SIG Research Priorities

DATE	As at 1 June 2015	
SIG:	**Coastal**	
SIG CONTACT:	Hilke Giles, Steve Urlich	
RESEARCH PRIORITIES	Ranking	Priority
	1	Develop nationally consistent frameworks (including determining core parameters and quality assurance) for both regional and spatially targeted monitoring (e.g. estuaries) that incorporates cost effective technologies
	2	Characterising the existing CMA by collecting appropriate data for establishing baselines.
	3	Identify relevant and meaningful indicators to describe the state and condition and assess change over time of the coastal marine area (CMA)
	4	Researching environmental thresholds and establishing appropriate and relevant limits and standards for stressors impacting on the CMA, including those derived from land-based activities
	5	Identifying the effects of stressors within both a spatial and temporal context. Understanding the synergistic and cumulative effects of multiple stressors and developing tools to manage these effects
	6	Identifying indicators and determining response of ecosystem attributes (e.g. biodiversity, biological and physical processes, water quality) to stressors (individual and cumulative)
	7	Investigate processes to co-develop appropriate indicators and supporting monitoring programmes for Māori environmental frameworks
	8	Provide lessons where mātauranga Māori and science have been used collectively to understand environmental issues – particularly with regard to coastal and marine management.
	9	Determine the generality and applicability of currently developed indicators (such as, but not limited to, the Cultural Health Index) across the many hapu and iwi of Aotearoa
	10	Develop support and continually improve systems that facilitate data exchange and dissemination among councils and communities
	11	Predict and measure the impact of freshwater flows, loads and limits on the coastal receiving environment
	12	Develop approaches for the enhancement and restoration of degraded environments in the CMA
	13	Identifying and prioritising adaptation and mitigation opportunities that are feasible in a regional policy context

	14	Investigate the application of novel technologies for environmental monitoring in the CMA
	15	Delineating to what extent regional influences may interact with or further exacerbate effects associated with climate change (e.g. runoff and ocean acidification, coastal hazard risks, biosecurity)
	16	Forecasting the nature and extent of environmental changes in the CMA in response to global climate change. Identify ecosystems and areas that will be more vulnerable than others
	17	Investigate the feasibility and ecological implications of potential biodiversity offsetting in the CMA
	18	Develop practical methodologies to recognise ecosystem services of the CMA
	19	Contribute to an effective understanding of ecosystem based management (EBM) and its implementation
	20	Investigating capacity for organisms and ecosystems to adapt to climate change
OTHER INFORMATION:	"Coastal SIG research prioritization May 2015" "Guiding coastal and marine resource management – draft strategic research goals and implementation roadmap" (May 2015)	