

CV of Dr Sue Pillans

“Picture your ideas”

Profile

*I am a marine scientist, artist, graphic recorder and children’s author/illustrator who specializes in creative and visual communications. Since 2015 I have combined my professional experiences with my skills as an artist and scientist to run my own business to “**Picture your ideas**”. As a graphic recorder and visual artist I work with a wide range of groups to visually capture convey ideas, key messages and discussions and also create hand drawn infographics to help illustrate information and ideas. I have created unique, tailored hand drawn visual stories for over 60 organisations across Australia and the South East Asian region.*

“When I picture your ideas I help to make the complex simple and the simple compelling”

I have over 15 year’s experience working in strategic planning and policy, research and development, natural resource management, conservation planning and management, business and industry development and program management. Through my roles in Government, University and Research Organisations I have extensive experience in the coordination and development of complex projects and stakeholder engagement and communication, with specialty skills in the messaging of environmental issues. As a visual communicator I utilize this diverse experience with my artistic skills to create visual stories for everyone, everywhere about everything.

“I find such joy in helping people to share their stories and picture their ideas”

I have always been drawn to the ocean and through my alter ego ‘Dr Suzie Starfish’ I also visit schools, kindergartens and libraries using the art and science of storytelling. My creative and environmental education makes learning creative, visual and fun. As Dr Suzie Starfish I am also a children’s Author/Illustrator (Authorstrator) o fa series of ocean-science stories bringing the wonders of our underwater world into the hearts and minds of young readers everywhere.

“I hope my stories empower children that they CAN be the change they want to ‘sea’ in the world”



Contact details

Dr Sue Pillans

“Picture your ideas”

ABN: 81 269 607 706

Queensland, Australia

Email: drsuepillans@gmail.com

Website: www.druepillans.com

Academic Qualifications

- 2006 Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Marine Science
 “Effectiveness of no-take marine reserves in subtropical Australia”
 University of Queensland (UQ), Brisbane, Australia
- 1999 Bachelor of Science with First Class Honours
 Griffith University and CSIRO Marine, Brisbane
- 1997 Bachelor of Science (in Australian Environmental Studies)
 Majoring in Ecology with a Minor in Environmental Planning
 Griffith University, Brisbane

Memberships

- 2023 – Current Graphic Recorders Australia
2018 – Current National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA)

Career History

- 2015 - Current *“Picture your ideas”* with Dr Sue Pillans offers a range of creative and visual communication services including:
- ❖ Graphic recording and sketchnoting
 - ❖ Infographics and illustrations
 - ❖ Science-ART in schools (and workshops)
 - ❖ Children’s picture books (as an *Authorstrator*)
 - ❖ Visual storytelling workshops
 - ❖ Science communication workshops
 - ❖ Original artworks

I have provided visual storytelling for the following 60+ organisations:

- Queensland (Qld) Health
- Qld Department of Education
- Qld Department of Environment and Science
- Qld Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors
- Qld Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
- Qld Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA)
- Qld Trade and Investment Queensland (Study Qld)
- Northern Territory Government
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
- CSIRO (Commonwealth, Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation)
- ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies
- Australian Institute of Marine Studies (AIMS)
- Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
- Queensland Secondary Principals Association
- Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC)
- P&Cs Queensland
- Australian Council for Educational Leaders
- Scope TV, Children’s Science Education Program, for Channel 10
- National Education Summit/International Exhibition & Conference Group

Visual storytelling for the following organisations continued:

- Schools, Kindergartens, Libraries across Australia (eg. Exmouth District High School, Tully State School, Tully State High School, Cardwell School, Kennedy School, Murray Upper School, Wynnum Kindy, Barker College, Byron Bay High School, Kadina High School, St Mary's Primary School, Rainbow Beach library, Wynnum library)
- Capturing Coral Reef and Related Ecosystem Services
- University of Queensland
- UniQuest
- Queensland University of Technology
- University of Southern Queensland
- Griffith University
- James Cook University
- Monash University
- University of Melbourne
- University of Technology Sydney
- Network of Environmental Social Sciences
- Sprott Planning
- TierraMar
- Queensland Returned and Services League
- International Foundation for Integrated Care
- Welcoming Cities
- CentacareCQ
- UnitingCare
- Powerlink
- BHP
- Noosa Biosphere Reserve Foundation
- Queensland Farmers Federation
- Queensland Canegrowers
- Terrain Natural Resource Management
- Sugar Research Australia
- Gympie Regional Council
- Markwell & Associates; Behaviour Innovation; Nurse Manager
- North Queensland Bulk Ports
- Treasury Wine Estate
- National Girls Collaborative Project
- Tech Girls Movement
- HealthHack Australia
- Hear and Say
- Little Steps Publishing
- Little Pink Dog Books

Please see my Visual CV below showing examples of the visual stories created for the above organisations →

Career History continued...

