

PIRSA Fisheries & Aquaculture - Prawn Fishery Plan St Vincent Gulf Prawn 2013 - 2014

Fishery Management Plan Goals:

1. Stock recovery
2. Ensure optimum utilisation and equitable distribution within the constraints of stock recovery
3. Minimise impacts on the ecosystem
4. Cost-effective and participative management of the fishery

Compliance Risk Summary:

1. Fish in Closed / Outside Prescribed Fishing Areas & Times - PIRSA Risk Rating: High (Likelihood – Occasional 5: Consequence – Severe 3: Score 15)

Fishing within prescribed areas and times is an integral component of Prawn Fishery self regulation. Deviation from this places additional pressure on the bio-mass and threatens the integrity of the self regulation component of the Co-Management program. It also gives a false representation of the true stock limits being sourced as prawns are being taken from significant recruiting zones outside the designated fishing areas.

2. Take Protected / Non-Permitted Species – PIRSA Risk Rating: Moderate (Likelihood – Possible 4: Consequence – Moderate 2 : Score 8)

Includes take other than finfish for consumption on board vessel, being in possession of more than 2 kg of finfish fillets or frozen fish, take of finfish off vessel following return to port and take berried slipper lobster.

3. Use of Illegal Fishing Gear and Equipment – PIRSA Risk Rating: Moderate (Likelihood – Possible 4: Consequence – Moderate 2: Score 8)

Use of illegal fishing gear and equipment creates an unfair advantage and can lead to additional pressure being placed on the biomass. Illegal fishing gear and equipment includes:

- Undersize mesh/excess nets
- Excess headline length
- Maximum permitted engine horsepower capacity being exceeded

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4. Interactions with Obstructions Placed on Sea Bed – PIRSA Risk Rating: Low (Likelihood – Possible 4: Consequence – Minor 1: Score 4)

Whilst not recognised by PIRSA Fisheries & Aquaculture as a Compliance risk, PIRSA Fisheries & Aquaculture recognises that man made and uncharted obstructions placed on the sea bed in prawn fishing areas pose considerable risk to prawn fishing vessels including gear damage, fishing disruption and potentially placing the safety and well being of their crews at risk. Thus the 2013 – 2014 PIRSA Fisheries & Aquaculture Compliance Plan includes activities to be undertaken aimed at assisting the Prawn Industry to address the issue.

DRAFT VERSION

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Risk Likelihood & Consequence Analysis:

		CONSEQUENCES					
		NEGLIGIBLE	MINOR	MODERATE	SEVERE	MAJOR	CATASTROPHIC
		0	1	2	3	4	5
LIKELIHOOD	REMOTE	1					
	RARE	2					
	UNLIKELY	3					
	POSSIBLE	4		Interactions with Obstructions (4)	Take Protected / Non Permitted Species (8) Illegal Gear / Equipment (8)		
	OCCASIONAL	5				Fish closed area/times (15)	
	LIKELY	6					

LIKELIHOOD DEFINITIONS

- LIKELY - It is expected to occur
- OCCASIONAL - May occur
- POSSIBLE - Some evidence to suggest this is possible here
- UNLIKELY - Uncommon, but has been known to occur elsewhere
- RARE - May occur in exceptional circumstances
- REMOTE - Never heard of but not impossible

CONSEQUENCE DEFINITIONS

- CATASTROPHIC - Local extinctions are imminent / immediate
- MAJOR - Likely to cause local extinctions, if continued in longer term
- SEVERE - Affecting recruitment levels of stocks / or their capacity to increase
- MODERATE - Full exploitation rate, but long term recruitment / dynamics not adversely impacted
- MINOR - Possibly detectable, but minimal impact on population size and none on dynamics
- NEGLIGIBLE - Insignificant impacts to population. Unlikely to be measurable against background variability for this population

RISK RATING

Negligible	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
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Strategies:

The following strategies have been developed to address each of the risks:

1. Education & Awareness

- All interested parties understand their respective obligations
- Develop Industry communication & relationship program

2. Deterrence

- Enforcement Plan Communication Strategy
- Enforcement Outcomes Communication Strategy
- All aspects of fishing activity monitored

3. Enforcement

- Maximise successful prosecutions Outcomes

Target Outcomes:

The following target outcomes have been identified:

- Minimise incidents of fishing in closed areas, times
- Minimise take of protected / non-permitted species
- Eliminate use of illegal fishing gear and equipment
- Reduce occurrence of new obstructions being placed on sea bed
- Ensure fisherman adhere to strict boundaries during SARDI sanctioned surveys

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Risks

- 1 = Fish Closed Areas, Times
 2 = Take Protected / Non-Permitted Species
 3 = Eliminate use of Illegal Fishing Gear
 4 = Obstructions on Sea Bed

Strategies

- 1 = Education & Awareness
 2 = Deterrence
 3 = Enforcement

Coordination Team:

- West = Shane Gassner (State Coordinator)
 Central = TBC
 Southern Ranger = Matt Read
 Policy Manager = Annabel Jones

Risks Addressed				Strategies			Initiative	Actions	Who	When
1	2	3	4	1	2	3				
	x	x		x			1 on 1 interactions	Update and distribute Fishery User Guide Meet with LH's prior to season. Ensure all have a clear understanding of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative changes impacting coming season Compliance focus for coming season Any new gear requirements Requirements around take of finfish Have 1 on 1 interactions with LH's throughout the season; ensure all remain clear on the rules and their obligations Industry (Survey nights)	SC SC Regions Regions	Pre Season Pre Season Season Season
	x			x			Induct new entrants	Induct new entrants	RC's	As Required
	x			x			Established liaison & contact with Industry	Have regular contact with SARDI, Policy, Industry Representatives and Stakeholders Prior to season commencing, communicate forthcoming Compliance focus to Industry Attend Industry meetings. Communicate Industry performance. Raise Compliance issues in a timely manner	Ops Mgrs, SC	Ongoing Pre season Season
		x		x			Audit	Audits to include but not limited to gear and horsepower output	RC's	Pre and during season

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Risks Addressed				Strategies			Initiative	Actions	Who	When
1	2	3	4	1	2	3				
x	x	x			x		Field based inspections	Inspections at sea and landing. Check to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gear compliant • Allowable type and quantity of marine scale fish by-catch stored on board • Nil take home marine scale fish • Protected species/ undersize bugs returned to water 	SR, Regions	Season
			x		x		Marine Dumping Prevention	FO's remain vigilant and proactive in detecting and preventing the illegal dumping of artificial reefs at sea	Regions, SR	Ongoing
x	x					x	Media	Utilise media to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on successful prosecution outcomes • Educate the public on the rules and regulations including dumping of obstructions at sea 	Ops Mgrs, SC, PIRSA Comms	As required
x		x				x	Regulatory review & revision	Contribute to amendment of legislation and policy where appropriate	SC	As required
x	x					x	Intelligence	Collate and analyse information received through FISHWATCH and Stakeholders	Regions, Intel Analyst	As required
x	x	x	x			x	Intelligence driven operations	Develop investigations and carry out targeted operations in line with the Serious Offence Plan	SC, SOG	As required
x	x	x	x			x	Address non-compliance	Investigate instances of non-compliance Take enforcement action including issue of Caution, Expiation and Brief	FO's FO's	As required As required
x	x	x				x	Brief Quality Assurance	Briefs of evidence meet evidentiary requirements and are vetted to ensure quality assurance	Ops Mgrs, PSC	As required