Ten Years of *Marine and Freshwater Research*

Since 1995, *Marine and Freshwater Research* has been providing an international forum for discourse between researchers working across the broad spectrum of the aquatic sciences. A forum for interdisciplinary learning and collaboration, where quality papers on a plethora of subjects can be read within the same issue. It is one of the few aquatic sciences journals being published today that can justifiably make this claim.

Over 1000 papers have been published in the ten years of *Marine and Freshwater Research*, and many more have been submitted – from over 70 countries. The tireless work and great contribution of a large pool of international reviewers (also from over 70 countries) has ensured the maintenance of the high standards demanded by the journal. An equally diverse audience read the journal, and the advent of the Internet has increased accessibility to the content. Counter statistics show that *MFR* papers are being downloaded from our website more than 1000 times per week. A recent addition to our website is a listing of the 20 most read papers (see the relevant link on the journal homepage). At present, the five most read papers published since 2000 cover a wide spread of years and a wider spectrum of topics – coral reef conservation, fisheries, hydrology and freshwater biology (see below). This is a clear demonstration of the varied content – and readership – of *MFR*.

Papers in *MFR* cite well and the top five papers cited since 1995 also cover a wide range of research subjects (see below). Interestingly, the most cited *MFR* paper has also been viewed the most number of times: the now classic Hoegh-Guldberg (1999) review on climate change and the future of the world's coral reefs. This has been cited well over 200 times since publication.

Another strength of *MFR* papers, which will continue into the future, is that they are original, address some conceptual issue and result in the advancement of knowledge. The objective for *MFR* papers is for hypothesis-driven research papers that answer questions applicable beyond the local scale in which they have been set. The geographic setting of an *MFR* paper is not necessarily important – but the conceptual setting is.

The Special Issues in *MFR* have been a successful medium in which to deliver a specialised sub-section of knowledge to a broad audience. Notable Special Issues include those concerning rock lobster biology, catchment biogeochemistry, larval fish biology, cephalopod growth and the classic 50th anniversary of *AJMFR*/*MFR* issue. This tradition continues with special issues on fish otoliths and tropical rivers to be published in the coming year, and there are more in the pipeline.

I believe the future of *MFR* is bright. The solid foundation upon which it rests – 10 years as *MFR* and over 50 years of marine and freshwater research publishing – provides a launch pad for the coming years. Developments at the journal and **CSIRO** PUBLISHING, such as an online submission system, the continuing enhancement of our website and content delivery, our close association with learned societies and our increasing impact factor, all indicate a promising future. I invite you to join the journal's future success and I thank all our authors, reviewers and subscribers for ensuring that outcome.

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Five most read *MFR* papers since 2000, as at 25 January 2005

(see http://www.publish.csiro.au/?nid=127&aid=4615). Counts are based on downloaded files since statistics were first collected in 2000 and papers counted are from 1997 onwards

1. Hoegh-Guldberg, O. (1999). Climate change, coral bleaching and the future of the world's coral reefs. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **50**(8), 839–866.
2. Wilkinson, C. R. (1999). Global and local threats to coral reef functioning and existence: review and predictions. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **50**(8), 867–878.
3. Chessman, B. C. (2003). New sensitivity grades for Australian river macroinvertebrates. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **54**(2), 95–103.
4. Walker, T. I. (1999). Can shark resources be harvested sustainably? A question revisited with a review of shark fisheries. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **49**(7), 553–572.
5. Neil, D. T., Orpin, A. R., Ridd, P. V., and Yu, B. (2002). Sediment yield and impacts from river catchments to the Great Barrier Reef lagoon: a review. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **53**(4), 733–752.

Five most cited *MFR* papers since 1995

Information from Thomson ISI (see http://www.thomsonisi.com/)

1. Hoegh-Guldberg, O. (1999). Climate change, coral bleaching and the future of the world's coral reefs. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **50**(8), 839–866.
2. Puckridge, J. T., Sheldon, F., Walker, K. F., and Boulton, A. J. (1998). Flow variability and the ecology of large rivers. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **49**(1), 55–72.
3. Leis, J. M., Sweatman, H. P. A., and Reader, S. E. (1996). What the pelagic stages of coral reef fishes are doing out in blue water: daytime field observations of larval behavioural capabilities. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **47**(2), 401–411.
4. Bloesch, J. (1995). Mechanisms, measurement and importance of sediment resuspension in lakes. *Marine and Freshwater Research* **46**(1), 295–304.
5. Schmitt, R. J., and Holbrook, S. J. (1996). Local-scale patterns of larval settlement in a planktivorous damselfish – do they predict recruitment? *Marine and Freshwater Research* **47**(2), 449–463.

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