

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Blue Crab Fishery

2021-22



Government
of South Australia
Department of Primary
Industries and Regions

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Blue Crab Fishery 2021-22

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Summary of Outcomes for 2021-22

Assessment and Research

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed /Delivered
SLA	Delivered advice note on transition from research to commercial pots	February 2022
SLA	Completed surveys for Spencer Gulf and Gulf St Vincent zones of the Blue Crab Fishery (BCF)	April 2022
SLA	Delivered Advice Note on fishery-independent survey (FIS) results	May 2022
SLA	Delivered stock assessment report	July 2022
SLA	Provided presentations on the Advice Note and fishery assessment to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and South Australian Blue Crab Pot Fishers Association (SABCPFA) representatives	June 2022
FRDC	Project continuation: Evaluation of a smart-phone application to collect recreational fishing catch estimates, including an assessment against an independent probability-based survey, using South Australia as a case study (FRDC project 2020/056)	June 2022

Policy and Management Program

	Deliverables
1.	Participated in several inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management (incl. ASFB FMC workshop – implementing catch share arrangements, BDO Econsearch workshop).
2.	Liaised within the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, with SARDI Aquatic Sciences, other parts of PIRSA and other State and Commonwealth agencies on matters relevant to fisheries management.
3.	Liaised within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions relevant to fisheries management.
4.	Conducted regular assessment or review of existing management arrangements for fisheries management, including analysis of statistical information on fisheries and interactions with threatened, endangered and protected species.
5.	Coordinated consultation with fishery stakeholders through established co-management processes. For TACC setting; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 2022 – Pre TACC presentation of FIS advice • May 2022 – TACC Meeting
6.	Participate in industry liaison in the field and on vessels to strengthen fishery management knowledge and understanding and develop rapport with licence holders and divers. – Not delivered due to Covid 19 restrictions/uncertainty
7.	Participated in industry development initiatives related to fisheries management. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitated process to continue to consider pot transition in FIS or other agreed processes to refine harvest strategy or management plan • Continued to address the SABCPFA proposal for BCF boundary change.
8.	Attended to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the BCF.
9.	Provided advice to the Executive Director in relation to the management of fisheries or PIRSA correspondence.
10.	Communicated on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.

Legislation Program

	Deliverables
1.	Co-ordinated the introduction, amendment or revocation of fisheries legislation in line with fisheries management/policy decisions i.e., Act or regulation amendments, the introduction of new regulations and drafting of other legislative and administrative instruments such as delegation, ministerial permit or exemption instruments as required under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 2007</i> (the Act). New variation regulations or amendments required the drafting of Cabinet submissions and supporting documentation, including the preparation of drafting instructions, for consideration by Cabinet. This service included co-ordinating the Cabinet process involving liaison with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel and the Crown Solicitor's Office and inter agency consultation to ensure that proposed regulatory arrangements are accurately described, drafted and scrutinised before being implemented. Input into fees amendment submissions, settling of notices, supporting briefings, minutes and parliamentary reports.
2.	Input into policy documentation and arrangements and responses to industry correspondence, as necessary.
3.	Coordinated applications for Ministerial exemptions under Part 10 and Permits under Part 7 of the Act.
4.	Provided additional legal services to support, on an as needs basis, the lawful decision-making of the Executive Director Fisheries and Aquaculture and the Director Operations and other delegates of the Minister under the Act to safeguard the ongoing sustainability of the fishery in any particular year (where required).

Leasing and Licensing Program

	Deliverables
1.	<p>Issued annual fee invoicing packs for all licences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported licence and quota unit information for cost recovery to assist in calculating new financial year annual fees • Entered new rates into the Primary Industries Information Management System (PIIMS) • Prepared Notice to Fishers for annual fee invoicing pack • Generated and audited invoices to ensure correct annual fee amount was raised • Issued and posted invoices each quarter • Generated 12 monthly debtor's reports to reconcile annual fee payments.
2.	<p>Set up of the new Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) into PIIMS for the new quota season:</p> <p>Printed and posted updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all licence holders.</p>
3.	<p>Generated 7 final quota balance statements and posted to all licence holders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applied under catch adjustments • Issued new entitlement certificates and posted out
4.	<p>Data entry of 669 CDRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data entry check of each CDR entered. <p>Manual filing and archiving of all 669 CDR documents.</p>
5.	Issuing of 14 CDR books into PIIMS and packing and posting to licence holders.
6.	Generated 12 monthly quota status reports for industry on catch status and CDRs received.
7.	<p>System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update:</p> <p>335 quota balance statements requested via the online system.</p>
8.	Regularly provided copies of CDR documentation to compliance for quota audit checks.
9.	Processed licensing and quota applications and liaised with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as required.

10.	Provided reports to PIRSA Fisheries Management as required to assist with fishery management decisions.
11.	Provided support via phone or email to any requests from licence holders.
12.	Regular filing and archiving of licensing and quota documentation.

Directorate Program

	Deliverables
1.	Reconciled and prepared financial documentation to ensure accuracy.
2.	Worked with SARDI to prepare project scopes before and after cost recovery meetings with industry.
3.	Developed and prepared draft cost recovery implementation statements and annual report for industry.
4.	Liaised with industry executive officer regarding the cost recovery implementation statements prior to finalisation
5.	Followed up action items from cost recovery meetings, responding to cost recovery related correspondence.
6.	Published cost recovery documentation and reports on PIRSA's web site.
7.	Prepared a Cabinet submission and relevant documentation for the Minister to be briefed on the cost recovery process. Liaised with Parliamentary Council to prepare fee regulations for commercial licence fees.
8.	Ongoing review of PIRSA's cost recovery policy, costing models and processes to achieve continuous improvement and transparency.

Compliance Program

	Deliverables
	<p>The coordination of compliance outputs is guided by a fishery specific compliance plan which was initially developed in consultation with the Blue Crab Fishery and is reviewed annually.</p> <p>The plan ensures compliance effort is intelligence driven, efficient, cost effective and outcome focused. The plan comprises three core outputs (Education and Awareness, Effective Deterrence and Enforcement) and is optimised towards increasing voluntary compliance and maximising effective deterrence.</p> <p>Analysis of intelligence and information holdings is regularly conducted to identify the major Compliance risks to the sustainability of the Fishery. The combination of strategies, actions, and initiatives are critical to focus the primary compliance effort to manage the risks and achieve targeted outcomes.</p> <p>The Blue Crab Fishery Compliance Reports are produced and forwarded to the Executive Officer, BCPFA.</p>