2015 - 2019	Science communication and engagement for marine research projects (casual contract), Oceans & Atmosphere, CSIRO, Brisbane and Western Australia
2015 – 2016	Program Manager (casual contract), Capturing Coral Reef and Related Ecosystem Services, UQ, Brisbane
2014-2015	Program Manager, Global Change Institute, UQ, Brisbane
2014	Program Manager, Australian Water and Environmental Management Alliance, UQ and Griffith University, Brisbane
2012-2013	Director, Skills, Extension & Supply Chains, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry, Brisbane
2010-2012	Director, Program Coordination, Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEEDI), Brisbane
2011	Director, State Planning Program, Department of Transport & Main Roads, Brisbane
2010	Principal Industry Development Officer, Fisheries Queensland, DEEDI, Brisbane
2009-2010	Principal Policy Officer, Reef Plan, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Brisbane
2008-2009	Principal Industry Development Officer, Aquaculture & Seafood, Department of Tourism, Regional Development & Industry, Brisbane
2007-2008	Senior Planning Officer, Moreton Bay Marine Park Zoning Plan Review, Environmental Protection Agency, Brisbane
2005-2006	Conservation Officer, Marine Parks, Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service, Cleveland, Brisbane
2000-2002	University tutor, marine science for undergraduates, UQ, Brisbane
1998-2000	Research Officer, CSIRO Marine Research, Cleveland, Brisbane

Visual Publications (examples below)

- Dr Suzie Starfish* (2024) Roger the wrasse and the itchy fishes. Little Pink Dog Books, Armidale, Australia (*my alter ego Author/Illustrator name)
- Dr Suzie Starfish (2022) Cranky Frankie and the oceans of trash. Little Pink Dog Books, Armidale, Australia
- Van Putten, I., McClean, N., Chin, A., Pillans, S & Sbrocchi, C (2022) What happens after a shark incident? Behavioural changes among Australian beachgoers. *Human-Wildlife Interactions* 16(1): 67-83
- McClean, N., vanPutten, I., Sbrocchi, C, Chin, A., Pillans, S (2020) Reducing risk in human-shark interactions in NSW: Trialing a participatory approach to understanding beachgoer behaviour. Report to the NSW Shark Management Strategy, NSW Department of Primary Industries, University of Technology Sydney (Provided graphic recording of workshops and infographics for reports)
- Pillans artwork (2020) Infographic published in 'Children and Innovation: A Wenner-Gren workshop', Nowell, A., Langley, MC & Riede, F, *Evolutionary Anthropology*, 2020 29(1):p 6-8
- Pillans artwork (2019) Infographic published in 'You know, I could trip and fall onto the track!': inspiring text production', Brosseuk, D., Exley, B & Neumann, M, *The Reading Teacher*, pp 1-8
- Dr Suzie Starfish (2018) The Great Barrier Thief, Little Steps Publishing, Sydney, Australia
- Pillans artwork (2018) Graphic recording published in 'Evaluating an empirical harvest control rule for the Torres Strait *Panulirus ornatus* tropical rock lobster fishery', Plaganyi et al (2018) *Bulletin of Marine Science*, 94(3): 1095-1120
- Pillans artwork (2017) Infographic published in 'The Future of Modeling to Support Conservation Decisions in the Anthropocene Ocean', Chapter 20, Figure 20.3 in *Conservation for the Anthropocene Ocean: Interdisciplinary Science in Support of Nature and People*. Editors Levin, P.S & Poe, M.R, Elsevier Inc
- Pillans artwork (2017) Graphic recording published in 'Changes and Challenges for Future Generations', Section 3, Figure 15.2 (not credited to the artist) in *Science and Solutions for Australia*, CSIRO Publishing

