



REEF LIFE SURVEY

ANNUAL REPORT

2014



2013-2014 ANNUAL REPORT

REEF LIFE SURVEY FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

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The Reef Life Survey Foundation is a non-profit environmental organisation. Donations to the RLSF are tax-deductible and support ongoing monitoring of the marine environment around Australia.

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A diver in a black wetsuit with 'RESS' on the back is underwater, holding a clipboard and a digital device, surveying a coral reef. The diver is wearing a mask and a regulator. The background is a deep blue ocean with a rocky and coral reef environment.

RLSF

VISION

Improved biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of marine resources through coordinated scientific surveys of rocky and coral reefs.

A vibrant underwater photograph of a coral reef. In the foreground, a large, healthy sea anemone with numerous white-tipped tentacles is prominent. A small orange and white clownfish is nestled within its tentacles. Behind the anemone, a large, flat, greenish-brown coral plate is visible. The background shows a clear blue sea with several small, colorful fish swimming around. The overall scene is a healthy and diverse marine ecosystem.

RLSF MISSION

To undertake and demonstrate the value of robust, long-term biodiversity monitoring of the marine environment; and bridge communication and activity gaps between scientific researchers, managers, recreational SCUBA divers, fishers, and the wider public.



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RLSF BOARD MEMBERS



Dr Rick Stuart-Smith
Executive Officer



Prof Graham Edgar
President



Scoresby Shepherd
Scientific Representative



Peter Mooney
Management Representative



Margo Smith
Community Diver Representative

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RLSF activities are directed by a committed and active Advisory Committee. Committee members participate on a voluntary basis and enable RLSF to contribute information on marine biodiversity where it is most needed.

RLSF Advisory Committee members

Neville Barrett Institute for Marine & Antarctic Studies, Tasmania

Danny Brock Department of Environment, Water & Natural Resources, South Australia

Graham Edgar Institute for Marine & Antarctic Studies, Tasmania

Andrew Green Nature Coast Marine Group, New South Wales

Tom Holmes Department of Parks and Wildlife (formerly DEC), Western Australia

Steffan Howe Parks Victoria, Victoria

Alan Jordan Department of Primary Industries, New South Wales

Bryan McDonald Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries, Northern Territory

Peter Mooney Parks and Wildlife Service, Tasmania

Amanda Parr Parks Australia, Commonwealth

Ian Shaw Solitary Islands Underwater Research Group, New South Wales

Scoresby Shepherd South Australian Research & Development Institute, South Australia

Margo Smith Combined Hunter Underwater Group, New South Wales

Rick Stuart-Smith Institute for Marine & Antarctic Studies, Tasmania

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Reef Life Survey ship continues at half throttle due to a continued scarcity of funding for field activities. Regardless, nearly all RLSF members contributed time and dollars to keep momentum going, with a similar number of surveys completed as in previous years. In my experience, the huge commitment of so many individual members distinguishes our organisation from all others.

Over the past year, we achieved many milestones, including surveying hundreds of offshore sites around Australia to complete the first continent-wide baseline of marine biodiversity, with over 4000 species recorded during surveys, and over 2200 sites now covered worldwide. Many sites have been surveyed on multiple occasions, allowing the changing distribution of threats to be mapped in many locations for the first time.

An increasing number of high-profile scientific papers and reports, and media interest, document these achievements. A particular highlight was use of RLS data as the basis for the largest field-based assessment of marine protected areas worldwide. This generated much international as well as national attention, including opinion pieces in support of marine protected areas in the *New York Times* and *The Guardian*. Completion of our Australia circumnavigation also generated over 100 media reports alone, including the *Muswellbrook Chronicle*.

Particular thanks are due to The Ian Potter Foundation for a grant to cover field costs of surveys in North Western Australia, a largely unexplored but fascinating region.



Professor Graham Edgar
President

Over 1000 species were counted during surveys from Darwin to Exmouth, a higher total than we found in surveys along the Great Barrier Reef.

Thanks are also due to key partners for again providing logistical assistance with surveys, notably Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Rottnest Island Authority, Lord Howe Island Authority, Parks Victoria, Murdoch University and University of Tasmania. More than anything, this year's success again reflects commitment and efforts of our Advisory Committee and diving members.

I look forward to catching up with everyone next year on the water.

Cheers, Graham

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



Dr Rick Stuart-Smith
Executive Officer

Despite the significant attention RLS has started to receive, both in the scientific community and traditional and online media, funding our program activities has continued to get harder. Consequently, expenditure was down on last year, and was entirely directed towards field costs for RLS survey activities. These included the remainder of the Australian survey circumnavigation on *Reef Dragon*, as well as the bi-annual Lord Howe Island survey expedition, the annual Rottneest Island survey weekend, collaborative surveys with the Kangaroo Island NRM board and Friends of the Sea group (details of these activities are listed in Table 1).

Dedicated local teams also managed to fill some of these outstanding priority monitoring needs at Sydney, Port Stephens and in eastern Victoria.

The major RLS project, funded by the Ian Potter Foundation, involved three legs of the Australian survey circumnavigation (totalling 9 weeks) heading out to the offshore NW Australian reefs. This involved 11 RLS divers

surveying 158 sites, contributing over 1000 hours diving time plus 2000 hours data entry, and many more hours in at sea duties such as boat crewing and cooking. This was the biggest component of RLS activity in the financial year in terms of spending and volunteer effort.

Twenty new divers were trained in RLS methods during the year, achieved through the dedication of a few experienced RLS members in bringing excellent candidates up to a high skill level before RLS certification. This takes the total number of divers trained since RLS was initiated to 232. Not including training dives, fifty-four RLS divers were active in collecting data, which is similar, but slightly down on last year. Given fewer funded activities and more of a focus on longer legs in the Australian circumnavigation, the number of divers participating is still indicative of continued and substantial support by the core Australian team, and a massive boost to national Australian capacity of citizen scientists.

