

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery

2022-23



**Government
of South Australia**

Department of Primary
Industries and Regions

Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery 2022-23

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Summary of Outcomes for 2022-23

Assessment and Research

Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed /Delivered
This SLA	Advice Note: Stock status	August 2022
This SLA	November Fishery-independent survey and bycatch data collection completed	October 2022
This SLA	March Fishery-independent survey (including length-frequency) and bycatch data collection completed	August 2022
This SLA	SGPF Stock Assessment report delivered	August 2023
This SLA	April Fishery-independent survey completed	April 2023
This SLA	Provision of aggregated data to the Executive Officer, SGWCPA	June 2023
PIRSA	Support SGPF MSC annual reviews and audit	Not completed; MSC process delayed to late 2023
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; Principal Investigator: Dr Crystal Beckmann).	June 2023
FRDC	Project continuation: Nature and extent of the ecological assets conserved by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery to mitigate their ecological footprint' (FRDC Project 2020/002; Principal Investigator: Dr Gretchen Grammer).	June 2023
FRDC	Project EOI/Proposal: Post-capture survivability of Sygnathids to trawl fishing. (Note: this is a proposal, not a funded program)	Not completed; industry advised no longer a priority
FRDC	Project EOI/Proposal: A cost-efficient stock assessment program to determine status and set quota for Southern Calamari fisheries. (Note: this is a proposal, not a funded program).	June 2023

West Coast Prawn Fishery

Funding Source	Deliverable	Date Completed /Delivered
This SLA	Annual Advice Note reporting on performance indicators	October 2022
This SLA	March Fishery-independent survey completed	March 2023
This SLA	June Fishery-independent survey completed	June 2023
This SLA	Provision of aggregated data to the Executive Officer, SGWCPA	June 2023
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; Principal Investigator: Dr Crystal Beckmann).	June 2023
FRDC	Project continuation: Nature and extent of the ecological assets conserved by the Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery to mitigate their ecological footprint' (FRDC Project 2020/002; Principal Investigator: Dr Gretchen Grammer).	June 2023
FRDC	Project EOI/Proposal: Post-capture survivability of Sygnathids to trawl fishing. (Note: this is a proposal, not a funded program)	Not completed; industry advised no longer a priority

Fisheries Management Program

Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery

	Deliverables
1.	Participated in several inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management (BDO Econsearch; SARDI).
2.	<p>Liaised within the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, with SARDI Aquatic Sciences and other parts of PIRSA on the application, development and implementation of decisions relevant to fisheries management.</p> <p>Reviewed SARDI Advice Notes (SGPF Bycatch Monitoring).</p> <p>Reviewed annual SARDI Stock Status Report for the fishery prior to release for publication.</p> <p>Reviewed report on annual TEPS interaction reports across all commercial fisheries.</p> <p>Provided annual report as required under the Prawn Fishery EPBC Act export approval requirements.</p> <p>Reviewed the 2021/22 BDO Econsearch Report and Dashboard for the fishery prior to release for publication.</p> <p>Reviewed and gazetted notices for fishing run and survey notices made under regulation 10 of the <i>Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries) Regulations 2017</i> prepared and signed by the delegates of the SGWCPA.</p> <p>Implemented arrangements to provide for Spencer Gulf Prawn Innovation Month.</p> <p>Reviewed and completed declarations associated with export of Spencer Gulf Prawns to the EU.</p>
3.	<p>Liaised with the Executive Officer of the SGWCPA and licence holders in the fishery on the application, development and implementation of decisions relevant to fisheries management.</p> <p>Reviewed fishing strategies and notices.</p> <p>Reviewed and developed notices to provide for Spencer Gulf Prawn Innovation Month gear trial</p>
4.	Reviewed SARDI advice note reporting on key performance indicators and stock status in the fishery and provided to industry.
5.	<p>Supported the Executive Officer and Coordinator at Sea positions within the SGWCPA to develop and implement notices under Regulation 10 of the <i>Fisheries Management (Prawn Fisheries) Regulations 2017</i> to set fishing runs and surveys.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 x Fishing runs, including gazette notice • 2 x Fisheries Independent surveys, including gazette notice