Publications & Reports

- McClean, N., van Putten, I., Sbrocchi, C, Chin, A., Pillans, S (2020) Reducing risk in human-shark interactions in NSW: Trialing a participatory approach to understanding beachgoer behaviour. Report to the NSW Shark Management Strategy, NSW Department of Primary Industries, University of Technology Sydney <https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-arts-and-social-sciences/research/fass-research-projects/reducing-risk-human-shark-interactions-nsw>
- Pillans (2015) A roadmap for science into policy: the what, who, how and where of making a difference. *Decision Point* #86 – March 2015. Full edition - <http://decision-point.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/DPoint-86.pdf>
- The University of Queensland (2014) Public submission to the Queensland and Australian Governments Reef 2050 Long-term Sustainability Plan review <http://www.environment.gov.au/marine/great-barrier-reef/long-term-sustainability-plan>

Publications & Reports continued...

- The University of Queensland and Griffith University (2014) Public submission to the Australian Senate Inquiry into the Management of the Great Barrier Reef
http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Environment_and_Communications/Great_Barrier_Reef/Report
- Ward, TJ et al (2011) On Expert Panel for the National marine condition assessment – decision model and workshops. Report prepared for the Australian Government (Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water), Canberra
- University of Queensland (2009) Scientific Principles for Design of Marine Protected Areas in Australia: A Guidance Statement. The Ecology Centre, University of Queensland, Brisbane <http://www.uq.edu.au/ecology/index.html?page=102441&pid=108450>
- Pillans, S (2009) Conservation and industry cooperation for better marine protected area planning and management. Discussion paper for the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas in 2009
- Pillans, S., Ortiz, J.C., Pillans, R.D & Possingham, H.P (2007) The impact of marine reserves on nekton diversity and community composition in subtropical eastern Australia. *Biological Conservation* 136:455-469
- Pillans, S., Pillans, R.D., Johnstone, R & Possingham, H (2007) Effectiveness of subtropical no-take marine reserves: benefits to fisheries management and biodiversity. In Day, J.C., Senior, J., Monk, S & Neal, W (Eds) First International Marine Protected Areas Congress, Conference Proceedings, 23-27 October 2005, Geelong, Australia
- Pillans, S & Lewis, W (2006) Effectiveness of marine reserves in Moreton Bay. Policy Implication Summary submitted to the Queensland Department of Premier and Cabinet, Brisbane
- Pillans, S (2006) Effectiveness of no-take marine reserves in Moreton Bay, subtropical Australia. PhD Thesis, University of Queensland, Brisbane
- Pillans, S., Pillans, R.D., Johnstone, R.W., Kraft, P.K., Haywood, M.D.E & Possingham, H.P (2005) Effects of marine reserve protection on the mud crab *Scylla serrata*: in a sex-biased fishery in subtropical Australia. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 295:201-213
- Pillans, S., Johnstone, R. J., Possingham, H. P., Pillans, R.D., Dews, G and McPhail, I (2004) Effectiveness of no-take marine reserves in subtropical Queensland, Australia. In Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Science and Management of Protected Areas (SAMPA), May 2003, Victoria, Canada, pp1-8
- Loneragan, N.R., Dews, G. & Round, S (1999) Sustainable Development of tropical Australia: research and development for management of land, water and marine resources. Final Report. CSIRO Division of Marine Research, Brisbane (nee Round)

