



# Chair Report Cost Recovery Implementation Committee (CRIC)

18 December 2025

Dear Stakeholders,

On 12 December 2025, the **Cost Recovery Implementation Committee (CRIC)** held its twelfth meeting to review the draft reports on the Fisheries Compliance and Science Benchmarking along with a discussion on the findings and recommendations from the Aquaculture Compliance and Science benchmarking.

## **Fisheries Science and Compliance**

The Committee reviewed the final draft reports for the Fisheries Science and Compliance benchmarking. CRIC Members noted the high quality and thoroughness of both reports, which detail key recommendations for operational improvements and cost recovery processes. The Committee agreed to provide consolidated feedback and endorsement, with the intention to submit the endorsed reports to the Minister for consideration as part of the ongoing cost recovery review.

## **Aquaculture Science and Compliance**

The Committee discussed the forthcoming Aquaculture benchmarking report, acknowledging its complexity and the potential for significant recommendations, especially regarding cost recovery and management costs.

Once the final report is received, it will be circulated for Committee review, to be coordinated with the overarching summary report. The Committee emphasised the need for careful consideration and collaboration to address sector-specific challenges and ensure alignment with government and industry priorities.

## **Annual Performance Report for SA Seafood Industry**

The group discussed the approach to the Annual Performance Report, agreeing to defer the traditional detailed report for the current year and instead produce a more concise, outcome-focused summary that aligns with the new consolidated Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS) document.

This new format will capture key issues, challenges, and deliverables across sectors, with the intention to include a summary of significant events from 2025-26 and 2024-2025 for historical continuity. The group supported this streamlined approach, provided that essential activities and outcomes are still recorded for future reference.

## Next Steps

The CRIC has agreed on the following **key actions** to move forward:

1. CRIC members to review and provide consolidated feedback on Compliance and Science reports by Thursday next week.
2. Ian Dutton to deliver final Aquaculture report to Ian Cartwright and Keith Sainsbury by Tuesday 16/12/2025 with the CRIC to review upon receipt.
3. All reports to be submitted to the Minister prior to the commencement of the caretaker period, if feasible. Ian and Keith will finalize the overarching report by the end of January, incorporating feedback from the CRIC.
4. PIRSA to prepare a consolidated, outcome driven performance report which includes key events from 2024-2025.

The twelfth CRIC meeting highlighted the progress and challenges in finalizing and endorsing the benchmarking reports, emphasizing the importance of timely review, sector-specific considerations, and coordinated communication with government and industry stakeholders.

The next steps are for CRIC members to review and endorse the fisheries science and compliance reports, provide comments on the aquaculture report once received, and consolidate feedback to finalize all reports for submission to the Minister.

The next CRIC meeting is scheduled for **January 2026**, and monthly meetings with the benchmarking consultants will continue.

For more information relating to the Independent Cost Recovery Review and the latest from the CRIC, including the Committee's terms of reference, please visit the [PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture independent cost recovery review webpage](#).

Sincerely,

Mr Brian Jeffriess

*CRIC Independent Chair*