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management Committee at Sea – Development of fishing strategies
6.	<p>Participated in the SGWCPA Management Committee and Research Sub-Committee meetings, providing accurate and effective information to assist these parties in the development of fisheries management advice to the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 November 2022 – Management Committee meeting 28 November 2022 – Management Committee meeting 2 December 2022 – Management Committee meeting 14 December 2022 – Research Sub-Committee <p>In March 2023 the SGWCPA transitioned to greater co-management under which the Fisheries Manager doesn't attend management committee meetings</p>
7.	<p>Bycatch monitoring program for the fishery progressed in collaboration with the SGWCPA Executive Officer and SARDI with delivery of Advice Note on this matter – reviewed notices.</p>
8.	<p>Attended to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the SGPF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepared Notice to Fishers, Letter to EO – implementation of Spencer Gulf Innovation Month Notification to SGWCPA correspondence regarding Southern Calamari reference trigger breach – update on review status <p>Maintained regular communication and strong working relationships with the Executive Officer of the SGWCPA.</p>
9.	<p>Provided advice to Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Calamari reference trigger breach – update on status of assessment Spencer Gulf Prawn Innovation Month <p>Coordinated the delivery of research to align with the application of management of the fishery.</p>
10.	<p>Communicate on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.</p>

West Coast Prawn Fishery

	Deliverables
1.	Participated in several inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management (BDO Econsearch).
2.	<p>Liaised within the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division, with SARDI Aquatic Sciences and other parts of PIRSA on the application, development and implementation of decisions relevant to fisheries management.</p> <p>Reviewed stock status, and implemented management action to close the fishery due to depleted status.</p> <p>Liaised with Business Service, Fisheries Compliance, and SARDI on services that weren't delivered to pass on as savings in 23/24 fees in recognition of the impact of closing the fishery.</p>
3.	<p>Liaised with the Executive Officer of the Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishermen's Association (SGWCPA) and licence holders in the fishery on the application, development and implementation of decisions relevant to fisheries management.</p> <p>Provided written correspondence advising of closure.</p>
4.	<p>Delivered SARDI advice note reporting on key performance indicators in the fishery October 2022.</p> <p>Reviewed additional advice note on impact of shift in fishing between inner and other areas and presence of leatherjackets.</p>
5.	<p>Participated in the SGWCPA Management Committee and Research Sub-Committee meetings, providing accurate and effective information to assist these parties in the development of fisheries management advice to the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture</p> <p>Setting of management arrangements for the fishery, through consultation with the SGWCPA Executive Officer and licence holders in the fishery.</p> <p>Implemented a Regulation 10 notice to close the fishery – varied the notice to provide for surveys and limited fishing in accordance with the harvest strategy</p>
6.	<p>Attended to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to the WCPF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed, Gazetted and distributed Fishing Run and survey notices Prepared Notice to Fishers, Letter to EO – closure of fishery Responded to SGWCPA correspondence regarding management arrangements and management issues.
7.	<p>Provided advice to Minister in relation to the management of fisheries and Ministerial correspondence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closure of WCPF in October 2022 Retaining of closure in March 2023

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fee relief following closure
	<p>Provided advice to the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture on the management of the Fishery including closure of fishery in October 2023, retaining of closure in March 2023, and allowing a fishing run following the June 2023 survey.</p>
8.	<p>Communicated on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community.</p>
9.	<p>Consider request from SGWCPA regarding amendments to the Management Policy and Harvest Strategy for the WCPF – noted the undertaking of an independent review of the harvest strategy. To be considered over the following year.</p>

Legal Services Program

Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery

	Deliverables
1.	Co-ordinated and reviewed the introduction, amendment or revocation of Fisheries legislation in line with Fisheries Policy decisions i.e. Act or regulation amendments, the introduction of new regulations and drafting of other legislative and administrative instruments such as delegations, licences, permits, closures or exemption instruments as required under the <i>Fisheries Management Act 2007</i> (the Act). New regulations or amendments that required drafting of Cabinet submissions and supporting documentation, including the preparation of drafting instructions, for consideration by Cabinet. This service included co-ordinating and reviewing of the cabinet process and working with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel and the Crown Solicitor's Office and other government agencies to ensure that proposed regulatory arrangements were accurately described, drafted and scrutinised before being implemented.
2.	Reviewed licensing arrangements required on an as needs basis to lawfully implement approved fishery management policy and measures within the limitations of the Act. The services included working with the Licensing program (part of Leasing and Licensing) and policy program to ensure licence conditions were effective and where necessary to implement efficient administrative systems and finalised forms and instruments that were legally sound.
3.	Problem solved and reviewed policy developments together with the provision and co-ordination of legal advisory services in liaison with the Crown Solicitor's office relating to the lawful implementation and administration of the Act, regulations and fisheries management policies, interaction with other Acts, and the defence of those policies and arrangements raised in litigation or industry correspondence.
4.	Coordinated applications for Ministerial exemptions under Part 10 Division 1 and Permits under Part 7 Division 2 of the Act and reviewed draft notices.
5.	Additional legal services to support and review, on an as needs basis, the legislative compliance of decision-making documentation created for 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 a fishery in any particular year (where required), depending on positive or negative scientific indicators, implemented new fisheries management arrangements (for example the introduction or variation of a quota system, carry over of quota arrangements) or new administrative or compliance arrangements (for example, changes to licensing processes, conditions, introduction of closures).
6.	Supported compliance with statutory interpretation, problem solving and correspondence advice (per above).