My Visual CV

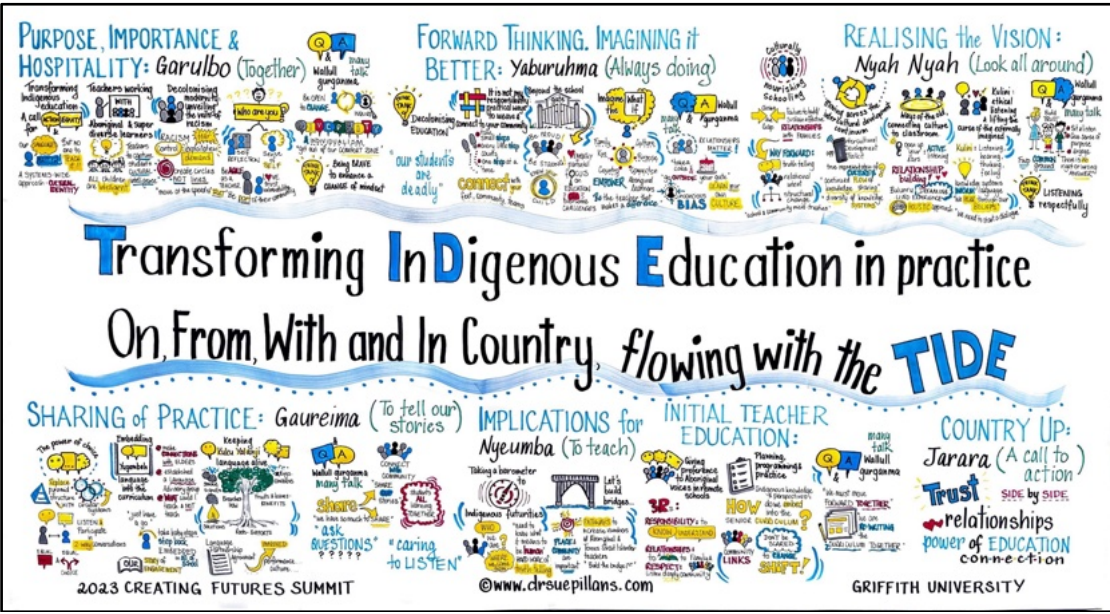
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Live graphic recording

Pillans artwork (2023) Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) National Conference



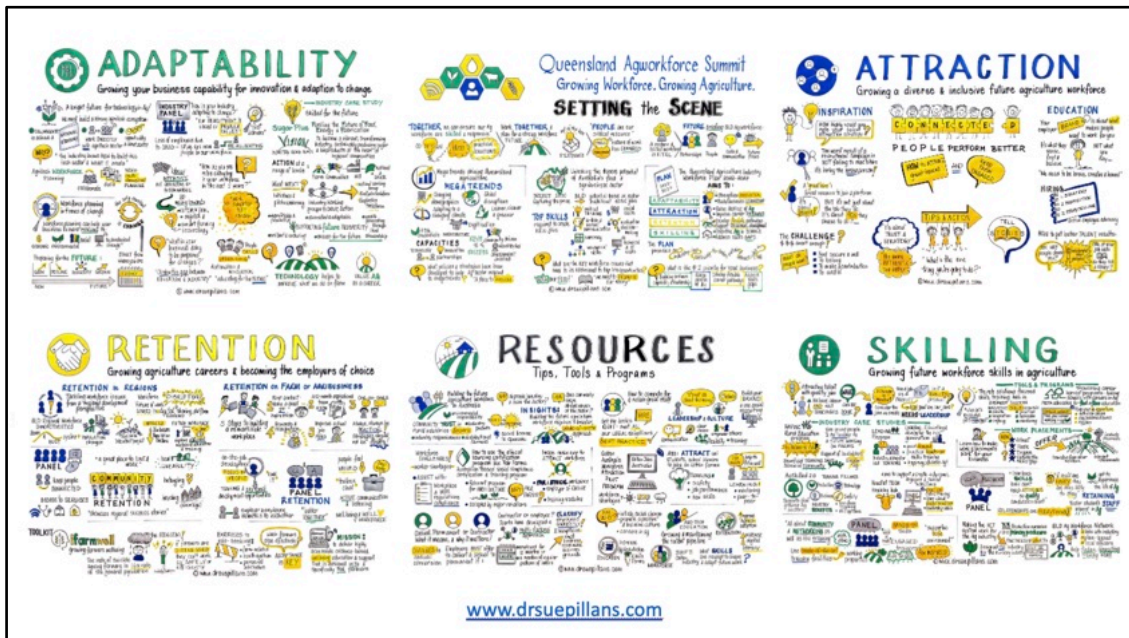
Pillans artwork (2023) Griffith University Creating Futures Summit



