

INFORMATION SHEET

PROJECT TITLE: Postgraduate training to meet the emerging needs of Australia's Blue Economy

You are invited to participate in a study that aims to identify what needs to be done *to develop postgraduate training in Australia that is congruent with the needs of industry and government in the marine/aquatic sector of Australia's economy (the Blue Economy)*.

The study is being conducted by a Working Group established by the National Marine Science Committee. The Working Group seeks to understand whether Australia's current postgraduate training offerings can meet the needs of the future 'Blue Economy' and calls for training that is better meets the needs of industry and government.

Thus, it is important for the Working Group to assess current university programs in the context of relevant industry and government needs. In order to do this, we need to understand those needs, which is why we would like to talk to you as an employer of marine or aquatic professionals.

If you agree to be involved in the study, you will be invited to complete a brief online questionnaire to rank the transferable skills, knowledge and personal attributes that you consider most important and how you expect these to change over the next 10 years. This survey should take approximately 5 to 10 minutes to complete.

Taking part in this study is voluntary and you can end your participation at any time without explanation or prejudice.

Your responses and contact details will be strictly confidential. The data from the study will be used in a report to the National Marine Science Committee. The Working Group is happy to provide you with a copy, if requested. Neither you nor your organization will be identified in any way in this publication or any other publication that results from the research.

If you have any questions about this study, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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If you have any concerns regarding the ethical conduct of the study, please contact: Human Ethics, Research Office, James Cook University, Townsville, Qld, 4811 Phone: (07) 4781 5011 (ethics@jcu.edu.au)