

The Great Barrier Reef:



What is the economic development

- Tourism
- Industry nearby the reef location

How does this affect that the coral reef environment:

- Fishing: remaining impacts and illegal fishing and poaching
- Ship traffic: large ships threaten the reef with physical damage if they experience an accident
- Coastal pollution: the runoff of toxic chemicals and particulate matter smothers and sickens the coral on the reef
- Marine trade: coral, turtle shells, star fish and sea shells are being removed from corals and sold. The removal of the corals damage the reefs
- Tourism can damage reefs. Anchors from tourist boats and motor engines can damage the reefs as well as kill the animals
- Increasing in the global climate means the coral reefs are getting bleached and they die

What is being done to manage the risk?

- Organisations using the reef have to write a report talking about how their activities will affect the reef
- Tourist boats are not allowed to stop in certain sensitive areas
- Fines up to 1\$ can be forced if you create damage
- Boats patrol the area checking up on legal activity
- Permits are given out for fishing and swimming, if you do not have one you are not allowed in the area
- Conservation zones where tourists aren't allowed or number of restricted areas

- Rangers educate tourists on rules
- Scientific research is used to monitor activity
- Banning the dropping of anchors on the reefs
- Educating tourists about the coral reefs and how to protect them
- Reducing the use of fertilisers near reefs
- Encouraging tourists to have non-polluting sunscreen

How is the reef protected?

-UNESCO:

- It was declared a world heritage site in 1981
- By the management rules listed above

-Marine Park:

-The Australian government made the area a protected park so they are responsible for looking after the reef. The reef has different zones for different purposes like tourism or fishing. This park has won many awards for helping protect the environment.

-How are tourist encouraged to protect the reef?

- By visiting the reef (they are putting money towards protecting it)
- Donate and volunteer
- Do not remove or touch anything on the reef

