



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

2020-21

# Annual Report on PIRSA's Service Delivery on the Cost Recovery Agreement for the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery 2020-21

Information current as of 30 June 2021

© Government of South Australia 2021

## Disclaimer

PIRSA and its employees do not warrant or make any representation regarding the use, or results of the use, of the information contained herein as regards to its correctness, accuracy, reliability and currency or otherwise. PIRSA and its employees expressly disclaim all liability or responsibility to any person using the information or advice.

## All Enquiries

A/Business Manager, Fisheries and Aquaculture  
Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA)  
2 Hamra Avenue, West Beach SA  
GPO Box 1625, Adelaide SA 5001  
T 08 8207 5333  
E [natasha.read@sa.gov.au](mailto:natasha.read@sa.gov.au)

# Contents

Summary of Outcomes for 2020-21 .....4

Assessment and Research .....4

Policy and Management Program .....5

Legislation Program .....8

Leasing and Licensing Program.....9

Directorate Program..... 11

Compliance Program ..... 12

# Summary of Outcomes for 2020-21

## Assessment and Research

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed /Delivered
SLA	Delivered end-of-season (2019/20) SZ and NZ presentations to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture and the RLFMAC	July 2020
SLA	Delivered Status report for SZ and NZ (2019/20 season)	October 2020
SLA	Delivered SZ September FIMS Advice Note	December 2020
SLA	Delivered SZ January FIMS Advice Note	April 2021
SLA	Delivered Stock Assessment report for Southern Zone and Northern Zone (2019/20 season)	July 2021
FRDC	Completed chapter update for Status of Australian Fish Stocks 2020	December 2020
FRDC	The Final report for FRDC project 2016/258: Assessing the efficiency of alternative pot designs for the Southern Rock Lobster ( <i>Jasus edwardsii</i> ) Fishery (FRDC 2016/258) was not completed. Expected to be completed by April 2023.	
PIRSA	Implemented the new SZ Harvest Strategy	July 2020

# Policy and Management Program

	Deliverables
1.	<p>Participate in inter and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to fisheries management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinated frequent and regular meetings across the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division to coordinate the management of the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery.</li> </ul>
2.	<p>Liaise 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> <p>Numerous meetings were held in relation to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The carry-over of uncaught quota entitlements from the 2020/21 quota period to the 2021/22 quota period.</li> <li>The setting of the TACC for the respective zones of the fishery for the 2020/21 quota period.</li> <li>The Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) reform, including the setting of the TACCs for MSF species.</li> <li>The disruption to the Chinese market.</li> <li>Cadmium in Australian Rock Lobster and the program to measure cadmium levels.</li> </ul>
3.	<p>Liaise within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions relevant to fisheries management.</p> <p>Provided a wide range of information relevant to the management of the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery (NZRLF), this work includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attending and speaking at West Coast Crayfishermen's Association meetings</li> <li>Attending and speaking at the SANZRLF Annual General Meeting (AGM)</li> <li>Consulting with Rock Lobster Fishery Management Advisory Committee members on the draft PIRSA carry-over and over-catch policy</li> <li>Two Rock Lobster Fishery Management Advisory Committee (RLFMAC) meetings (October 2020 and February 2021).</li> </ul>
4.	<p>Conduct 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"> <li>As part of the Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) reform undertook a review of the options to access MSF species</li> <li>Reviewed the arrangements to carryover uncaught quota entitlements on individual licences</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertook a review of the draft Economic and Social Indicators for the Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery 2019/20 report</li> <li>• Reviewed the SARDI 2018/19 Northern Zone Rock Lobster Stock Assessment report</li> </ul>
5.	<p>Coordinate consultation with fishery stakeholders through established co-management processes.</p> <p>Coordinated industry consultations regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert fisheries management advice at Rock Lobster Fishery Management Advisory Committee meetings (October 2020 and February 2021)</li> <li>• Meeting of RLFMAC to discuss PIRSA carry-over and over-catch policy</li> <li>• Discussions on setting the TACC, carry-over arrangements, access to Marine Scalefish Fishery (MSF) species and PIRSA carry-over and over-catch policy at port meetings.</li> <li>• Public consultation on draft management plan.</li> <li>• Harvest Strategy Review Working Group Meetings.</li> </ul>
6.	<p>Participate in industry liaison in the field to strengthen fishery management knowledge and understanding and develop rapport with licence holder.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attended and participated in the West Coast Crayfishermen's Association AGM.</li> <li>• Attended and participated in the SANZRLFA AGM.</li> </ul>
7.	<p>Participate in industry development initiatives related to fisheries management.</p> <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"> <li>• Develop and implement arrangements to permit winter fishing in the Inner Region of fishery in 2021</li> <li>• Develop and implement arrangements to carry-over uncaught quota entitlements from the 2019/20 quota period to the 2020/21 quota period and the 2020/21 quota period to the 2021/22 quota period, in both the Inner and Outer Regions of the fishery.</li> </ul>
8.	<p>Attending to general correspondence and enquiries relevant to fisheries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PIRSA has responded to correspondence from licence holders, the Rock Lobster Fishery Management Advisory Committee (RLFMAC), the South East Professional Fishermen's Industry Association (SEPFIA) and the South Australian Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishermen's Association (SANZRLFA).</li> <li>• Responses to the RLFMAC have been mechanism to confirm positions in relation to the primary management issues in the fishery including, setting the TACC, the</li> </ul>