Pillans artwork (2022) Queensland Department of Education's PBL Conference

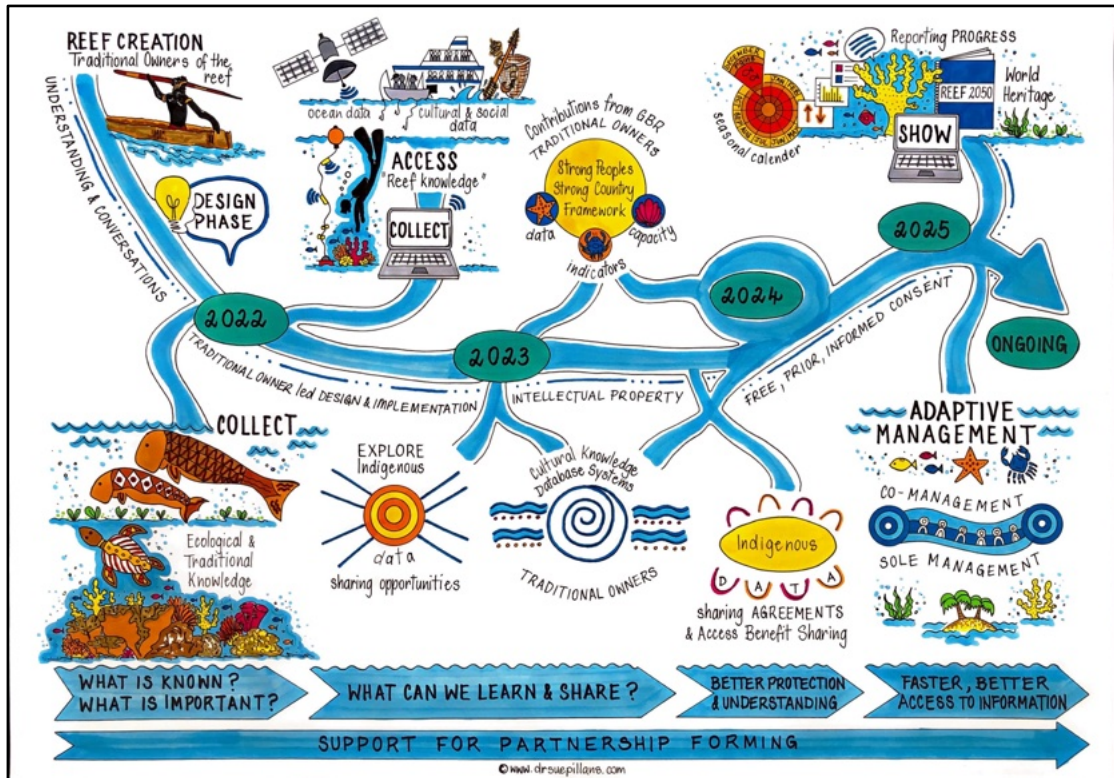


Pillans artwork (2022) Queensland Farmers Federation Queensland AgWorkforce Summit

