

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery

2021-22

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Information current as of 30 June 2022

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Summary of Outcomes for 2021-22

Assessment and Research

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed /Delivered
SLA	Delivered end-of-season (2020/21) SZ presentations to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and the RLFMAC	July 2021
SLA	Delivered Status report for SZ (2020/21 season)	October 2021
SLA	Completed SZ September FIMS	October 2021
SLA	Delivered SZ September Fishing Advice Note	October 2021
SLA	Delivered SZ September FIMS Advice Note	November 2021
SLA	Completed SZ January FIMS	January 2022
SLA	Delivered SZ January FIMS Advice Note	March 2022
SLA	Delivered Stock Assessment report for Southern Zone (2020/21 season)	July 2022
PIRSA	Supported finalisation and implementation of the NZRLF Harvest Strategy and Management Plan	December 2021
FRDC	Project continuation: Improving Southern Rock Lobster on-vessel handling practices, data collection and industry tools for lobster quality assessment (FRDC project 2019/028)	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
FRDC	Project completion: Assessing the efficiency of alternative pot designs for the Southern Rock Lobster (<i>Jasus edwardsii</i>) Fishery (FRDC project 2016/258).	Revised completion date is April 2023

Policy and Management Program

	Deliverables
1.	<p>Participated in inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management.</p> <p>Coordinated frequent and regular meetings across the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division to progress all key elements of research and management including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper • RLFMAC and RSC Meetings • Carry-over of uncaught quota entitlements • Changes to duration of the fishing season
2.	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated frequent and regular meetings across the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division and SARDI to progress the carryover of quota entitlements and the setting of the TACC. • Participated in the Southern Rock Lobster Research Development Committee (the body prioritising rock lobster research across southern Australia). • Participated in meetings and maintained regular contact with the Executive Officer of Southern Rock Lobster Limited and SEPFA in regard to a range of issues, including the disruption to the export markets and associated market access challenges
3.	<p>Liaised within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions relevant to fisheries management. Provided a wide range of information relevant to the management of the Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery (SZRLF), this work included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-season port meetings (7 & 8 September 2021) in Robe, Southend, Carpenters Rocks and Port Macdonnell. • A meeting to consult with Rock Lobster Fishery Management Advisory Committee (RLFMAC) members on the draft PIRSA carry-over and over-catch policy. • Attended two RLFMAC and two Research Subcommittee meetings (July 2021 and February 2022). • Invited EO SEPFA to presentation on implementation of the Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper
4.	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalised Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper and commenced seeking necessary legislative amendments to implement the arrangements • Reviewed the SARDI 2019/20 Southern Rock Lobster Stock Assessment report • Reviewed the SARDI 2020/21 Southern Rock Lobster Stock Status report

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed the 2020/21 'Economic Indicators Report for Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery. Reviewed report on annual TEPS interaction reports across all commercial fisheries Provided annual report as required under the Rock Lobster export approval under the EPBC Act
5.	<p>Coordinated consultation with fishery stakeholders through established co-management processes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expert fisheries management advice at RLFMAC meetings and Research Subcommittee (July 2021 and February 2022). Discussions on setting the TACC, carry-over arrangements, early start to 2021/22 fishing season, access to Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) species and PIRSA carry-over and over-catch policy at port meetings. Presentation on implementation of the Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper
6.	<p>Participated in industry liaison in the field to strengthen fishery management knowledge and understanding and develop rapport with licence holders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated and held discussions at pre-season port meetings. Held mid-season port meetings, which included detailed discussions with licence holders in the meetings.
7.	<p>In order to alleviate the impact of the disruption to the Chinese market PIRSA has worked with industry to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement regulations to permit the 2021/22 season to commence the 2021/22 season early on 15 September 2021 and extend the season to 30 June 2022. Carried over uncaught quota entitlements from 2020/21 to 2021/22. Developed and sought arrangements to implement the Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper. Sought amended regulations to allow fishers market flexibility including selling product directly to the public. Amendments to the management arrangements above included the development of updated government gazette notices, notices to fishers and associated correspondence.
8.	<p>Attended to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to fisheries.</p> <p>PIRSA has responded to correspondence from licence holders, the RLFMAC, and the South East Professional Fishermen's Industry Association (SEPFA).</p> <p>Responses to the RLFMAC have included setting the TACC, the carry-over of quota entitlements, extension of quota periods and market access.</p>
9.	<p>Provided advice to the Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence.</p> <p>PIRSA has provided advice to the Minister in relation to the setting of the TACC, the carry-over of quota entitlements, the extension of quota periods, South East Snapper arrangements</p>
10.	<p>Communicated on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated licence holders who have access to the MSF, including regular updates on the remaining Snapper TACC in the South East. • Input into update of the SZRLF Operator User Guide • Liaised with the Minister's Recreational Fishery Management Advisory Committee in regard to changes to period of the fishing season in 2021/22. • Provided Notice to Fishers in regard to TACC setting, Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper, change of duration of fishing seasons, carry-over of quota entitlements and market access.
11.	<p>Supported required process for seeking legislation amendments to amend the commencement of the 2021/22 quota period</p> <p>Commenced process to seek amendments to implement the PIRSA Undercatch/Overcatch Policy Paper</p>

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); reviewed and coordinated crown input into co-management contract.

Leasing and Licensing Program

	Deliverables
1.	<p>Issued annual fee invoicing packs for 180 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 invoices and SMS reminders 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 180 updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all licence holders.</p>
3.	<p>Generated final quota balance statements and posted to all 180 licence holders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculated any quota adjustments required to be entered into PIIMS. <p>Generated and posted updated registration and entitlements certificates.</p>
4.	<p>Monitored payment plans for licence holders that requested alternate payment arrangements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of an individual payment plans <p>Liaised with Shared Services SA to allocate payments against invoices.</p>
5.	Monitoring of 10,354 electronic CDR entries through eCatch and PIIMS.
6.	Issuing of bin tags in PIIMS to licence holders on 195 occasions requiring packaging for posting.
7.	Generated 12 monthly quota status reports for industry on catch status and CDRs received.
8.	<p>System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update:</p> <p>4695 quota balance statements requested via the online system</p>
9.	Processed 209 applications which included liaising with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as below:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 vary boat applications • 9 licence transfer application • 14 vary master applications • 113 quota transfer applications • 13 third party interest applications
10.	Generated reports on licensing information for compliance or fishery management purposes as requested.
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 of FRDC contribution.
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 reports for industry.
4.	Coordinated cost recovery meetings with industry to discuss cost recovery programs for the following financial year, including agenda preparation, drafting of minutes and liaising with industry executive officer to finalise minutes and cost recovery implementation statement.
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.
9.	Coordinated co-management services request for the South Eastern Professional Fishermen's Association and prepared standard goods and services agreement for execution.

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 Southern Zone Rock Lobster 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 Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Compliance Reports are produced and forwarded to the Executive Officer, South Eastern Professional Fishermen's Association.</p>