Two notable milestones reached by RLS divers in 2013-2014 financial year were Andrew Green passing the 500 survey mark and Amelia Fowles reaching five years of service. Well done and thanks Andrew and Amelia!

Cheers, Rick

RLS VOLUNTEER DIVERS

RLSF has 68 current members who, as experienced scuba divers, regularly participate in underwater surveys in the local area, in addition to joining organised short (4 day) and long (5-10 day) projects in temperate and tropical waters. Each trained diver brings to the program their local knowledge, life skills, diving experience, enthusiasm and willingness to go the extra distance to record the quality marine data required for RLS database.

RLS DIVER PROFILE JENNIFER HOSKIN



RLS Victorian Diver, Jen Hoskin

How did you hear about RLS?

I was working a summer job in marine education at Port Campbell when I received an email about the RLS training opportunity in Jervis Bay. I left my summer job to attend the training, as I intuitively knew this would be a great opportunity.

How long have you been involved in diving and RLS?

I have always loved the beach and have been an avid snorkeler for many years before I got started SCUBA diving in 2002 (Port Phillip Bay, Melbourne, Victoria). Once I got my first underwater camera and started taking photos underwater, I was hooked on diving. Today diving combined with underwater photography is one of my favourite recreational activities.

I have been involved in RLS from the beginning (2008) and was on one of their initial training events. This was in Jervis Bay in New South Wales aboard Ocean Trek.

What have you gained from being part of RLS?

RLS has motivated me to improve my species identification and knowledge. It has increased my enthusiasm for the marine environment. It has helped me grow as a diver by giving me a variety of experiences in different locations and situations. I really enjoy the learning process of RLS - it is a lot of fun, especially when participating in larger, group surveys. In the beginning it was comprehending the importance of adhering to the methodology and understanding its importance for quality surveys. The training sessions were high quality and it has given me the ability to carry out surveys regularly and with scientific rigour. Today I concentrate on improving and refining my identification and observation skills - Where I ask questions like- Is it a new species to the location, or a local variation?

My knowledge of marine species and marine science has improved, I am also able to contribute as a citizen scientist to other projects. For example, my observations of 'out of range' species photographed on recreational dives have contributed to the Redmap project.

What skills have you brought to the program?

My enthusiasm for the marine environment, my marine photographs, my environmental science background and my flexibility. I was completing a Bachelor of Environmental Science with a personal interest in the marine environment when I first joined RLS. As a RLS diver my love for marine areas has increased exponentially, as has my knowledge.

I had volunteered for a number of environmental organisations over many years, so I am used to interacting with individuals but have definitely felt I have personally gained the most as a RLS volunteer diver. The program has a purpose and clear goals and I feel very comfortable working as part of a team that achieves great outcomes.

What have been your highlights since joining the RLS team?

I've been really impressed by the integrity of the RLS program, in particular the work ethic of the trainers who are so generous with their time when divers are struggling with scientific names. It is knowledge you don't get anywhere else - it shows you don't have to be an expert, just interested in marine life and your marine knowledge grows.

I have enjoyed every RLS trip that I have been involved in over the last six years.

The most recent is the four weeks I spent on *Reef Dragon*, sailing through Jervis Bay, Sydney, Nelson Bay, South West Rocks and Solitary Islands. We experienced a Grey nurse shark at Jervis Bay, dolphins on the bow as we were sailing up the coast and spotted the shadow of a Hammerhead in the water. Saw turtles, masses of fish, a manta ray and beautiful reef structures - It was wonderful!

The Rottnest Island trips are always fun (I have written a blog of this trip on the RLS website). I have also been involved in every Port Phillip Bay survey trip. Ningaloo Reef dives were very special with a big learning curve for identification of tropical species. Bicheno and Coles Bay in Tasmania were both a lot of fun and very scenic, as was the Bussellton trip in WA.

Finally it is the friendships; getting together with other like-minded divers, which is always great.

What are you looking forward to being involved in with RLSF in the future?

More surveys in my blue backyard - Port Phillip Bay. I would ideally like to see more group surveys around Australia, I would love to dive in different areas, and I am hoping to get to South Australia. Whenever possible I try to rearrange my timetable to commit to RLS.

Interview by RLSF Community Dive Representative Margo Smith



A full-page background image showing a scuba diver in the lower right, surrounded by a massive school of fish swimming in clear blue water above a coral reef.

2013-2014 ACTIVITIES

We are fortunate to have an impressive group of members who volunteer their time and expertise regularly, but the following people and groups have also kindly made financial contributions to RLSF over the last year.