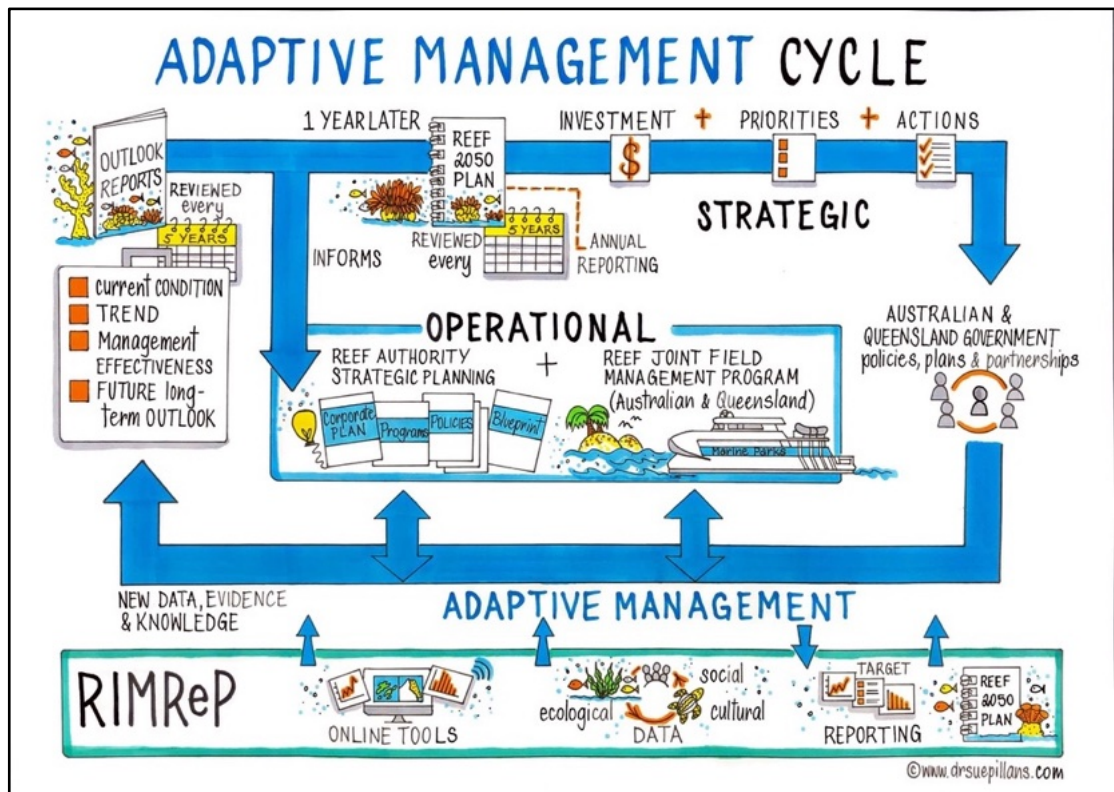


Infographics

Pillans artwork (2022) Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Reef Traditional Owners



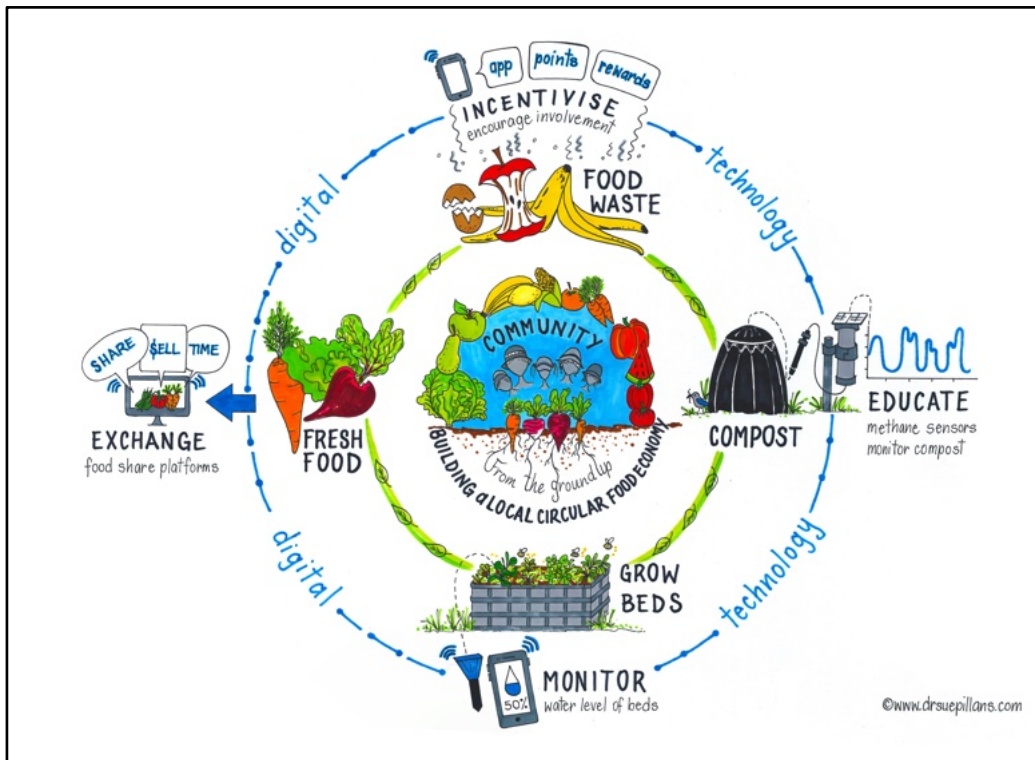
Pillans artwork (2022) Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority



