

# NERP Tropical Ecosystems Hub Torres Strait Project Factsheet

## Hazard assessment for water quality threats to Torres Strait marine waters, ecosystems and public health

Project leader: Jon Brodie (JCU)

*The National Environmental Research Program Tropical Ecosystems (NERP TE) Hub is an environmental science program funded by the Australian Government with six projects in the Torres Strait.*

### About this project

Good water quality is important for the health of Torres Strait communities and the environment. This project will look at sources of water pollution and water movement to assess risks to marine and public health. The results will highlight the main causes of pollution and be used to design a basic water quality monitoring program.

### Why this research is important

Knowing the status of water quality is important for people's health as well as the environment.

### Research benefits for the community

- Information about water pollutants at regional and local scales
- Information about water movement patterns in the Torres Strait
- Information about the risk involved with different sources of pollution, e.g. mining, palm plantations, land clearing in Papua New Guinea and local sources, such as sewage, stormwater and oil spills
- Recommendations for a water quality monitoring program to assess the status of water quality and measure the effectiveness of management actions.

### Who is leading this project?

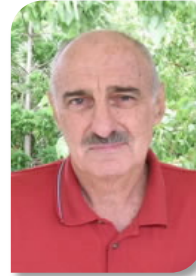


Photo: JCU

**Jon Brodie**

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Jon is a senior principal research officer, interested in sources of pollutants in catchments, transport of pollutants to the sea and the effect of pollutants on marine ecosystems.

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Photo: TSRA

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Photos L-R: Suzanne Long, RRRC



Good water quality is important to the health of the Torres Strait community and the environment



Saibai Island sewage treatment plant

### Project partners



Find this project at [www.nerptropical.edu.au](http://www.nerptropical.edu.au)

Theme 2: Understanding Ecosystem Function and Cumulative Pressures

Program 4: Water quality of the GBR and Torres Strait

Project: 4.4

NERP TE Hub researchers acknowledge the valued input of the traditional owners and communities of the Torres Strait



**Australian Government**  
Department of Sustainability, Environment,  
Water, Population and Communities