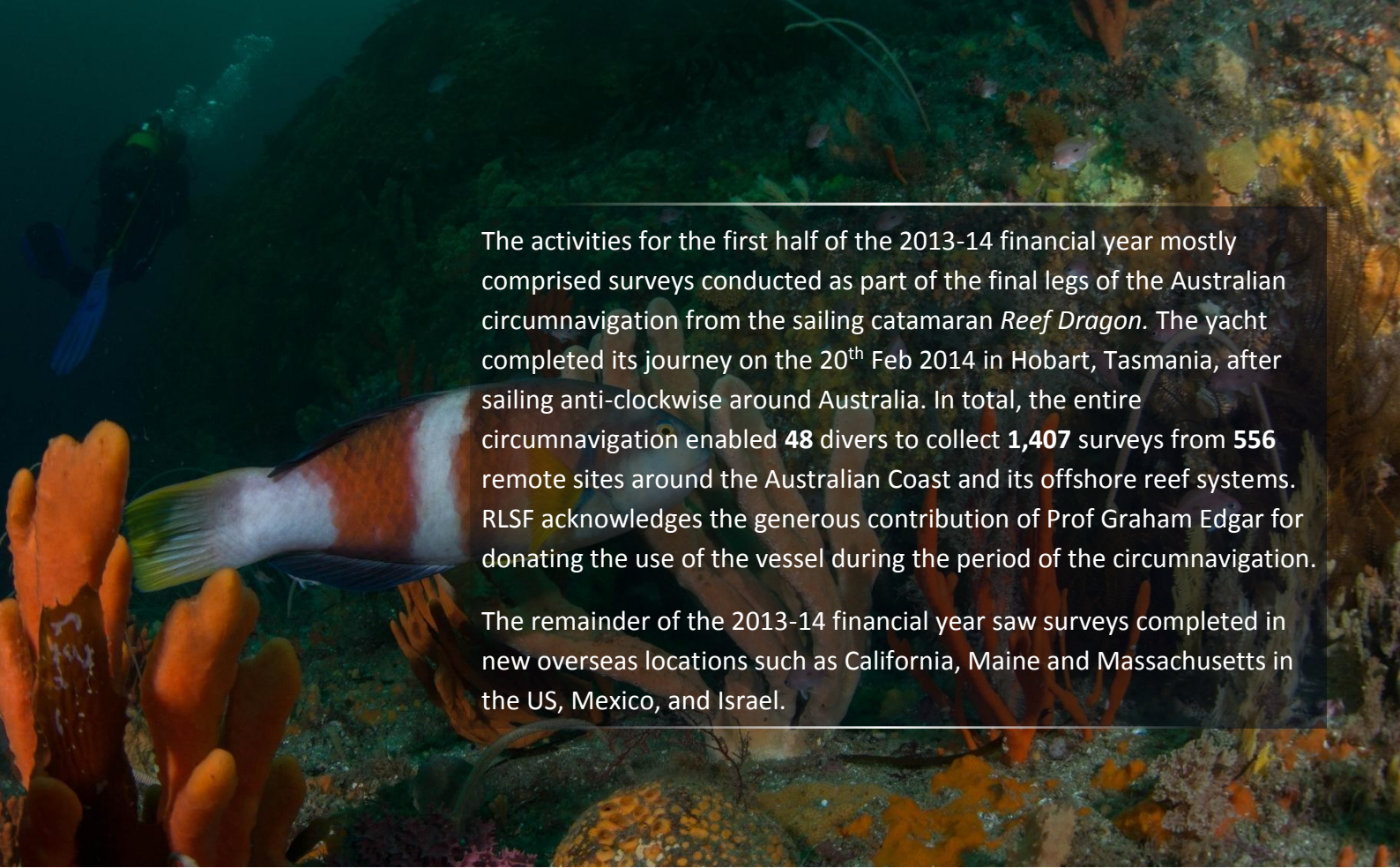
RLSF would like to thank in particular:

The Ian Potter Foundation

S & A Shepherd

Pieter van der Woude

Conor Mines

An underwater photograph showing a diver in the upper left corner, partially obscured by a large, white and orange striped fish. The background is a vibrant coral reef with various orange and yellow coral structures.

The activities for the first half of the 2013-14 financial year mostly comprised surveys conducted as part of the final legs of the Australian circumnavigation from the sailing catamaran *Reef Dragon*. The yacht completed its journey on the 20th Feb 2014 in Hobart, Tasmania, after sailing anti-clockwise around Australia. In total, the entire circumnavigation enabled **48** divers to collect **1,407** surveys from **556** remote sites around the Australian Coast and its offshore reef systems. RLSF acknowledges the generous contribution of Prof Graham Edgar for donating the use of the vessel during the period of the circumnavigation.

The remainder of the 2013-14 financial year saw surveys completed in new overseas locations such as California, Maine and Massachusetts in the US, Mexico, and Israel.

Reef Dragon continued its circumnavigation up the far North Queensland coast in July 2013, across the top of Australia and back down the west coast during November and December. She made the journey across the Great Australian Bight in January and February of 2014, to complete her journey back in her home port of Hobart on the 20th Feb 2014.


This final stage of the circumnavigation saw an additional 11 divers board the vessel to help complete another 639 surveys from 317 sites.

Key locations included the North West Shelf, which has now been comprehensively surveyed at locations such as Ashmore, Scott and Hibernia Reefs and Rowley Shoals. Remote rocky reefs off South Australia, such as Flinders and Pearson Islands, were also surveyed.

The conclusion of the Australian Circumnavigation was timed perfectly with the release of the most comprehensive analysis

of Marine Protected Area (MPA) effectiveness in the world, based on the RLS global dataset and published in the prestigious scientific journal, *Nature*. These two events created a lot of positive media publicity both locally, nationally and around the world.

Additional survey expeditions, independent of the *Reef Dragon* circumnavigation, also occurred throughout the year. These included the 7th consecutive annual Rottnest Island extended survey weekend (WA), and the 4th RLS survey trips to Lord Howe Island, NSW, and Kangaroo Island, SA. Local surveys continued of core sites at Beware Reef and Port Phillip Bay (Vic), Sydney (NSW), Port Stephens (NSW), Perth (WA), and the Canary Islands (Spain), mostly due to the hard working and dedicated members who also belong to local diving community groups around Australia. RLS now has great relationships with a number of successful and productive community groups who include RLS surveys into their annual goals.



The following groups are actively engaged in citizen science projects, including Reef Life Survey, as part of their objectives. Through harnessing local knowledge and enthusiasm, they contribute greatly to the understanding of the marine environment.

Western Australian Divers for Diversity Inc. (WADDI)

Year formed: 2014

Core aims for 2014:

- Become an incorporated organisation, elect a committee, and build membership base
- Establish partnerships with institutions, agencies and other organisation e.g. Reef Life Survey, Rottnest Island Authority, Murdoch University, Seagrass Watch
- Design reef community and seagrass surveys to undertake from 2015 onwards

RLS trained divers of WADDI will carry out sub-tidal reef biodiversity surveys at existing RLS sites at Rottnest Island on a seasonal program between Feb 2015 and Feb 2016.

