



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

2019-20

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All Enquiries

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 chiara.ciui@sa.gov.au

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Summary of Outcomes for 2019-20

Assessment and Research

Funding Source	Deliverables	Date Completed/Delivered
SLA	Delivered stock assessment report for blacklip for the Western Zone Abalone Fishery (WZAF). Included running the harvest strategy and determination of stock status.	October 2019
SLA	Delivered stock status report for greenlip for the WZAF. Included running the harvest strategy and determination of stock status.	October 2019
SLA	Provided presentations on stock assessment and status reports including 'Year-to-date', catch and effort data summaries (4 PowerPoint presentations) for greenlip and blacklip provided to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, AIASA (one pre TACC and one TACC meeting) and at 'Port Meeting' to support TACC setting.	October 2019
SLA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed fishery-independent surveys at three greenlip sites: Anxious Bay - December 2019 The Gap - February 2020 Avoid Bay - June 2020 Greenlip surveys at Hotspot delayed due to COVID-19 	June 2020
SLA	Completed fishery-independent surveys at one blacklip site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anxious Bay - December 2019 Blacklip surveys at Ward Is delayed due to COVID-19	June 2020
SLA	Collected, collated and stored all key commercial fishery information necessary to assess the fishery and run the harvest strategy.	Ongoing
SLA	Provided verbal and written advice to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture on greenlip and blacklip.	Ongoing
SLA	Maintained regular communication with industry representatives.	Ongoing
PIRSA	Attended the three day Australasian Abalone Convention, Hobart.	July 2019
PIRSA	Provided advice note to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture on implications of carry-over quota.	April 2020
PIRSA	Provided verbal and written advice to PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture on Roei.	June 2020
PIRSA	Provided significant scientific support to develop new harvest strategy and management plan for the WZAF. Attended ESD workshop (07/08/2019), harvest strategy workshop (22-23/08/2019), Harvest Strategy working group meeting (02/03/2020) and provided extensive harvest strategy code development and harvest strategy testing. Responded to multiple queries on harvest strategy details and testing results.	Ongoing

Policy and Management Program

	Deliverables
1.	Attended the three day Australasian Abalone Convention, Hobart.
2.	Participated in 4 inter- and intra-departmental meetings and workshops on issues relevant to WZAF management.
3.	<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"> • Blacklip Fishery Independent Survey review • Roei management arrangements • Compliance report • Interactions with threatened, endangered and protected species (TEPS) • Stock enhancement activities • Aquaculture development applications near abalone wild-catch areas • Cost recovery documents and scope • A number of relevant FRDC projects
4.	Liaised within PIRSA, with other government agencies and with industry representatives in implementing decisions and answering queries relevant to abalone fisheries management.
5.	<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 a 2-day regional workshop to progress development of a revised Harvest Strategy • Coordinated, facilitated and reported on a Harvest Strategy Working Group meeting • Prepared draft text for consideration by the Working Group
6.	<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"> • Reviewed Stobart, B., Mayfield, S. and Heldt, K. (2019). <i>Western Zone Blacklip Abalone (Haliotis rubra) and Greenlip Abalone (H. laevisgata) Fisheries in 2018</i>. • Reviewed the 'Economic Indicators for South Australian Abalone Fishery 2017/18' report and provided comment back to BDO EconSearch.
7.	<p>Prepared background information and developed recommendations for the Minister's consideration with licence holders through established co-management processes by undertaking the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in five meetings with industry to progress key issues.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated, facilitated and reported on a regional WZAF Pre-TACC workshop • Coordinated, facilitated and reported on a regional WZAF TACC meeting
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.	Reviewed catch and effort information and assessed and prepared advice in relation to an application for a Ministerial exemption to allow the lawful harvesting of Roei abalone.
13.	<p>To recommend regulatory amendment to provide for the carry-over of abalone quota as a result of COVID-19 the following was undertaken;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaised with fishery licence holders • Reviewed fishery management arrangements • Reviewed quota period catch and effort information • Sought advice from SARDI to inform risk to sustainability • Liaised within the PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture Division to ensure accurate statutory interpretation • Provided advice to the Minister on amending the <i>Fisheries Management (Abalone) Regulations 2017</i>.

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. Arrangements for electronic transactions / fees for commercial fisheries in Simplify Day 2018/19 Bill supporting correspondence briefings and ministerial documentation. Fees amendment cabinet submissions, settling of variation regulations, 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 • Generated 12 monthly debtor's reports to reconcile annual fee payments.
2.	<p>Set up of the new Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) into PIIMS for the new quota season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printed and posted 22 updated registrations and entitlements certificates to all licence holders.
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"> ○ 1 entitlement over-catch adjustment made. ○ Generated and posted updated registration and entitlements certificate.
4.	<p>Data entry of 1017 CDRs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data entry check of each CDR entered. • Manual filing and archiving of all 1017 CDR documents.
5.	Manual recording of 54 Roei catches into separate spreadsheet.
6.	Manual recording and separate approvals for each of the 9 catches with Perkinsus.
7.	<p>Manual monitoring of 89 Drummond SAU catch CDRs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 monthly reports produced to monitor SAU catch cap.
7.	<p>Issuing of bin tags in PIIMS to licence holders on 37 occasions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adjustment in PIIMS for lost/damaged bin tags on 6 occasions.
8.	Issuing of 23 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 334 quota balance statements requested via the online system.
11.	Regularly provided copies of CDR documentation to compliance for quota audit checks.
12.	Processed applications which included liaising with government stakeholders to verify the credentials of fishers as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 vary boat applications • 1 licence transfer applications • 9 vary master applications • 11 quota transfer applications • 1 third party interest application
13.	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.
14.	Provided support via phone or email to any requests from licence holders.
15.	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 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 standard goods and services agreement to engage contractors (i.e. delivery of Economic Assessment – BDO Advisory (SA) Pty Ltd., engagement of independent scientist as required, 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
	<p>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.</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 Western Zone Abalone Fishery Compliance Reports are produced annually and forwarded to the Executive Officer, AIASA.</p>



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