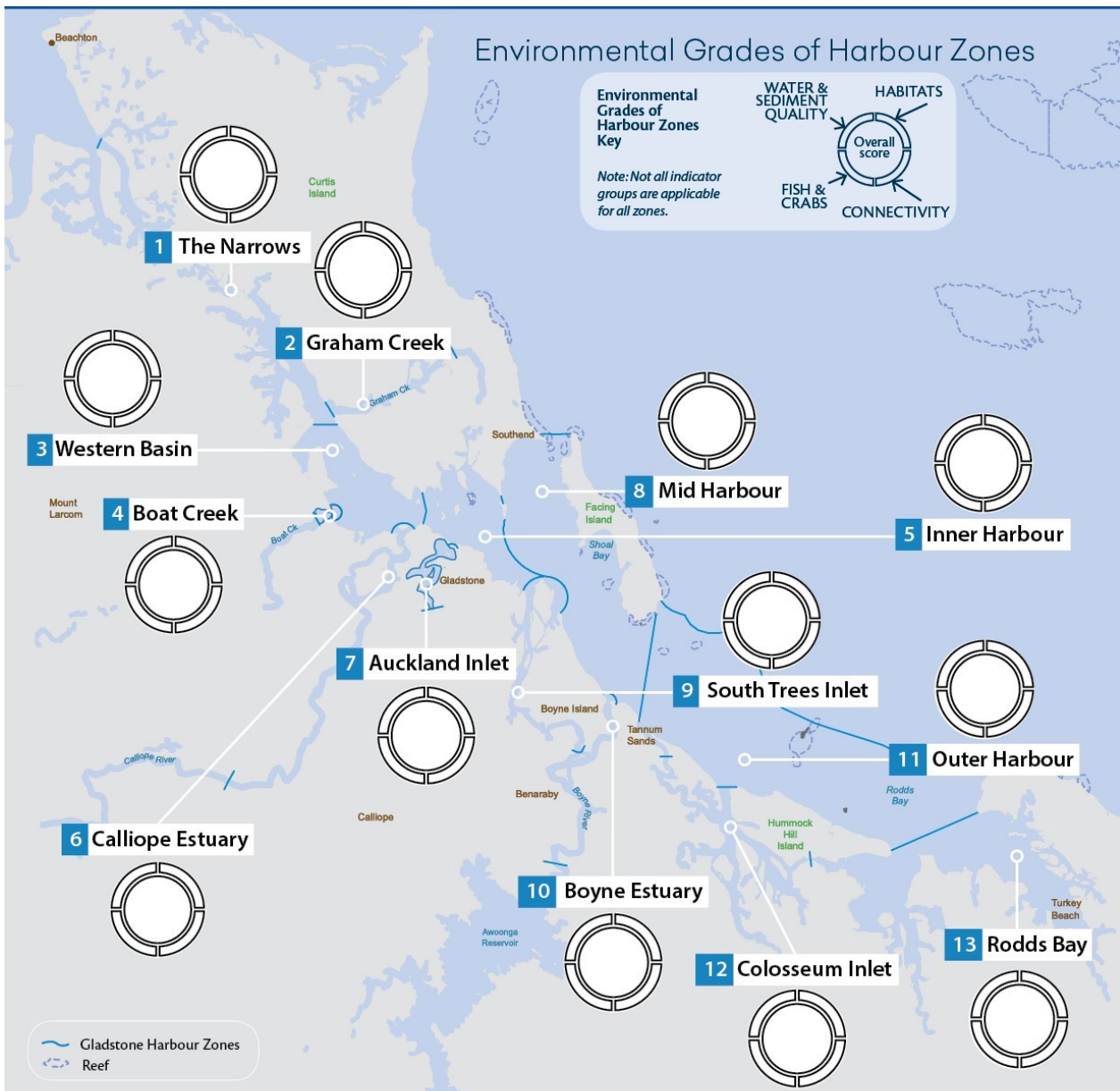


Gladstone Harbour Zones



Grading, Confidence & Trends

Grades for this report card were calculated using 27 indicators derived from 78 different measures of the environmental, social, economic and cultural health of Gladstone Harbour. The components and indicator groups were graded A, B, C, D or E, based on the aggregated scores of the measures specific to each component.

Confidence levels for the component grades were measured on a three point scale from low to high. Confidence levels were established to reflect scientific confidence in the calculated grades. These confidence levels can be affected by the appropriateness, availability, adequacy and completeness of indicators used and quality of monitoring data.

The grades for the Social and Economic components were compared to those in the 2014 Pilot Report Card. Environmental and cultural components in 2015 cannot be compared to the 2014 results. (Refer to Key Observation 2).

Grading system

- A Very good (0.85-1.00)
- B Good (0.65-0.84)
- C Satisfactory (0.50-0.64)
- D Poor (0.25-0.49)
- E Very poor (0.00-0.24)
- Data not available

Confidence



Trends

(from 2014 Pilot to 2015) improved declined unchanged

Healthy Harbour, Healthy Future



ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS



The overall environmental health for the harbour across the four indicator groups was graded as a C (satisfactory). Coral health was graded as E (very poor), seagrass as D (poor), connectivity as C (satisfactory), water quality as B (good) and sediment quality as A (very good). Although water quality overall was good, nutrient levels exceeded guideline values.



CULTURAL RESULTS



The overall grade for the cultural health of Gladstone Harbour in 2015 was a B (good). This is the first time that cultural health has been included in an Australian report card.

The 2016 report card will also report against cultural heritage indicators which are still being developed.



SOCIAL RESULTS

The overall grade for the social health of Gladstone Harbour in 2015 was a C (satisfactory), the same grade as for 2014. The indicators of harbour access and liveability/wellbeing also received grades of C (as they did in 2014), while the harbour usability indicator improved from a C to a B (good).



ECONOMIC RESULTS

The overall grade for the economic health of Gladstone Harbour in 2015 was a B (good), unchanged from 2014. The two indicators of economic performance and the economic value of recreation received grades of B, as in 2014, while the indicator economic stimulus declined from an A to a B. This decline was due to a relatively slow improvement in the unemployment rate compared to the rest of Queensland.

