



Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Western Zone Abalone Fishery

2020-21

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Summary of Outcomes for 2020-21

Assessment and Research

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed /Delivered
SLA	Delivered stock assessment report for Greenlip (GL) and stock status report for Blacklip (BL) delivered, including application of the new WZ harvest strategy.	October 2020
SLA	Delivered stock assessment presentations, including year-to-date data, to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, AIASA Executive Committee and Industry.	November 2020
SLA	Surveys for BL at Drummond (May 2021), Avoid Bay (May 2021) and Point Westall (June 2021) completed. Surveys for BL at Sheringa and Anxious Bay not completed. Expected to be achieved by December 2021. Delay reflects temporary suspension to diving activities for procedure review following diver fatality in the SE.	June 2021
PIRSA	Analysed the WZAF FIS Blacklip & Greenlip programs and held workshop with industry	October 2020
PIRSA	Assisted with review/finalisation of Abalone Management Plan including Harvest strategy	June 2021
PIRSA	Provided scientific advice to support the development of industry initiatives	June 2021
FRDC	Updated chapter for Status of Australian Fish Stocks 2020	April 2021
FRDC	Commenced project: The impact and implication of <i>Perkinsus olensi</i> on Australian abalone fisheries (FRDC project 2020/004)	January 2021
FRDC	Submitted project application: Restocking/stock enhancement risk assessment to inform policy	May 2021

Policy and Management Program

	Deliverables
1.	Attended the two-day SARDI research workshop on Abalone enhancement genetics risk assessment method.
2.	<p>Liaised within the PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, with SARDI, other parts of PIRSA and other State and Commonwealth agencies on matters relevant to fisheries management including the following key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost recovery including attending cost recovery scoping meeting, cost recovery discussion meeting and presenting annual report at industry meeting • PIRSA Draft Carry-over quota Policy • Monitoring of AVG outbreak in Victoria including attending more than ten PIRSA/SARDI/Biosecurity SA Meetings to monitor outbreak and provide policy information to SA response
3.	<p>Liaised within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions and answering queries relevant to abalone fisheries management.</p> <p>Attended four other meetings with AIASA with SARDI to discuss stock assessment, FIS surveys, Ecatch and other matters.</p>
4.	<p>Progressed the review of the <i>Management Plan for the South Australian Commercial Abalone fisheries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated, facilitated and reported on final Harvest Strategy Review Working Group meeting • Finalised review of current management plan • Coordinated and supported public consultation phase of draft management plan • Coordinated recommendation of replacement management plan by Harvest Strategy Review Working Group
5.	<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 as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stobart, B., Mayfield, S. and Heldt, K. (2020). Western Zone Greenlip Abalone (<i>Haliotis laevis</i>) and Blacklip Abalone (<i>H. rubra</i>) Fisheries in 2019/20. • Reviewed the 'Economic Indicators for South Australian Abalone Fishery 2019/20 report and provided comment back to BDO EconSearch.
6.	<p>Prepared background information and developed recommendations for the Minister's consideration with licence holders through established co-management processes by coordinated, facilitated and reported on the regional</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WZAF Pre-TACC • WZAF TACC meetings.
7.	Supported PIRSA, SARDI and industry meetings, related to research project for stock enhancement including:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attending six AIASA, PIRSA, SARDI meetings on project • Supporting and commenting on project proposal development and finalisation
8.	Participated in ongoing industry liaison to strengthen fishery management knowledge and understanding, and develop rapport with licence holders and divers.
9.	Attended to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the WZAF.
10.	Provided advice to Minister in relation to the management of WZAF and Ministerial correspondence.
11.	Communicated on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.
12.	<p>Supported regulation amendment to allow for carryover of uncaught 2019/20 quota to next three fishing seasons and implemented those arrangement on individual licences.</p> <p>Coordinated Ministerial exemption to facilitate continuation of Roei commercial harvest.</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.

Leasing and Licensing Program

	Deliverables
1.	<p>Issued annual fee invoicing packs for 22 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 <p>Generated 12 monthly debtor's reports to reconcile annual fee payments.</p>
2.	<p>Set up of the new Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) into PIIMS for the new quota season.</p> <p>Printed and posted 22 updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all licence holders.</p>
3.	<p>Generated final quota balance statements and posted to all 22 licence holders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calculated any quota adjustments required to be entered into PIIMS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 27 entitlement over-catch adjustment made. ○ 17 entitlement under-catch adjustments made. <p>Generated and posted updated registration and entitlements certificate.</p>
4.	<p>Data entry of 890 CDRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data entry check of each CDR entered. <p>Manual filing and archiving of all 890 CDR documents.</p>
5.	Manual recording of 14 Roei catches into separate spreadsheet.
6.	Manual recording and separate approvals for each of the 24 catches with Perkinsus.
7.	Manual monitoring of 8 Drummond SAU catch CDRs.
8.	<p>Issuing of bin tags in PIIMS to licence holders on 37 occasions.</p> <p>Adjustment in PIIMS for lost/damaged bin tags on 5 occasions.</p>
9.	Issuing of 15 CDR books into PIIMS and packing and posting to licence holders.

10.	Generated 12 monthly quota status reports for industry on catch status and CDRs received.
11.	System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update: 294 quota balance statements requested via the online system.
12.	Regularly provided copies of CDR documentation to compliance for quota audit checks.
13.	Processed applications which included liaising with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 vary boat applications • 6 vary master applications • 14 quota transfer applications
14.	Provided reports to fisheries management as required regarding meat weight and quota integrity issues raised by industry and as required to assist with fishery management decisions.
15.	Provided support via phone or email to any requests from licence holders.
16.	Regular filing and archiving of licensing and quota documentation.

Directorate Program

	Deliverables
1.	Reconciled and prepared financial documentation to ensure accuracy of FRDC contribution from WZAF.
2.	Worked with SARDI to prepare project scopes before and after cost recovery meetings with industry.
3.	Developed and prepared 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.	Prepared and coordinated tender documentation to contract successful applicant for - for the delivery of Economic Analysis of fisheries and aquaculture activities within SA for 2021-24. Prepared standard goods and services agreements to engage contractors/or independent scientist as required for meetings etc.
6.	Followed up action items from cost recovery meetings, responding to cost recovery related correspondence.
7.	Published cost recovery documentation and reports on PIRSA's web site.
8.	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.
9.	Ongoing review of PIRSA's cost recovery policy, costing models and processes to achieve continuous improvement and transparency.

Compliance Program

Deliverables

The coordination of compliance outputs is guided by a fishery specific compliance plan which was initially developed in consultation with the Western Zone Abalone Fishery and is reviewed annually.

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.

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.

The Western Zone Abalone Fishery Compliance Reports are produced annually and forwarded to the Executive Officer, Abalone Industry Association of SA.



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