

# Community Update

December, 2025



## NMSC Strategy Progress

### Looking Back on a Productive 2025

As we close out the year, we reflect on what has been a very productive and active 2025 for the NMSC community. Over the past year, the community came together to produce 21 White Papers, deliver a successful NMSC Symposium, and begin the development of the NMSC Strategy. These achievements highlight the strength of collaboration across the community and a shared commitment to advancing Australia's marine science capability.

Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, expertise, and support throughout the year. Your engagement has been critical in getting us to this point, and we look forward to building on this strong foundation in 2026.

### All 21 NMSC White Papers Now Available

We're pleased to confirm that all [21 NMSC White Papers](#) are [now available online](#). Together, they represent a significant body of collaborative work across the community and form a strong foundation for the new NMSC Decadal Strategy and the next phase of NMSC activity.

All White Papers will also be published together as part of a Taylor & Francis Special Issue in the [Journal of Maritime and Ocean Affairs](#). This will be the second Special Issue of the year (Volume 18, Issue 2), scheduled for publication in May 2026.

### NMSC Strategy launch - Coming soon.

High-level recommendations are currently being drafted, and the language of the Strategy is being harmonised by

professional writers. A first draft is expected to be completed by the end of January, after which it will be tested with a group of invited stakeholders and reviewers in early February before being circulated for endorsement by NMSC members.

Planning for the NMSC Strategy Launch is also underway. The launch is currently anticipated for late March/early April, aligned with the [updated parliamentary calendar when both Houses are sitting](#). The event will take place in Canberra at Parliament House, and save-the-date notices and invitations will be sent out in January 2026.

## NMSC Membership 2025/2026

As we head into 2026, we'd like to thank everyone who has confirmed their membership for 2025/2026 - your ongoing support is greatly appreciated. We also warmly welcome all the new organisations and programs that have joined us this year. Your involvement strengthens the NMSC community and helps advance Australia's marine science capabilities.

Below is the current list of NMSC members for 2025/2026:

**Executive Members:** IMOS, SARDI, CSIRO, FRDC, BoM, AIMS, GA, IMAS, UWA, JCU, MNF, Deakin University, SIMS

**General Members:** Murdoch University, National Sea Simulator, AMSA, UQ, DEECA, ANZIC, NOPSEMA, Reef Authority, WAMSI, MSI, Parks Australia, AAD, DCCEEW, DPIRD WA

**Affiliate Members:** IIOE-2, ABARES, The Harbour Sydney School, Australian National Maritime Museum

We look forward to working together over the coming year and continuing to build a collaborative, impactful marine science community.