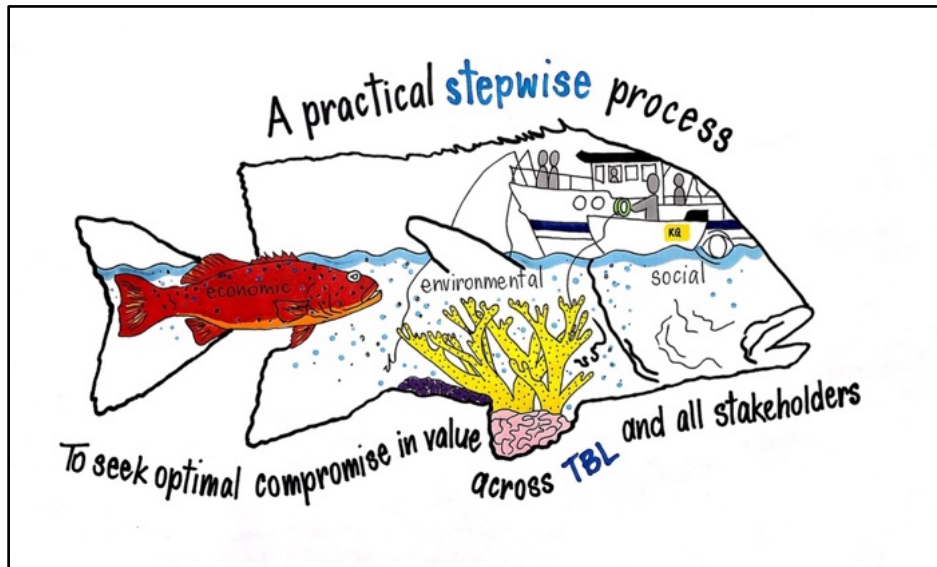
Pillans artwork (2022) Noosa Biosphere and Queensland Department of Fisheries




Pillans artwork (2022) Queensland University of Technology, Lendlease, Food Agility CRC



Pillans artwork (2020) CSIRO, Fisheries Research Development Corporation, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Queensland Government




Pillans artwork (2018) Indigenous leaders and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority



Australian Government
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Safeguarding Indigenous heritage and knowledge in the Great Barrier Reef



The Australian Government's Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (the Authority) is working to improve the management of Indigenous heritage values within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.

To support this, the Authority is strengthening partnerships with Traditional Owners, which will be formalised through *Safeguarding Indigenous Heritage and Knowledge* agreements.

The Authority recognises the long and ongoing connection Traditional Owners have with the Reef and their deep and varied knowledge. This includes valuable advice from Traditional Owners on how best to manage this information.

Safeguarding Indigenous Heritage and Knowledge agreements

The purposes of *Safeguarding Indigenous Heritage and Knowledge* agreements are to:

1. Better position Traditional Owners to participate in the management of Indigenous heritage values in partnership with the Authority.
2. Provide the Authority with the best available information about Indigenous heritage values to inform management of the Reef.
3. Inform the Reef 2050 Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Program under the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan on how data can be handled, stored and used in decision-making processes.

What are Safeguarding Indigenous Heritage and Knowledge agreements?

They are legal agreements between Traditional Owners and the Authority whereby Traditional Owners agree to share selected Indigenous knowledge with the Authority through a mutually-beneficial partnership.

Each agreement sets out the negotiated benefits and the terms and conditions about how information will be shared and stored.

Published infographics

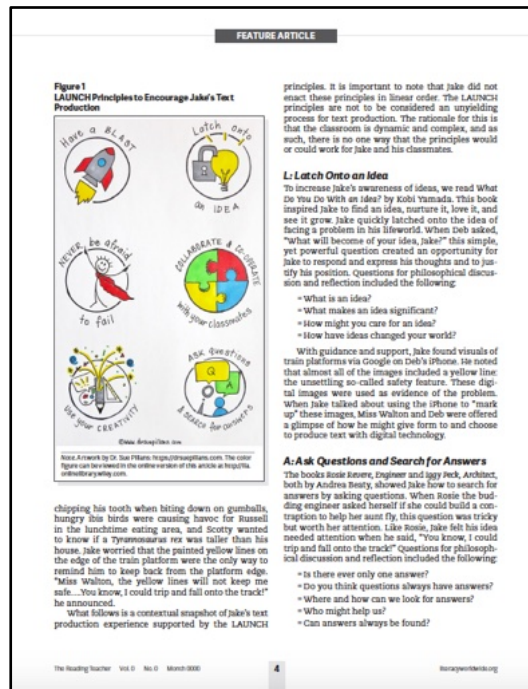
McClellan, N., vanPutten, I., Sbrocchi, C., Chin, A., Pillans, S (2020) Reducing risk in human-shark interactions in NSW: Trialing a participatory approach to understanding beachgoer behaviour. Report to the NSW Shark Management Strategy, NSW Department of Primary Industries, University of Technology, Sydney