Further opportunistic reef surveys will be carried out at sites off WA, and these data will be delivered back to RLS.

Friends of the Sea (FoTS)

Friends of the Sea is the first underwater nature club on KI and has more than 40 members. The group has attracted funds from both Federal Caring for Our Country and State NRM Community grants to access isolated sites via charter boat and to establish 12 long-term monitoring sites representative of KI's reef communities.

FoTS is a snorkel/dive community group that meets monthly at sites around KI to complete fish surveys. Members get the chance to expand their knowledge of fish species and establish a sense of stewardship with the marine environment.

The Solitary Islands Underwater Research Group Inc. (SURG)

SURG is a group of dedicated volunteers conducting research in the Solitary Islands Marine Park. Formed in 1985, SURG membership is comprised of underwater naturalists, photographers and scuba divers, and our research provides habitat information and other data which may be used for the ongoing management of the Solitary Islands Marine Park.

In addition to RLS surveys, SURG is currently involved in the health of coral communities in the Solitary Islands Marine Park project, which allows members not trained in RLS to use the Coralwatch Coral Health Chart pack.

Combined Hunter Underwater Group Inc. (CHUG)

Incorporated in January 2012

CHUG works in partnership to

- raise awareness of our coastal and marine environments
- increase our understanding and involvement in the underwater world
- deliver positive outcomes for Manning & Hawkesbury marine bioregions

RLS volunteers within CHUG carried out surveys at key sites around Broughton Island in May 2014. In addition, CHUG trains members in marine debris and targeted fish surveys. The group will continue to apply for funding to enable annual surveys at these key sites to build the group's skills.

Since December 2013 CHUG have been working in partnership with Southern Cross University to carry out seasonal (quarterly) Sea Slug Census within Nelson Bay.

Underwater Research Group of NSW (URG)

Formed in 1956

Aims to further all aspects of underwater exploration, research, safety, photography and the sport of diving.

URG organises RLS training for interested members, conducts RLS surveys approx. monthly in the off-season and coordinates a concerted push to cover all 24 RLS priority Sydney sites during the summer. RLS surveys are usually done with trainee and non-RLS URG divers to share knowledge and experience across the club.

The Nature Coast Marine Group (NCMG)

Aims to actively promote the protection and understanding of coastal, estuarine and marine environments in the Eurobodalla.

The NCMG:

- Works with the Marine Park Authority and Marine Park management to promote the Batemans Marine Park.
- carries out and facilitates research on the marine environment, and undertakes other conservation and education activities as the membership resolves from time to time
- Informs and educates the Eurobodalla and wider communities about the marine environment in the Batemans Marine Park area, and develops positive relationships with other organisations of a similar or related nature to the NCMG.

Friends of Beware Reef (FoBR)

Formed in 2005.

Aims for 2014-15: current funding is facilitating 160 surveys in the three marine parks off the East Gippsland coast. FoBR will also be completing a diver's guide for Beware Reef.

FoBR undertakes RLS surveys wherever possible, but other projects include videoing, database development, public relations, education and publishing posters and books.

FoBR is at the forefront marine science partnerships and Victorian citizen science initiatives.

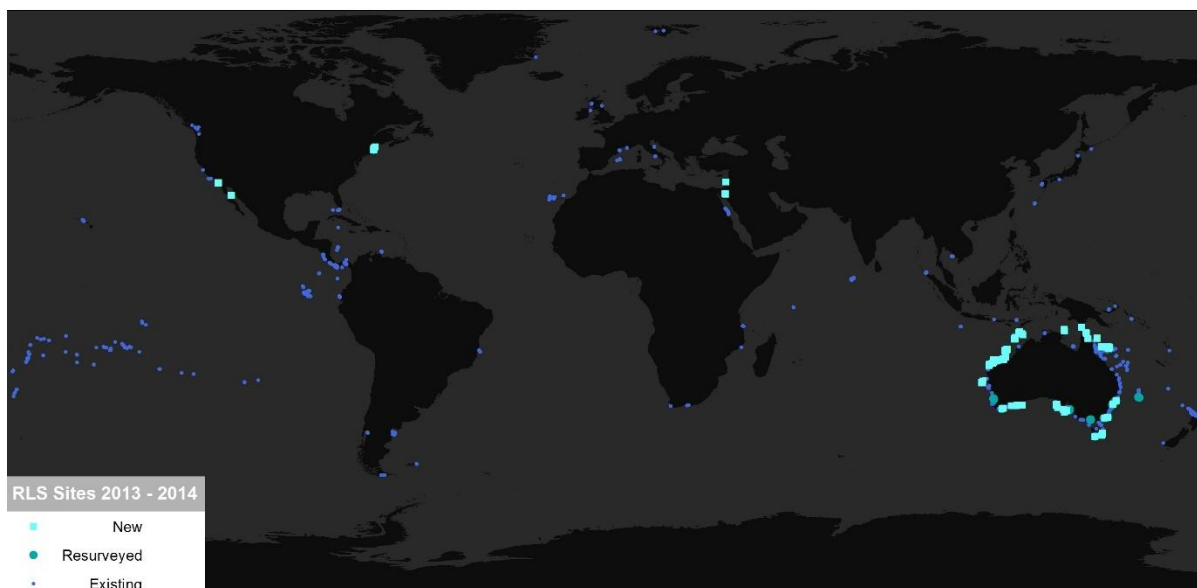


Figure 1. Global distribution of RLS survey locations, indicating new sites surveyed in the 2013/14 financial year (light blue) and those which were part of ongoing monitoring of existing sites (resurveys). Sites only surveyed in previous financial years are shown as small dark blue dots.

