

CSIRO publishes ocean science book
Oceans: Science and Solutions for Australia

In Australia the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) has launched *Oceans: Science and Solutions for Australia* (Oceans), a book bringing together the latest science to explain the crucial role oceans play in the lives of all Australians.

CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere Director Dr Tony Worby said Australia faced several opportunities and challenges, with three of the world's four major oceans in its marine estate. He commented: *'Australia's oceans cover almost 14 million square kilometres, nearly twice the area of our land, and hold the key to our climate, weather, economy, international security, and social well-being.'*

'It is important that we strike a balance between our national economic and resource requirements, while ensuring long term sustainability of our marine estate and this is key research focus for CSIRO and the Australian marine science community.'

'Our oceans do the heavy lifting with respect to carbon dioxide and heat absorption and their capacity to continue to do these things is one of many areas we are focused on through our climate research.'

'The effects of ocean warming can be seen already as tropical fish are found further south from warming coastal waters, cold water species decline in some regions, and coral bleaching becomes more frequent.'

'There has never been a more important time to focus on marine research.'

Oceans editor and CSIRO Chief Research Scientist Dr Bruce Mapstone said national and international collaboration was essential, with Australia having stewardship of the third largest marine estate in the world and the largest in the Southern Hemisphere.

He added: *'The book focuses on Australia's marine estate which includes the Indian, Pacific and Southern Oceans, however many of the topics covered have global relevance because of the interconnectedness of the world's oceans.'*

'Collaboration is the only way we can tackle the breadth of marine research Australia and the world need to fully understand our oceans.'

‘Indigenous coastal peoples have had cultural and livelihood connections with Australia's oceans for thousands of years and their knowledge is extremely valuable.

‘Importantly, this book takes complex and detailed research and translates it into clear English that can be understood by policy makers and just as importantly students, some of whom are Australia's future marine scientists.’

Oceans: Science and Solutions for Australia has been written by scientists from CSIRO and other Australian research agencies and is available at no charge and downloadable as a pdf in a 22MB file here:

<http://www.csiro.au/oceans-book>

Or it may be ordered as a printed version through CSIRO Publishing to be found at:

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/book/7724/>