Leasing and Licensing Program

Spencer Gulf and West Coast Prawn Fishery

	Deliverables
	Services to directly support the fishery
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issued and maintained fishery licences. Issued annual fee invoicing packs to 42 licences. Regular filing and archiving of licensing and quota documentation.
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New licence applications were administered and assessed prior to date of expiry for the West Coast Prawn Fishery.
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Database management for licence and licence holder information. Entered new rates into the Primary Industries Information Management System (PIIMS). System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update.
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collected licence fees and associated payments. Reported licence information for cost recovery to assist in calculating new financial year annual fees. Issued invoices and SMS reminders each quarter.
5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composed and sent quarterly instalment notices.
6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recorded and tracked unpaid invoices. Generated and audited invoices to ensure correct annual fee amount was raised.
7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Composed and send late payment instalment notices for unpaid quarterly instalments. Generated 12 monthly debtor's reports to reconcile annual fee payments.
8.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drafted and issued Notices to Fishers. Prepared Notice to Fishers for annual fee invoicing pack.
9.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Processed requests for information from fishers who make such inquiries over the counter, through the call centre, via facsimile or e-mail. For example, helping fishers to process information relevant to licensing, application for licence transfers, boat changes, gear enquiries and fishing regulations.
10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regularly updated information about licence holders.
11.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and prepare documents for public record.
12.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaised with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers. Processed applications which included liaising with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as below:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 3 licence transfer applications ➤ 4 vary master applications ➤ 1 change of details application
13.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaised with PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, SARDI Aquatic Sciences, Crown Solicitors and other state and local agencies on matters relevant to the fishery. • Generated reports on licensing information for compliance or fishery management purposes as requested.
14.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafted and updated licence conditions over the duration of the licensing year as determined by the Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture.
15.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided information to licence holders relating to the requirements pursuant to licence administration. • Provided support via phone or email to any requests from licence holders.
16.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed calls from fishers regarding late payment notices, fees and general enquiries about their licences.
17.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided support regarding last minute administrative enquiries from fishers. e.g. master changes, boat variations, as well as provide advice and support to fishers on licence information, to complete the required forms.
18.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigated and implemented electronic reporting into fishery and assisted in the associated troubleshooting between industry, Fisheries and Aquaculture Compliance, Real Time Data, Oracle CMS, PIRSA ICT and SARDI.

	Services to support fisheries management
1.	Participated in inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to the fishing industry.
2.	Liaised with relevant staff within PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture in implementing decisions relevant to the fishery as required.
3.	Interrogated the PIIMS database to extract information for other stakeholders to use in preparing reports.
4.	Prepared reports requested by internal and external customers including maintenance of a public register of licence holders.
5.	Liaised with information technology providers to maintain PIIMS and administer licensing requests.

Directorate Program

	Deliverables
1.	Coordinated and facilitated cost recovery processes and program agreements, including liaising with program providers, managers and financial services as required.
2.	Met with industry on matters relating to cost recovery, licence setting and related policy issues.
3.	Develop and reviewed cost recovery policy, processes and program agreements.
4.	Managed major service providers' contractual agreements, and co-management services contractual agreements with industry associations.
5.	Project managed and administered external contractual services and agreements – including liaising with PIRSA Accredited Purchasing Unit, preparing acquisition plans and selecting evaluation criteria, managing tender processes, drafting purchase recommendations and liaising with the Crown Solicitor's office to develop contractual agreements.
6.	Provided advice on procurement and invoicing requirements.
7.	Consulted with the Chief Executive, Executive Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture, Director Operations, PIRSA fisheries managers, and the Office of the Minister and other parties as needed.
8.	Ongoing review, development and documentation of the cost recovery model, framework, processes and roles.
9.	Met agreed timeframes on management and administration of external contractual services.
10.	Appropriate management of industry funds and services.
11.	Provided an Annual Report on PIRSA's service delivery on the cost recovery agreement to the Executive Officer.
12.	Provided administrative support to the Independent Cost Recovery Review Panel, e.g. mail outs to all licence/lease holders, meeting coordination, travel bookings and other adhoc administration support during the review.

Compliance Program

Deliverables

The coordination of compliance outputs is guided by a fishery specific compliance plan which was initially developed in consultation with the Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn 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 Spencer Gulf & West Coast Prawn Fishery Compliance Report is produced and forwarded to the Executive Officer, SG&WCPF.