Over the last year, 1022 RLS biodiversity surveys were undertaken across 5 countries. Figures 1 and 2 show the spread of new and re-surveyed sites in the 2013-14 financial year. These were predominately from the North and north-west of the Australian coast (as part of the Australian survey circumnavigation).

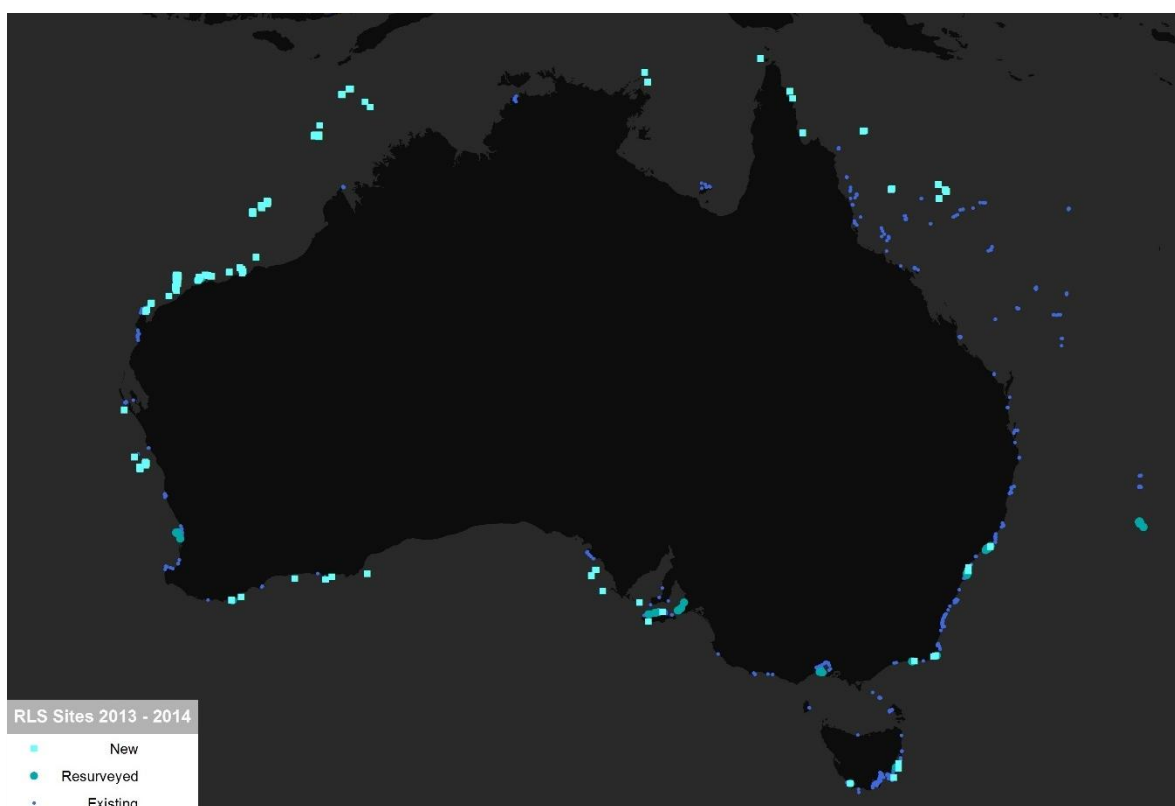


Figure 2. Australian distribution of RLS surveyed sites indicating new and re-surveyed sites for the 2013-14 financial year in aqua.

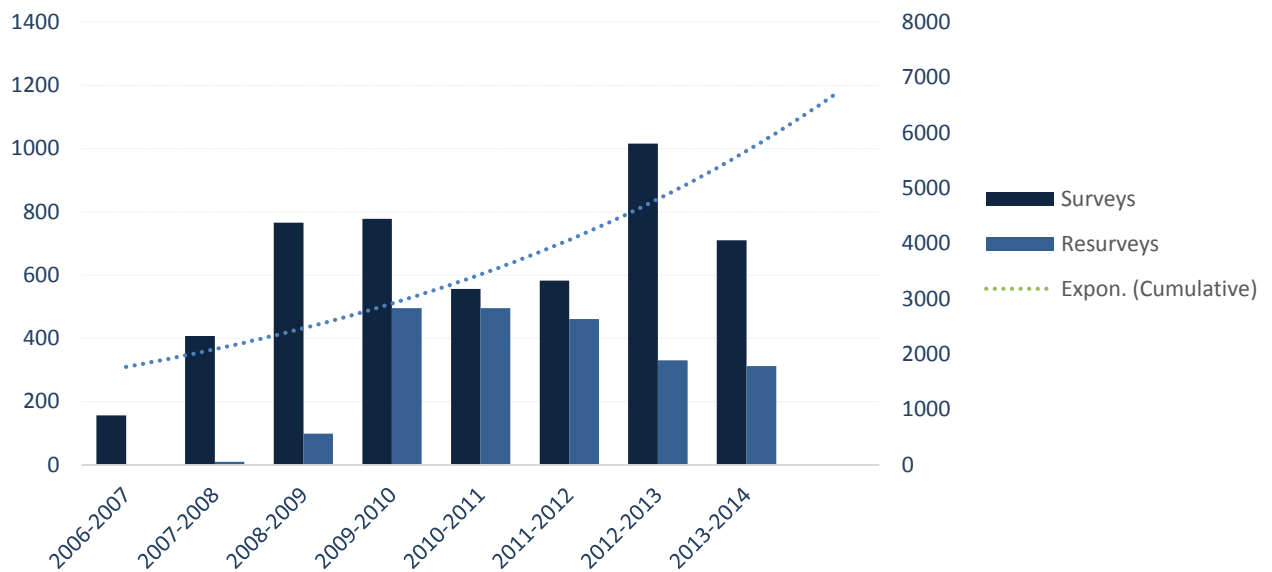


Figure 3. Survey numbers over each financial year showing the number of surveys completed at new sites, the number of surveys completed at existing sites, and the cumulative total of surveys completed up to 30/06/14.