	carry-over of quota entitlements, winter fishing and the adoption of the management plan for the fishery.
9.	<p>Provide 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, winter fishing, as well as consultation on the draft management plan and the final management plan adopted by the Minister.</p>
10.	<p>Communicated on fisheries management issues to key stakeholder groups and the broader community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produced and distributed MSF Reform Stage 2 and Stage 3 information packages to all relevant licence holders</li> <li>• Provided 15 'notice to fishers' to licence holders in the MSF, including regular updates on the remaining Snapper TACC in the South East</li> <li>• Input into update of the NZRLF Operator User Guide</li> <li>• Liaised with the Ministers Recreational Fishery Management Advisory Committee.</li> </ul>

# 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 63 licences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported licence and quota unit information for cost recovery to assist in calculating new financial year annual fees</li> <li>• Entered new rates into the Primary Industries Information Management System (PIIMS)</li> <li>• Prepared Notice to Fishers for annual fee invoicing pack</li> <li>• Generated and audited invoices to ensure correct annual fee amount was raised</li> <li>• Issued invoices and SMS reminders each quarter</li> </ul> <p>Generated 12 monthly debtor's reports to reconcile annual fee payments.</p>
2.	<p>Administered application process for 63 licence holders to apply for new grant of licence in line with the new fishery management plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designed and posted out application forms for new licence</li> <li>• Followed up with licence holders to ensure forms returned prior to licence expiry</li> <li>• Collated and submitted applications to Executive Director for approval</li> <li>• Extended term of licence in PIIMS and printed updated licence and entitlements extracts for 63 licences.</li> </ul>
3.	<p>Set up of the new Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) into PIIMS for the new quota season:</p> <p>Printed and posted 63 updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all licence holders.</p>
4.	<p>Generated final quota balance statements and posted to all 63 licence holders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculated any quota adjustments required to be entered into PIIMS. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 8 entitlement over-catch adjustments made.</li> <li>○ 73 entitlement under-catch adjustments made.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Generated and posted updated registration and entitlements certificates.</p>
5.	<p>Data entry of 983 CDRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data entry check of each CDR entered.</li> </ul> <p>Manual filing and archiving of all 983 CDR documents.</p>
6.	<p>Manual recording and separate approvals for each of the 10 CDRs with mortalities.</p>

7.	Issuing of bin tags in PIIMS to licence holders on 69 occasions requiring packaging for posting. Adjustment in PIIMS for lost/damaged bin tags on 11 occasions.
8.	Issuing of 18 CDR books into PIIMS and packing and posting to licence holders.
9.	Generated 12 monthly quota status reports for industry on catch status and CDRs received.
10.	System maintenance including auditing user access and system testing after any system update: 587 quota balance statements requested via the online system.
11.	Regularly provided copies of CDR documentation to compliance for quota audit checks.
12.	Processed 199 applications which included liaising with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 vary boat applications</li> <li>• 2 licence transfer applications</li> <li>• 13 vary master applications</li> <li>• 154 quota transfer applications</li> </ul> 3 third party interest applications
13.	Allocated Marine Scalefish quotas to 17 licences with relevant catch history
14.	Generated reports on licensing information for compliance or fishery management purposes as requested.
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.
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.	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.
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.
10.	Coordinated co-management services request for the South Australian Northern Zone Rock Lobster 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 Northern 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 Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Compliance Reports are produced annually and forwarded to the Executive Officer, South Australian Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishermen's Association.</p>



**Government  
of South Australia**

Department of Primary  
Industries and Regions