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Businessmen battle for reef

BRISBANE: Three of Australia's top business leaders have joined the fight to save Queensland's Great Barrier Reef.

Suncorp chief executive John Mulcahy, Goldman Sachs managing director Keith Tuffley, and the Myer Foundation's Kerry Gardner are the most recent recruits to the board of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.

The foundation is an independent body that raises funds to support research and education to preserve and protect the Great Barrier Reef.

Foundation managing director Judy Stewart welcomed the new members yesterday.

They join chairman Dr John Schubert and executives from an array of Australian companies in raising funds to support research to counter the Big Five threats to the Reef: climate change, diminishing water quality, over-fishing, shipping and coastal development.

"Our mission is to broaden funded research and public education programs by bringing in new resources from business and philanthropy that will result in the long-term protection of the Great Barrier Reef." Mrs Stewart said.