

and inform a wider public of the nature and importance of the Indigenous/UN relationship.

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The impact of anthropogenic stressors on coral reef carbonate sediment metabolism and dissolution

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Abstract of a thesis for a Doctorate of Philosophy submitted to
Southern Cross University, Coffs Harbour, NSW

The balance in coral reef carbonate sediment metabolism may shift in response to global warming, ocean acidification (OA), and coastal eutrophication. To address this concern, this PhD thesis experimentally tested the individual and combined effects of these stressors on coral reef carbonate sediment metabolism and dissolution. The data produced show that warming and OA will be major drivers of carbonate sediment dissolution, while the effects of

coastal eutrophication will likely depend on the severity and duration of exposure. Altogether, these stressors will likely begin facilitating a net loss of carbonate sediment on coral cays by the end of the century.

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