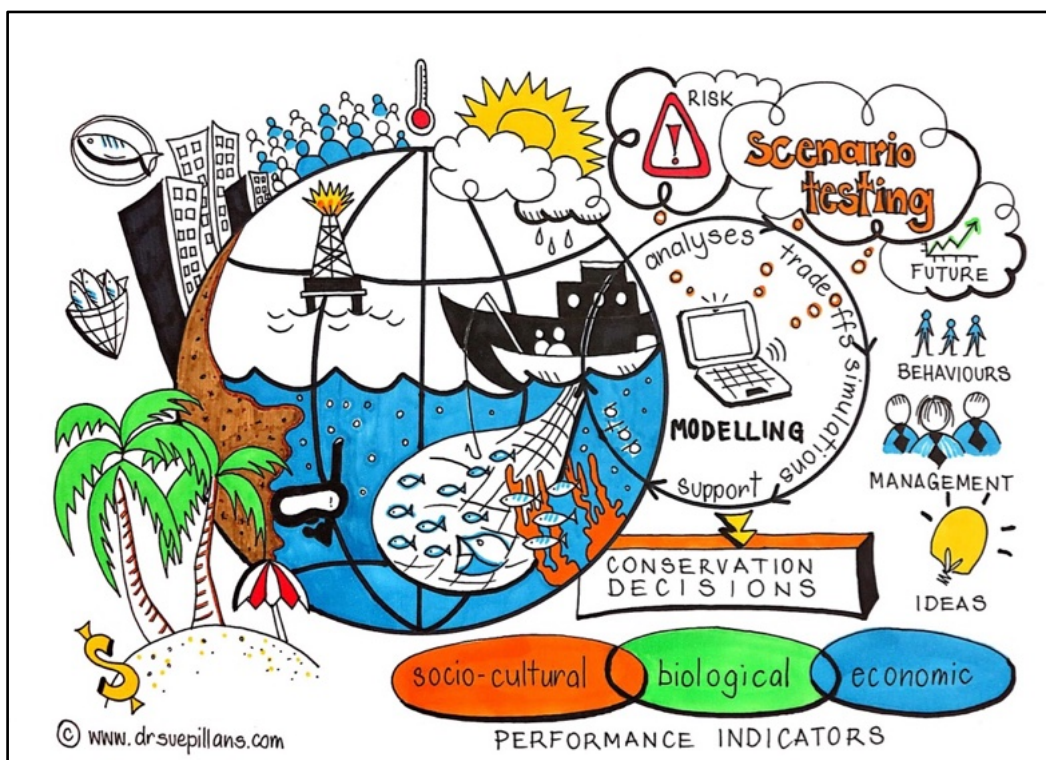
Pillans artwork (2020) Infographic published in 'Children and Innovation: A Wenner-Gren workshop', Nowell, A., Langley, MC & Riede, F, Evolutionary Anthropology, 2020 29(1): p 6-8



Pillans artwork (2019) Infographic published in 'You know, I could trip and fall onto the track!': inspiring text production', Brosseuk, D., Exley, B & Neumann, M, The Reading Teacher, pp 1-8 (for PhD Thesis)



Pillans artwork (2017) Infographic published in 'The Future of Modeling to Support Conservation Decisions in the Anthropocene Ocean', Chapter 20, Figure 20.3 in *Conservation for the Anthropocene Ocean: Interdisciplinary Science in Support of Nature and People*. Editors Levin, P.S & Poe, M.R, Elsevier Inc



Children's picture books
Written & Illustrated as Dr Suzie Starfish

Dr Suzie Starfish (2018-2024) Ocean picture book series, Little Pink Dog Books, Armidale