The survey tally continued to rise steadily in 2013-2014, **with the 7,000th RLS survey completed on the 29th June 2014**. The total number of surveys was down this financial year, but there were many new sites added in an effort to fill gaps in the growing global dataset and through to the final stages of the Australian survey circumnavigation (Fig. 3). The latter included the first reef surveys undertaken by divers at some offshore reef systems off the North West Shelf. Resurveys of existing sites, which represent the monitoring of key locations around Australia, were slightly down – mostly as a result of the increased focus on offshore reefs and overseas, but also related to insufficient funds to cover all key Australian monitoring activities.

Table 1. Statistics associated with RLS survey activities during the 2013-14 financial year.

Activity	Month	# Divers	# Sites	# Transects (surveys)
Coral Sea*	July	9	115	222
Queensland*	July/August	9	11	23
Northern Territory*	August	4	5	9
North West Shelf*	Sept/Oct	11	158	291
Western Australia*	Nov/Dec	6	11	35
South Australia*	Jan/Feb	4	11	48
East Coast Tas*	March	8	6	11
Lord Howe Island	Feb	10	48	106
Kangaroo Island	March	8	7	21
Rottneest Island	May	15	13	45
USA	July	3	13	26
Israel	July	2	8	12
Mexico	July	3	8	16
Spain	July	4	12	33
Misc. Australia	July 12-Jun 13		72	124
Total		54*	498	1022

*Includes surveys completed as art of the Australian Circumnavigation yacht trip

* Total individual divers who collected data in the 2013-14 financial year (does not include trainees)

THE SCORESBY SHEPHERD AWARDS

For outstanding voluntary contributions to Reef Life Survey

These annual awards are named in honour of Dr Scoresby Shepherd AO, a key benefactor of Reef Life Survey Foundation (RLSF) and founding Board Member. The awards recognise exceptional contributions by individual members of RLSF over the financial year covered in this report. This year represents the inaugural year of the awards.

The two awards are:

The Survey Prize - For the RLS member who submitted data for the greatest number of surveys during the year.

The Distinguished Contributions Award - For the RLS member who, in the eyes of the selection committee, made the greatest voluntary contributions to the RLSF during the year by means other than surveys. This includes contributions to the Advisory Committee, the organisation and mobilisation of RLS field teams, training, website and database assistance, grant writing or communications, and reporting, but may include any activities which further the goals of the RLSF.



Bob Edgar, recipient of the 2014 Survey Prize, for the highest number of surveys completed in the last year. Bob completed surveys in four states and contributed an enormous amount of dive time on four extended legs of the Australian circumnavigation.



Sam Griffiths, recipient of the 2014 Distinguished Contributions Award, for field and mobilisation support during the Australian Circumnavigation. Sam volunteered his time and expertise on board *Reef Dragon*, acting as first mate, survey diver and skipper throughout her voyage.

Congratulations to Bob and Sam, they are both worthy recipients of the inaugural awards and their contributions are highly valued by the Reef Life Survey Foundation.

RLSF PUBLICATIONS

The Reef Life Survey data have continued to provide an important basis for scientific publications and management reports. Papers and reports published over the last 12 months are listed below.

Journal publications:

- Integrating abundance and functional traits reveals new global hotspots of fish diversity. R.D. Stuart-Smith, A.E. Bates, J.S. Lefcheck, J.E. Duffy, S.C. Baker, R. J. Thomson, J.F. Stuart-Smith, N.A. Hill, S.J. Kininmonth, L. Airolidi, M.A. Becerro, S.J. Campbell, T.P. Dawson, S.A. Navarrete, G.A. Soler, E.M.A. Strain, T.J. Willis & G.J. Edgar. 2013. *Nature* **501**, 539–542 <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v501/n7468/full/nature12529.html>
- Global conservation outcomes depend on marine protected areas with five key features. G.J. Edgar, R. D. Stuart-Smith, T. J. Willis, S. Kininmonth, S. C. Baker, S. Banks, N. S. Barrett, M. A. Becerro, A. T. F. Bernard, J. Berkhout, C. D. Buxton, S. J. Campbell, A. T. Cooper, M. Davey, S. C. Edgar, G. Forsterra, D. E. Galvan, A. J. Irigoyen, D. J. Kushner, R. Moura, P. E. Parnell, N. T. Shears, G. Soler, E. M. A. Strain, and R. J. Thomson. 2014. *Nature* **506**:216 220 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature13022>
- Systematic global assessment of reef fish communities by the Reef Life Survey program. G.J. Edgar & R.D. Stuart-Smith. 2014. *Scientific Data* **1**, 140007 <http://www.nature.com/articles/sdata20147>
- Statistical solutions for error and bias in global citizen science datasets. T.J. Bird, A. E. Bates, J. S. Lefcheck, N. A. Hill, R. J. Thomson, G. J. Edgar, R. D. Stuart-Smith, S. Wotherspoon, M. Krkosek, J. F. Stuart-Smith, G. T. Pecl, N. Barrett, and S. Frusher. 2014. *Biological Conservation* **173**: 144-154 <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006320713002693#>
- Resilience and signatures of tropicalization in protected reef fish communities. Bates, A, Barrett, N.S., Stuart-Smith, R, Holbrook, N, Thompson, P, Edgar, G.J. 2014. *Nature Climate Change* **4**: 62-67 <http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/v4/n1/full/nclimate2062.html>



Management reports:

