formed an International Working Group (IWG) to provide recommendations on the strategic goals and objectives the Program should work towards to enhance strategic planning and expand the international program. While the three threat-based groups are focusing on domestic goals and objectives, this group will focus on international efforts to alleviate all three major threats to reefs.

Working Group Co-ordinators: Christy Loper and Scot Frew

[Membership List \(pdf, 15 kb\)](#)

Meeting Minutes: [10-29-2008 \(pdf, 15 kb\)](#), [11-13-2008 \(pdf, 16 kb\)](#), [12-4-2008 \(pdf, 21 kb\)](#), [1-15-2009 \(pdf, 17.6 kb\)](#)

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Outcomes: Final Reports

On June 29, 2009, after eight months of collaborative efforts, the CRCP released two reports outlining the twenty-year strategic goals and five-year objectives the CRCP will work towards to effectively address each of the top three threats to coral reef ecosystems, both on domestic and international fronts. These documents provide strategic guidance on the CRCP priorities for FY 2010-2015.



[NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program Goals & Objectives 2010-2015 \(pdf, 2.52 mb\)](#)

[NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program International Strategy 2010-2015 \(pdf, 1.50 mb\)](#)



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