

Conservation Action Plan

For the Southern Atoll of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands

This Conservation Action Plan identifies key values, threats and management actions to help protect and conserve this unique environment over the next 10 years.

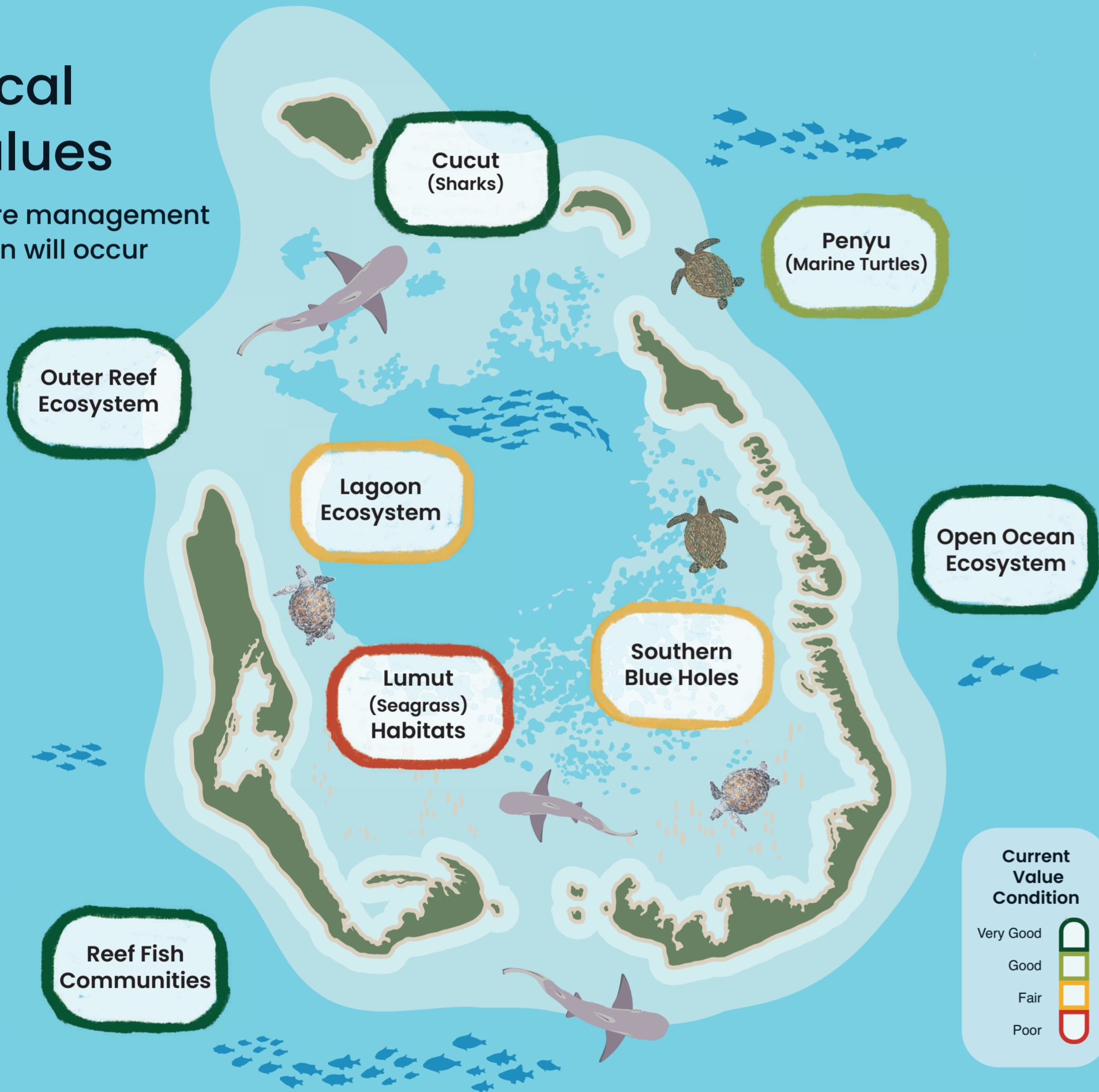


Management Strategies & Actions

To address key threats and improve focal values

Focal Values

Where management action will occur



Key Threats

Activities and pressures that pose the greatest threat to the focal values



Lagoon restoration

Outcome: Recovery and maintenance of healthy lagoon environment, particularly high-value habitats and ecosystem services.

- By 2027, develop an improved understanding of the physical conditions and hydrodynamics within the lagoon and expected changes over time.
- By 2027, measures to improve water quality within the lagoon identified and in place.
- By 2032, increase the extent and ecological condition of seagrass habitats within the lagoon.
- By 2032, improve the extent, diversity and ecological condition of coral reefs in the southern blue holes.

Marine debris and plastic reduction

Outcome: Less marine debris and plastic pollution on beaches and in the ocean around the southern atoll.

- By 2027, reduce the amount of marine debris and plastic pollution in coastal and marine areas and establish a sustainable removal program.

Shark conflict resolution

Outcome: Fewer negative human-shark interactions.

- By 2032, effectively mitigate human-shark conflict and facilitate a transition toward co-existence.

Sustainable tourism and recreation

Outcome: Fewer harmful interactions with marine life.

- By 2027, marine tourism and recreational activities, including fishing, are conducted in a safe and ecologically-appropriate manner.

Invasive species management

Outcome: No marine invasive or pest species introduced or established at the southern atoll.

- By 2026, ensure the impact of marine invasive and pest species is effectively managed to minimise the risk of incursion and establishment.

Collaborative partnerships

Outcome: Increased engagement, innovation, communication, effectiveness and efficiency in achieving management goals.

- By 2025, effectively combine local and scientific knowledge streams to guide science and management activities.
- By 2032, Cocos (Keeling) Islands residents, groups and organisations are skilled, empowered and engaged to help implement education, research and management activities.
- By 2027, establish and maintain collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders and research institutions to progress management goals.



Find a full copy of the Conservation Action Plan on the Australian Marine Parks website: www.parksaustralia.gov.au/marine