- *Adaptive management of temperate reefs to minimise effects of climate change: Developing new effective approaches for ecological monitoring and predictive modelling.* Barrett, N., Bates, A., Beger, M., Stuart-Smith, R., Syms, C., Holbrook, N., Knott, N., Booth, D., Kellaher, B., Howe, S., Buxton, C., Edgar, G. (2014) University of Tasmania, Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, Hobart.
- *Community-assisted scientific assessment and management of Western Australian Marine Protected Areas. Ningaloo Marine Park.* Day, PB, Stuart-Smith RD, Edgar GJ, Friedman KJ, and Bellchambers LM (2013) Report for Coastwest and Caring for Our Country. Reef Life Survey Foundation Incorporated, Hobart.
- *Community-assisted scientific assessment and management of Western Australian Marine Protected Areas. Rottnest Island Marine Park.* Day, PB, Stuart-Smith RD, Edgar GJ, Friedman KJ, Shortland-Jones HW, and Bellchambers LM (2013) Report for Coastwest and Caring for Our Country. Reef Life Survey Foundation Incorporated, Hobart.
- *Reef Life Survey assessment of biodiversity in northern New Zealand marine reserves and associated coastlines.* Edgar, G., Stuart-Smith, R., Thomson, R., Freeman, D. & Southwood, P. (2013). Report for New Zealand Department of Conservation. Aquenal Pty Ltd and Reef Life Survey Foundation Inc., Hobart.




FINANCIAL REPORT



has generously supported RLSF since the organisation's incorporation in 2011. RLSF sincerely thanks Michael for his valuable pro-bono accountancy advice and quality auditing services.



Colleen Morris has provided enormous voluntary support and much appreciated expertise to the financial recordkeeping of the RLSF.

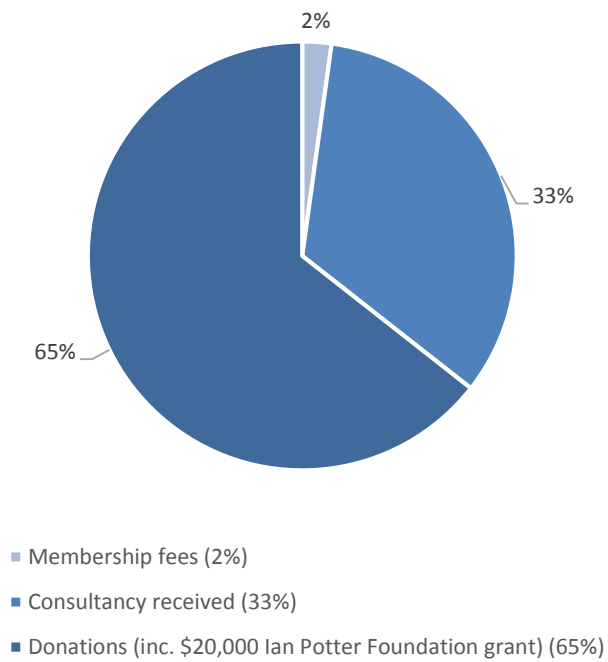


RLSF had 68 financial members as at 30th June 2014, with 47 of these being Life Members. The audited financial reports for RLSF are included here, as derived from the full financial report for the 2013-2014 financial year. An official audit was completed by Michael Muller, who generously provided his time and expertise to RLSF at reduced cost.

Table 2. RLSF profit and loss for the 2013-14 financial year.

Budget Category	Sub-category	Amount (\$)
Income	Membership fees	920.00
	Consultancy received	14,000.00
	Donations (inc. \$20,000 Ian Potter Foundation grant)	27,000.00
	Total Income	41,920.00
Expenses	Admin/meeting expenses	85.30
	Fuel and yacht running costs	13,412.93
	Repairs and maintenance (Aus circumnav)	2,139.61
	Field expenses	21,293.76
	Materials and supplies	3,198.51
	Postage	237.60
	Insurance	490.00
	Safety Equipment	351.60
	Sundry	359.47
Total Expenses		41,568.78

