

REEF CONSERVATION FUND



The Reef Conservation Fund represents a new initiative in reef conservation.

The Shute Harbour Marina Resort proposal includes the creation of a Reef Conservation Fund that will support management strategies for the protection and conservation of the wider region, specifically the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

The fund will be used to construct public moorings on the reef which will provide protection from anchor damage by visiting boats.

The new moorings will be an environmentally sensitive, 'ezy-rider' type design that will prevent sea bed damage by chain drag.

There is also an opportunity for other marine industry organisations to contribute the fund.

The priority for any works program will be set by the community, through a group such as the Local Marine Advisory Committee.

The fund will also contribute to education and ongoing public awareness by providing support to the Marine Interpretive Centre and Cultural Centre as part of the marina office building.

The fund will be initially financed from the sale of marina berths with an ongoing annual levy on each berth in perpetuity.

The result will be an initial fund of approximately \$1 million following the sale of the marina berths and an ongoing contribution of approximately \$150,000 per annum.

The Reef Conservation Fund will complement the Commonwealth Government's \$200 million five-year Reef Rescue Plan under the \$2.2 billion *Caring for our Country* initiative by contributing to the ongoing sustainability of the reef.