RLSF Income 2013-14



RLSF Expenses 2013-14

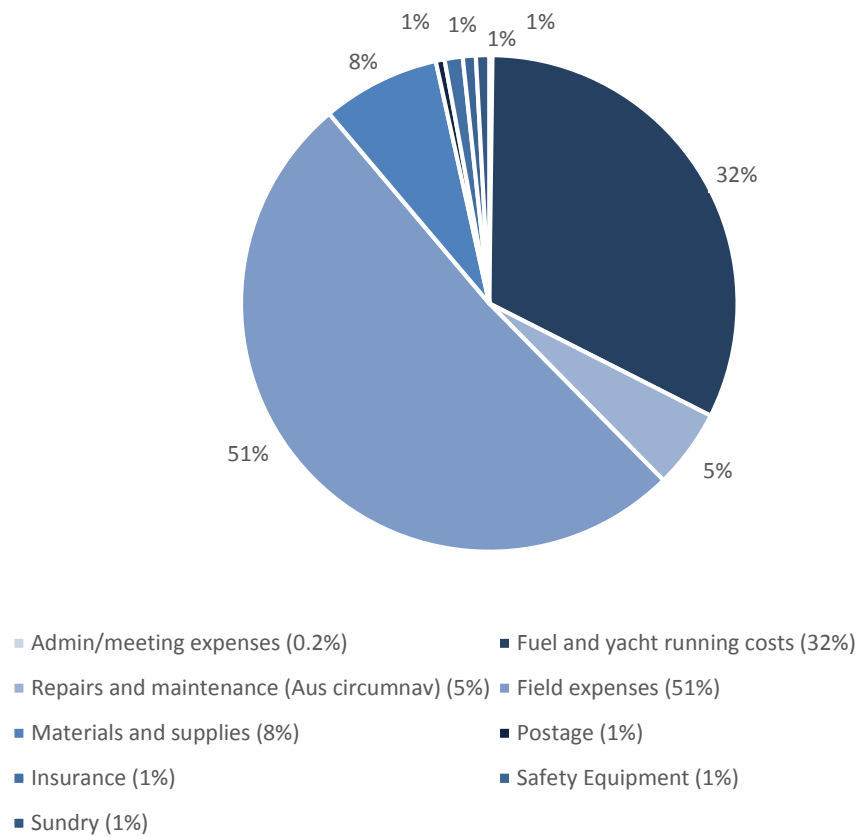
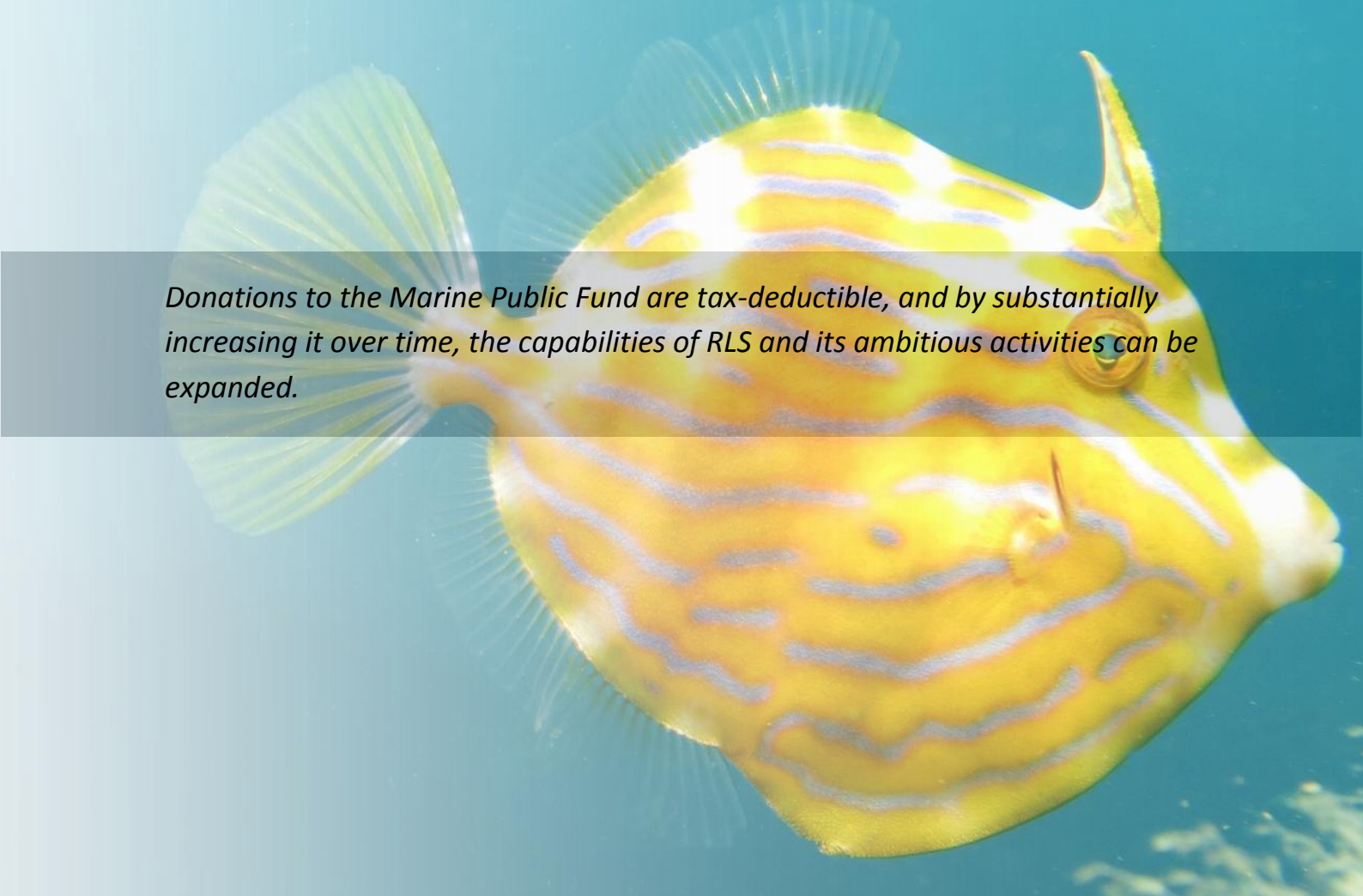


Figure 4. RLSF Incorporated profit and loss for the 2013-14 financial year



Donations to the Marine Public Fund are tax-deductible, and by substantially increasing it over time, the capabilities of RLS and its ambitious activities can be expanded.

Table 3. RLSF balance sheet as at 30 June 2014

Balance sheet category	Amount (\$)
Foundation Account	15,617.92
Petty Cash	29.25
Total Assets	15,647.17
Net Assets	15,647.17
Retained Earnings	18,232.36
Current Earnings	2,585.19
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	15,647.17

Table 4. Marine Public Fund balance sheet as at 30 June 2014

Balance sheet category	Amount (\$)
Marine Public Fund Account	7,561.41
Total Assets	7,561.41
Net Assets	7,561.41
Retained Earnings	4,625.00
Current Earnings	2,936.41
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	7,561.41



SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

A large number of individuals, organisations and community groups contributed to the successes of the Reef Life Survey program through varied mechanisms, with major partners:

- Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania



UNIVERSITY of
TASMANIA



IMAS
INSTITUTE FOR MARINE AND
ANTARCTIC STUDIES

- WinWeb

winweb® | Business
Made Easy

- Aquenal Pty Ltd



- The Ian Potter Foundation



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